

David Crockett's Last Letter

January 9, 1836

My dear son and daughter this is the first time I have had an opportunity to write to you with convenience I am now blessed with excellent health and am in high spirits although I have had many difficulties to encounter I have got through safe and have been received by every body with the open arm of friendship I am hailed with a handy welcome to this country a dinner and a Party of Ladies have honored me with an invitation to participate with them both at Nacogdoches and this place the cannon was fired here on my arrival and I must say as to what I have seen of Texas it is the garden spot of the world the best land and the best prospect for health I even saw is here and I do believe it is a fortune to any man to come here there is a world of country to settle it is not required here to lay down for your League of Land every man is entitled to his head right of 4000-428 acres then man make the money to pay for it off the Land I expect in all probability to settle on the Bodark or Choctaw bayou Red River that I have no doubt that it is the richest country in the world good land and plenty of timber and the best springs and good mill streams good range clear water and ever appearances of good health and game plenty it is in the pass where the buffalo passes from north to south twice a year and bees and honey plenty I have a great hope of getting the agency to settle that country and will be glad to see every friend I have settle there it would be a fortune to them all I have taken the oath of the government and have enrolled my name as a volunteer for six months and will set out for the Rio Grand in a few days with the volunteers from the United States all volunteers is entitled to a vote for a member of the convention or to be voted for and I have but little doubt of being elected a member to form a constitution for this Province I am rejoiced at my fate I would rather be in my present situation than to be elected to a seat in Congress for life I am in hopes of making a fortune for myself and family bad as has been my prospects I have not wrote to William but have requested John to direct him what to do I hope you show him this letter and also your brother John as it is not convenient at this time for me to write to them I hope you will all do the best you can and I will do the same do not be uneasy about me I am with my friends I must close with great respects your affectionate Father Farewell.

David Crockett