Liberia { Bassa Cove
Grand Bassa County
June 22nd 1848.

My Dear Father

I received your letter dated August 1847 and though it has been written nearly a Year Yet it came Safe to hand — which gave me Great satisfaction but I heard nothing that was at all dissatisfactory in the least My Wife is at present very well indeed as is the case with myself I have at this time two children Sarah Agnus — & Ann Eliza — the former was born the 20th Oct 1843 and being nearly five Years old Goes to school and Can Read a little the latter having been born as late as the 9th Sept 1846 is not quite old enough as Yet to Go to School and So She Stays home with me — Agreeable to Your request I Shall endeavour to write a letter to You at least twice a Year But when ever I see an opportunity of writing I shall not fail to do so I received the Medicines and Books which You Sent me and was very glad of them and that You were So mindful of ~~them~~ me and I Shall as far as my poor ability will allow Conform to Your advice Set forth in the letter We are very thankful for the few Seeds You Sent us as much So as if You had Sent a Bushel of each kind Seeing You show a willing mind to do a Good part by us and I intend to try and do the Same by You but as Poor Lazarus Said to the Rich man there is a Great gulf Between us — We have not received the Cards which You Sent nor even heard of them We are Geting along pretty well indeed We have lived together without any dispute or disagreeing as Yet and I hope we never will disague or have disputes and quarrels I am exceeding ly happy We did on the 29th of July last by our representatives Solomnly declare ourselves a free Sovreign and independant people thereby dissolving all political Connection Between the Col. Society and ourselves and we have established a new form of Government viz a "Republican form" and it is my pride and Joy that I am a free man in a free Country and Can

enjoy the free mild and equal Government which has just been established and where I can have an equal share of Republicanism

The General occupation of the citizens of this country natives included is farming the Merchants appreciate their farming more than all their commercial Business

Rice Corn Cassadas - Potatoes - arrow Root - Ginger &c grow to perfection - at the same time may be seen every persons Garden Salads of every description which Liberia will afford eatable herbs and here and there is pictured most Beautiful flowers &c &c

Rice Cassadas potatoes Ginger arrow root &c is the staple production also palmoil - which we use in the place of Lard I may say that the women do nothing but wound tell a little story that is not true they sew and wash and some times they may be seen weeding out the Garden and doing other petty Jobs of the same nature

We raise cattle in this country but the oxen here do not work like those in america we also have sheep Goats Hogs Ducks and ~~to~~ chickens and we are making a start at turkeys

There is also a variety of poisonous reptiles in this country such as snakes ligards Scorpions Centipedes &c there is a kind of Ligard whose Bite is said to be fatal it is called in this country the Salimango I do not know its natural ~~Hi~~ historical name

We are not fixed in a way to make cloth so every yard of cloth that is used in this country is Bought

Cotton grows and was it cultivated would be very plentiful Neither can we make sewing cotton and at this very moment it is in great demand any price almost would be paid for it

The above are not fables but realities - I truly received four kinds of medicine viz Bayberry Bark Hemlock No 4 or Bitters Lobelia seed I do not know whether they recide that you sent or not as to paying you a visit I hardly know what to say at this time I am not in a way for paying visits and I have changed my notions as I want be able to

come for a couple of years yet But I shall endeavour to send you some coffee I would have sent it by the Sa Packet but not receiving your letter in time I could not set it in Readiness to send as I received your letter only a couple of days previous to the starting of the vessel and we have no machines in this country but have to work with our own hands when she makes another trip accross the Ocean I will be sure and send it I Really do wish to see you and mother and sometimes when I study about past days it distresses me most wonderful

What you wrote concerning my Brothers wife & children gives me a great deal of satisfaction and comfort Please Remember my love to John Major your son and Judah your daughter and all the rest of your children I would have written to them all but for want of time and paper I could not paper is a scarce article My love to Shastene Major and his family to Mr Davenport and family to William Majors and all of his family to Joseph Majors and his family to Edmund watkins and his family. Dear Mother and father pray for me and By the assistance of God I shall endeavour to do the same for you I hope the Lord will make a way for me to see you all again this side of the Grave I am yet striving to lay up treasures in heaven where moth corrupt eth not nor theives Break in and steal

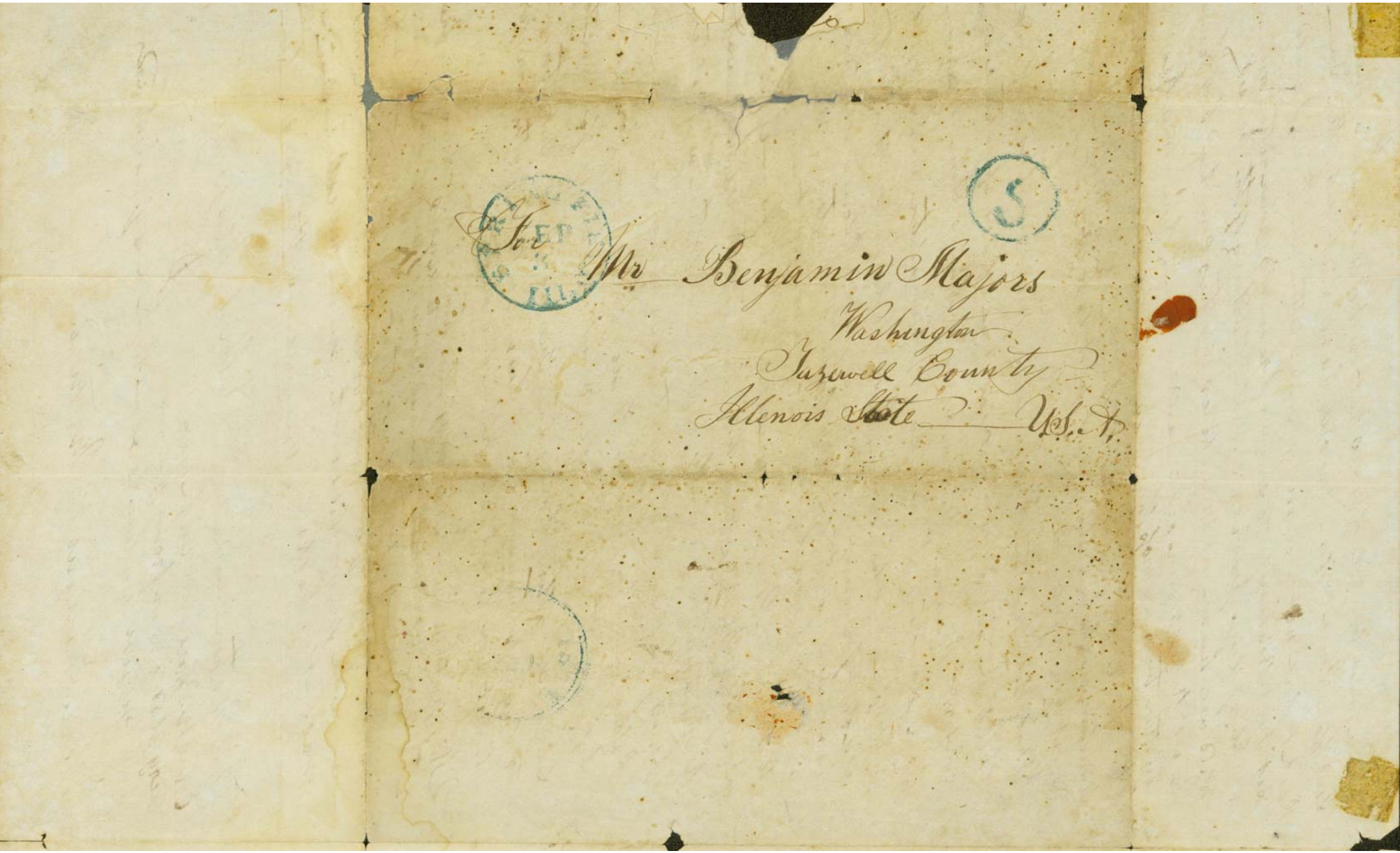
This puts me in mind of the time when I came from the Iron works and you had gone off to ellenois and left me and when I study about that it makes the tears rise in my eyes The Books that you sent me will answer for my children they are in my estimation valuable Books

Farewell farther & mother

Tolbert Majors

My Mother in Law
Enuck Harlands wife was very glad to hear from you and says give her love to all her acquaintances

Wesley Harland is Married



For Mr Benjamin Majors
Washington
Tazewell County
Illenois State U.S.A.