

Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

Section 84, Pages 2491 - 2520

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





From Place Date Rec'd Ans'd
From F. From F. Place Ma Date Rec'd Ans'd
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Han John A John March 7, 1882
Hora John St. John
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to fell himself of fare taken the liberty to
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some times decirous of locating in Janeas
but not mishing to lear to certainty for.
an uncertanity of have remained towner
Sam until Be could find out come thing
in relation to the same. My fuends always
me to consult you relative to the same know
ing that from you I could get the de-
shired information I am a colored young
man tronty- fire years of age, bom and
educated na Nostra Mand receiving a
degree of Los from the Soston University
at the lage of threnty two, being the only
colored young made in the glass whigh



numbered fifty mine (59) students - Sam
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city with a groft ealary, but I much
my with a grape salary, out of meet
tot be engagled in expretting where we
can feel blike and be a fran- When I
was in Soston I was connected with the
I al al an connected me in the
Cored Homens Refuger Society, and had
400/11/1
occasion to hear you spokent of as the young
man's friend. I am willing to do and thing
That is honorable and where I can make
. an honest and whight living; of course
I do not Expect to receive the salary Inow
do, and would not expect it to have
recommendations from Fox Phellips Drostes
Judge Edmund Semeth & Gov Ilm Gaston
and others and if necessary could have
For John A Tonge Of you tean give me any
11.
information relativel to what I desire I shall
Le extremely obliged to you
Ory respectfully
JASIMOTH
17/2 P. St. n. w.
an in him of
Hashington, 9.6



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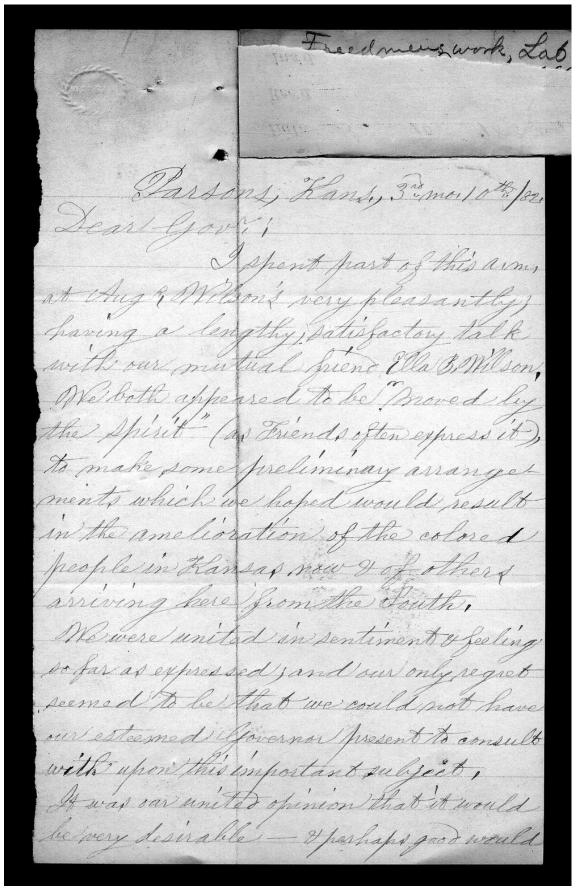


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convenient and address the citizens of
Farsons upon the Bohilition question;
and we three could have an interview at
the same thine, whom the Trefugee spulijeet,
I have very secently been thinking that while
we should all be glad to have the represent
our State in Mashington, yet it will probably
he safer (Sor the Tempticause) to retain thy services
here as your during another term, so that
there may be no danger of a backset in the
a the boat to the said a said as
grab work of temperance neform.
Hease accept my thanks for those books
Apapers: I read portions of them aloud and
distributed them at the recent large meeting
of the colored people that I called in Heur's Hall,
I have not time now to comment upon the
said moeting; but I believe it was a right thing
and will result in good to both speakers & heavers,
Hoping for the pleasure of meeting the soon in
Parsons, Dam thuly the friend Milmer Watton,



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It was our united	opinion that it would
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ac prery desirable	- I perhaps good would



	ini, Exoduster received correspondence
	Verdurette, Sherman 6. Neb. March 14th 1882,
	Hon.
Gov.	St John, Hansas U. S St may surprise
	you a little to be thus addressed by
	But it will not offend you when
	you know that my whole soul has
	out your noble struggle and grand tri-
	comple in Hanses on the temperance
7	mertion. I hope yet to be of the
	age holy, example in its application
	you ther I write you to ask that a
of the	one to work by the month, when I tell
. Page.	you that I was an early tholitionism,
all a	Seward and Summer were get in the
S Book	old Whing party - My lot was to be a
000 67	Wesleyan preacher, one of the hated number that organized the Wesleyan Church ex
38	Whica, N. Cy. in 1843, Though not in ther
	the organization, and have remained
	there ever since, & am there now.
	In 1862 I went South as Capt. of Corb. 832 Regt. Ills, Ools, and for three years,
been	Cacking only 34 days, fought as I had
	praying & preaching for years previous to ther I have read with great inter-
	est the movement that brings so many



Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

Colored men to Hansas. He should no object to a men with a wife and childre We can furnish them work, pay them them good quarters and car at the table in Them of they will keep themselves in Condition, There are homesteads here get a member of them, and they can easily good land. The time is most opertune too, for the two great R, R, Companies, big, Union & Raix ic & Builington & Missouri are surveying routes right through the Center of the County as or both are about one to be built this Summer - This has the effect to make it difficult to get hands as they are now paying \$150 per day with every prospect ther it will be \$1500 very short time, It will swellow up there homesteads very soon, for if you can send a good man, I will both hime him & pay him I show him a farm for \$14th. I have not doubt that a hundred such men could get work, of not on farms, then on the R, R, provided They can only reach here. It you wish any references, I would refer you to "Rear, J. Blanchard, president of Wheaton College, Wheaton Ollo, Or to the world renowned scholar an Christian, Rev. 4, B. Walker of the same place Or to almost every Wesleyan, Preacher in Kenses though I think the Wesleyan Preacher in John ke would only know me by reputar He must reach Hearney or Grand Island in here, after which it will be any for him to reach be worth 815 the per month to us, Please let us very Respectfully, even affectionstely



Department of the Interior.
PENSION OFFICE.
THINGION SERVED.
Washington, D.C. May 2.3 rd , 1882
Washington, D.C. Max 23 2 , 1882
Hon John P. St. John Sir
Long John J. St. John
Aland Si
I want our
Your favor of the yoth
met is at hand be thank you cordially,
min. W w hand of mank you cordially
for the information contained in the same
and will andeavor to follow it. It is my
in the qualaror to follow in . It is my
intention however to visit your city this
· summer there by combining buentess with
summer mere by com venney buendess with
pleasure, and should and opening present
thelf at that time of think I would remain
well in mai mil I think of would remain
I have got to make a start sometime, and
am of the opinion the sooner the better
am of me opinion me cooner the beller-
I thank you for your offer of assistance
and would further asked if at any time
you should bee or hear of an oflening and
and I see the seeming and
advice me as to the same I shall be ex
tremely obliged to you and you will confer
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a foror Supon me that I shall greatly



approciate.	Remani)	
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	Mashing	10 1 ()
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		Page 391 with

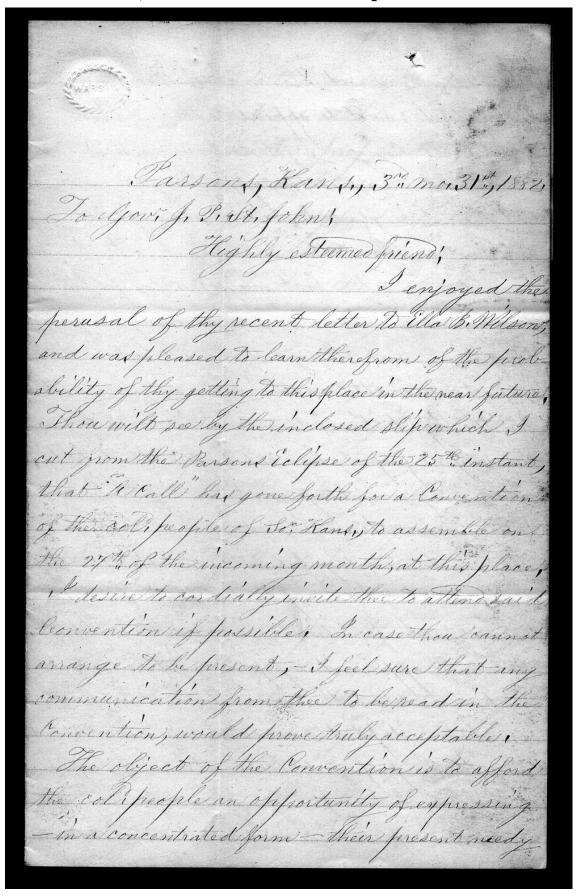


Morning Green for Mis
Morour, Sicore Co., Miss.
Mourve, Green Co., Mis
Gov. St fihn: Dear Sir:
d O.
Dear Vir:
We have
been rending clothing and miney to
the orlered refugies at Independence,
It is a supply to
Montgoniery Co., this winter, and are still
roising some means for them, have
some how on hand.
I with this for information. There is
now in this city, a goutle man four
in or one one cong, co poure, in the food
porting to be from Kan, who says that the story of suffering refugees is the greatest humbrig ever palmed
the state of a live and
mat the story of suffering regules
is the createst humbres ever halmed
off whom a generous publie. We orffweed
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from the best information we could get that there was real destitution, and
that there was real destribution, and
111 4 1 1 60 10 1
felt at duty alleviate as for as we
could. Have we been imposed whom or
is the story report won in circulation have
untree: Please answer by return mail.



Lecretay of Ran. S. R. able: Topours, in the in	Association; Is be reli- enterest of humanity, E. R. Gillett.
No.2811 Book & Page 397 From & Q. Lillest Place Monnae mi Bec'd 28. 1882	







condition; what the mass of them?
desire to do; and to appeal to the
Prational Congress for suitable aid to ena-
ble them to become self-supporting,
I should be glad to receive some preliminary
suggestions from the in reference to the
the object in view, I have thought for a
long time, that Congress should not in this
important matter; and I have only been waiting
for the right time to arrive in which to have
the subject properly brought before that body,
that such a time is now near at hand,
While the worthy far A Garfield was in the
Mr. S. Senate, I corresponded with him upon
the subject of Mational aid for the Freedmen's
While he approved my plan, get he thought
the time had not then arrived in which it
In the proposed Convention, I suppose
it will be best - after organizing - to have the
Delegates express their sentiments and compare

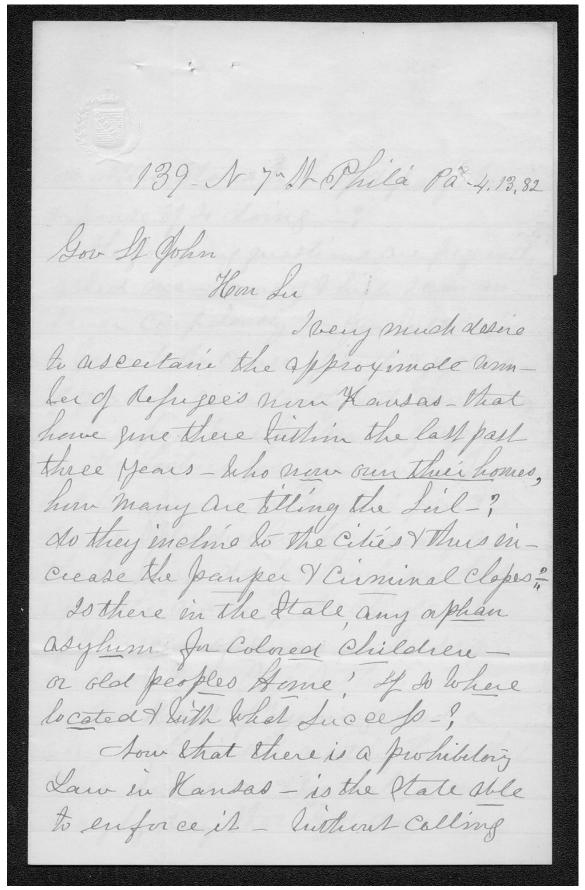


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weever as to their condition, praspects & wishes,
Then at a suitable time read &
discuss the merits of a proposed form of written
appeal to leongress in behalf of their people.
But before such an Appeal is prepared, illa
B. Welson & I both desire to receive information
as to what has been done since the close of
the War for the Breedmen, by the Freedmen's
Bureau ; what Bills have been passed by
Congress for their benefit; and a brief
Sustory of Oklahoma, including its present status,
We had an interview yesterday; and as she
is very busy with the Dibrary matter, she wished
me to write to the forboth of up, requesting thee
to please furnish the desired ansormation
at the earliest convenience!
I have a crude, imperfectly arranged plan
to offer to the Convention; but I have not
time now to even plate the substance of it,
At the monthly meeting of the Union
Temp Wilson, held in the operathouse last
First-day evening (the 26 tinsto), there was a full house
& effective work for Prohibition, Sincerely thy friends
Milmer Walton,



Fredmen			
No. 2899 Book 9 Page 411			
From Wilmer Walls	a la		
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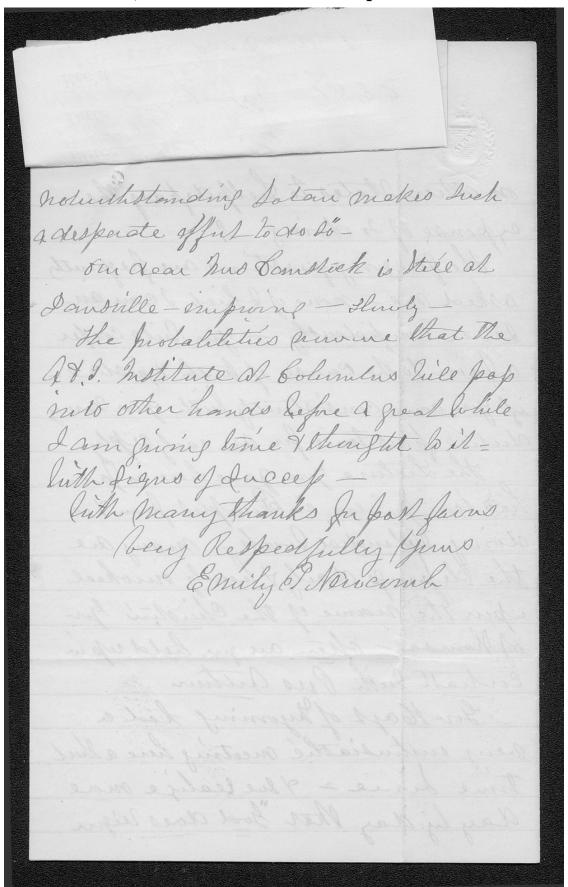




Governor John St. John, Exoduster received correspondence

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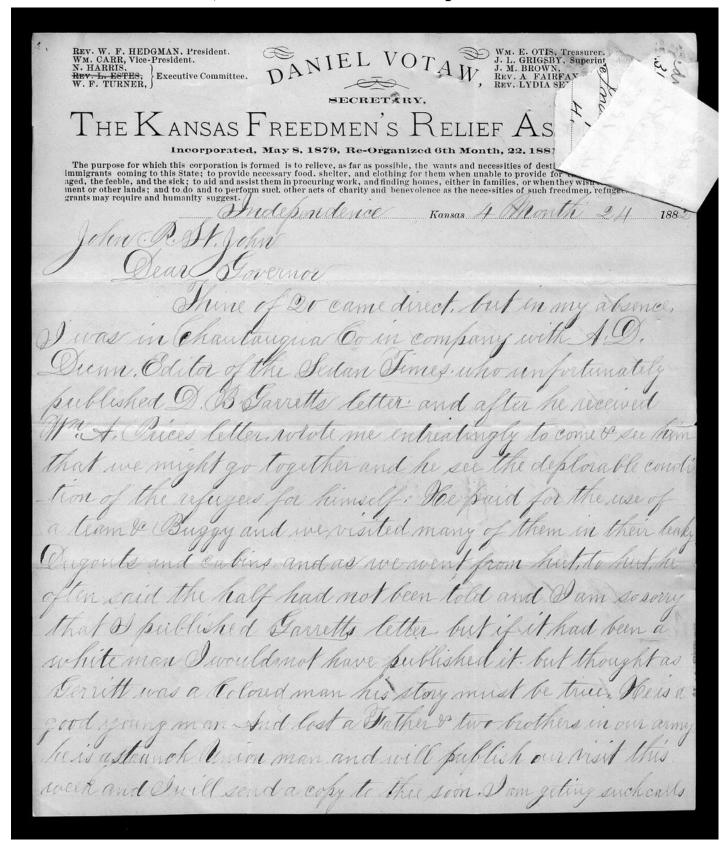






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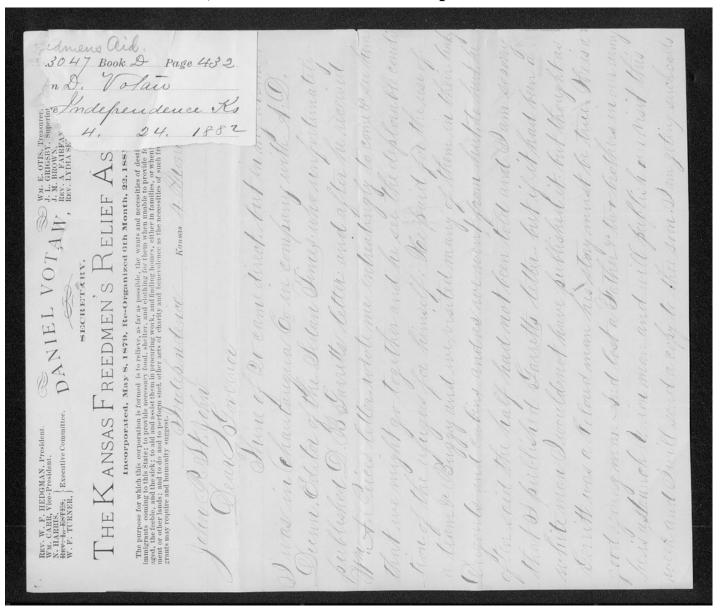




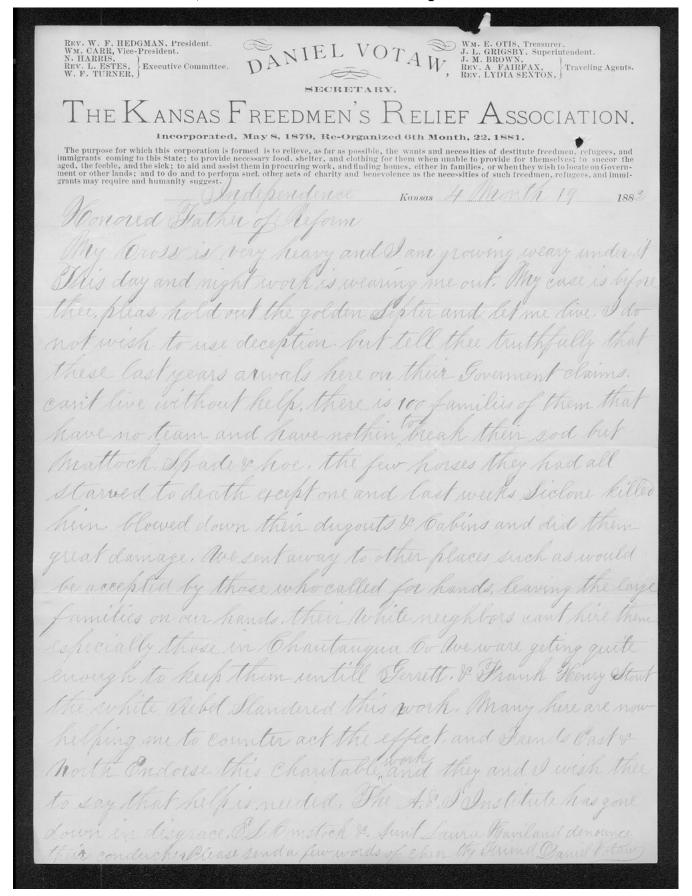


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as these all the time of so wearing out, Many Br	ind who he	they ald have done
all I could, and think		
-pul failure at the Are	Ilmstitate an	d Mar Sunflat Com
land & Sister Comstock	have resigned, a	ere wonding why thee
does not endorse this in	ork, or at least	give us a few words of
cheer to counteract the u	enjust charges	egains this the only
charitable work now no	inning . I her	don't the causes of the
silence to both the whi	te & black who	ware Skeptical and
until recently convinced	them thee was	friend of all thy worthy
subjects but since Gar	retts letter has	chicked the work both
classes of the opposers are	placing much	of the blame on thee as
wellas myself Damas	i well endorse a	for my integrity by
both political parties a		
a broad and they say a		
moternouse you with	cems to me the	of the time has come
for thee to do it, or co		
of die age on an Nokom the	a best and to	most brind Plas qui
ordinary man yet am the	to a loo lok m	I seem our the unworther
ancennings a grassing in	alian onem	a minimum per y minimum y
servent in great third	nam	Daniel Volaw











No. 2974 Book D Page 422 From D. Volaw Place Independence Ks Date 4, 19, 1882 Rec'd	
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Independence Kar aft 22 St 1882
Governor St. John Topeka Kansan
I Want lo say something a foul the hansar
freedmen but in order that you may fully apre- aicale What I shall say let me first abquaint
you with thoy am my home since 76 - has him in
the city of Alchison Rans prior to 76- I bined in Jefferson, County, Kansas lownship of halley fills
arrial Meeting Conference of the African M.O. Church;
beginning sep 28th concluding out 4th from the ised
said Conference I recieved my appointment to
This place Independence Ras I Was here only a fiew days When I mad my pastorial ealls and
ahas a head stead and were using goodsbakes for
day every thing else in the houses amisponded very
Colons Cours that were some of the colons



Tunes 188	
2) tell the a bonne discuplision yet I however have	
said but littlea bout their condition fut when	
see such letter as those Mr. P.B. Garats and	
Most, He Stouts I am competted to say something	
for thos gentleman extainly does not know the condition	
of the people for if they did and then dan to Will such	
teller Jean only say that such Was melisionsly	
and onely done I Want by say that these people are	
in great Want I doo not belong to the whief association	
have nothing to to With it alot am not acquainted	
With many of those that are and While there was fin	
a greatdele said concuring the acquit dealings of some of the	
member of the asociation you may expect me to say some	
thing a bout the matter but I dealine allogather because I	
throw but little and What little do know is no very	
dark and I herelate to say that lest some one might	
Shink me allempting to lake other mene hurdons on my	
own shoulder Du sine those letters has greatly in	
haved the suffering of the perdellan I Wan to speak	
a Wasa in asdor to help enforing minanty to hance	
a Word in ardor to help suffering humainty Mo Hanis and M Qualate gentlemen Who live in this ofte as	



grants may require and humanity suggest.	
Q j	188
For the formor I know but little of him the latter the	rav.
al of the people speaks loudly for him Homen and	d
men ar they come in to lower make their Maye	
residence of Mr P. Malaw and there, prayor are in	in
a peutethin gentleman for help Which is anspects	
sofor as I know it painful to see Women Wal	
24. mile from Chaulaqua (60, for 24 lbs af new	cal
and given to them by M Walaw they gladly	
take the same on this backs and With shift fe	d
they return home to gree the hittle suffere	at
the expense of their lail and one in this flag &	ine
they all look to Mr haland supace he helps	ig
he can I hope sig that is Will be remembered to	that
these people indeed are suffering and to,	
hope you Will answer my payor the	19
hope you Will anchered my prayor thete	ouble
is that this people Want laals to help the	
Lelus to get this growns in shape to outtet	
delie to get this growns in shape to outtet	163
If you Will fundish this letter for Mi	1
confus a great farmon upon your friend the	al
West soo	4