halfway — we offered you $250 for the pair of heifers, less the expense of bringing them down, which notwithstanding your remark we think moderate. We would not trust such high-priced animals in the hands of any one except he were one in whom we could place implicit confidence — such a man is Mr. Sagester.

We have recapitulated these facts, not with a view of recrimination because we indulge no such feeling, but that the whole case may be before you, and shall now reply to your proposition. You say:

"I will draw on you at sight for $235.50 which I doubt not I can get discounted at the Westminster bank having the matter open for an amicable adjustment, &c."

Now, Sir, it was to prevent the existence of a contingent bargain, a thing I have always been averse to, that I offered you the $250 in cash (subject to the expense of bringing the calf down) for the heifers and advised you in the event of your accepting my proposition to draw on me. I have already apprised you of the death of the white heifer occasioned by her inability to bring forth her calf, but as my proposition looks forward to casualties I am not disposed to withdraw it, and therefore advise you to draw upon me at sight for the balance as named; this power I again renew with the express stipulation that the matter of purchase of the two heifers will be thereby closed.

With regard to Brilliant I have to observe, that I have no desire to purchase him whatever: the proposition I made you in my last arose solely out of a desire to meet your views. A bull six years old as you know is by no means a popular article and therefore could only be an object of purchase with one who might buy to sell at a reduced price. If I were to get him, I might or might not be able to sell him speedily and if not, as I would have to buy all his food he would soon eat his head off, as I should never dream of keeping him otherwise than in full flesh. Were you to send him on sale on the terms stipulated in my last I would use my most strenuous exertions to sell him for and on your account — or I will give you my note at 3 months for $100 and take all risk.

Yours truly E. P. Roberts

Balt. 22 June 1836

Lyman Reed Esq.

Mr. C. W. Prince
Thomdale