

## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

### Section 20, Pages 571 - 600

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

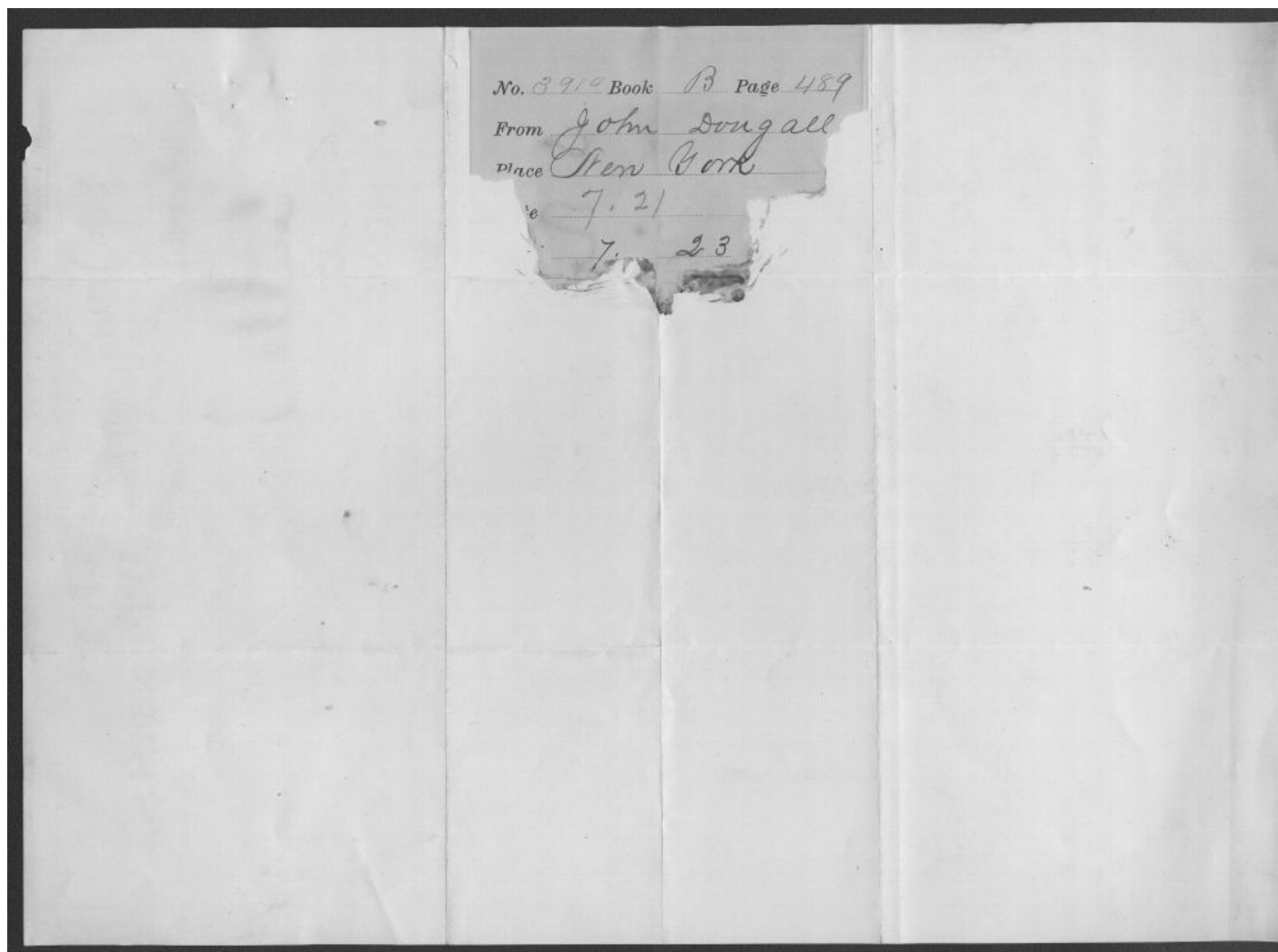
Callnumber: Governor's Office, St. John, Correspondence Received-Subject File, Box 13-15

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 210296

Item Identifier: 210296

[www.kansasmemory.org/item/210296](http://www.kansasmemory.org/item/210296)

## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence





## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

E. D. HAINES & CO.,

BANKERS.

WEST CHESTER, PA.,

July 21<sup>st</sup> 1879

To His Excellency

John P. St John  
Governor of Kansas



Sir,

We enclose Lawrence  
City Bond No 14 for \$1000. with 18 mos unpaid interest  
all of which John Hall of this place desires us to  
forward to you for the relief of colored emigrants fleeing  
from the South to your State. It is his wish that  
the proceeds be used to help these unfortunate  
people.

Very truly

Yours Obedt Servt

E D Haines & Co





## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

E. D. HAINES & CO.,

BANKERS.

WEST CHESTER, PA.

*July 22<sup>d</sup> 1879.*

*To His Excellency*

*John R. St. John*

*Dear Sir.*

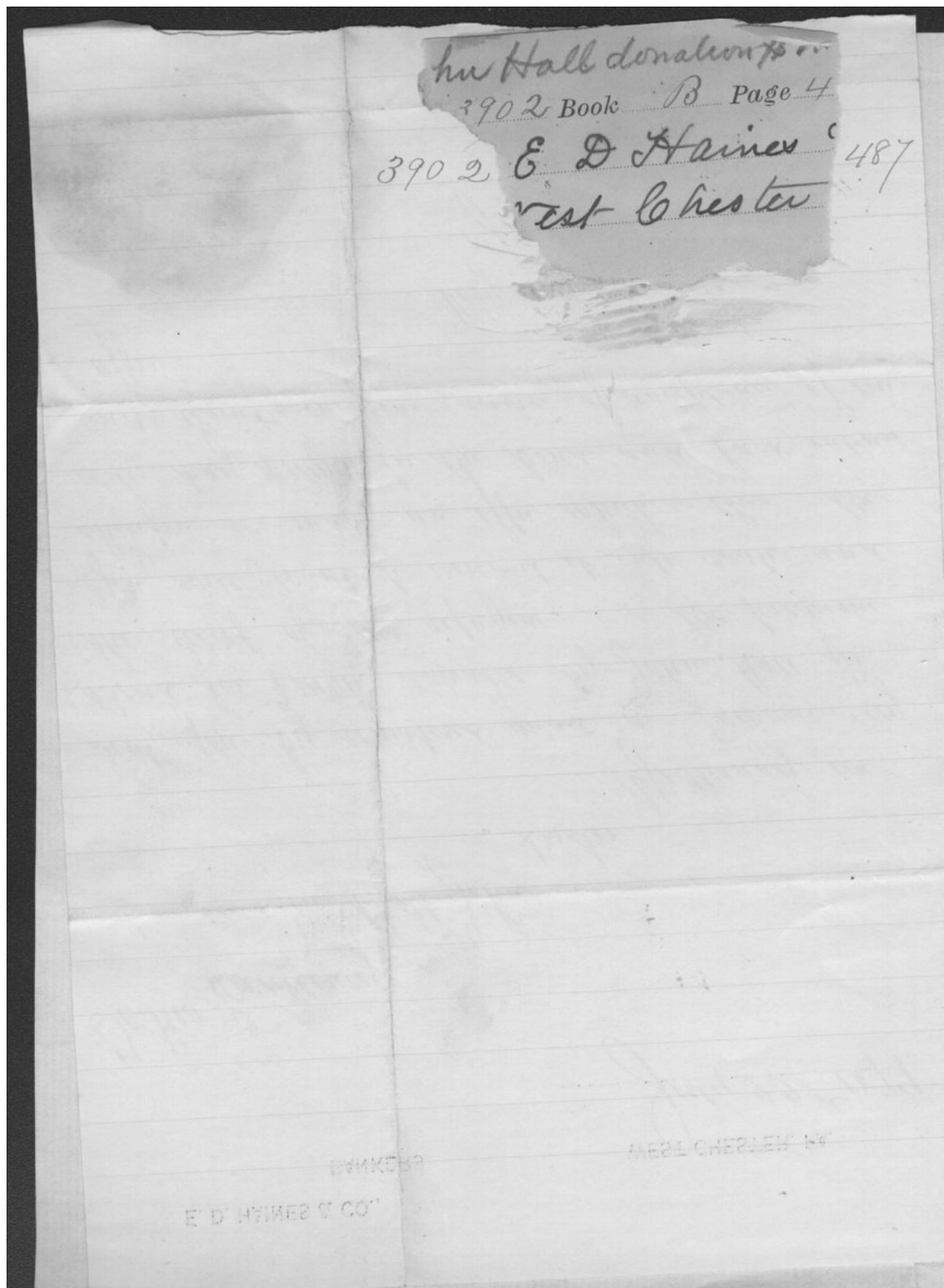
*Yesterday we sent you by registered mail a Lawrence City Bond for \$1000. donated by John Hall for the relief of col<sup>d</sup> refugees. We presume you will want to convert it into cash and therefore we make an offer which is this - We will pay \$1000. for the bond and back interest and remit on your advice of acceptance of our offer.*

*Very respectfully*

*Yours obt. servt*


*E. D. Haines*

## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence





## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence


 The State of Alabama  
 St. Elmo, Ala County of Mobile. Ala  
 Governor St. John of Kansas Sir your honor  
 I desire from you some information if you please  
 Sir: The reason that I apply to you in this manner  
 is because you are out there and you are the head  
 of the Territory: now the information that I want  
 is to know where I must apply too for help  
 to get out there in Kansas: as I have of my own  
 one Pony Horse and some farming Utensils  
 and a full set of Carpenters Tools and myself and  
 Wife no Children: and as for my Cattle and a few  
 Hogs and goats them I shall sell: I have no ~~much~~  
 Cash and if I sell this that I have mentioned I will  
 not be able to get much for it. so if I could get help  
 to get out there with the Pony and farming Utensils  
 where the Land is Rich I could make a living  
 for here the Land is too poor and when you work here  
 they pay no Cash but pay in Trade: so a man cannot  
 do any thing at that: so therefore is the reason  
 why I wish some help. and if I could obtain help  
 from the United States I would not ask any  
 farther help after my arrival there

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Dear Sir as soon as you can make it convenient  
please Rite me and let me know where to apply too  
or how to manage now you are a genttle man  
that is in office and has to have Dealings with those  
men: so therefore you have a chance to know  
what Names to give me and the place and buisness  
such as State and county where they are at;

and also your own Residence so as I may be able  
to find you after my a Rival. and if I can  
be Successfull to get where you is any thing that  
Should ley in my Power to doe for you as a favos  
in Return for what you doe for me, I will doe it  
now if you please doe not for get me:  
and if you should write Direct to  
John. H. Thomas

St Elmo Station

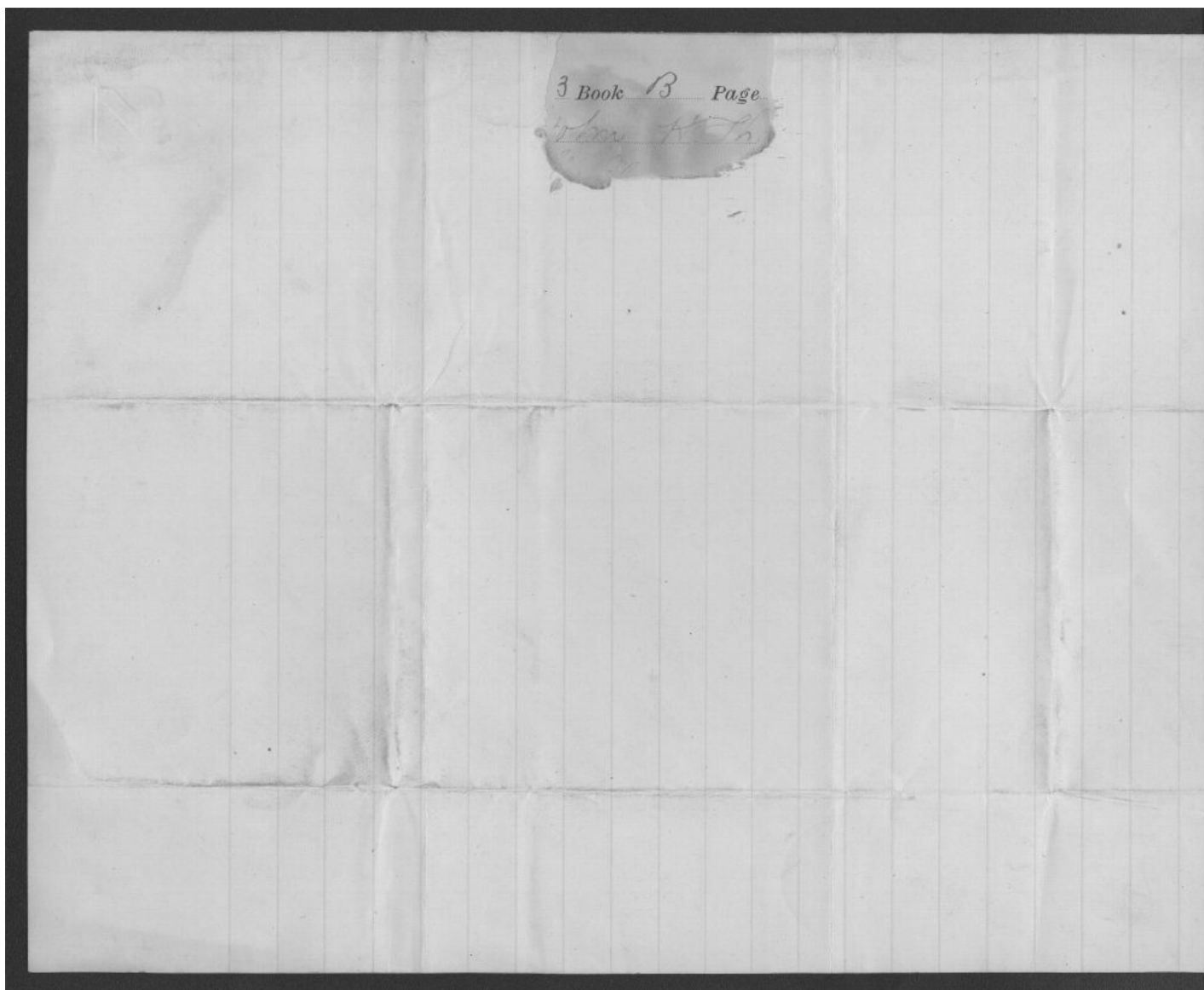
Mobile County. Ala.

Nothing more only I Remain as a Stranger

Yours Ever Friend

John. H. Thomas

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## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

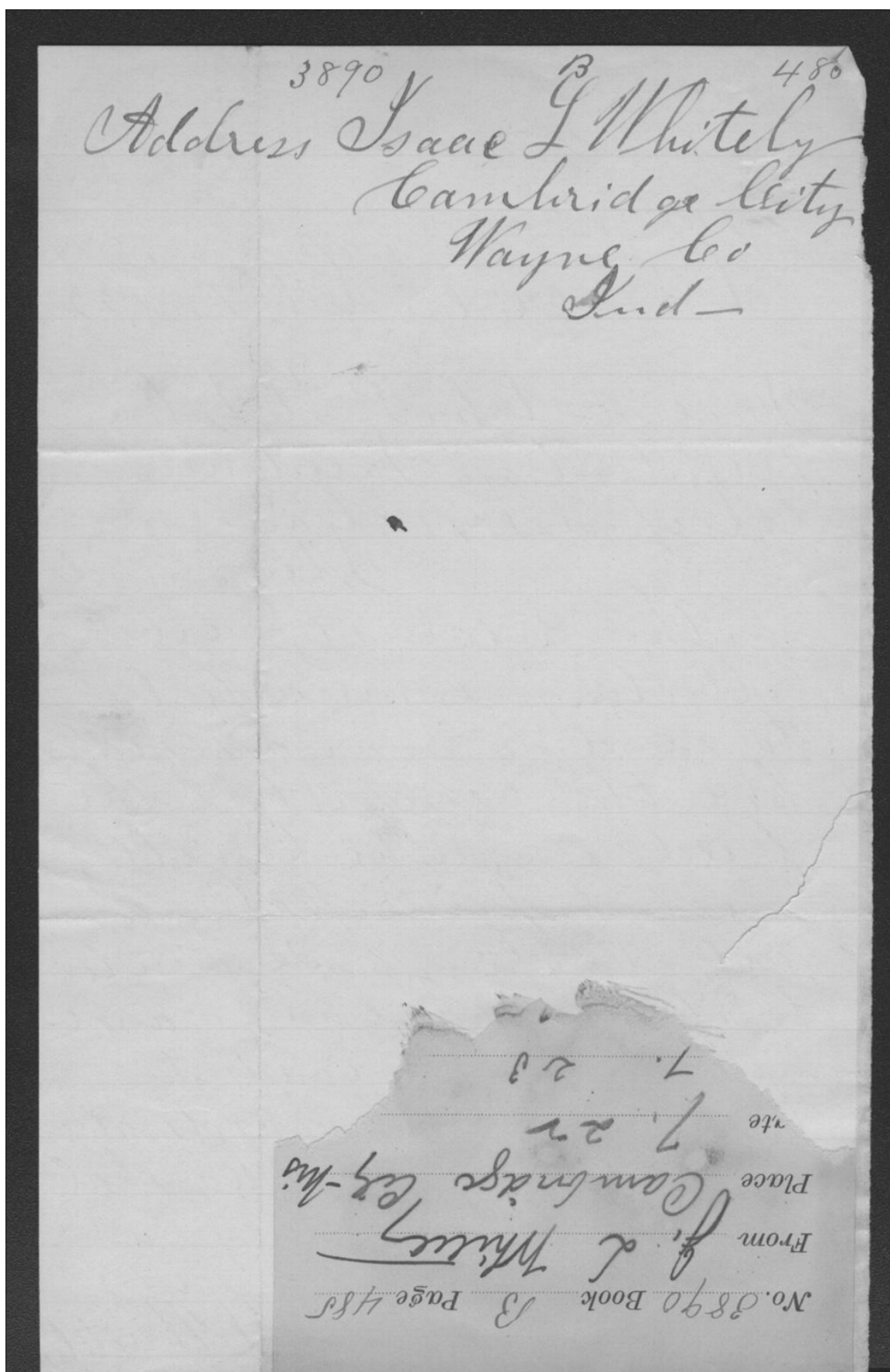
EXECUTIVE DEPT.  
RECEIVED  
JUL 23 1879  
TOPEKA, KANSAS.  
Ans.....

1879  
Cambridge City 7 mo 22

Friend- John S St John  
President of Freedmen  
relief association.

The friends  
of this vicinity are  
collecting some articles  
to send to your association  
for the benefit of the  
freedmen, which will  
consist principally of  
bed clothing, we write  
to <sup>you</sup> if you have any arrange-  
ment with the roads to  
transport such goods at  
a reduced rate, who shall  
we direct to &c  
How can money be sent?  
Your friend, Isaac L Whiteley

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NEW YORK  
DAILY AND WEEKLY  
WINKS.  
7 Frankfort St.

EXECUTIVE  
RECEIVED  
JUL 26 1879  
TOPEKA, KANSAS  
AND CINCINNATI, OHIO

New York July 22. 1879

Governor St. John.

Topeka Kas.

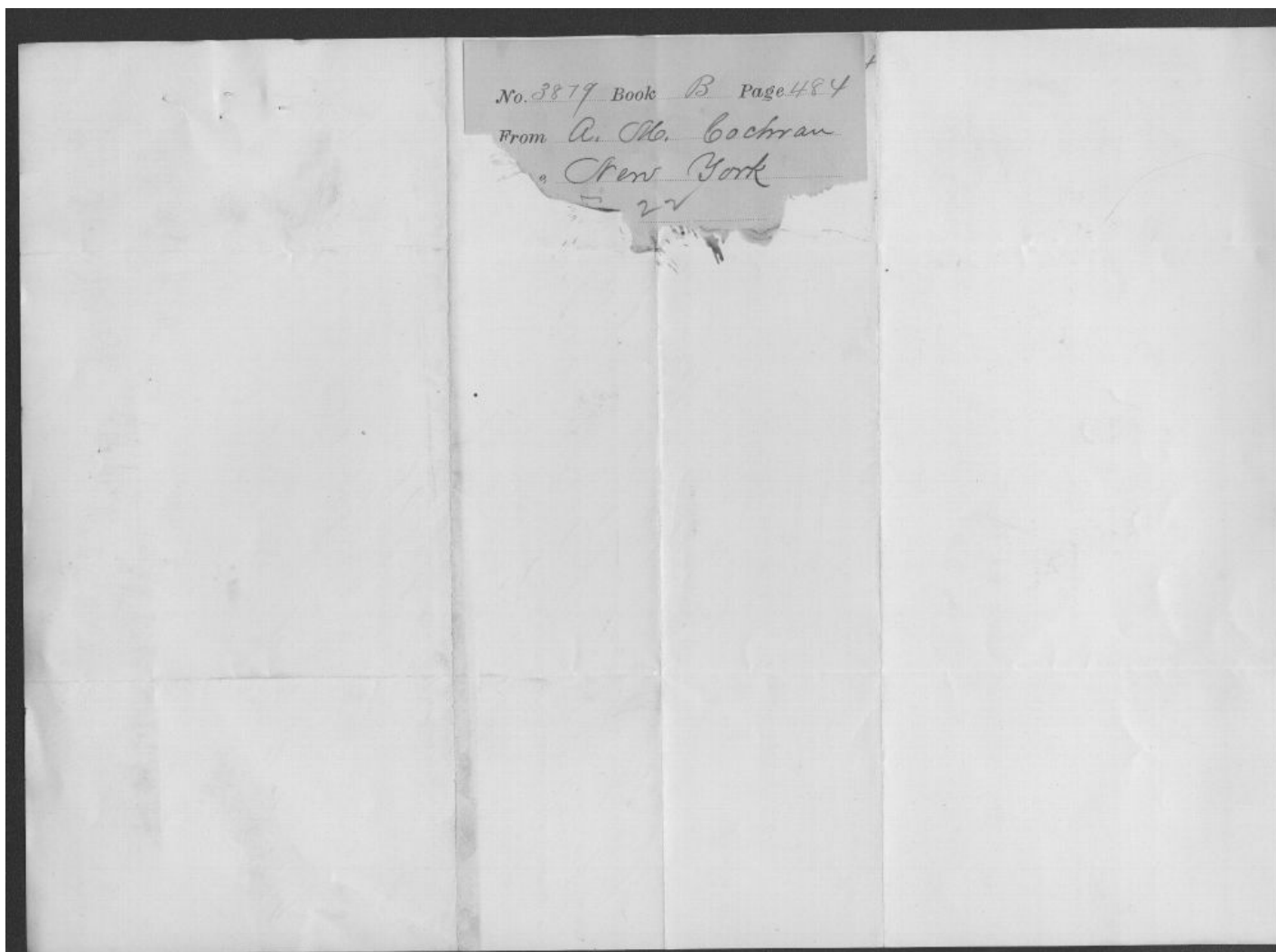
Dear Sir

Enclosed please  
find certified check for \$59.75 to replace  
one refused payment - also \$2 for exps.  
please return the previous check in  
enclosed envelope & oblige.

Yours truly  
Am. C. C. C. C.  
Bar. M. C. C.

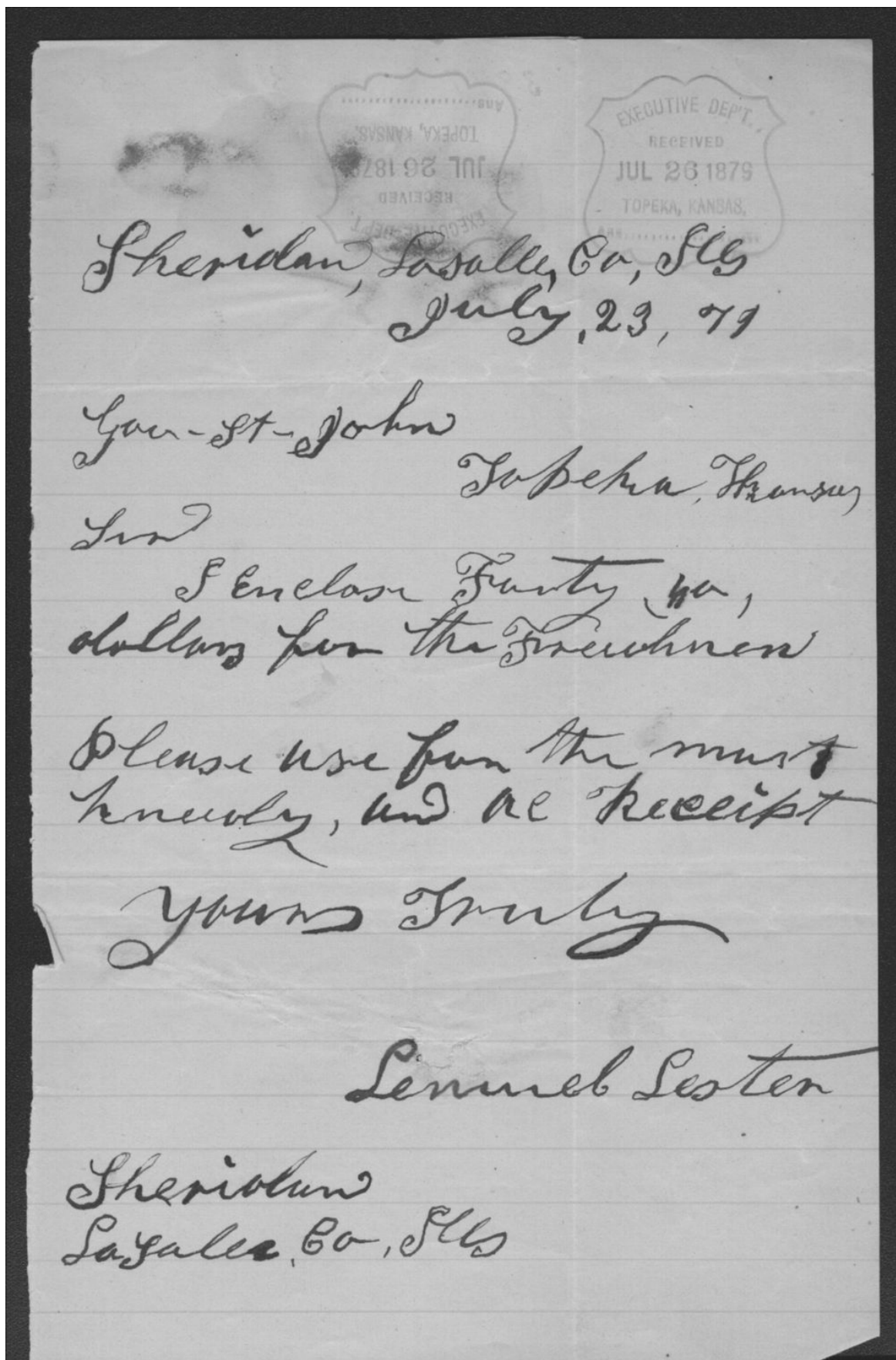


## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence



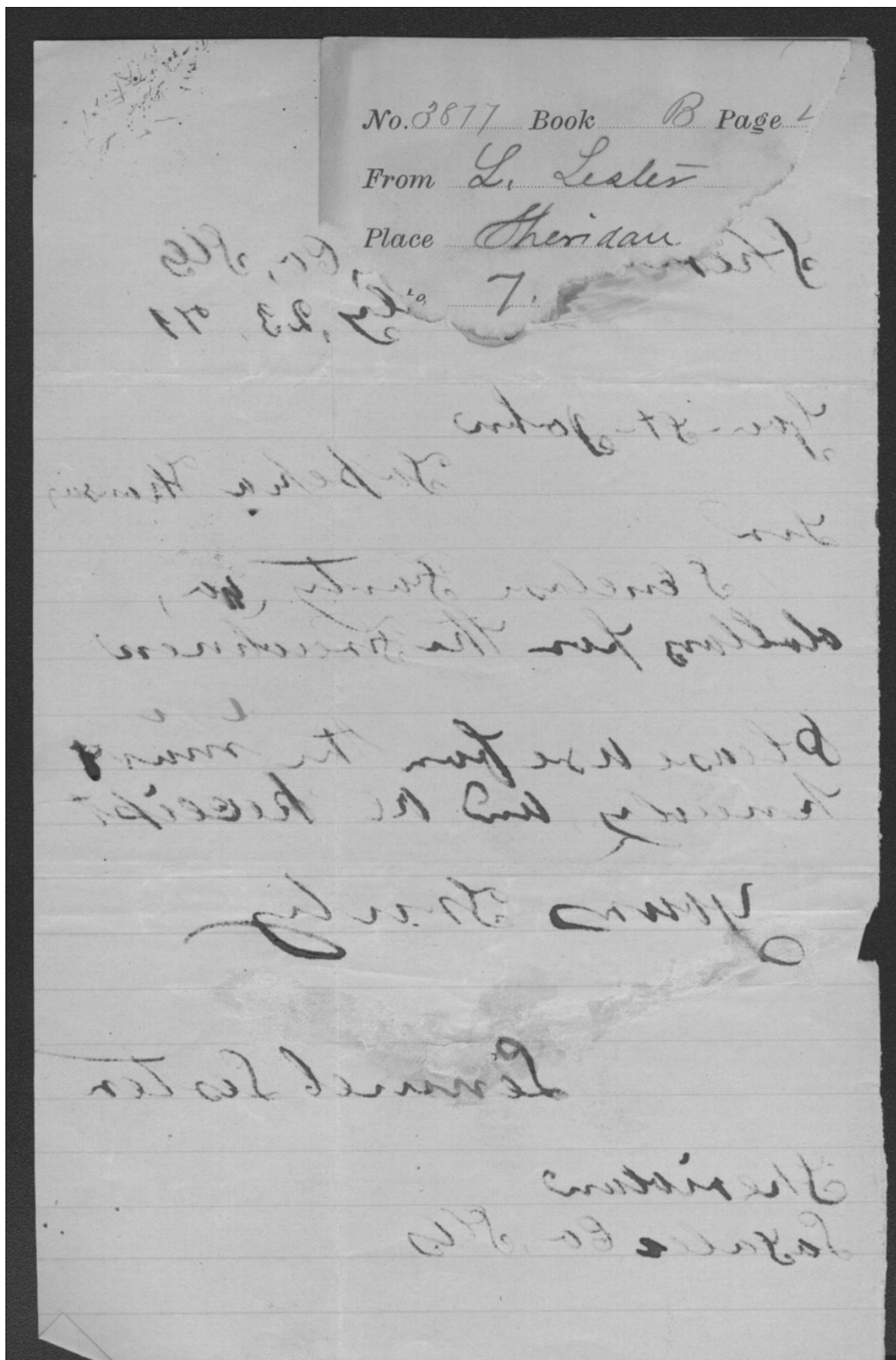


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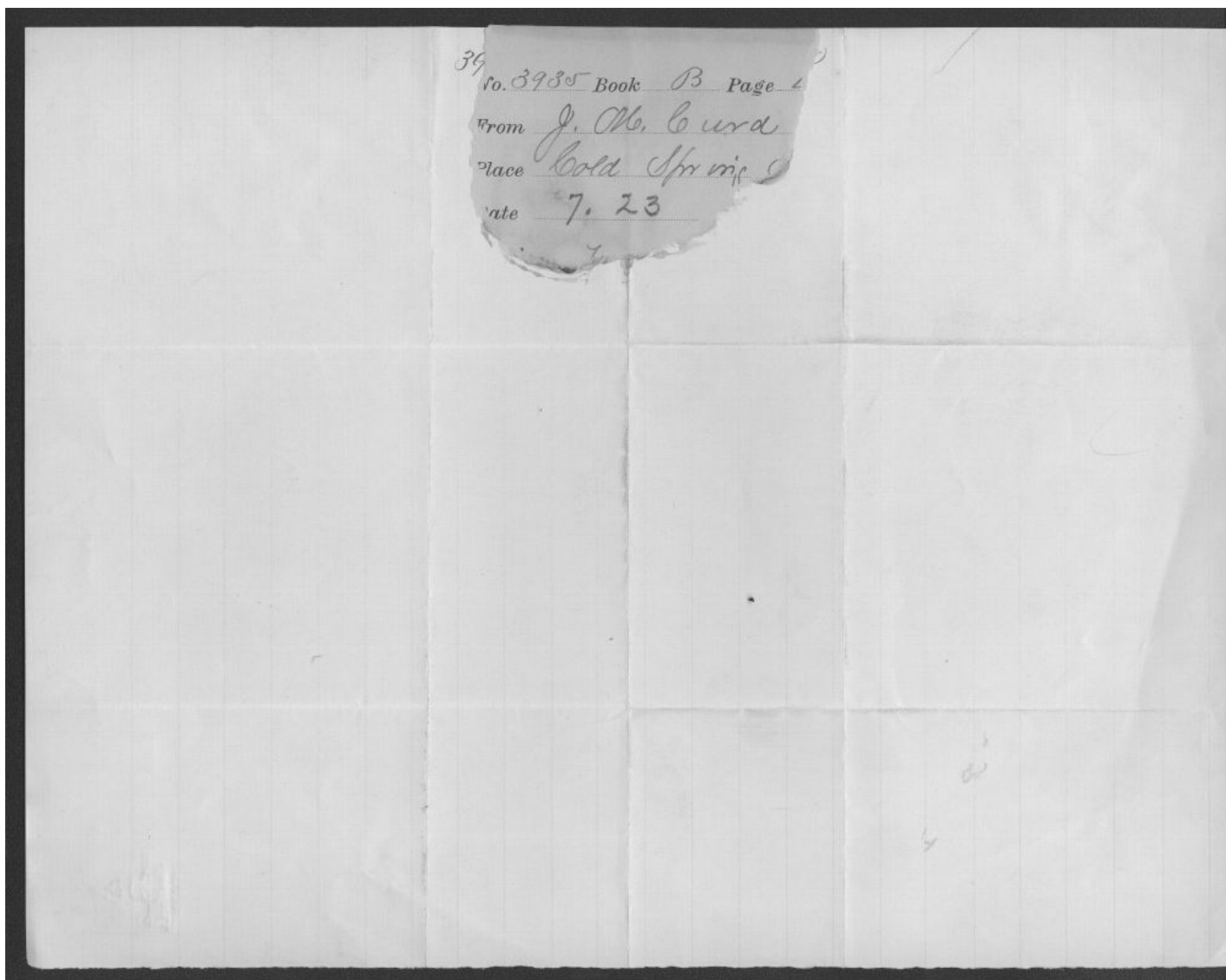
Gold Springs Texas  
July 23<sup>rd</sup> 1879

your Excellency  
John St John  
Governor of Kansas

Dear sir

The Colored People of this State is making arrangements to emigr<sup>ate</sup> to your State this coming year. we are told ~~by~~ by the white people that the Colored people are not ~~are not~~ wilcom in Kansas and as a private individual I write for information beleaving it will be correct if I receive it from you. Have there been many freed man emigrated from the Southern States to Kansas & if so how do the git along there. & does the U S allow a home stead to every Colored man who wishes land and any other information that would be of interest to the Freed man please give me - I have the honor to be yours very Respectfully  
J M Leard  
Gold Springs Texas

## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence





## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

13 July 24, 1879

No. 44.

### HALF RATE MESSAGES.

### THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

This Company TRANSMITS and DELIVERS messages only on conditions, limit of its liability, which have been assented to by the sender of the following message.  
Errors can be guarded against only by repeating a message back to the sending station for comparison, and the Company will not hold itself liable for errors or delays in transmission or delivery of Unrepeated Messages.  
This message is an **UNREPEATED MESSAGE** and is delivered by request of the sender under the conditions named above.

A. E. BREWER, Sec'y. NORVIN GREEN, President.

Dated Friday July 24 1879

Received at Leopold 7/25 - 10:20 a.m.

To The Gov. of Kansas

READ THE NOTICE AT THE TOP.

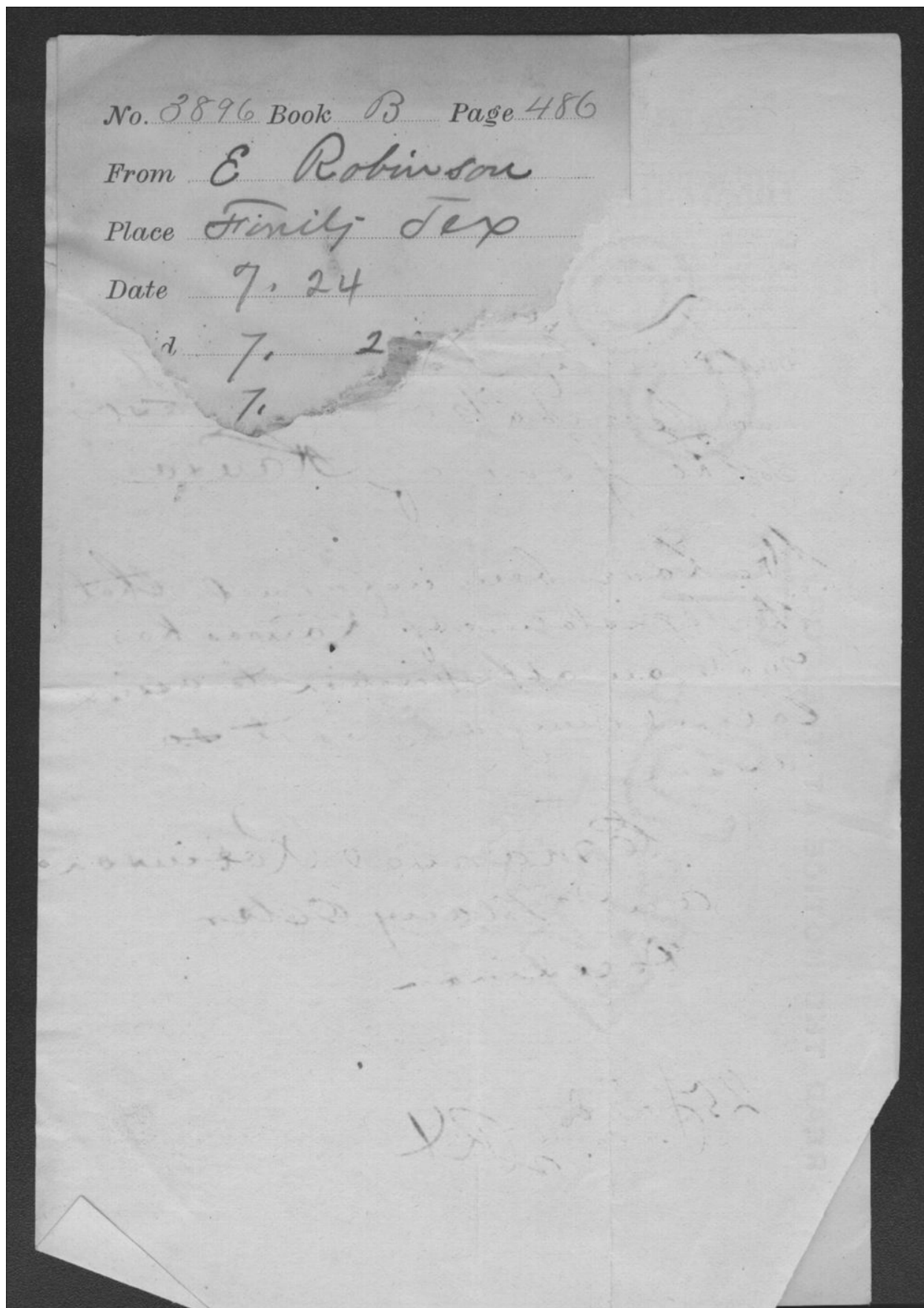
We have been informed that the Legislature of Kansas has made an appropriation to assist colored Emigrants is it so answer

Emanuel Robinson  
and Mary Oter  
Racine

25 paid 2RX



## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence



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1290292 1161101

100000

Godi Wis. July 23<sup>rd</sup> 1879.

Hon Governor - St John

Dear Sir - I have read with great interest accounts of the emigration of colored people from the south to your state - I saw the names of a Committee who asked for contrabutions to aid them and at once forwarded \$5.00 which was acknowledged in the St Louis C. Advocate - Of late I have seen some contradictory reports in the papers respecting them but have had but little reliable information respecting their situation and wants I then designed and still wish to render them further aid but have lost the papers in which reliable information was published. This is my apology for so abruptly obtruding



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myself upon your notice  
 I have supposed that soon as the cold  
 weather comes on they will need  
 assistance in the line of clothing especially  
 Having had considerable experience  
 among the fugitive slaves in Canada  
 I think I understand their wants  
 and feelings - During the year 1844 I  
 edited the Green Mountain Freeman  
 in Vermont and over a thousand  
 dollars passed through my hands for  
 their benefit and in 1845 I spent over  
 two months among them - Since the  
 war I have looked after the interests  
 of the Freedmen in Nashville  
 Chatanooga Atlanta Augusta  
 Orangeburg and Charleston -  
 Having been a Presiding Elder <sup>of the M. E. Church</sup> in the  
 Pt Conference and on two districts in  
 this state I have considerable  
 acquaintance with the friends of the  
 friends of the colored people in the north



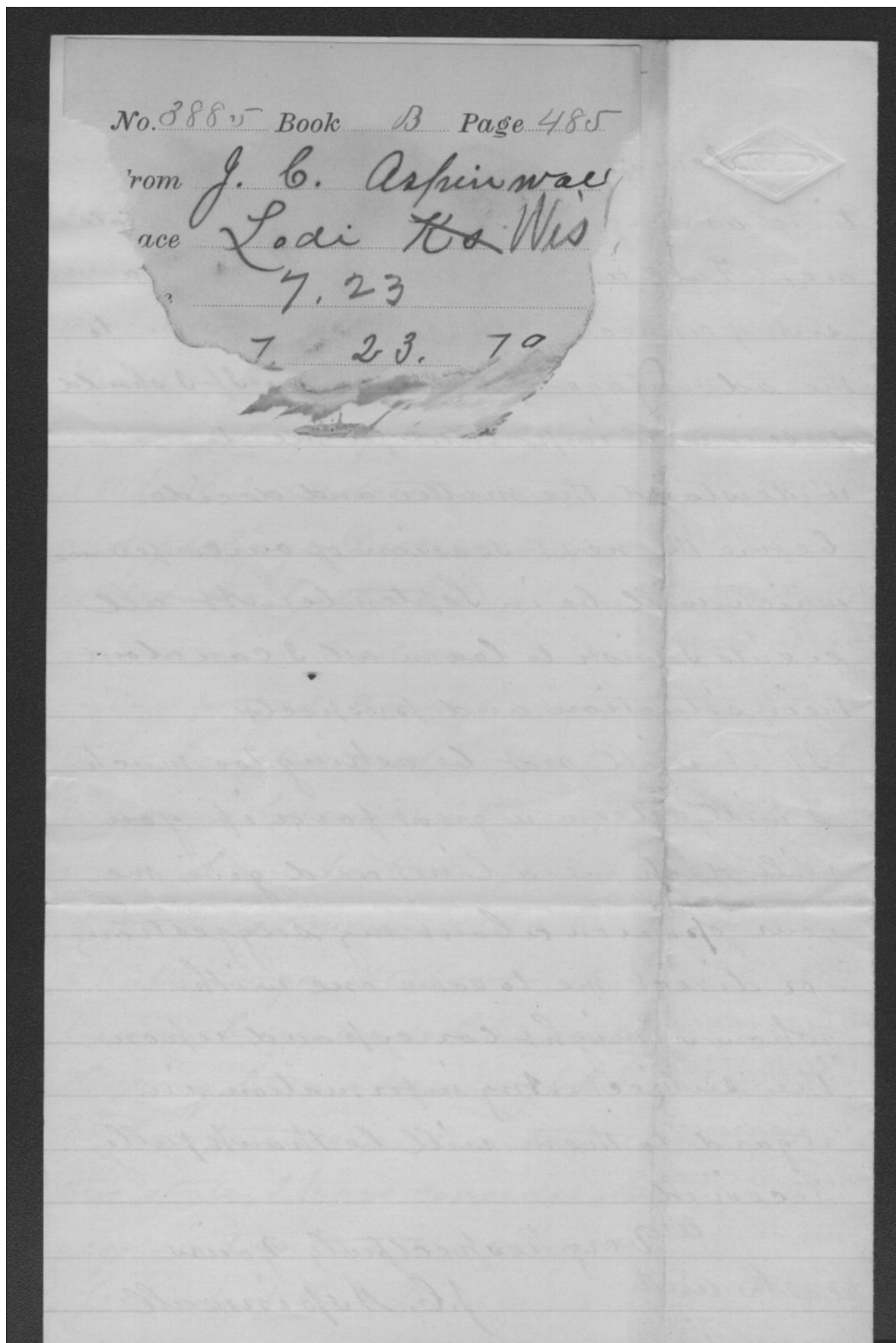
## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

Perhaps if I should spend some time among those coming to your state next Fall and Winter I might be a sort of connecting link between them to the advantage of both parties - If I should do so it will important for me to understand the matter and decide before the next session of our conference which will be in September. At all events I wish to learn all I can about their situation and prospects

If it will not be asking too much I will esteem a great favor if you will drop me a line and give me your opinion about my suggestions or direct me to some one with whom I might correspond upon the subject. Any information in regard to them will be thankfully received

Very Respectfully Yours  
J. C. Aspinwall

## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence





## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

EXECUTIVE DEPT.  
RECEIVED  
JUL 24 1879  
TOPEKA, KANSAS.  
Ans. ....

207 Book B Page 11  
B. A. Jones?

Theological Seminary  
Oberlin Ohio July 27. '79

Gov. John P. St. John  
Kansas -

Dear Sir. -

I have read your  
Committee's late appeal for  
aid for Refugees - I send  
\$12.00 - which sum was placed  
in my hands, the gift of the  
widow of a soldier of 1812 -  
She requested that it should  
be used in purchasing land  
for the refugees in Kansas -  
I wish I could make  
it \$12,000. The conduct of the  
Governor of Kansas and the  
noble men who rally around  
him in this work challenges  
the admiration of the world



## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

3907

B

487

Call still more loudly for  
money - the country must  
hear it - The scourge at  
Memphis, makes no more  
urgent appeal - Our people  
here have shown their sym-  
pathy by sending a large  
lot of clothing to St Louis -  
but money is wanted now -  
I have done a little, and  
if able would do more.

People who have means are  
in general, seeking recreation  
and ~~rest~~ away from home  
or planning for it - hence at-  
present, it is difficult to do  
missionary work or raise money  
in many of the churches - Please  
receipt by a postal card -

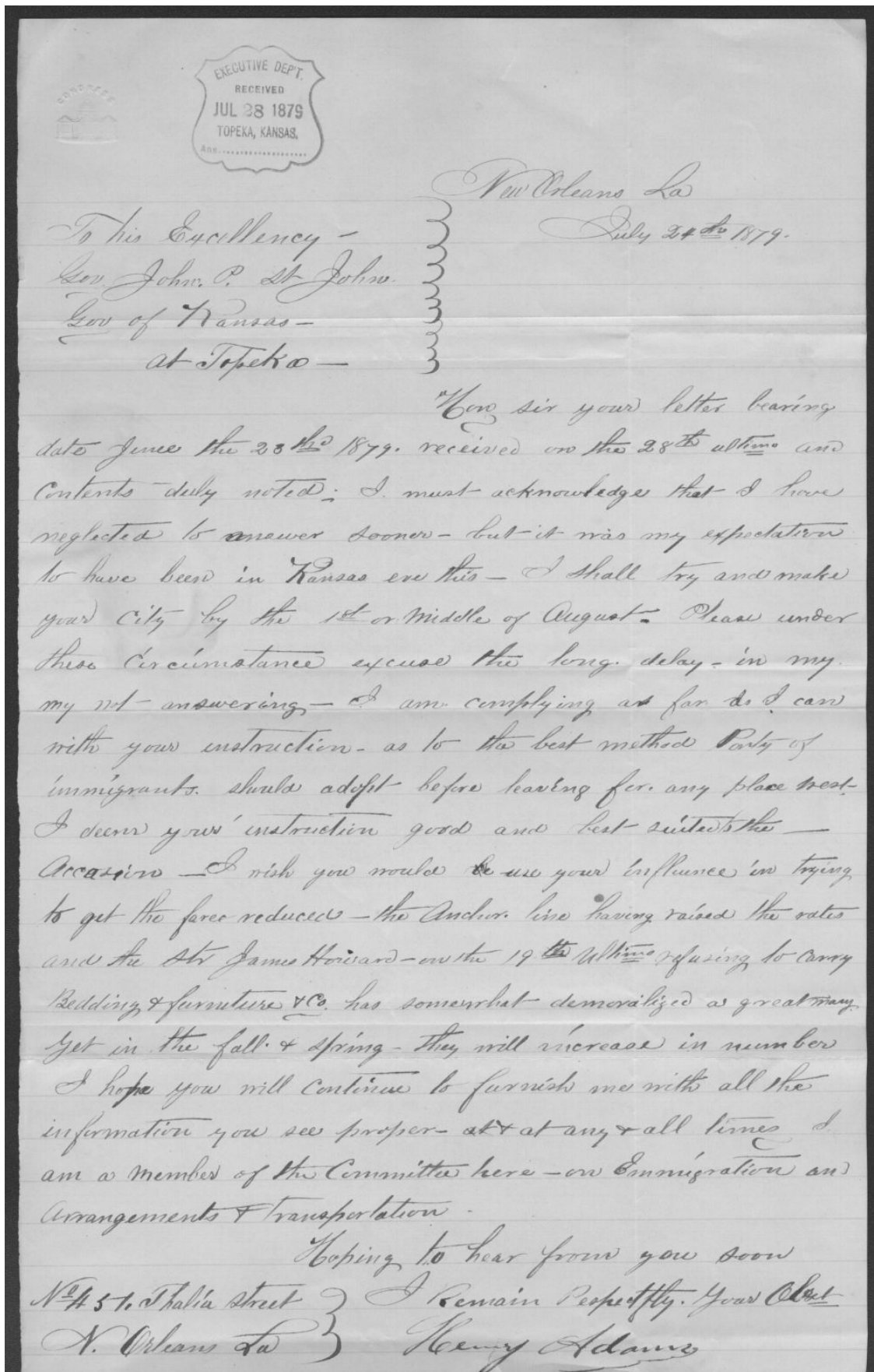
Very Respectfully

B. A. Jones

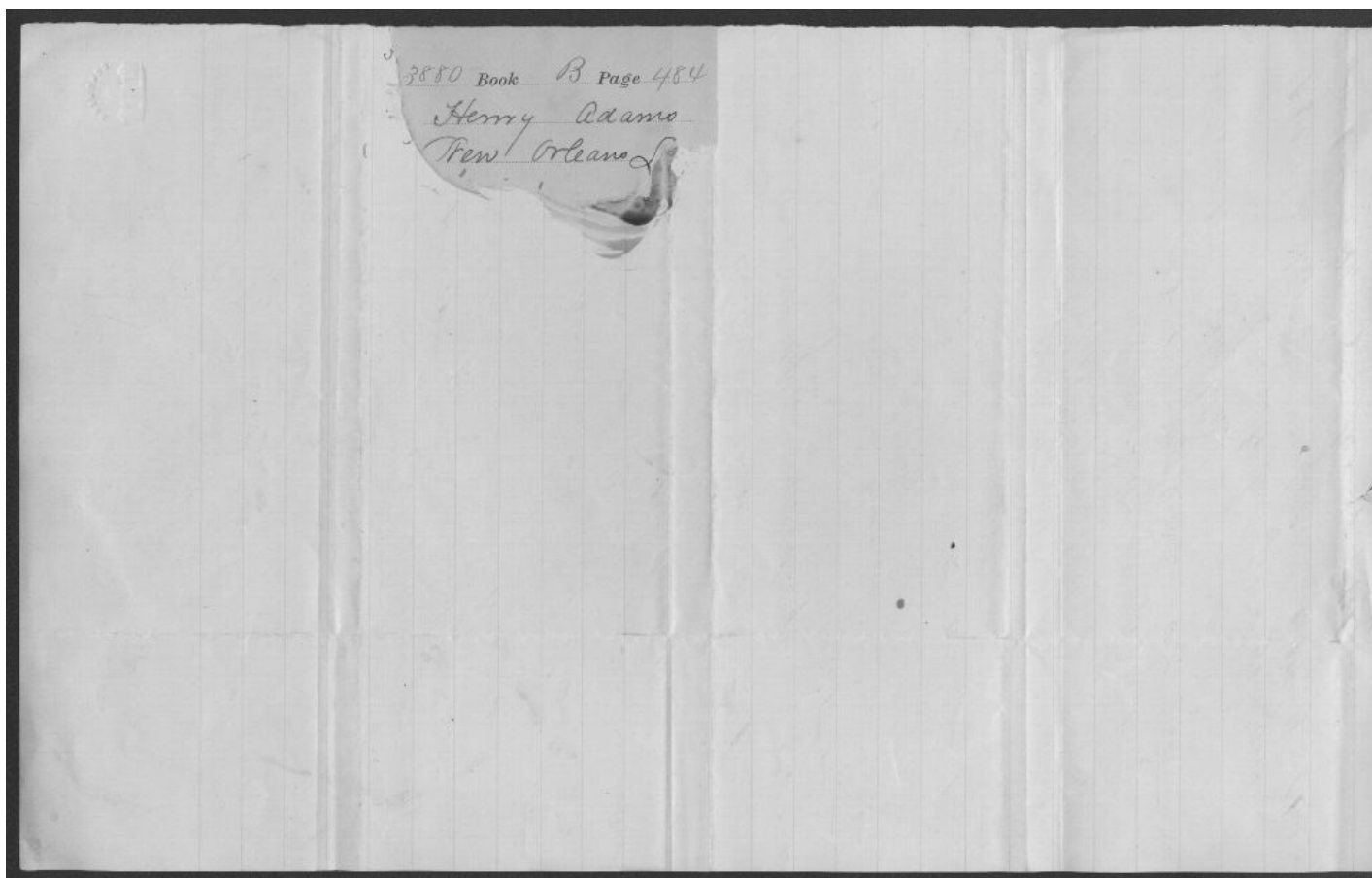
Jones

Box 824. Abbeville, Ohio.

## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence



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## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

3920 R. 1 B. 1  
 Exoduster  
 July 25<sup>th</sup> 1879  
 To The Hon Governor of  
 the State of Kansas  
 Dear Sir  
 I ask your Hon as Governor  
 of the State for a little infor-  
 mation I wish some information  
 in Regard to the land & if it  
 can be had & on what  
 terms we ar pose people but  
 if we had a chance we wood  
 make a living & at the same  
 time be worth something  
 to a country we wood like  
 to stay here but we  
 cant never own land here  
 it is too high the people that  
 own it will always own it  
 from us & we as a people  
 must go else where or never  
 be a people

## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence


 I want to know if there is  
 any inducement offered to help  
 people to Emigrate to Kansas  
 if so I would like to know it  
 there can be a tolerable heavy  
 Emigration of us Colored people  
 from this Belt of Country  
 & good workers that can take  
 half of any thing  
 please answer my note immediately  
 if you wish any further  
 information please ask me  
 I will write to you with  
 pleasure no more at present  
 But Remain yours as ever  
 D. H. Kelley

My address Coosaville Ga



## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

OSCAR L. JACKSON.

J. I. SAMPSON.



JACKSON & SAMPSON,

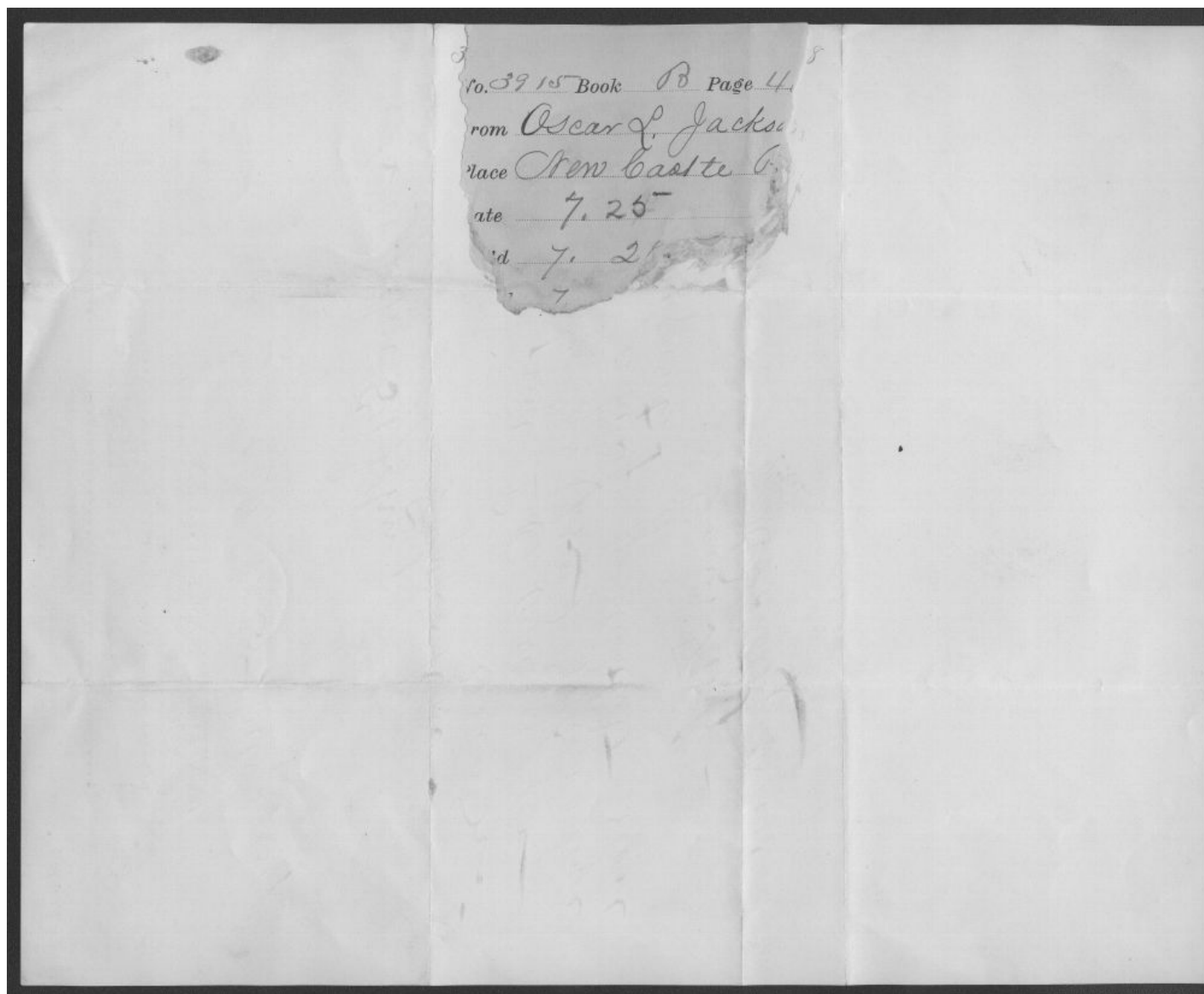
ATTORNEYS AT LAW.

New Castle, Pa. 25-July 1879

Gov John St John -  
Topeka Kas -  
Dear Sir -  
Enclosed find P O order for  
Five dollars (\$5.00) which please  
apply. to relief of destitute colored  
Emigrants -  
Yours Truly -  
Oscar Jackson



## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence



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Lawrence Hotel,

D. A. WHITNEY, Manager.

Adrian, Mich., July 25 1879



To His Excellency  
Governor St. John  
Dear Sir

I was in your State and in  
St. Louis, in April.

I had some conversation  
with the poor Colored  
refugees from the South.  
I am in business in  
N.Y. but spend much  
time West.

I expect to speak  
during August to numerous  
audiences upon this  
"Exodus" business.

But I would like  
to have some bills or  
contracts to exhibit