

Copied

Elm Hill. July 24th 1860

Bro. Peter.

Your of 26th of June has been rec^d - Messrs. Watson & Bourne of Fort Smith, sent to Washington a draft of \$250.00 for me. It is not mine now. Please send it back per mail to them.

If that letter sent from here to Washington containing \$2.50 two doll. & fifty cts. has reached you, please hold it till I see you. - The two ladies took the journey well to Little Rock. From there to Sullyville Fannie came very near giving out from fatigue, being much unwell at the same time. They are very nice young ladies. -

I have seen Capt. R. W. Nail. He has been with me a night & a half day. He is perfectly willing to

grant your request in putting
Peter Howell on the appropriation.
He is for Dukes. - In this he has a
full understanding with Alfred
Wade, John Page & our friends on
the Arkansas - Loring & Henry Johnson
are for Hudson - I find that Dukes
is the man for us in these gloomy
moons. - Forbes before is just out too as can
didate for the Principal Chief - Now
Dukes, Hudson, Cole & Forbes. We need not
be afraid of Dukes if his being an aboli-
tionist. - We can trouble him so easily -
but it would be hard to approach & man-
age Hudson & Forbes that every body
knows. - Those who oppose Dukes on the
supposed abolition of his, are quite
ultra in their feelings themselves.
Great excitement now in Texas -
Negro insurrection - northern Texas
was to be laid waste & rendered
sheepless headed, by white men. Great
by the ^{politics} John Brown Conspiracy ^{in paper} but the plot

is discovered. Very alarming indeed.
Signs of danger are thought to be
discovered over here in the Nation,
but I see none: Still danger may be
near by - Watkins & others who killed Slack
& Son have surrendered themselves to the
Marshal. You know all about the
affair of your son Peter - He has been
with me - He is justifiable - law can
not hunt him; but at present the ex-
citement & prejudices are against
him. I advised him to keep out of the
way of the excitement, until you come.
& now you should come - They can't do
without you - Your children, your relations
are now in deep waters. Your presence
will effect much toward harmonizing
their feelings to a considerable extent.
Great drought here - crops are burnt up
scarcity of corn will still be greater next
year - In general there is a great
rest at present among the people
of the Nation, although there are some

fighting and killing among
the baser sort of drunken folk
in different parts of the state
just as it is among the cruel
set of drunkards & wicked
wretches in the state -

We are ~~all~~ well - thank
^{God} for it -

Please write soon
May God help you

I am yours as ever
Israel Tolson