

## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

### Section 75, Pages 2221 - 2250

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

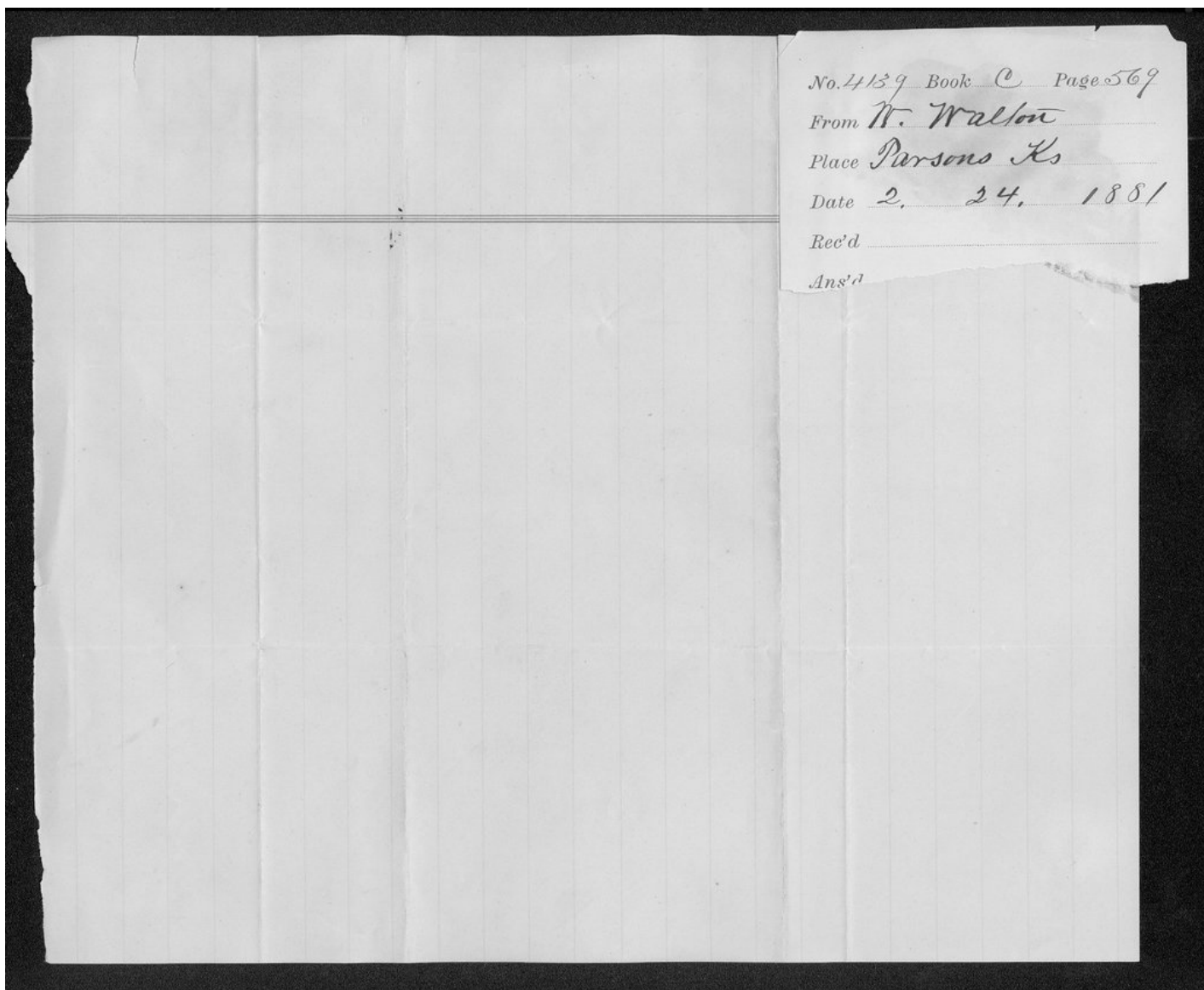
Callnumber: Governor's Office, St. John, Correspondence Received-Subject File, Box 13-15

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

Victoria Ills Feb 25<sup>th</sup>

Governor St John

Dear Sir

Enclosed please  
find five dollars which we wish applied towards  
feeding ~~those~~ poor colored refugees from Southern  
cruelty. May the Lord bless you in every good  
work and punish the South till she brings  
forth fruit meet for repentance pray

Your friend

B. P. Temple



## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

No. 4440 Book C Page 601

From B. P. Temple

Place Victoria Ill

Date 2. 25. 1881

Rec'd

## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

Office of THE OLD RELIABLE  
Est. 1868  
NEWLY'S DRUG HOUSE.

Oswego, Kansas. 2/26 1880.

J. P. St. John  
Topeka, Kan

Dear Sir:

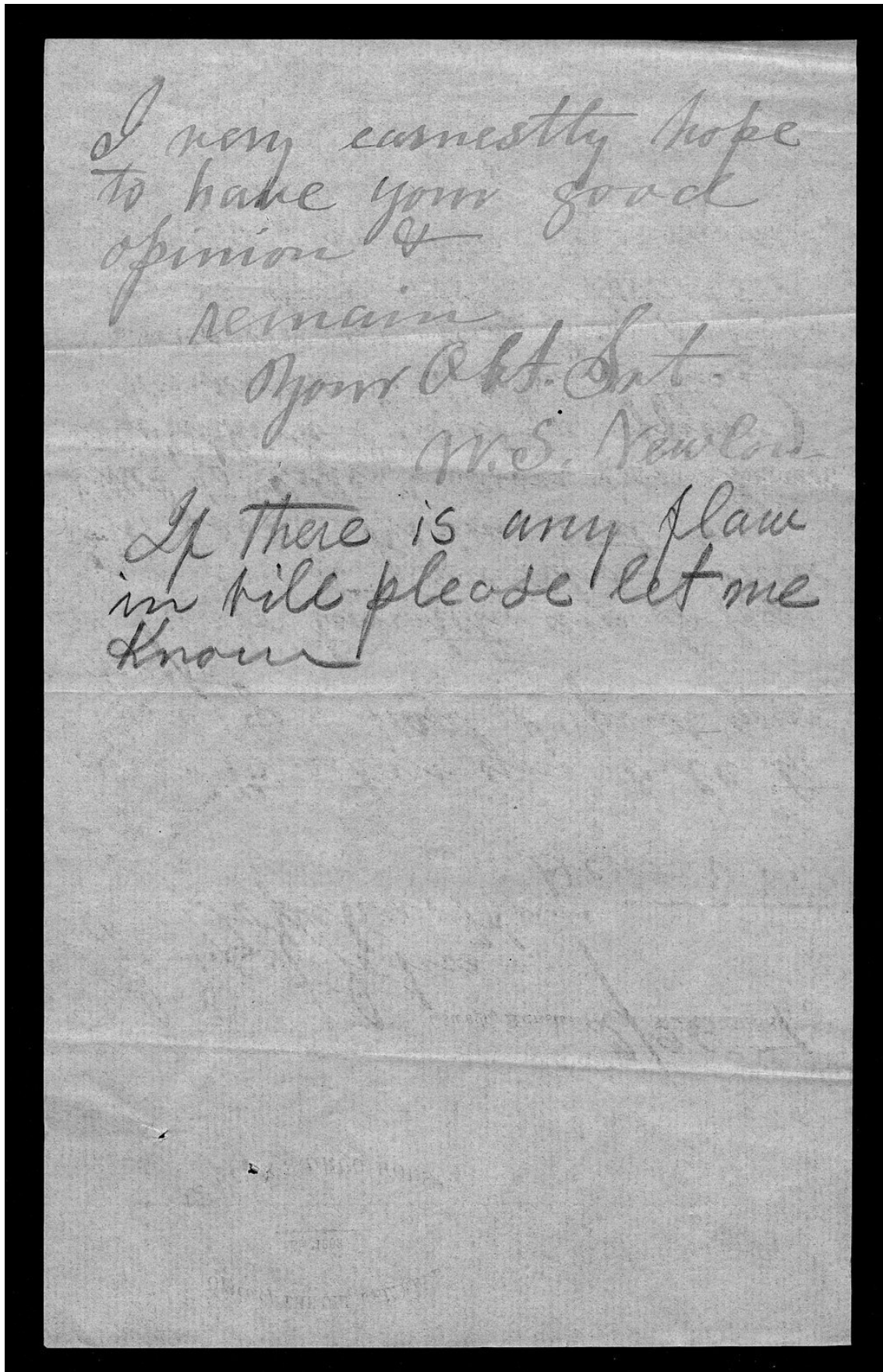
I herewith return you bill to  
show you how I spent your  
drafts.

I unfortunately am suffer-  
ing great persecution here.  
Our people claim that my  
letter to Enter Ocean sometime  
ago (which I hereby reaffirm)  
hinders white emigration  
& encourages Negro Emigration  
worse than all it shows.  
Oswego permitted this suffering  
& did not relieve it.

The Land Agents & Democrats  
are most exercised by it.

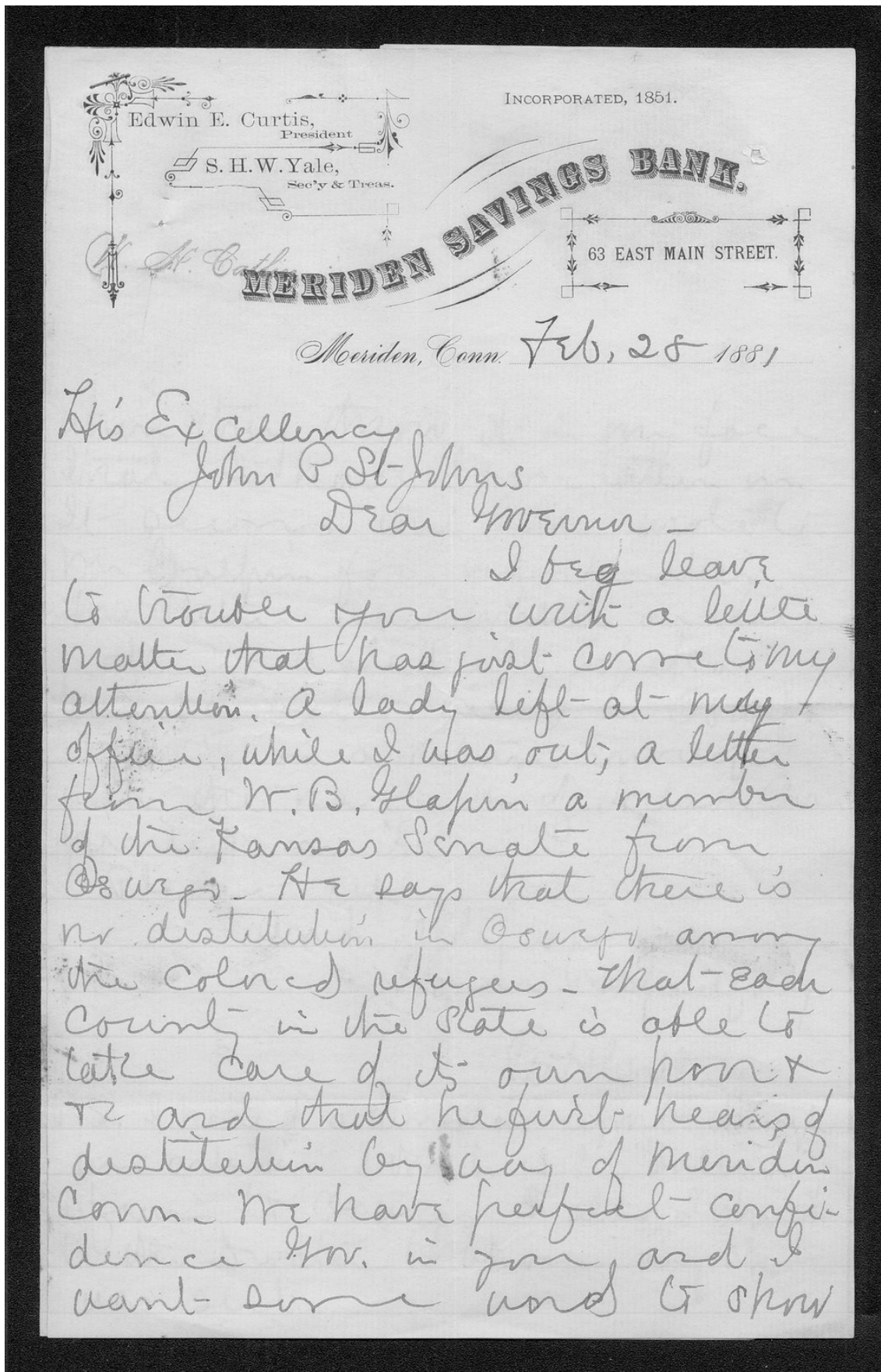


## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence



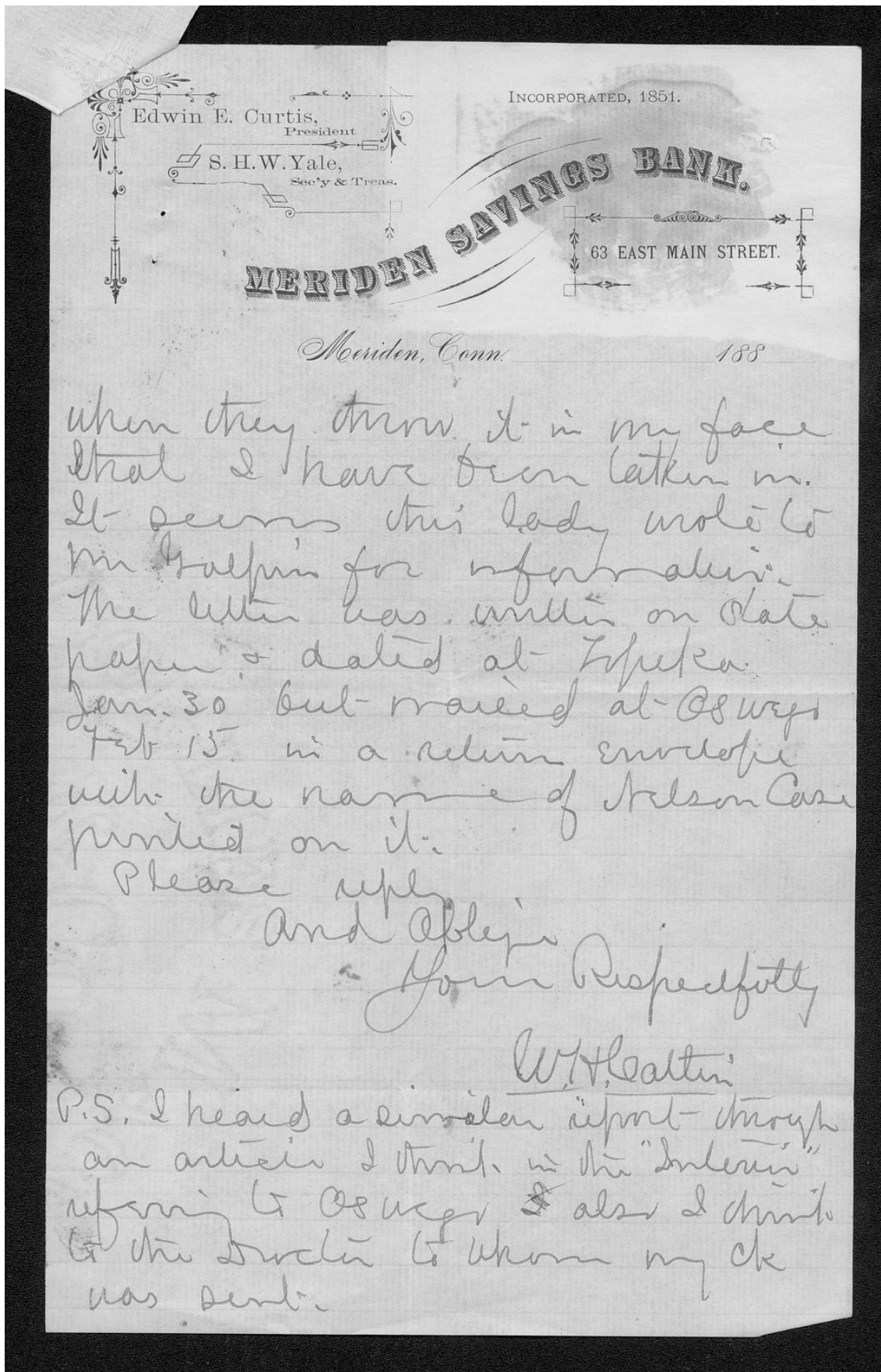


## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence





## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence







## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

No. 4339 Book C Page 587  
From W. H. Caltui  
Place Meriden Conn  
Date 2-28-81  
Rec'd  
Ans'd

Meriden, Conn.  
Feb 28 1881  
Dear Sir  
I have just received your letter of the 26th inst. in regard to the Exoduster. I am sorry that I cannot give you more information at present, but I will do so as soon as I can. I am sure that you will be satisfied with the result. I am, Sir, very respectfully,  
Yours,  
W. H. Caltui

## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

Vermillion, Dakota, Mar. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1881.

Dear Sir,

I enclose one dollar for relief of colored refugees in Kansas. Please acknowledge the receipt of it by postal card.

We rejoice in the great work which Kansas is doing to solve reconstruction questions by her reception of the Exodus, and to solve social and moral problems by Prohibition. You are fighting a battle for all the world. Other states will take courage by your example. May God bless you and give you the victory.

Yours cordially,

G. S. Bascom.

P.S. Am reading "Bricks Without Straw", and wonder whether "Nimbus" is one of your dusky immigrants.





## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

No. 4445 Book C Page 601

From G. J. Bacon

Place Vermillion Dakota

Date 3. 2. 1881

Rec'd

Ans'd

## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

Independence Kansas 3. Mo 2. 1881

Honored Governor

J. P. St. John

Thank thee for sending  
the letter to me David Fife is our Sub  
Agent at Cherryvale, and a good colored  
mans friend and has helped Blassengis  
more than any one there & I have paid  
him a larger proportion than others when  
there on visits. he is old was the cause of  
my helping him more well, see him soon  
Truly thine Daniel Staw





## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

No. 4345 Book @ Page 588  
From D. Tolaw  
Place Independence Ks  
Date 3 - 2. 1881  
Rec'd

Rec'd



Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

**BOUTON & CO.,**

COR. 15TH & DEARBORN STREETS

Chicago, <sup>3</sup>/<sub>7</sub> 1891.

Gov St John  
Topeka Kan.  
Dear Sir:

We understand your  
funds for the Freedmen who  
are flocking to your State is  
low, and although we have been  
helping give are we are  
in our former subscription  
still we feel as if the cause  
was for more and so I  
enclose this (for \$50.00)  
This is to help it will do  
the most good today.

Yours Truly  
C. B. Bouton.



## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

No. 4522 Book C Page 608

From C. B. Bouton

Place Chicago Ill

Date 3-7-81

Rec'd

Ans'd

## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence



State of Kansas

Executive Department

Topeka, March 8 1881

Mrs C. Miller  
Hampton Minn.  
Madam.

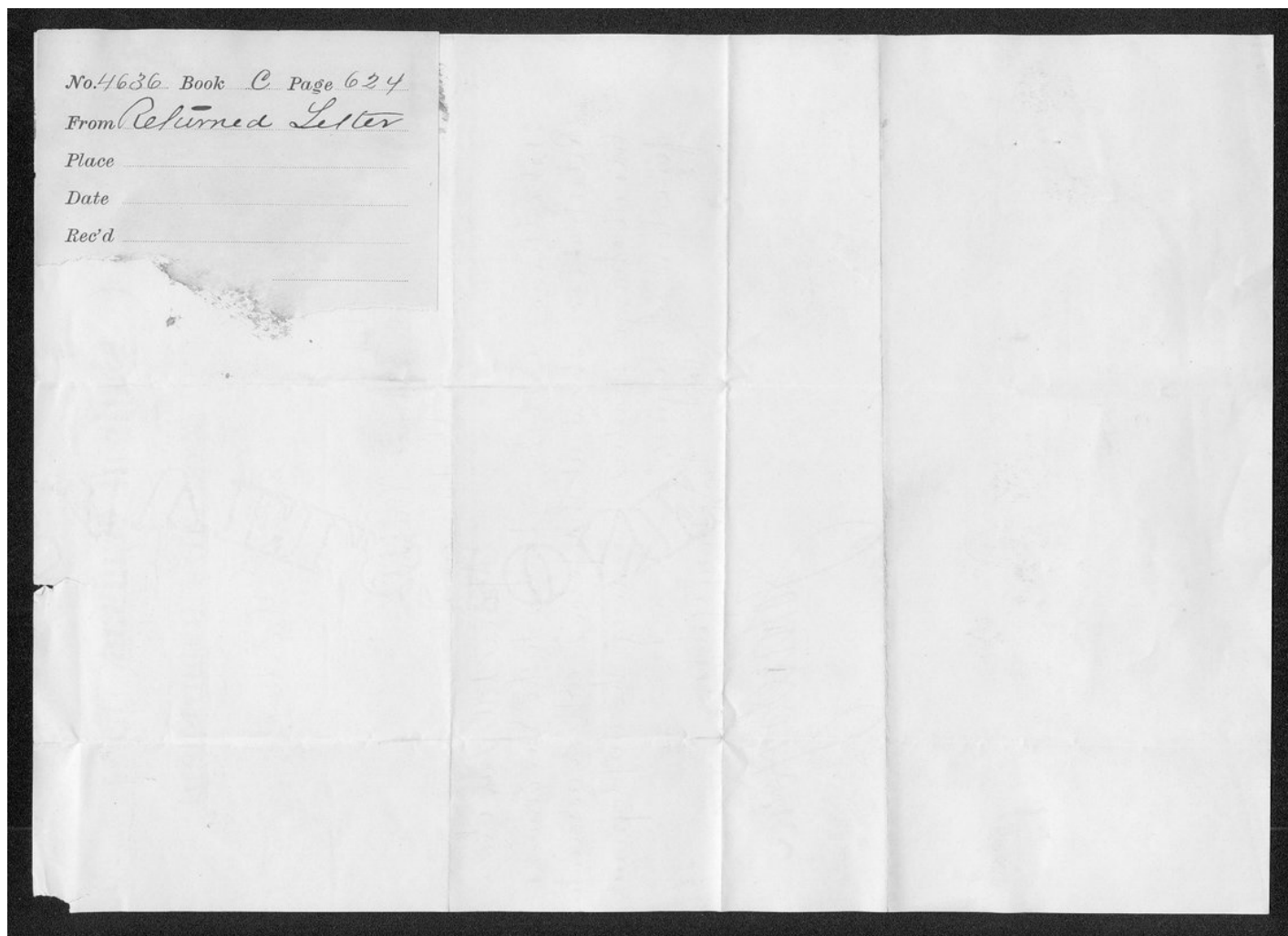
Your letter of the  
21st ultimo will be referred to the Freedmen's  
Relief Association at this place, which association  
has in charge matters touching the employment  
for colored refugees.

Very truly yours,

John St. John



## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence



## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

Mar. 9, 1881

Brooklyn  
Blackrock  
Ct. Dublin

9/3. 1881

Dear Friend

Pardon the freedom  
of this address from an  
entire stranger, but I wish  
on behalf of myself & many  
others to express my admiration  
for the noble part you have  
taken & are taking on behalf  
of the liberated coloured po-  
pulation of the South who are  
fleeing from a land of oppression  
to this free State over which  
you so worthily preside.

Be assured that though  
distant from the scene of your  
operations we cordially value

Honble Governor St. John



## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

Wish them I craved that  
the blessing of the Highest  
may rest on you.

We are well acquainted  
with C. J. & Mr. Comstock who  
was in Ireland some years  
& rejoice that in your energetic  
exertions in the cause of human  
rights, & the lessening of so  
much fearful human suffering  
you have found in her & others  
such valuable coadjutors.

It was my lot, I might  
rather say privilege to have  
taken some share in the  
Anti Slavery cause for many <sup>years</sup>.

I say more or less engaged  
in the arduous struggle which  
resulted in the overthrow of  
Slavery in our West Indian  
Colonies in 1838, & other as it



## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

was by the payment of twenty millions to the oppressors.

And since that time I have watched the gradual advance of public opinion in your land, till at length the opinion became so strong that the monster was swept alas - in a sea of blood - but it was swept away.

We in Ireland are suffering from unjust Land Laws, but we hope the remedy is at hand.

With sincere regard & a warm feeling of admiration for your untiring efforts  
Believe me to be  
Sincerely yours

Richard Allen



## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

No 4537 Book C Page 608

From R. Allen

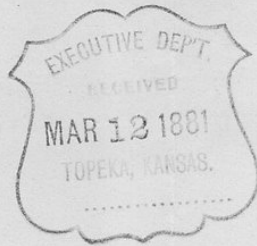
Place Dublin Eng

Date 3. 9. 1881

Rec'd

Ans'd

## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence



Parsons, 3/10/81.  
Dear Gov.:

For the sake of  
the prospective recipients, I  
feel grateful to thee for again  
remembering the Parsons sufferers,  
by kindly permitting a Draft, for  
which I herewith enclose a receipt,  
I will try to make the best use of it,  
for the purpose stated in thy letter  
of yesterday, in which it was enclosed.  
I still have to expend money for food,  
fuel and such articles of needed  
clothing as we have not on hand.  
Very respectfully and truly thy friend,  
Wilmer Walton,

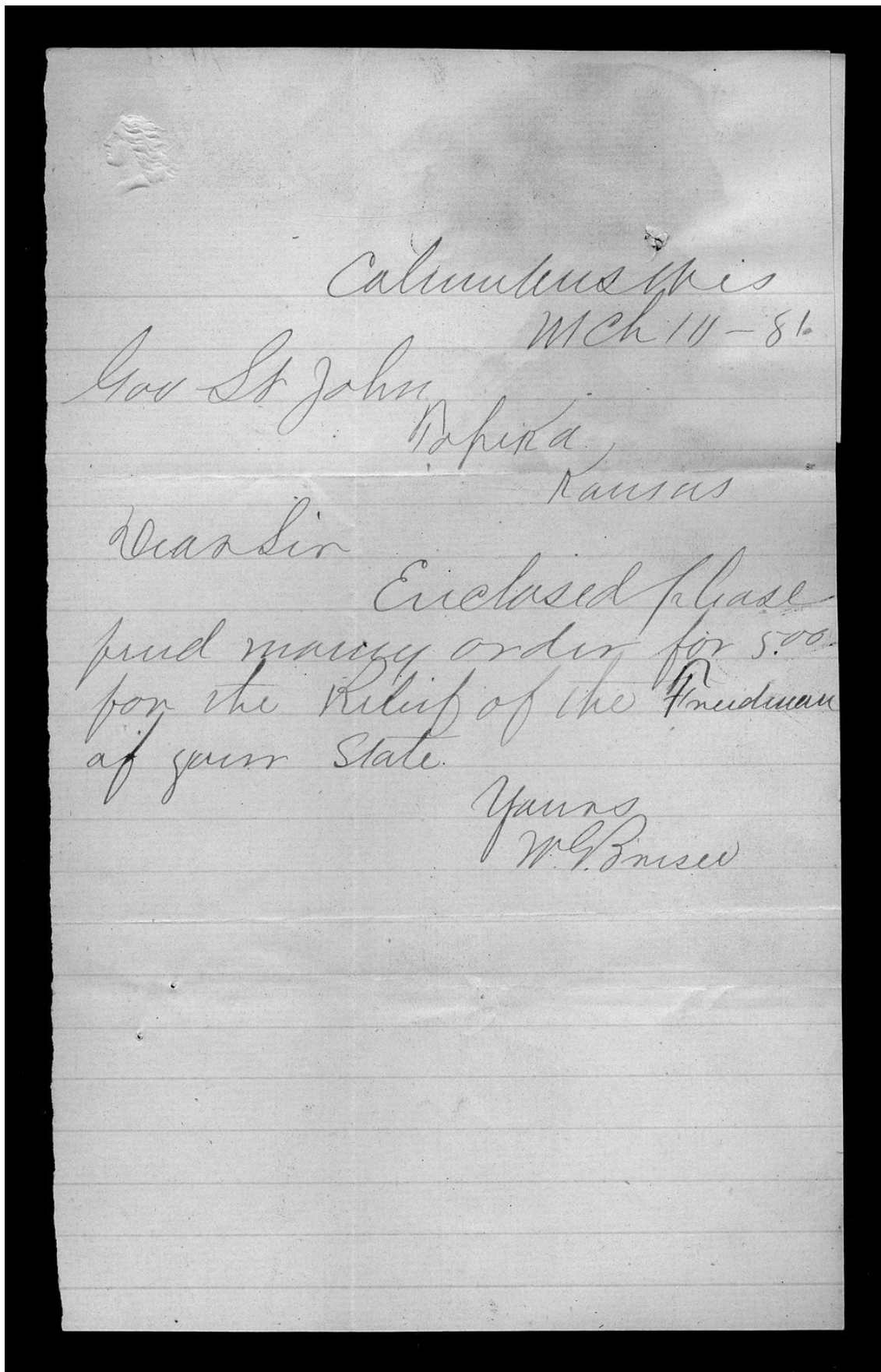




## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

No. 4393 Book C Page 594  
From Wilmer Wallace  
Place Parsons, Ks  
Date Oct. 10. 81  
Rec'd  
Ans'd

## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence







## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

No. 4438 Book @ Page 600

From W. L. Brice

Place Columbus Wis

Date J. 10. 1881

Rec'd

Ans'd

TRACT.

## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

### KANSAS Y. M. COMMITTEE TO ADVISE AND ASSIST *E. L. Comstock*

The following committee having been appointed by Kansas Yearly Meeting of Friends to advise and assist E. L. COMSTOCK in the distribution of supplies which she and others may desire to send to this State for the benefit of the "Freedmen," either for physical comfort or educational interests. Our plan of work will first be feeding, clothing and medical aid for the sick, aged and destitute. The educational as funds may come in for that purpose, and whenever any Evangelical Ass'n from other States may desire to open Normal schools or Mission stations will esteem it a privilege to encourage the same to the extent of our ability.

J. E. Pickering, Columbus, Kansas.  
Seaborn Jessup, Springdale, Kansas.  
Levi Woodard, Lawrence, Kansas.  
Lizzie Wilson, Lawrence, Kansas.

M. H. Newlin, Lawrence, Kansas.  
Sarah Jessup, Springdale, Kansas.  
Sarah Nicholson, Lawrence, Kansas.  
Matilda Haworth, Boston Mills, Kas.

#### OFFICERS.

Jonathan E. Pickering, President.  
Levi Woodard, Treasurer.  
Matilda Haworth, Secretary.

MAR 13 1881

*Chicago, Kansas, Mar. 11 1881*

*Gor. St. John*

*Dear Friend:*

*herewith inclose receipt for draft you enclosed me for Refugees, & in due time will send you an itemized bill of expenditures — & charge nothing for my time for distribution — I am sorry to think that Mr J. H. Brown when down here worked for his own political advantage & not for his bleeding country men — in fact was of no advantage — I can see — This is private — The cause of the refugee down here is unpopular — He is an advantage to us but the Sand Lot — Sen overat & Land Sellers fear him & hate him & would gladly let starvation & want drive him away from Kansas*



## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

### KANSAS Y. M. COMMITTEE TO ADVISE AND ASSIST

*E. L. Comstock*

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M. H. Newlin, Lawrence, Kansas.  
Sarah Jessup, Springdale, Kansas.  
Sarah Nicholson, Lawrence, Kansas.  
Matilda Haworth, Boston Mills, Kas.

#### OFFICERS.

Jonathan E. Pickering, President.  
Levi Woodard, Treasurer.  
Matilda Haworth, Secretary.

Columbus, Kansas,

188

News papers in the popular hate  
do not tell the truth — Politicians  
shun him & let him bleed —  
My own Church & the Friends alone  
sympathize with him — Sleek  
well clad & fed Pharisees let these  
poor ulcer clad Lazaruses pick  
no crumbs from their tables & care  
nothing for them & know nothing of  
them & despise us who work among  
them — I fortunately am in easy  
circumstances & was freed to admire  
E. P. & Owen Lovejoy, & the host of  
Saints whom God honored our  
Country by giving them truth &  
martyrdom among us — I will  
remain true to God & these people  
here if they make me —  
The Whisky Sellers here are on the  
wing (raven) for Missouri



## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

The Refugee will certainly  
this year be able to live they  
have 3 Churches here - & work  
well - Do not trust what  
our newspapers say about the  
refugee - Nov. 2. H. B.  
Your friend  
W. S. Newlon

No. 4405 Book C Page 595

From W. S. Newlon

Place Chicago Ill

Date 3. 11. 81

Rec'd

Ans'd

ABSTRACT.

and Draft for





## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

Mar. 14, 1881  
J-1

Blank No. 1.

### THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

This Company TRANSMITS and DELIVERS messages only on conditions, limiting 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. R. BREWER, Sec'y. NORVIN GREEN, President.

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Dated Pine Bluff Ark 14 1881

Received at TOPEKA, KANSAS 13/14 - 3:00 PM

To His Excellency  
Govt St. John

READ THE NOTICE AT THE TOP.

Are any of your  
Colored population desirous  
of Emigrating to Arkansas provided  
transportation good homes and  
good treatment be secured  
to them please ans  
G W Davis  
2 x Trial



## Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

No. 46.14 Book Q Page 620

From G. W. Davis

Place Pine Bluff Ark

Date J. 14. 1881

Rec'd

Ans'd

Q

ABSTRACT



Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

Kansas City Mo  
March 14 1881  
Gov St John

Dear Brother

I am organizing a gospel  
Evangelist Movement first for  
the state of Kansas afterwards  
Illinois and I trust each state  
in the union to each milling  
My tent mill cost me \$300  
the necessary passenger wagons  
perhaps the same. With a half  
a score or more of singing praying  
preaching Bible reading gospel  
workers I intend to canvass the  
State for Christ the tents instead  
are large and small ones for all  
who will help in the places we stop  
I shall first in places where  
Saloons exist and 20 or more of