

Transcription

"Less hopeful than we were"

Balto. 18th Feby 1861

Mr B. F. Gravely

Leatherwood

Henry Co. Va.

Dear Sir

Your letter of the 5th inst. was duly recd. & we delayed replying to it with the hope of being able to say something encouraging to you as to the prospects of trade &c, but we cannot—Lincolns speeches & other unfortunate indications Cause us to be much less hopeful than we were a week or two since—We note what you Say in regard to selling your Tob. & shall be governed by it—We have, we think, thus far escaped better than some of our friends, but, nevertheless, have suffered enough to make us very cautious—It is now very hard to get strictly responsible men to buy Tob.—You will see by the memo. that we have done very little for you—We have given Mr Willis Gravely a draft on you at ten days from 18th Feby 1861 for twenty seven hundred & fifty six 65/100 dollars, say \$2756.65—The draft that we accommodated you by accepting, at 4 mos. from 20th Octb last, will be due on 23d inst for \$4000.00—We will pay it & it will save you the exchange by paying to Mr Willis Gravely the amot. of \$2756.65 in Va. funds instead of remitting to us in Balto. funds

Yours Very Truly

JOHN P. PLEASANTS & SONS

Citation: John P. Pleasants to Benjamin Franklin Gravely, February 18, 1861, Gravely Family Papers, Acc. 34126, Library of Virginia