the amount of the debt at private sale. He may possibly succeed, but I do not expect it. Lands are low in the interior, & prices are generally downward. The land on Honey Island however, it is said, is getting to be more & more in demand. The decree also directs that your receipt shall be received instead of a bond in case you become the purchaser. It may be necessary in order to prevent a sacrifice that you should buy the land. If you should therefore have some agent at the sale authorized to bid for you. This you can arrange with Mr. Hunt.

Brother R. is in the midst of difficulties. He says he must & will go to Texas — but I do not see how he is to get the means. For myself I am here in durance vile, & cannot tell when I shall be released. It is a wretched condition to be placed in, but I cant help it, & must endure it as best I can.

Give assurances of my love to Sister, & believe me to be very affectionately

Your brother

L. Lee

E. T. University, May 2d 1844.

Dear Sir,

The inclosed letter from my brother, Luke Lea, will show you what progress has been made in the Collection of the note of Pryor Lea (to me for your use as Trustee) for $2,200. The prospect is not flattering. In case of sale under decree and no bidders, I do not see how I am to purchase, for if I take that responsibility upon myself, the creditors will clamor for me to pay over the amount of my bid; and to get their sanction to my buying it on their account as their agent, or rather as agent of Yourself as Trustee, would be difficult. And suppose that I did buy it, how much better should we be off? For my own part, I do not wish to be the owner of any more wild land. — While I write, an idea has occurred to me that perhaps Col. Lloyd might buy it, as it is quite common for those who have been planting with power upon uplands to remove their slaves to the richer alluvial bottoms. The land is of the richest on the Tchula branch of the Yazoo, opposite the plantation of Judge Murray in Holmes Co. below the mouth of Black Creek, about 8 miles from the town of Tchula, containing 660 acres.

Mr. T. has not noticed my proposition to take the Warehouse for the debt of $5,000, for which she holds the notes.

With much respect & esteem,

Your obt. Servt & friend

Albert Miller Lea

Col. John Pilgrim.