

**Lesson Title**

Primary Documents - Owens Family Letters

**GW Owens to Sally Owens - Paris, September 23, 1818**

My Dear Sally

I informed you by a letter I wrote two weeks ago from England of my intention to visit the Capital of France. I arrived here about [missing] days since and have been much pleased with the sights. . . I have now in a short time seen both of the great cities of Europe and yet I should be better pleased to be in our humble Town of Savannah. There are attractions there far exceeding all the amusements of Paris or of London. I trust in God you and our little ones have enjoyed good health and next to that I hope you have made a good crop. I am very desirous of hearing from you. As soon as my business will permit I shall be with you for I am heartily tired being from home. There is \$1,000 due Mr Maxwell when he delivers possession you will pay him the amount. The crop must surely yield something. I shall send you by Mr Habersham if he will take charge of them 2 doz pair silk stockings. 1 of black and the other of white and perhaps some other articles but what I have not yet determined. Kiss our children for me and I remain my dear Sally yours

Most sincerely  
 GWOwens

Ps I have received only 2 letters from you. I am engaged in the speculation for the purchase of Johnston's Negroes but fear shall not succeed. If not and they are sold you will buy Smart's wife and Sampson's to comply with a promise I have made them. If there is any other prime negro connected with ours will purchase him or her also. If you have not money enough you can obtain it in Bank and Mr Anderson will endorse your note as my attorney.

**GS Owens to Sally Owens - Savannah, July 22, 1857**

I received your letter on Monday my Dear Sal, & write today according to your directions. I am glad to hear Mother stood the journey so well & that the weather has been so pleasant since your arrival at Guinas. I envy you the evenings on the piazza with the mountains in sight & the mountain air - for altho we have had no heat to complain of so far yet we have nothing to compare with Habersham.

. . . A negro witness came to me about 10 o'clock the other night to say that a watchman had Jane in charge & was beating her severely in the streets - I went immediately to the guard house & found that she had been visiting some of her friends after bell-rings & without a ticket-when arrested she swore no white man should carry her to the Guard House & from appearance (for I saw her) had made a good fight. She came into me very indignant at the outrage & began by lying to me & saying that she was staying where she was arrested, but as this was at Hamilton's not Bruens, where I learned from Minty she was at work, I detected it and consoled her by letting her stay in the caboose all night, with the bed bugs & other pleasant vermin that are assembled there-

I have not seen her ladyship since. . .

Yours affy  
 Geo. S. Owen

**GW Owens to Sally Owens - Washington, March 7, 1836**

My Dear Sally

. . . You need bring nothing with you but what may be necessary for your own and the children's personal convenience. The house I shall procure will be furnished. As Emma is unwell I do not know but it would be as well to bring her with you, leaving her children so she may procure medical advice in Philadelphia. I doubt much if Waring is acquainted with the disease. If she comes you will leave (of course) Kate. The season will not permit you to depart from Savannah until late in this month. I am sorry to hear the a/c about the cotton seed. You must make every effort to remedy it. There is plenty at Egypt let it be hauled and sent by the first opportunity unless you can procure enough from Mr. Anderson and some of one other neighbor in Chatham which no doubt you can do. Do not delay the matter as Mr L open may not be able to get it in his neighborhood. For our friends this does not seem very accommodating. You will also if possible send on some seed potatoes. Give me timely notice when you intend to leave for Charleston. Love to all

Yrs affectionally  
GW Owens

**GW Owens to Sally Owens - London, November 16, 1818**

My Dear Sally

. . . I wrote to Col. Johnston previous to his departure from Liverpool and he has promised to render you every assistance in my affairs if necessary. I have failed in the purchase of the Ossabaw negroes the price asked being too high - They will be sold in Feby or March next as I am informed and if I should not be there at that time (tho' I trust I shall) you must contrive to purchase those (say three or four) who are connected with our negroes - have it well understood that they are prime. The proceeds of the crop will enable you to do this - together with the balance (after the payment in the Planters Bank) in the hands of Messrs R and J Habersham. . .

GW Owens

**GW Owens to Sally Owens - Milledgeville, December 13, 1817**

Dear Sally

. . . This place has become dull and uninteresting from the uniformity which prevails as to the course of debate and the proceedings in the House not relieved by any public amusements . . . I wish instead of sending this letter I was now starting for Savannah myself - they feed me well here but still I am not satisfied - I am sorry to learn that Sue is not choice in her marketing - as you say nothing I presume your House Hold have behaved well - Denbigh is in good health and if I could judge from his appearance he is not pining away to return to Sav - he is a poor travelling servant and he shall not be long out of the field if I can suit myself with another -

I am my dear Sally  
Yrs sincerely  
GW Owens