

Miss. Wain County

May the 11, 1861

Deare brothers,

I take my pen in hand to let yo know that I got yore letters and we was glad to heare that yo was well and that yo was coming to see mee this fall. I will look for yo. Yo must be shore to some to see mee. Times is hard and money is (s)case (scarce). Yo must write to mee as soon as yo get these fiew lines. When yo write tell us what all of the friends and connection is doing and where they are living. Tell grandmaw and Uncle Mabry's folks that I han't forget them yet. I han't got time to write to them a letter this time. I want to send these letters in the morning to the depot. Tell them to write to mee I will write to them the next time. I would write oftener than I do but it is so far to the depot and money is (s)case till we make something to sell.

We have a rite smart of cotton planted and it looks very well. The crops looks very well we have plenty of rain here. They had two men in jail and they was going to hang them yesterday they hired a man to kill another man. Sister Cory's gal run away with a man Jack Overstreet and Maryan run away with his brother his name is John and he can't see out of but one of his eyes. Her daddy won't let her come to see them he don't like him. Andrew, Cory has got one girl left and she will soon be grone. She is a pretty girl and she is smart too. Yo must come and steal her. I have just got out my pease of cloth they was thirty one and half yards in it. I work it myself and put it in

the loom. I must come to a close it is getting late
so no more at present but remains brother and
sister until death.

Margaret A and Moses Cooley
To John and Andrew Butts

Note: Evidently the start of the War prevented the planned trip.
Both brothers died during the war: John in prison at Camp Butler,
and Andrew died at Banquete, TX, by being thrown from horse.
It is not known whether he was in service or not.
Maryan – Mary Ann Cooley, 12th child of Harbard and Easter
Cooley.