

1-22-1814

# Lewis Evans of Natchez to William Christie of Bruinsburg. January 22, 1814.

Lewis Evans

William Christie

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Mr. William Christie  
Mr. [unclear]

Dear William)  
Natchez January 22<sup>d</sup> 1814

By John I sent you the agreement I made with Joseph  
Kear. as I think it important to air in books to have a smith on  
the place & if I had not engaged here some other would I  
was obliged to enter into the contract without consulting  
you. I have purchased Iron, Steel and other articles for  
The Shop (bills of which shall be sent you) to the amount of  
one hundred dollars & in order to get it cheap have paid  
Cash somewhat to my own use on your way. There is no doubt  
but he will have a great plenty of work to do from the mi-  
-gn bamboo but many of them I know from experience will  
never pay if they can avoid it, to prevent trouble as  
well as loss some rule either by taking their notes for any  
job or working for cash only should be established, I can  
find Iron & Steel, & edge tools will always sell, and so  
when not otherwise profitably employ'd he can make such  
& put them by until disposed of & then at the end of the year  
we should at last be enabled to pay his wages from the products  
of his labors, Harvey had better he put in the Shop as a  
stricker he is good at the business & without such an hand  
is kept constantly in the Shop but little can be done

I am strongly of the opinion that the next crop will  
be worth at least fifteen cents, a variety of circumstances lead  
to this conclusion, the most weighty of which is, the probable  
continuance of the War, the certainty of the embargo, and the  
consequent increase of our manufactures, already nearly  
large enough for the consumption of all the cotton we can  
make, every exertion there must be made to have as much  
as possible, the manut, the mill and at last all the lower  
part of the non fields I think should



should be planted in cotton. the present position could be put on  
corn for all the timber is killed & if planted in the last of may  
would certainly bring good crops. you will also perceive a large  
quantity of land adjoining the mill field also nearly cleared  
most of which I think might be tilled without much labour  
we must have corn plenty or we shall have no stock, and  
without cotton no money so both must be plenty - if possible

I begin to think that for the present we had better have  
chimneys of the usual kind to the negro houses. all can not be  
done in one year particularly the first. I would also I think  
for the present put up a mud chimney in the house the corner  
is in for your residence. Brinn will expect 100 dollars for  
year for the one at present used & its not I am sure fit to  
burn in. the Smith shop & the Cole pot on Kiber you know  
the importance of having done immediately. in short you know your  
hands here I will come up to see you some time in the  
spring if I can in the mean time you must inform me of all  
your wants and difficulties to supply the one & to help your  
out of the other shall be the constant intention of Dear Mr

Yours Very Truly  
Lewis Ware

Mr. Warner with his hundred tons  
is busy to day spreading the  
news that 500 more Brecks have fallen  
to an even loss 250 of Georgia Meloea