

Green Watch Oil Co No. 10
May 15. 1870.

Dear Father.

You will find in the Library (at home)
a work on "book Keeping" bought by you when
in New Bern once, for me. Please send it to me
by some good opportunity, together with a blank
book about 12 inches long & 8 inches wide ruled in
double money columns. The one I have is pretty
well worn. I want to keep myself posted in book
keeping if I can. The ~~Farmer~~ ^{Farmer} has not
been issued yet not published for this month

I suppose. If you come across anything of note
in your paper - that is worth showing either in the
Political Library or Agricultural world. Please
send it to me occasionally, as reading is the only
amusement I have here. My Cotton the piece that old
man Jacob tilled last year. (about 17 acres) is
splendid & everybody that has seen it pronounces
it as good a stand as they ever saw. This is the
piece I composed so well - & will no doubt
make me 15 bags. I have got along with my
crop so far beyond all my expectations - fearing
as I did that I had too much. I have plowed
& hoed all my corn over thoroughly once & will
be able in a fortnight to get in it again.

The piece of Cotton planted while you were here
has been chopped out 10 days and is about
eight inches high. Tomorrow I commence putting
it to a stand (16th May) - Ask some Cotton farmer
in Beaufort if they can teach that Farmer Day
that a good stand is $\frac{1}{2}$ the cattle - if that be

time mine is half fought. I am going to
mice my Crap as closely as possible & do not
intend to leave it a day again until it is
made. & see if I cant desappoint some of
my friends - All this Cotton talk dont interest
you I suppose, but Inst now I am off free
of it that. I cant think of anything else to
write you By close application for 7 months
only I hope to pay all my debts & be a free
man once more with some property - a thing
I never had before. I hear from Ann about
twice a week, she will stop here on the 24th.
I have sent Capt Warner an order for some
fine articles - a Crab - hat & some faultless stuff
for Tom & 2 Snuff for Nathan - please get
him to send them by Wednesdays boat. Give my
best love to the Family & Cousin Caroline - would
be glad to hear from some of them if they dont
think I have done too much for them to write me.
I have been confined to my bed for 3 days with
a terrible cold on my right ^{side} which has kept
me quite sick - it is better today - was out this
afternoon -

I am

Very Sincerely

Tom Don

Geo. A. Shinn