

Fort Arbuckle Co Mo Jan 27, 1873

Dear Uncle

My main object in this letter is to get you to attend to a claim that I made out against the US Government in October last. The claim I think is good. it amounts to the following The Commanche Indians came down and stole Eighteen head of horses from me. I followed them to those Camps where they was all in Council with all the Overland Indians also all the different US Agents was present they gave up Eight head of my horses and Seven head I did not get. The men that taken the stock acknowledge to it. and all at the Council was witness to the fact. So I went to Mr. Saturn Thane Agent at Fort Sill and made out a Claim for the balance of my horses. for I am left destitute of Stock to cultivate my farm this season. and worse than all I have not got the money to buy any more with Uncle I wish you would attend this for me as soon as you can. And try and have it paid as soon as possible. and I will satisfy you for doing so. In regards to the old horse claim. I can get you up Ten Thousand Dollars to collect if you think there is any chance to get it at your own terms of charges

Mothers family is all well except Mary Camp who is lying very low she is very dangerous. has been sick for a month. Three Doc. was with her last night. Uncle Peter probably you have not yet heard of the death of John Fitchlynn he died on the eight of January. (of this month) he was taken sick the day after Christmas with the Pleuro Pneumonia. I and Tom said with him all the time during his sickness. Tom done all he could for him.

Bro Sam said that John's lungs
 was entirely gone. he had no hopes
 for himself when he was first taken sick
 he left a helpless family. Consisting of
 his wife and three little helpless children
 who is to be pitied & sympathized for
 there have been great many
 deaths in this neighborhood in the last
 twelve months. John Pritchard's
 last wife was a daughter of old man
 Joseph Colbert probably you was acquainted
 with him in Mississippi farther was
 well acquainted with him in Mississippi
 they are a nice family of
 people.

uncle I will bring
 this badly written letter to a close
 by asking you write to me
 and let me know what you can
 do for me in regard to my claim
 no more

National affairs
 very much unwell at home
 nothing interesting to amuse
 me.

write and give me the correct
 course of our situation and the situation
 of our country.

Uncle Peter dont
 to write to me for Mother and all of us
 would like to here from you often
 in month I remain your

O. B. & Refuse John J. Howell