

Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

Section 10, Pages 271 - 300

Kansas Governor John P. St. John (1879-1883) received these letters from persons concerned with the migration of southern blacks to Kansas, commonly known as the Exodus or Exoduster movement. The letters come from blacks considering a move to Kansas, persons assisting with or monitoring the migration, officials of cities along the route, and persons providing for the relief of the migrants upon their arrival. The letters proceed in rough chronological order. Most include remnants of abstracts that were attached to the letter and then partially removed. The top of the abstract includes a reference to the letterpress book and page number of the governor's response. The governors' letterpress books are a separate collection. This collection comprises box 13 folders 13-15 and 20, box 14 folders 1-9, and box 15 folders 1-5 of the John St. John governor's records. The 1879-1880 correspondence was filed under "Immigration, Negro Exodus." The 1881-1882 correspondence was filed under "Freedman's Institute, Relief Association." A link to an inventory of St. John's entire governor's collection is available below. A full transcription is also available under "External Links."

Creator: Kansas. Governor (1879-1883 : St. John)

Date: April 1879 - October 1882

Callnumber: Governor's Office, St. John, Correspondence Received-Subject File, Box 13-15

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 210296

Item Identifier: 210296

www.kansasmemory.org/item/210296

Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

ANDREW McELVAIN, Prest.

(L. J. FARWELL, Vice-Prest.)

J. F. COLBURN, Cashier.

INCORPORATED 1876.

THE

North County Bank,

Private, Grant City, Mo., May 24th 1879.
Hon St John

My Dear Sir
I have sent you the Grant City Star - with an
article of yours and one of my own on
the refugees.

I have been thinking that our Rep-
party requires the truth to be told - and the
Responsibility of the Refugees settling in the
North must be placed where it belongs,

For votes they have been bevelled & bull
dogged - and at last stamped out from
the Southern States. And all this has been
done by the Democratic Confederate Begaders
being a gift - I grant to their Democratic friends
North for forcing negro suffrage upon the South.
The Blacks voted the D ticket & are running away
The D North must accept the present - and our
Republicans will try and make them welcome
also.



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No. 3549 Book B Page 443

From L. J. Farmwell

Place Grant City Mo

Date Mo

d.

I wish you would put forward
some such points as referred to if you
believe with me, that the I are guilty
of the great Stampede.

Privately I have written to the Inter
Ocean this day also.

The Farmers Planters & merchants
of the South want Labor. The I
& Brigadier's want only votes, and
they fear they will get no more of them.

Yours truly
L. J. Farmwell

Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence



Polio, Iowa May 26th 1879

Governor St. John

Dear Sir

Enclosed please find
draft for \$67⁵⁰/₁₀₀ to be used by you, in
aid of Colored Refugees, We will
forward clothing to Hon. J. C. Hebbard
in a few days.

Very Respectfully
W. H. Green

Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

No. 3414 Book B Page 426

From H. N. Green

Place Toledo Iowa

Date 5. 26

Rec'd

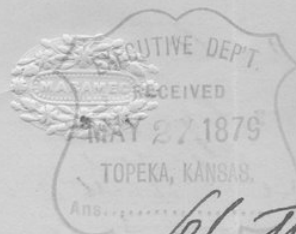
1879

Ans'd 5. 29

ABSTRACT.

Transmitting draft for
\$67.50 ap.

Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence



Platte Mo May 26, 1879
Hon J. P. St. John
Governor

I have suggested to the New York Tribune among other things regarding the "Exodusters" the necessity of steps being taken to disinfect all their clothing and bedding while on the boats, and that the contributions of the people of the East be used in part towards this matter, and the propriety of taking from them and destroying all their worthless rags and of giving them new and clean. In my opinion great danger will arise from the introduction of the germs of disease which

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will be apt to generate
fatal sickness not only in
the refugees, but the Whites also.

Nothing is more certainly
proven than that these germs
will lie dormant for months
in tight fabrics of all kinds
ready to germinate as soon as
the hot weather has come.

During the last war I had full
experience in these matters
while in charge of Hospitals,
and it was there too I learned
the power of certain agents to
destroy these germs entirely.

As the process is simple
and inexpensive I take the
liberty to detail it to you.

The agent is Bromine in
vapor. Tight fabrics of all
kinds are to be washed, but
even this is not necessary. The
little - get a large tight

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room and fill it with
as many cloths - lines as
will allow articles to be hung up
without touching each other.
It wet so much the letter.

To a room say 20x20 put one
ounce of Pure Bromine is to be
poured into five or six common
dinner plates and the room
instantly closed, as the vapor
is dangerous to breathe.

If the room has been made as
nearly air tight as possible all
the Bromine will be vaporized
in an hour, and every germ of
disease, every insect and their
eggs will be destroyed. All to
do then is to throw open the
room and let the air through
and in a couple of hours all
smell will be gone and the
goods will be ready to wear.

The cost of Bromine is about



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No. 3412 Book B Page 426

~~Benjamin Woodward~~

35¢ to 40¢ per m

I write from my experience
in Hospital in Louisville Ky
and Memphis Tenn when
Small Pox. Gangrene Typhus -
Linn Erysipelas &c existed.
and prior to using Bromine The
deaths were from 5 to 15 a day.
While after - scarcely a death
occurred.

Will you allow me to express
my participation with the high
and philanthropic character
of your cause, and the full
assurance that what you do
will be for the best good of the
race.

In my letter to the "Triune"
I insisted on killing every
Dog - This, in the season that

Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

It is not now the State will
be flooded with worse than
wolves Guts, but especially
because it is well known that
Dogs will carry the germ of
disease in their hair for many
months. Especially are Rivers
of all kinds thus disseminated

Wishing you a high and
honorable career in your
responsible position

I am Sir
Yours off Scotch
Benj Woodward


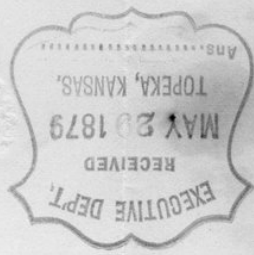



Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

No. *3412* Book *B* Page *426*
From *Benjamin Woodward*
Place *Olathe Ks*
Date *5. 26.* }
Rec'd *1879*
Ans'd

[Faint, illegible handwritten text follows]

Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

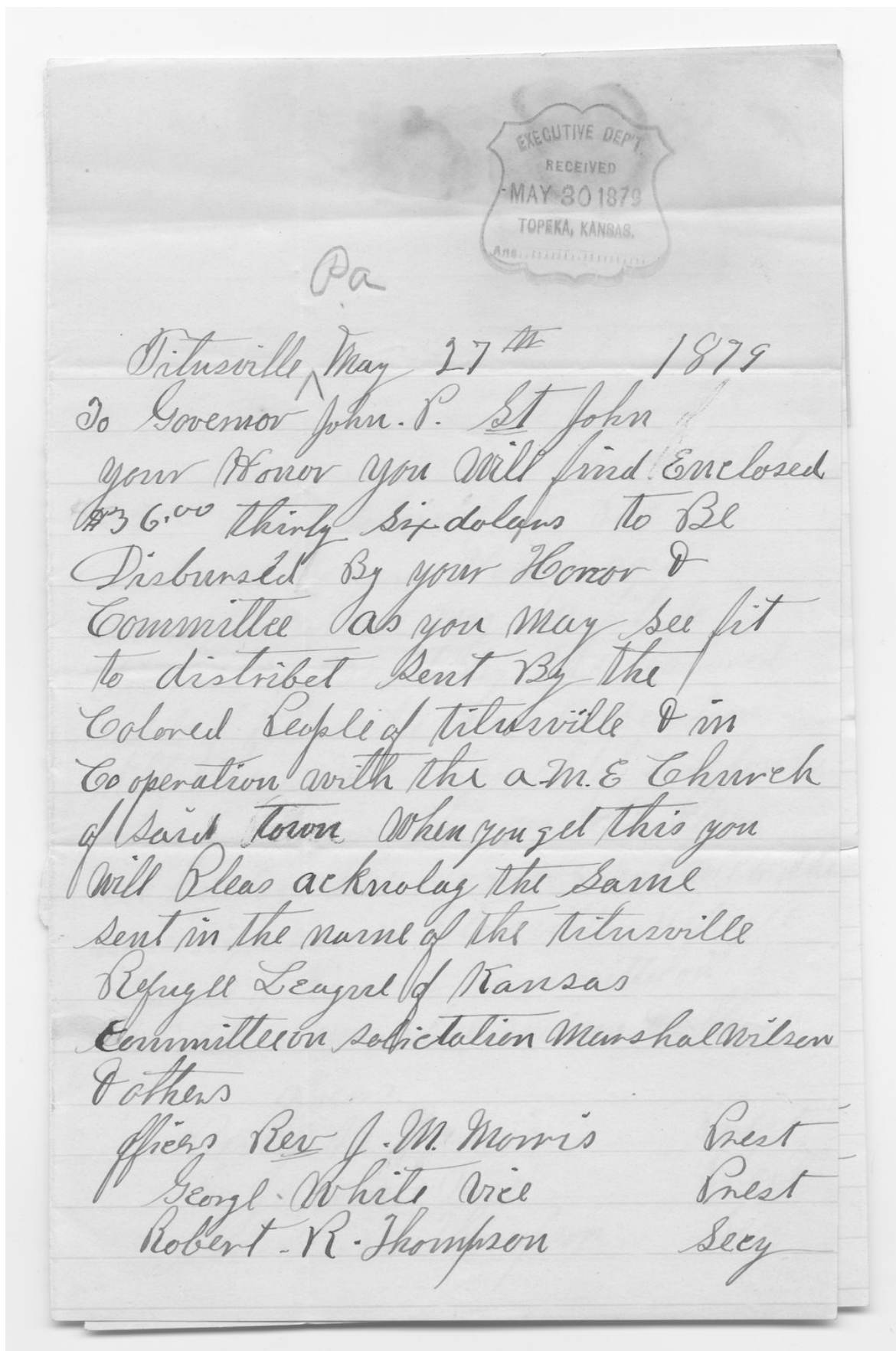
Minneapolis Minn. May 26/79
 To the Gov. of Kansas:
 The colored people of this
 city, though few in num-
 ber, have been doing all in
 their power to raise something
 to send as an aid to their
 fleeing brethren - we have
 found many difficulties in the
 way but have persevered -
 we have accumulated some
 money - and I think other neces-
 saries - such as clothing - which
 we will forward to the place
 where most needed - Hoping
 that you may show them all the
 kindness in your power -
 I am yours in friendship
 519 Washington A. F. Molester, (Sec)
 Avenue South.



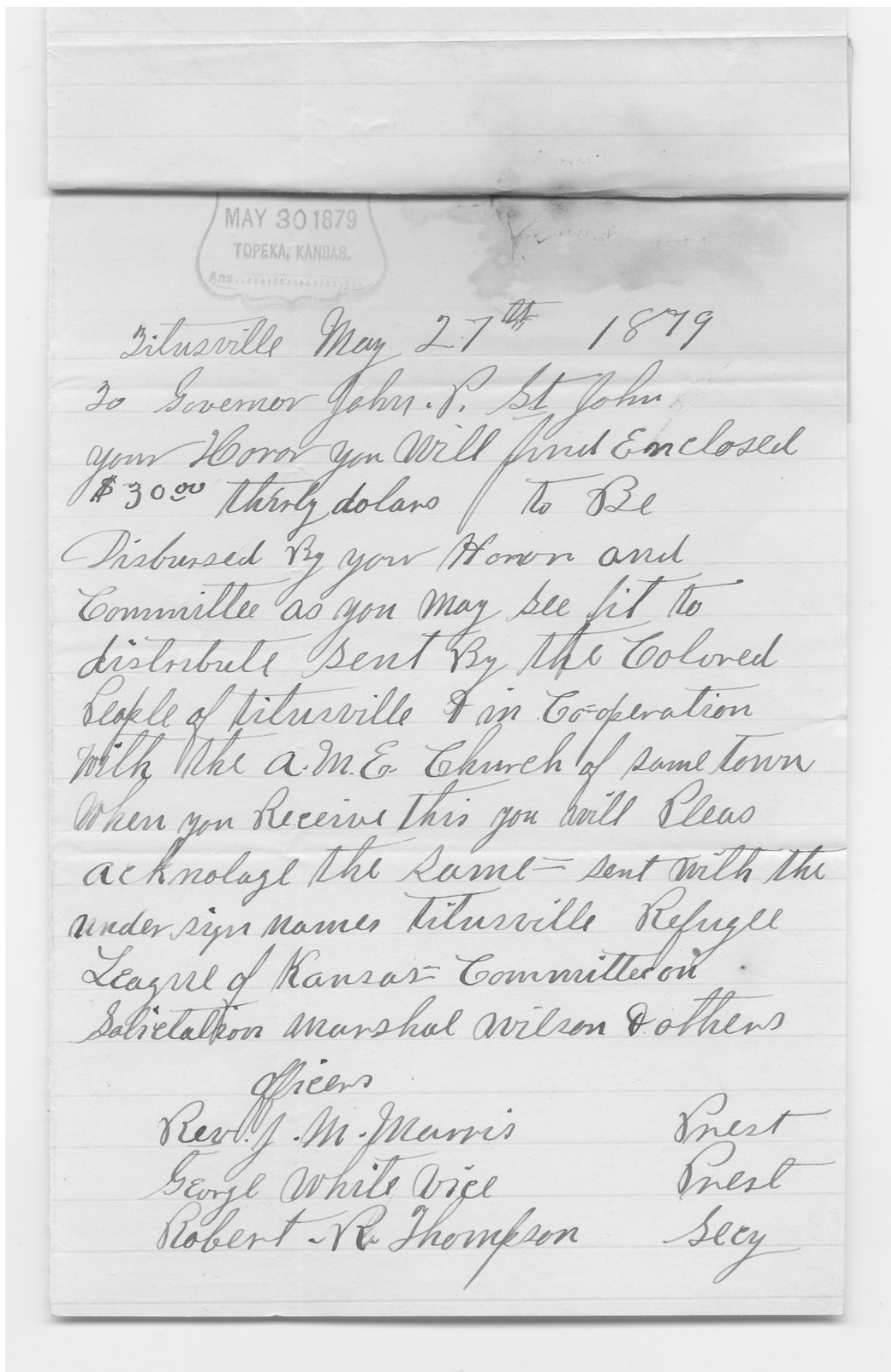
Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

No. *3432* Book *B* Page *427*
From *A. F. Hoyer*
Place *Minneapolis Minn*
Date *May 26* }
Rec'd *1890*

Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence



Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence



Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

No. 3432 Book B Page 428
From J. J. M. Morris
Place Titusville Pa
Date 5. 27 }
Rec'd } 1879
Ar.

Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence



Morgan City La. May 27th 1879.
 Dear Sir. At a Meeting held
 on the 26th. Inst. of Colored
 Citizens. Appointed the following
 committee. H. C. Gary (Chair)
 Benj. J. Connerly (Secy) H. M. Tucker
 Nathan Kelly - John Berks -
 Edward Sims & Elder Garrison.
 To inquire into conditions
 of which emigrants are received
 in your State. You will therefore
 state me as Secy, what provisions
 are made to emigrants if any
 & on what conditions if this
 advisable for us to leave the
 South here & come to your
 State for better treatment
 Socially & politically. Please
 answer & give me an



Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

No. 3430 Book B Page 428

the details & conditions your
state for farming & stock raising
this all at present your
obediently

Benz J. Gurly
(Seelye)
com

Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

EXECUTIVE DEPT.
RECEIVED
MAY 28 1879
TOPEKA, KANSAS.

New Orleans
May 27th 1879
To Governor John P. St. John.

Dear Sir

Your letter of the 19th inst is at hand
And in reply permit me to return
you the hearty thanks of our people
for the valuable instructions you
furnished us on this great exodus
Among our colored people, your communication
was read in our Society last Monday
evening to about seven or eight hundred
persons, who heartily indorsed the
communication, We are glad to know
that you are so earnestly interested
concerning the temporal and the
spiritual welfare of our poor colored
people South, We truly desire your
assistance and all other good persons
to help us to leave the land of injustice,
I will send you a copy of the Regulators of
Mississippi, threatening to kill all white persons
who aid the colored people in obtaining
their rights, and in assisting them to leave
oppression, Your communications are of
great value to our people at all times
and will be appreciated, We know for a fact
that all white people are not our opposers,

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Therefore you may rest assure that
we are lead to believe from your
instructions and editorials published in
news-papers that you are truly our
friend, please send me a list of the
officers of the R. R. of Kansas. and if
possible please send me a state map of
Kansas. Eighty persons have left our
Society for Kansas, and hundreds more
will follow soon, I will be pleased to
hear from you soon,

Truly yours,
W. H. Harrison, President
of the Mutual Aid Emigration Society
of New Orleans Louisiana,
W. H. Hunter Secy.

W. H. Harrison's address 415 Franklin St.

No. 3429	Book B	Page 428
From W. H. Harrison		
Place New Orleans La		
Date	5. 27.	1879
Rec'd	5. 29	



Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

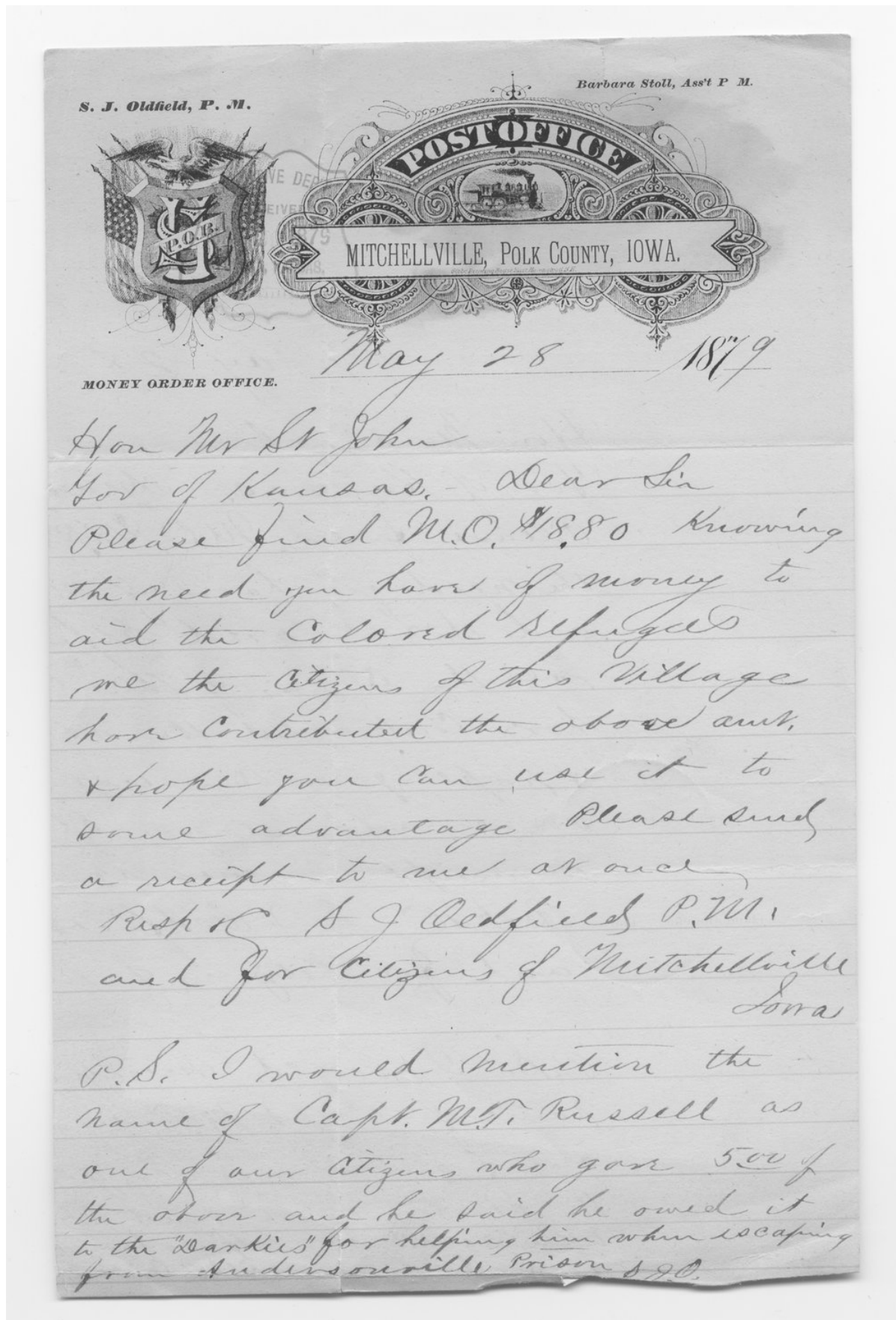
Therefore you may not assume that we are dead to relieve from your instructions and editorial publications in over- papers that you are truly our friend, please send me a list of the officers of the R. R. of Kansas, and if possible please send me a state map of Kansas, Eight persons have left our society for Kansas, and hundreds more will follow soon, I will be pleased to hear from you soon,

Chas. Davis.

Mr. H. Harrison & Adrees 415 (2) Grand Street

No. 3429 Book B Page 428
From N. A. Harrison
Place New Orleans La
Date Oct. 27
Rec'd Oct. 29 } 1879

Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence





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\$ 5.00 from Iowa man, helped by Col'd
man to escape from Andersonville
No. 3435 Book B Page 429

From S. J. Olefield

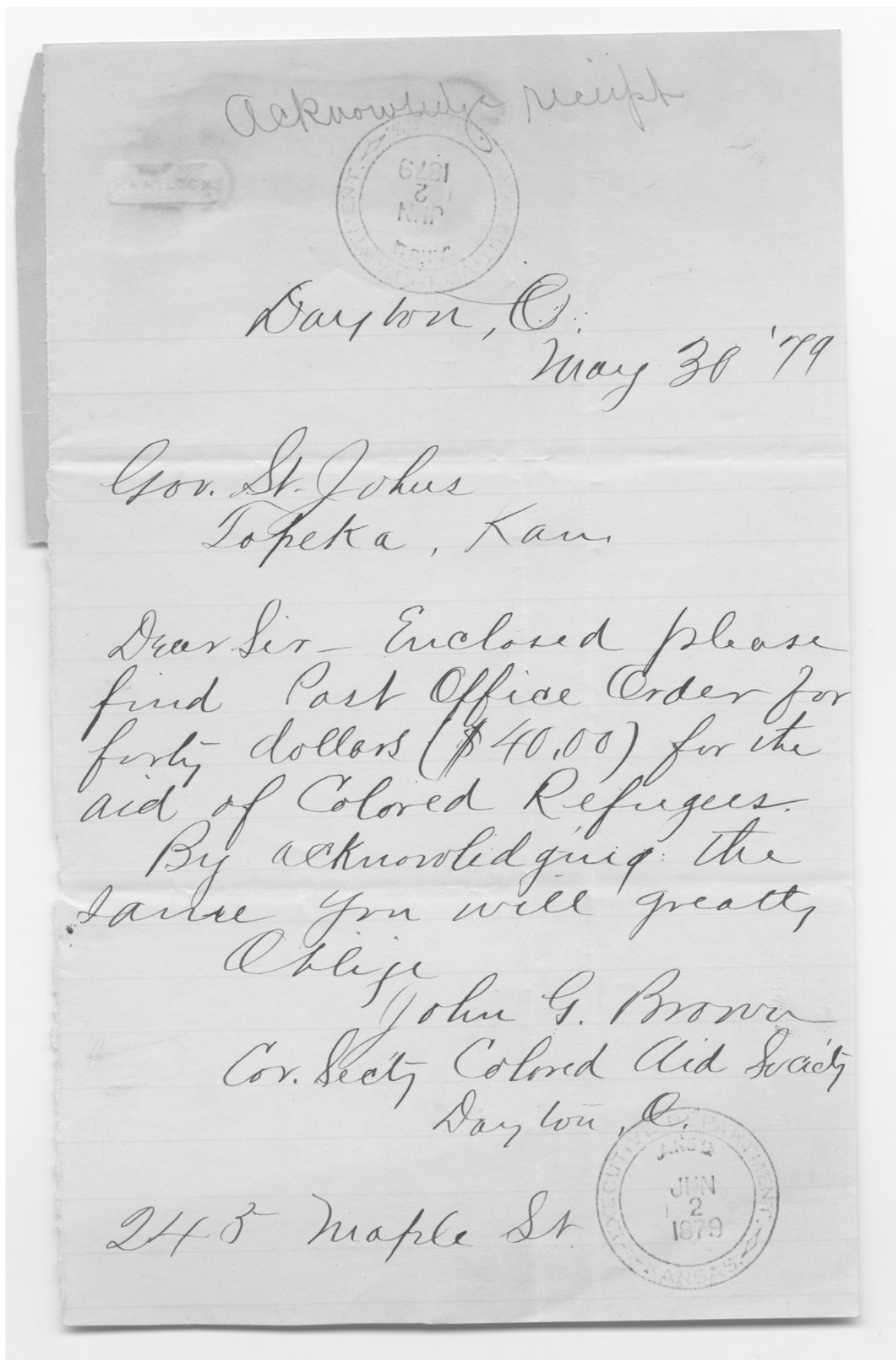
Place Mitchellville Iowa

Date May 28

Rec'd May 29

Ans'd May

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Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

No. 3444 Book B Page 430

From John G. Brown

Place Dayton Ohio

Date 5. 30.

Rec'd 1879

Ans'd 6. 2.

ABSTRACT.

40th of Colored refugees.

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New Orleans May 28 1879

Dear Governor Hon. Mr John B. St John
 Sir taken the pleasure of addressing
 you Hon Hoping that you will pardon
 me of my boldness of attempting
 to write to you Dear Sir will
 you please be so kind as to inform
 me of the present case and what
 is the Circumstances of the Exodus
 as I am in the State of La and
 would like to know and I am
 certain whatever you tell me Sir
 are facts and as I am in charge
 of a Congregation of my Col I
 beg you Sir please to inform
 me as my people are leaving and
 with out any means to carry
 them selfs with and I think that
 it must be something wrong in
 this matter and a per line

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from your wife I addressed me and
my people and Dear Sir
Please pardon me
and beg your kindness to send
me an answer at
408 Franklin St. near
Melpomene St
New Orleans La
Rev. J. H. Seymour. Esq.



Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

No. 3434 Book B Page 4

From Rev. J. F. Seymour

Place New Orleans La

Date Oct. 28

Rec'd Oct. 30 } 1879

Ans'd Oct. 31

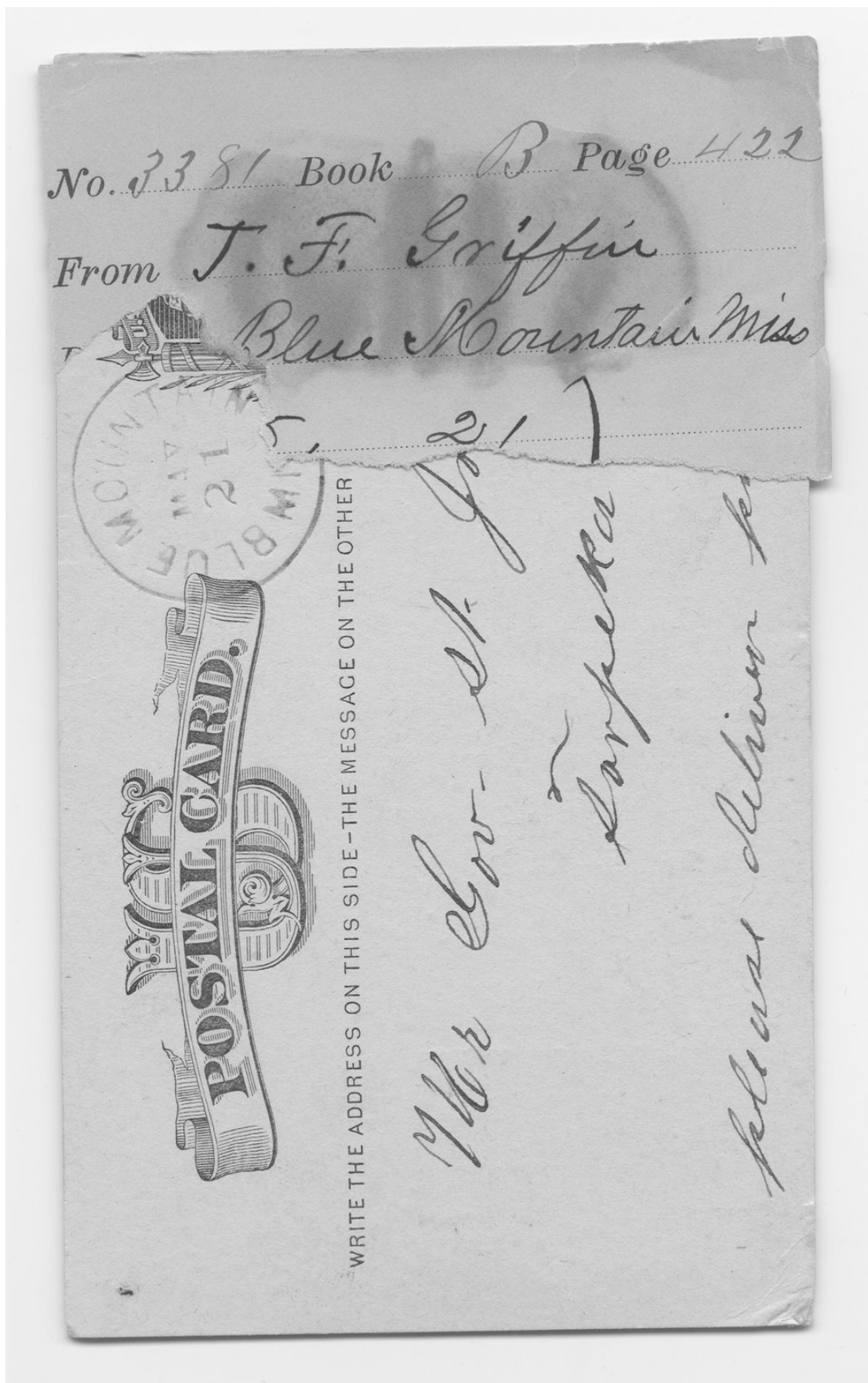
ABSTRACT.

About from Oct 2
Refuse

Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

dear Gov - I seat my
 self to write you a few
 lines you will oblige
 me much in giving
 me full information
 about this immigration
 whether the colored
 People has a free
 transportation to
 Kansas or not please
 give me all the
 information about
 it you can for we
 want to know all
 about it - how are
 we furnished how
 long send me a full
 pamphlet pamphlet
 of all information
 direct to Blue Mt.
 Miss Tippah Cr
 J. H. Griffin

Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence



Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

May 27, 1879



The State of Texas }
County of Washington }

To all whom it may

Concern:

This is to certify that I have known Stephen A. Hackworth, a citizen of said State and County, during the past twenty years, and that he is in good standing and repute.

Judge Hackworth has ever since Reconstruction been an earnest and active Republican; and his sincerity and fidelity to the principles of the Republican ^{Party} stand unimpeached.

From 1870 until April 1876, he was presiding Justice of this County, and afterwards Postmaster in this City (Breehan), discharging the duties of said offices efficiently and honestly.

In testimony whereof I, J. D. McAdoo, County Judge of said State and County,