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1516 PEACHTREE STREET
ATLANTA 9, GEORGIA

Nelson, Thomas

Letter to Perry Nelson of White Elains,
Greene County, July 24, 1842

Reel No. 348

Positive
filed in

Letter written from Monroe County, Mississippi

In possession of: Mrs. George D. Brown
1186 Niskey Lake Road, S. W.
Atlanta 11, Georgia

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1516 Peachtree Street, N. W.

Atlanta 9, Georgia

Monroe Co Miss 24th July 1846

Dear Brother,

You no doubt think I have
forgotten you, not quite, but I have neglected
you, I am yet unsettled both in a home and
in mind, I expect to go say 100 miles west
where I have some acquaintance and where the
land is cheaper and the soil lighter and can
cultivated and well watered not so much
mud, not so many negroes which are ^{near me} ~~in the~~
I am old and can't expect to stay very much
longer here, my family is expensive, my daughter
is near sixteen she is living with a neighbor lady
who is instructing her in domestic affairs. Harvey
is teaching school and I hope is doing pretty well
Jefferson is about 12 and is with me has been going
to school until this year, then my wife and
a negro woman and six small children make
up the rest of my family none of them able to do
any thing here the soil is so heavy, the whole
bundle is borne by what I make in the shop
It becomes necessary therefore that I should seek
out some place where I can have some assistance
and if I was in a country of light soil the little
chaps could do something towards their support
I intend going out as soon as I can and if I live

and care little, to advantage I will let you know.
I should very much like we were near each
other tho I expect it will not be as I know
how hard it is to move after children begin to
form connections. Mary & little. If you could
move perhaps your children would not, and sister
Eunice could not, her children are scattering
and little, the best plan if we could, is to go
here we intend to spend our lives before our
children are grown up but we can't always
do so, I hope sister will bear her loss as become
a christian, I know something about the trial that
came upon her, we can't stay here always I hope
her children will prove dutiful and endeavor
to make the remnant of her life as pleasant as
possible, we should all, do all we can, to make
our fellow beings as happy as in us lies especially those
of our own household, we should look forward to that
time when we too will be old and need the aid and
comfort which others can afford. Our country is healthy
there is, not much sickness nor many deaths, you
opposite of sickness and death being common with
you, that we had forgotten our Creator, Redeemer
and Sustainer and that we needed Christ more
if some doubt we have forgotten him as individuals
and as a nation, we the most favored on Earth
having all the blessings civil & religious we could

ask gave our maker the back and not the
face, and if perchance we made an offering
It was lame, or such Jehorah declared stank
in his nostrils, and no doubt in his organ as
in the case of the Israelites when he gave them a king.
He has given us Jimmy H Polk who
has madly & wickedly plunged us in a war
which has cost us thousands of our citizens beside
the tens of thousands of murdered Mexicans as
well helpless women & children as those engaged
in the strife of battle and many millions
of dollars squandered in a foreign land and to pay
his favorites in office, the effects of which we
shall feel years to come, I hope the country will
take warning and return back to the times when
there was something like purity in our govern-
ment and I hope as individuals we shall also take
the correction as to ourselves and strive to live more
holy and upright, and live not as independent but
as dependant upon that God from whose will
we receive all our blessings. I know that I am not
living up to my privileges. It is our duty as well
as privilege to strive for high attainments not in
church office or preferment, but in the pursuit of
Luminiety and holiness without which no man
shall see the Lord. Give my respects and kind
wishes to your wife and children. To sister and her
children till it is not long ere she will be

released from the shackles of time and in the end I am freed
and then all will be forgotten or if remembered only to
give a rest and sweetness to that happiness which
shall have no alloy or end your affectionate Brother
Thomas Nelson

10
Mr Perry Nelson
White Plains
Green Co
Ga