

**Mahala Doyle to John Brown**

Chattanooga, Tennessee, 20 November 1859.

Autograph letter signed, 2 pages + address leaf.

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Chattanooga Tennessee

20<sup>th</sup> November 1859.

John Brown

Sir

Altho vengence [*sic*] is not mine, I confess, that I do feel gratified to hear that you ware stopt in your fiendish career at Harper's Ferry, with the loss of your two sons, you can now appreciate my distress, in Kansas, when you then and there entered my house at midnight and arrested my husband and two boys and took them out of the yard and in cold blood shot them dead in my hearing, you cant say you done it to free our slaves, we had none and never expected to own one, but has only made me a poor disconsolate widow with helpless children while I feel for your folly. I do hope & trust that you will meet your just reward. O how it pained my Heart to hear the dying groans of my Husband and children if this scrawl give you any consolation you are welcome to it

Mahala Doyle

[2] N<sup>3</sup> my son John Doyle whose life I begged of (you) is now grown up and is very desirous to be at Charleston on the day of your execution would certainly be there if his means would permit it, that he might adjust the rope around your neck if gov: wise would permit it

M Doyle.

[*address*]

To

John Brown

Care of the Jailer Commander of the Army

Charles Town. at Harper's Ferry

Charlestown

Jefferson County

V.<sup>a</sup>.