

Fort Smith Ark

July 20th 1859

Dr Uncle Peter

Sir After very tedious traveling, by Stage & by Wagon and sometimes by walking, finally reached this place on the 17th, the river being low and boats cannot come up.

I have not seen the young men, but I have understood that they are both well, Walker & Green were the principal Lawyers in this case, and after they were convicted and sentenced to the State Prison, they got a respite in ~~the~~ prison for 6 months in order to give the friends time to appeal to the President for a reprieve.

It is the opinion of some here

that the evidence put up against
them are of such nature, that such
a thing as a reprieve cannot be
expected,

Some short time ago an attempt
was made by them to break jail
but was detected, they are now
still in Van Buren jail,

I have made inquiries about the
Petition, but no one seems to know
any thing about it

The matter is so exceedingly
hot, it must be very severe on
them

The news from the Nation are
vague and unsatisfactory, crops
are said to be fine, ~~which~~ by some
while others deny,

The Election for Governor is
drawing near ~~Thompson~~ McKim
it is said had been electing

over on Red river and brings
news that he himself is the only
candidate ^{out} all others having with-
drawn, but again it is thought
that is all a hoax, by good many
and they still hold out for Wade
& Perkins until further news
Wm Pritchlym is candidate for Auditor
John Page for Treasurer

My best respects to Peter & Kirkwood
and in fact all others ^{for you, well as} friends
accept the well wished high
regards from your humble
servant, I hope all will yet
turn out well for the young
men

I am yours truly
J. G. Hamble