

Eagle Tavern C. M.
Mar 28th 1877

Col. R. P. Pitcher
Washington D. C.

Dear Sir

I am sorry
to inform you my wife is dead, it is unnecessary to
enter into details as to the cause of her death, as
Mrs Holson has ere this given you all the
particulars, she died on the 13th April 12. M.
she gave birth to a child on the morning of
of the 13th and died shortly afterwards, the baby
at this time is doing well it is named after
you. Mrs Holson has been down to get the
children but as it was the wish of my wife
while in health, and while on her death bed
that I should take care of them myself, I did not
give them to her. Mrs Holson informed me
while she was here that you had turned the
place over to her, but the property having been in
my wife's charge at the time of my marriage

I intend to hold it until I have orders direct
from you to turn it over to some one. Most
also gave the cows to some people that are on
the place and made arrangements with them
to rent another year. Labor is very hard to
find in this country and farming is a perfect
drag there and no negroes on the place, and
haven't been for two years. They all have plots
of their own and are farming on their own hook
we have to put up with anything to get a little
work done the only chance to get renters is to
take them as they are passing through the country
there was a perfect failure in the crops last
or I would have paid you rent. When I married
it was not to get a right in the Nation nor for
property for I was aware at the time I married
that every thing belonged to you, and that I
had nothing to gain pecuniarily.

This is a very poor place to live amongst a
lot of full bloods and negroes with no neighbors
in ten miles of you. If you remember in the
fall of '75 after my marriage with your
daughter I had her to write you while

you were at the Council to come or appoint
some one to take charge of your place, that we
were starting to Texas. but after staying in
Galveston a while my wife became home sick
and wanted to come back to her Native country
so I left her there under the charge of a doctor
and came back and built up a house, which
I will make you a present of if you ever come
to the Nation to live, and then I will go back
to Texas. If it had not have been for some
good neighbors burning up some twelve or
fifteen hundred bushels of corn, and from
being in debt from the failure of the crop
we would have left the country long ago
I have at this time some renters on the place
and there are some \$900⁰⁰ or a \$1000⁰⁰
owing on the place and I intend to pay it
before I leave the country. If you want
me to stay on the place, send me authority to
hold it, if not send some one with written
authority to receive it should you not
come yourself. Mrs A requested a woman
that is taking care of the children that if

I should be killed to take care of the children
for her now I dont want to be killed or kill
any one about property that dont belong to
me. Now as you know nothing about me. if you
should wish to know whom and what I am I
can refer you to the best citizens in this part
of the country. in Arkansas and south
western Texas. where I am well and
favorably known. I would like to hear
from you at gathering time if not sooner
in order to keep down trouble what to do.
I can also prove by citizens here that
I have not used any of your stock. nor
raised any myself in order to keep
people from saying that I had used any
of yours. I remain as ever your son in law

D. L. Kennedy