

Copied

Boggy Depot C. I.

June 25-1858

Col Peter P. Pitchlynn

Dear Friend

I have located
in this Village & offered for the prac-
tice of Medicine. The number of my
patients are steadily increasing, and
since the population is so much scat-
tered, I have been kept busily em-
ployed. On the 8th of this Month I
performed quite an interesting opera-
tion upon the arm of Mr James Davi-
son. he had upon his arm a fibro-
fatty tumor situated upon the ex-
ternal part of his arm & encrav-
ing upon the anterior & posterior
part of the arm, & resting between
the skin & muscles of that situation.

It was of eighteen months standing.
And when it was removed it
weighed eight pounds & a quarter,
Mr Davidson went to Fort Smith
and placed himself under the
treatment of Dr Romford & Shumard,
he stayed with them several weeks
but received no benefit, but only
grew weaker in strength & health.
And the tumor grew larger & larger.
finally his physicians advised him
to go to Louisville or New Orleans
and have it operated upon - but
Mr Davidson, was satisfied that he
could not undertake the journey.
As his health and strength was so
much reduced, so he concluded
that he would return home, thinking
that he would either die on the way
or soon after arriving home -

he arrived home alive, and sent
for me immediately to come and
examine his case & see if I could
do any thing to relieve him of his
difficulty. I examined the tumor
and was satisfied that it could be
removed without sacrificing the
arm or life of the patient. I ac-
cordingly proceeded with the op-
eration by making elliptical in-
cisions extending from the shoul-
der to within an inch of the elbow.
Then dissected the tumor from its
bed, hemorrhage was very slight,
as it was arrested immediately.
The skin was then brought together
by the interrupted suture, and
the patient is now improving daily
in health, strength & spirits, and the
wound is healing up finely,-

Before the operation, he was not expected to live more than a few days. Every body had given him up to die. He had consulted quite a number of physicians, but received no relief until the day that he was operated upon.

The killing game is still practiced in this country. A few days ago, Pierre Fraher was killed on Red River, by Brock Colbert.

This place has been quite lively within the last two weeks. The Legislative Constitution is going ahead during the case session every thing went off smoothly, and nothing occurred to mar their progress. Col Cooper, has not arrived from the west yet but is expected in a few days.

There has been, and there is still a good deal of confusion among the Choctaw people. The two parties are still opposing each other. Harkins & his party held a convention in Doaksville a few months ago, they took up the old Constitution, made a few improvements upon it - having three chiefs and a principal chief - and say that they are going to lay the whole subject before the people - and in August take a general vote upon the two Constitutions.

As to what will be the result of these difficulties or how they will terminate, I will not pretend to say, but fear that there will be some trouble over here before all is ended - we are living in

a country almost-as-it-were, without law. There are a great deal of killing, and a great deal of robbery carried on. But I hope that the condition of things will soon change, and that the people all may pull in the same direction, for unless they do, progressivism is out of the question.

Whenever you have any spare moments, I would be most happy to have a letter from you - I have a little half brother, George Waller. About fifteen years old - he is very anxious to get an opportunity of going off to the States to school, I hope that he may get a chance soon.

If anything has been done in regard to the patent for my father's land, please let me know - I am as ever your friend &c J. L. Bond