term of years according to the list subscribed unless in your opinion alterations should be made as to the term of service. If so, be pleased to make any you think proper reducing but not enlarging the term of service. They may be sold on a credit from one to three years according to the amount of purchase, or longer if you think proper — the money to be well secured by bond — the interest payable annually and punctually deposited to my credit in the Bank of Columbia — would it not be well to advertise — in the ~~papers~~ public prints of Frederick Town & Geo. Town the number, ages & term of service &c. credit &c.

Should any be bargained for before I arrive at Washington they might be delivered, but as the contract can not be finally concluded, till I do arrive, say about the first of Nov. on account of the deed of manumission which must be executed before I give Bills of sale, it would be well to make a memorandum in writing of the terms of the sale &c. as soon as I arrive the deed of manumission may be executed and afterwards the Bills of sale.

In disposing of these Negros I need not remind you that I could wish every possible regard paid to the dictates of humanity — that the feelings and happiness of each individual may be consulted as much as possible and to this end, if necessary, a sacrifice in the price may be made. Be careful that they do not fall into the hands of persons who would not regard their future rights to freedom — and who feel no scruples on the subject of transportation. —

Whether it will be in our power to go by the way of Steadwood to W. I am at present unable to determine and can only say, should it be, that it will afford me great pleasure to do so and no doubt delight to behold your celebrated farm. —

I am Dear Sir, with sentiments of great respect & tender regard your very obliged servt

P. Hostler

List of the Negros to be sold. —

1. Robert [illegible] about 35. to serve 5. years —
2. Robert [illegible] about 20. to serve 5. Do
3. Agnes about 15. to serve 12. Do
4. Mark about 13. to serve 17. Do
5. John about 12. to serve 18. Do
6. Robert .. 10. Do .. 20. Do
7. Mary .. 8. Do .. 19. Do
8. Lucy .. 3. Do .. 24. Do
9. Henry 15. months .. Do .. 28. Do
10. Will Parker about 35. to serve 5. years —
11. Mills wife " 23. Do 5. years.
12. Kater Betty about 28. to serve 7. Do
13. John about 2. years old to serve 28. Do
14. — The Youngest born to serve 29. Do
15. Kater Sall about 25. to serve 8. years
16. Charles about 8. years old to serve 22. years.
17.

I have sincerely [illegible] Sir Your [illegible] Jacob = [illegible] letter to Mr. [illegible] in a day or two [illegible] write more at [illegible] I must be [illegible] to the people, who I [illegible] fie satisfied with [illegible] Instructions [illegible] we have [illegible] Thomas [illegible] the least [illegible] as a [illegible] me that [illegible] over [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]