

Susan Auston, sold to Emanuel County, Georgia, wrote back to her mother on July 18, 1851¹:

Georgia Emanuel County July 18th 1851

Dear mother after my respects and goods wishes
I take this opertunity [opportunity] to write you a few lines
which will inform you that I am well hopeing [hoping]
that these lines will find you and all the rest enjoying
the same blessing I have got a home and are [am] well
satisfied Little James washington [Washington?] is will [well?] and can most
walk and has four teeth Dear father remember my best love
and compliments to aunt Jane and tell her that I have
a good home and are better off than I ever was Dear
mother do remember my two little brothers that I left behind
do take care of little Dallas and Joe for my sake
remember my best respects to Dr Hite and to all his
family that there has been several things that has passed
between us that I should be glad to ? that I hope
that he will marry and get some person to [paper torn]
be satisfied Dear mother if I never see you no more
I hope to see you in heaven the day to come remember
my best love to old Mrs Auston [Austin] for she has been
a kind mistress to me remember my best love to Francis [Frances]
Auston [Austin] how bad I want to see her remember my best love
to Carline she has been kind and well disposed
to me do Francis Auston do if you please write
to me where Henry has gone whether he has left his family
or not do tell mary and Sam not to be so much alarmed
about the south for it is as good living here as it is there
I have often heard it said that backs [blacks] have nothing

to eat at the south but cotton seed but I am blessed [blessed]
with a plenty that is good Rebecca Auston [Austin] you sent
me to the cotton country to make me miserable but you sent
me here to make me happy I would not swapp [swap]
homes and go back and live with you for the whole world

Judy DeWitt I hope you will do well but if you
never get a servant to wait on you till I wait on you
I expect you will die for the want of one Benny DeWitt
a jentleman {gentleman} has never hired before but has asked me to live
with him the Place was so mean that it was a shame for
any person to live at that you came to Buckanham [Buckingham] where
people did not know you to hire servants but I knew your
wife well and I could as soon went to torment as to have
lived with her recollect Rebecca Auston [Austin] when I was
confined you would not allow me anything to eat for four
days but I now have a good home and plenty to eat and
no fuss about what I have to do I am so glad that I have
got away from the ~~mixed~~ Hasleys that they were so mean
that I was ashamed to go in the neighborhood
my good respects to Master George for I was sarrow [sorry]
to leave him but he had such a cruel wife that I am
glad that I have left Miss Francis Auston [Austin] if
you Please write me a letter and send me some flower
seed in it for I have got a place where I need them
remember my best love to Agnus [Agnes] Austin and tell her
to send me some of her flower seed that bloom all the
winter Dear mother remember my best love to little brother
James & fill [Phil?] I want you to send me a letter as soon
as possible after you get this Dear old Mistress

I hope you are well and will do well when you write
State how Master John is when you write
direct your letters to Swainsboro P. O. of Emanuel County,
Georgia Directed to Master Richard Edenfield
I remain with great consideration and Esteem until
death

Susan Auston