

James Butler "Wild Bill" Hickok to Horace Hickok.

Letter written by James Butler "Wild Bill" Hickok, Monticello, Kansas Territory, to his brother Horace Hickok. He relates that he was in LeCompton tending to his claim and has the best lawyer in Kansas. Hickok will have 160 acres soon. He talks about recipient possibly coming to Kansas in the spring. Says to tell mother he has not been drinking or gambling and the next time he goes to Lawrence, he'll send a photo so she can see if he looks "clean." Hickok has been haying for 5 days. His roommate, Guy, is deathly sick. He [Hickok] is quiet much of the time. Asks about acquaintances and talks about marriage. Guy has bought land in Douglas County and he doesn't swear or drink. Hickok has been hunting and game is plentiful.

Creator: Hickok, Wild Bill, 1837-1876

Date: August 14, 1858

Callnumber: Hickok Family Coll. #806

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James Butler "Wild Bill" Hickok to Horace Hickok.

Monticello

August 14th 1858

Dear Brother

I have neglected answering your letter
longer than I ever did a letter in my life
But I beg to be excused this time and I will
give my excuse I went to Sacountan as a witness and
sold and business of my own I have the best
lawyer indigaged to tend to my blame
that there is in the territory there will
be no danger. But what I will get my blame
in time but I will stick it out
it tell Bill if you please that
I am going to have 100 acres before
hand and I think I will
sell back. if I dont have
more I have seen egg and like
him first rate he sings a little to
much about it mind by the name
of brown who has two dangling birds. The stage the
first time he came to see me there a fore days last
Wednesday he came to see me a gain and stay all day
he dont like me very well for he is always wanting
to see you so much you want to no whether it would
be better for you to come out here in the spring or
not there is not much doing here in the
country now but I will let you know when I think

James Butler "Wild Bill" Hickok to Horace Hickok.

Mother Attention some thing about drinking and gambling
 in our letter well now well I will tell you what is at fault I have not drank
 of pint of liquor in a year and I have not played for a cent in two
 that time the first time I go to Lawrence I will send you my
 sickness and you can see whether it looks like a whiskey place or not
 I have been making hay for
 4 or 5 days I have got it all stacked
 ready for some fast get through
 about half and have 7 go
 one of my best friends eyes here
 sick even in winter death he is
 the man I live with I think that
 you will write to you that I and my
 poor bandage he thinks I talk for
 him any man he ever see all
 the time he was here I understand
 to talk to him but I would not
 to studying some times two hours
 if he did not say any thing I have not
 and awful notions of studying all day
 every I get some times two hours and
 think a bout one thing and another
 without speaking even when the news
 is full of trouble all new books here
 there is one of the best of the
 you may want to study with me
 and the like is what he is doing
 I hope to see him and meet
 one of them I am sure that he
 will think that he
 his reason and never
 is described a good
 remember in the
 I am doing down and
 I am doing down and

every time I turn over I write without knowing
 tell the reason that I write so many different things
 you that the Delaware lands are coming in to market I want
 to be right state and here with out fee and bill to be
 for I have made you both a loan on them lands I made
 them last fall when every body thought them lands were
 coming in to market I give right blast to these lands and
 when they do come in if they ever do I am going to have
 a wife at them there there is one section over there that I
 would like to have for my fore brothers there is a bout
 hundred acres of timber and the section and the best beautiful
 prairie that can be found in the country
 James B. Hickok Long

James Butler "Wild Bill" Hickok to Horace Hickok.

5th Monticello Tuesday 17th 1858
10 o'clock

Guy was here this morning at Little
While he was on his way to the office
to get some sand he says gerusha is
married to William Simpson you ought
to have seen him. Laughed this morning
for a hour half an hour he has shaved
it again it makes him look infull
thin I tell you I did not hardly see him
Look out that you dont all get married
Guy says his suspicions and love
to all and to you especially
Sorrowed by far this time

Monticello Tuesday afternoon
I have been in an official
business and now it is five
o'clock I will write a little
more so elige and gary
have not yet married yet
and the old voice dont like
it that is nothing in the way
at all I should not mind that at
all I should like that
all the better the more
objection the better for the cause

James Butler "Wild Bill" Hickok to Horace Hickok.

Monticello Thursday afternoon
 But I have not got my dinner
 yet. Guy, was here I understand
 to say he had broke it in half and come
 to borrow one of me he said he wished
 Bill Simpson was here so that he ~~could~~
 could make him one he said it would
 not have cost him any thing for it would
 have been all in the family he said
 it took him down with it to here that
 yeruk had got married. Was saying about
 yeruk and Bill Simpson parting the other
 day Guy said they would never get married
 but I knew they were going to get married
 y. mother said by the by Bill Simp
 is going to pilot him at least in town
 now that was it enough from me
 for me to understand something about things
 in that line I have to put my pen in
 the ink bottle to or there times very soon
 I write it suitable so I think I shall better
 quit till I get some ink. Well now we
 will see how this will do it is better
 I think

Friday August 20 1868
 Yours truly
 W. B. Hickok



James Butler "Wild Bill" Hickok to Horace Hickok.

Winnipeg Friday August 20 1882 month

I have been mowing
or reaping hay with the machine to day and
Broke it all to pieces I have Brought to
drivers to the saddle and forty screws
lost to hatchets and a bunch of oak
and hardy Leg and the other and
at May so I guess I shant have
to work this after noon good Luck
at last my old friend the
Bad old one now he has been
after some of my and he says
if you can I will him at letter
or so I will be his he will
think you are not where
any yet I believe as I think
anything but Walter and
the old seth other things
is as thinks is good for his
health I am forty years of age
Last Sunday my girl wanted me
for me and I had a ride home
and then I was hungry
as for when you get this if you can write me a long
letter about you get this you ever shall have
it I think to send it to mother
Yours truly
J. B. Hickok

James Butler "Wild Bill" Hickok to Horace Hickok.

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Monticello July 22 1858

I made a mistake yesterday
I thought it was Friday But no difference
Guy is here again to day he has brought
him to claim in Douglas Co about 20
miles from here him and 20 others
men together they paid \$150 for it
there is pure aspen of timber that
will do for fire wood on it about
200 rails and 400 hundred in the
woods that they claim have the logs
there is a beautiful spring about
10 rods from the shore and it has
14 feet square and it he says he is
going to fence in the whole ground
this winter or the top of them is
I hope they may find some good
stock and if Guy is at work at
Monticello for 15 tent holders amount
driving a bull team tell the ladies
if there are any that needs this that
they could recel the middle line
if they are beautiful I must
go to putting up hay now so
I will quit
Yours
Bill Hickok

James Butler "Wild Bill" Hickok to Horace Hickok.

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Belinda says

send it letter that she got from it or
not get it When I get hers But I shall
for it yet if I dont get it you must write what
there there was in it I should like to see when he is
coming home for if he should come home soon you
could look for me shortly after

Wm. J. Hickok

Monday night

10 o'clock

I quit writing to go to
hunting I have just returned and not get my supper
and thought I would write and tell you
what luck I had had one young Buck and two
turkeys which I carry home and my pack
and now you may think I am tired
which I surely am but howsoever being
tired and wet while sitting by the fire
I might as well write as not
there is plenty of game here
more than there was on the other
side of the river you are plenty
here and the fall
James

James Butler "Wild Bill" Hickok to Horace Hickok.

gl
 Now look
 here if you
 all don't W right
 after I shall quit
 all together
 I think Bill ought
 to write down
 what not received
 of letter from here in
 a long time
 B. B. B. B.
 B. B. B. B.