

VARIO

Made in Germany







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*Hon Saml A Miller,*

*Associate Justice Supreme Court  
U.S.*

*Washington City,*

*D.C.*

*Personal -*

*Huntsville Tex to Houston Ballinger*



*Mr. P. Ballinger Esq*

*C. S. Brewer*

*Houston*

*Texas*

**350**

*Not  
CWPS  
to B  
Rece  
Receiver)*



To: <sup>Wm.</sup> Mr. P. Ballinger, Esq.  
Houston, Texas

From: T.P. Cole  
June 26 - 63

Sale of Nancy

Houston. Texas June 26, 1863

W.P. Ballinger, Esq.

Dear Sir:

In regard to the sale of Nancy, I am sorry that I cannot yet bring myself to accede to your wishes & those of Mrs. B. The terms proposed are in every respect satisfactory and my declining to sell her is without reference to them. She & her sisters & brothers are family negroes and grandchildren of my father's driver & overseer -- an African said to be of princely blood in his own country, and as I knew him, so proud & honest & faithful; and his influence & control of the negroes was such as driver, that my father, who could not see his plantation more than twice a year, needed no other overseer. These negroes fell to my brother in the partition and when they were sold, after his death to pay his debts, I deemed myself fortunate to be able to retain in the family these negroes. One of the two boys has not a single virtue of the breed, nor any of his own to recommend him, and yet my reluctance to break up the family has hitherto prevented me from selling him, without a single other motive preventing. This will explain to you my feeling in the matter.

I am aware that Nancy is greatly attached to Mrs. B. and she sometime ago remarked to her sisters that she did not see why we would object to selling her to Mrs. B. as we never had her about us ourselves and only hired her out to strangers. But this I attributed to her attachment to Mrs. B. and not as showing any desire to part from us. and therefore paid no attention to it.

Should my views and feelings undergo any change or circumstances of any kind induce me hereafter to part with Nancy. I will not fail to give you notice & the preference over all others.

In the meantime I hope that both Mrs. B. & yourself will appreciate the reasons why I cannot just now meet your views in regard to her.

Truly your friend,  
T.P. Cole

P.S. I annex (?) though late, the procuring (?) receipt.