

He has not told me who she is  
Perhaps to day is his wedding day.  
I have not seen brother Daniel more  
than a year. You will please to  
ask him what Dotson done with  
mothers claim. I have not heard  
a word since he <sup>got</sup> Dotson to attend  
to it. At this time, little money would  
be a great help to me, to buy bread  
stuff with. I have two or three miles  
but cant sell any of them yet.

I heard uncle Israel had started  
for Washington

Cousin Malvina arrived  
home from old Mountain Fork.  
She left cousin Rhoda at uncle  
Israels, but I heard she come  
to Lovings yesterday.

We have a mild winter,  
and the cattle is in first rate  
order. A Norther would come, and  
the weather would be cool for one or  
two days and then turns warm and  
pleas<sup>as</sup>. My family is well, and I  
believe the people in the neighborhood  
are well. I would like to get a letter  
from you, if you have not got the rheumatism  
in your arms. Your nephew Jacob Tolson.

Copy

Jan. 9, 1861.

Uncle Peter:-

With one eyed spectacle  
(having been broken out) I will try to  
write you a letter in this little sheet.  
My eyes have failed much; having  
<sup>now</sup> my head stopp'd up with bad cold,  
they are weak. For nearly two years,  
my health has not been good; but my  
old complaint is much better, I am not  
troubled with it now; though constipation  
of the bowels would bring it right back  
on me. I use Epsom Salts.

During the drought of last summer,  
I took my family and stock and struck  
a camp on the Mineral Bairo, where  
good water flows freely, about a mile  
and a half or two miles below where  
Capt. Dean and his men were camp-  
ed, and about four or five miles  
due east of that Bee Tree, where you  
composed that Great Bee <sup>Tree</sup> Song, in  
the fall of 1834. About this, you can  
not forget. I moved back when cool  
weather set in, and am now living where  
my son Rufus lives. He moved to the  
Canadian, in Adam Nail's settlement.

When I was living at the Buffalo -  
Horn-Spring, (This is the name,

a good name, in opening the gey-  
-sire I found ~~the~~ the horn the point  
sticking downwards, in the mud) my  
health improved mightily. I have two  
kinds of water there, one is a soft free  
stone water, and the other is also free stone,  
while sand boils up, cold, bubbles rise up  
-on the surface and flash, and I think  
it is impregnated with iron. It used to  
have a powerful effect upon my kid-  
-neys. It built me up; In fact, my  
family got fat. I shall make that as  
my home. Fine place for stock, and as  
soon as I get through planting in the spring  
I shall gather all my stock there; and  
when warm weather comes, <sup>will</sup> I take my  
family there. This year, I want to pay  
my whole attention to raising mules, and,  
if Abe Lincoln and his host of devils  
don't run over us, I shall want to  
buy a negro boy to work for me, as I am  
getting old; but I believe Lincoln will  
make as good President as any they have  
had; but how is this big talk among the  
the people of the Southern States about

Seceding? I suppose South Carolina has already seceded. To mark the life of Francis Marion, a person will find there were more Tories in South Carolina in the time of the revolution, and I think <sup>it is</sup> the descendants of those Tories who have been rebellious. I think Uncle Abe ought to ~~take~~ all the Freedom Shirkers and Live Eaters and hang them, if there were out of the way, they would have peace. Why nurse bad folks? Perhaps it affects you more than us, as you are right in the midst of the excitement. I thought it was bad enough when Col. G. Hawkins and others rebelled against the laws of their country, but part of the people of the U. S. are on much bigger scale. I look on, but I am not in the least troubled about it. If they will fight, let them fight it out. I stand neutral, and look on.

I received a letter yesterday from brother Daniel, in which he states that he will start for Washington on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of this month, and also states he is going to get married to a widow.