# Governor John P. St. John letter press book

## Section 18, Pages 511 - 540

This collection of governor's correspondence comprises letters written by Kansas Governor John St. John and copied into a letter press book. Governor St. John's term of office (1879-1883) embraced the Exoduster movement, prohibition, conflicts with Native Americans, and the growth of the railroad industry in the state. Many of these letters will concern those issues as well as other more mundane activities. This series includes many responses to letters St. John received. Many of those letters are available as "correspondence received" in St. John's gubernatorial records. Some of those letters are available on Kansas Memory as item no. 210296 (Exoduster received correspondence) or item no. 216777 (Prohibition received correspondence). This book is the first in a series of eight letter press books St. John created while governor of Kansas. Due to the inherent difficulties of copying a letter into a press book, many of the letters will be difficult or impossible to read. An alphabetical index of correspondents and subjects begins the volume.

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

Date: January 14 - April 10, 1879

Callnumber: Governor's Office, Letter Press Books, St. John, Box 4-14, No. 14-46

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 210556

Item Identifier: 210556

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advances the amount but not until then. You also remember writing to me that Mr R has given you his note but does not pay although it was past due.

Very Respectfully

John P. St John

Gov.

4/5th 9

J. W. McNeal Esq
Medicine Lodge Ks
My dear Sir

In of the 1st inst rec'd.
A patrol
Guard will be placed on the
South West frontier during this
month. I am making preparation
to that end as rapidly as possible
the Office of Comm'd the Guard
has already been selected - I may
however not see more of I do
I will not make any appointments
until about the time the Guard
enters upon duty and not until
Your people on the frontier have been
Consulted with I shall be
happy to see in the S W the 18th
inst. The Camp Equipage &c

480

I will probably pass through your town or county in two weeks. I think use every precautionary measure to secure safety for life & property of settlers in the South West.

Accept my thanks for your letter. I am always glad to receive any suggestions from you.

Very truly yours

John P. St. John
Gov

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4/5th 9

A. J. Banner Esq
Olighton Ks.
My dear sir

Your letter of the 2d inst covering a petition asking your appointment in the Secret Service of the United States has been received and duly forwarded to Hon John A Anderson with a request that he present the same to the proper department at Washington, and make an effort to secure the position for you
Wishing you success
I am very truly Yrs

John P. St John

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Hon Jno A Anderson

Washington D.C.

My dear Sir

I am just in receipt of the inclosed letter from A.J. Banner which with a petition asking an appointment in the U.S. Secret Service which I also inclose herewith I respectfully ask you to present to the proper department and do whatever you can for Mr B— You will recognize the names of the best citizens on the petition

Very truly Yours

John P. St John

March 9th 9

S J Osborn Esq
Iowa Point Doniphan Co Kans
Dear Sir

Yours of the 3rd inst is received & in reply I have to inform you that your commission as Notary Public was issued on the 29th of March. Which will be forwarded to you, as soon as your official bond is filed in the office of the Secretary of State according to law. See Sec 2 page 596 & Sec 4 page 597 General Statutes of Kansas

Very Respectfully
W H Hays
Private Secy

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Apl 7 9

Hon A G Porter.
Washington DC.

Sir:

Your letter of the 29th ultimo has been duly rec'd in which you notify me of the allowance to the State of Kansas of the sum of $4.155 Cts on act of 8-7 accruing to the State upon the Net proceeds of sale of public lands within the State during the Fiscal yr ending June 30th 88.

The draft for the amount has not as yet been rec'd.

Yours Resp

Governor

Apl 7 9

Hon C. M. Kellogg
Clay Center Kas

My dear Sir.

Answering your letter of the 4th inst, would say that the resignation of your county attorney has been received, and he recommends H. E. Lacy to be appointed as his successor.

I shall do nothing further in the matter except to accept the resignation until I hear from you.

Please advise me as to who would be a competent man for the position. Of course it is desirable to secure not only a competent man but one who is worthy and acceptable to the people - and a republican.

Very truly John P. St John

apl 7 9

Cain Santavie
Ibaurra P.O.
Carroll Parish La.

Dear Sir:

In answer to your letter of 20th ult., I desire to say that the State of Kansas has no State Board of Immigration, nor has it any Immigration Agents authorized to make any representations for the State -

The only inducements that Kansas can offer to parties seeking homes in the West is, very rich and productive soil, good climate, healthy locations and all enabled. - Person and property of all classes, without regard to race condition or color receive full and complete protection - Our educational

advantages are equal to any State in the Union. all pupils upon an equality before the law. - In our public schools the children of the poorest and humblest have equal advantages with the children of the wealthiest class of citizens

Any person who is honest industrious and obedient to the laws can do well here in Kansas. But it must be borne in mind that here in Kansas, as elsewhere sobriety, honesty, and industry are prerequisites to success.

I have been informed that men, representing themselves as agents for the State of Kansas have visited portions of the South and represented to the colored

people, that Kansas, upon their arrival here, would give to them lands and a team of horses or mules with which to work; and many other like inducements were held out to encourage the colored men ~~into South~~ to come to Kansas.

I desire to say to you, and through you to your colored friends, that no one is now, or ever has been authorized by the State directly or indirectly, to make any such propositions or promises; and all persons found making such statements to you or to the Colored People, may be branded as impostors and simply trying to deceive for the sake of robbing the colored people of the little

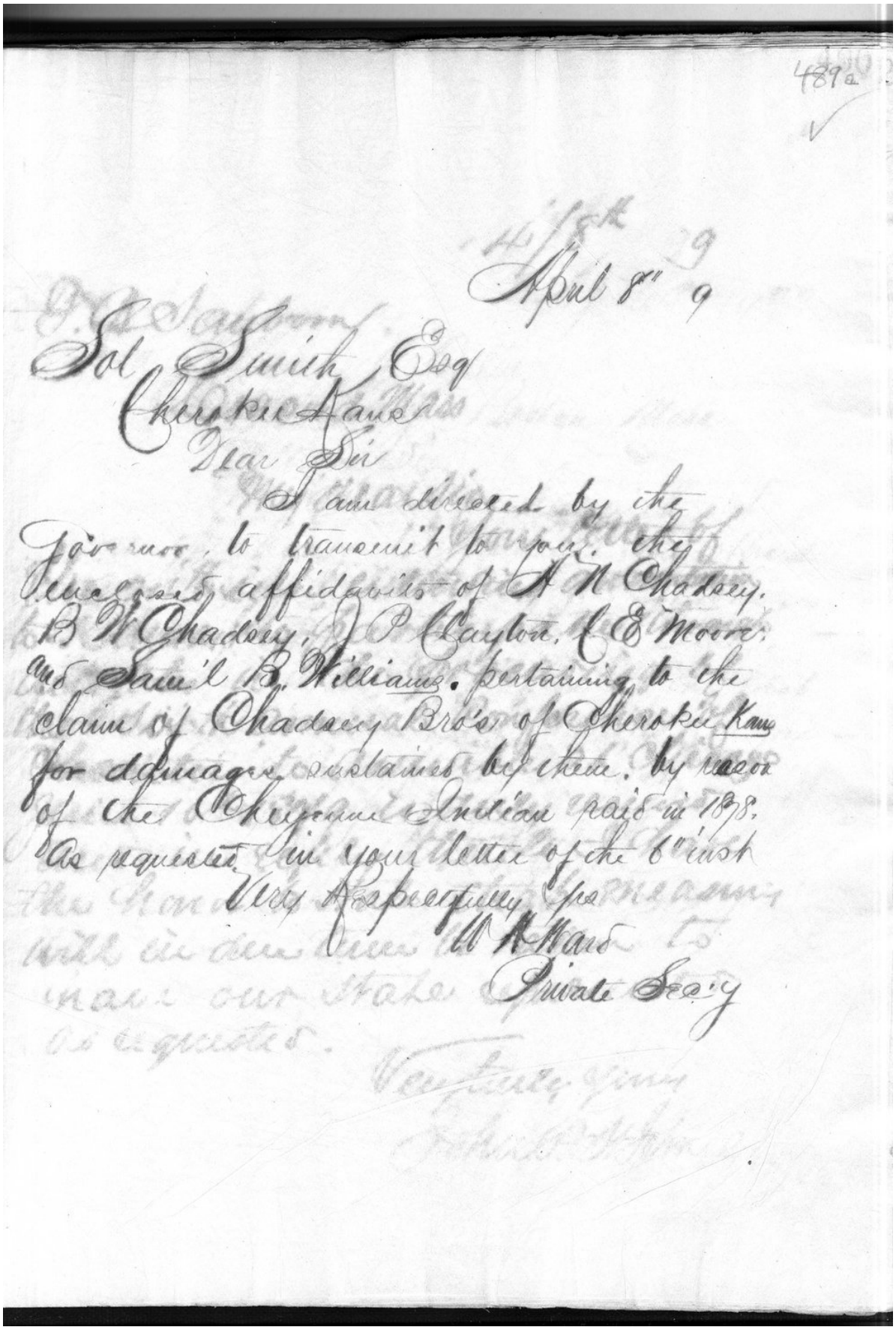
means they possess.

Kansas has always been and is to day, the best friend the Colored people, and I make this statement boldly simply because Kansas does not wish to see them imposed upon by unfaithful and dishonest persons claiming to be agents for the State.

Very respectfully

John P. St. John

Governor



489a

April 8th 79

Sol Smith, Esq
Cherokee Kans

Dear Sir

I am directed by the Governor, to transmit to you, the inclosed affidavits of A N Chadsey, B W Chadsey, J P Clayton, C E Moore, and Sam'l B. Williams, pertaining to the claim of Chadsey Bro's of Cherokee Kans for damages sustained by them, by reason of the Cherokee Indians raid in 1878. As requested in your letter of the 6th inst

Very Respectfully Yrs
W H Mans
Private Sec'y

4/8th 9

D. B Sanborn

Concord Mass

My dear Sir

Your letter of the 27th ult. extending an invitation to Kansas, to participate through delegates in the Proceedings of the Sixth annual Conference of Charities to assemble at Chicago June 10th 1879 is duly received and in reply thereto I have the honor to state that measures will in due time be taken to have our State represented as requested.

Very truly Yours

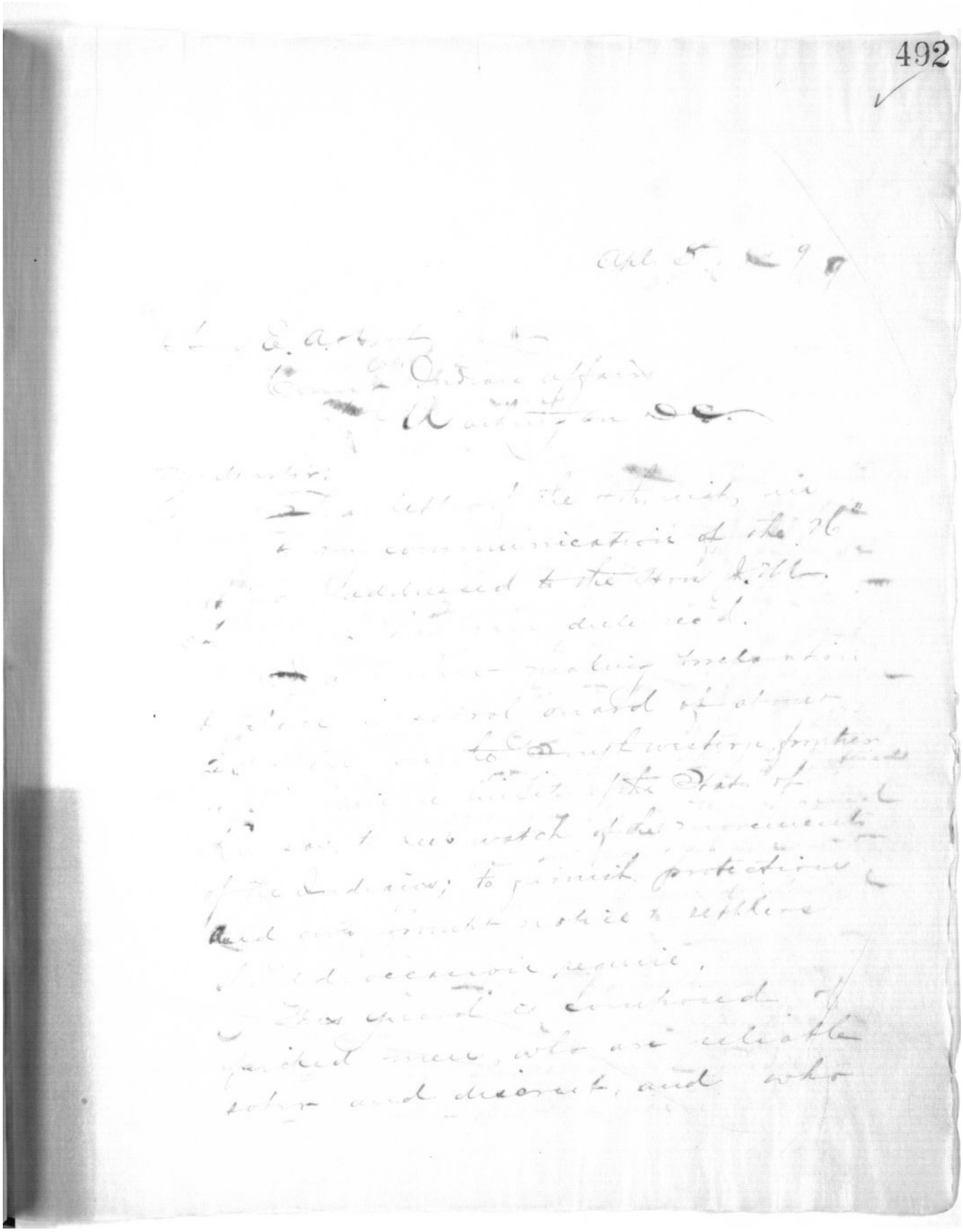
John P. St John

April 3rd 90

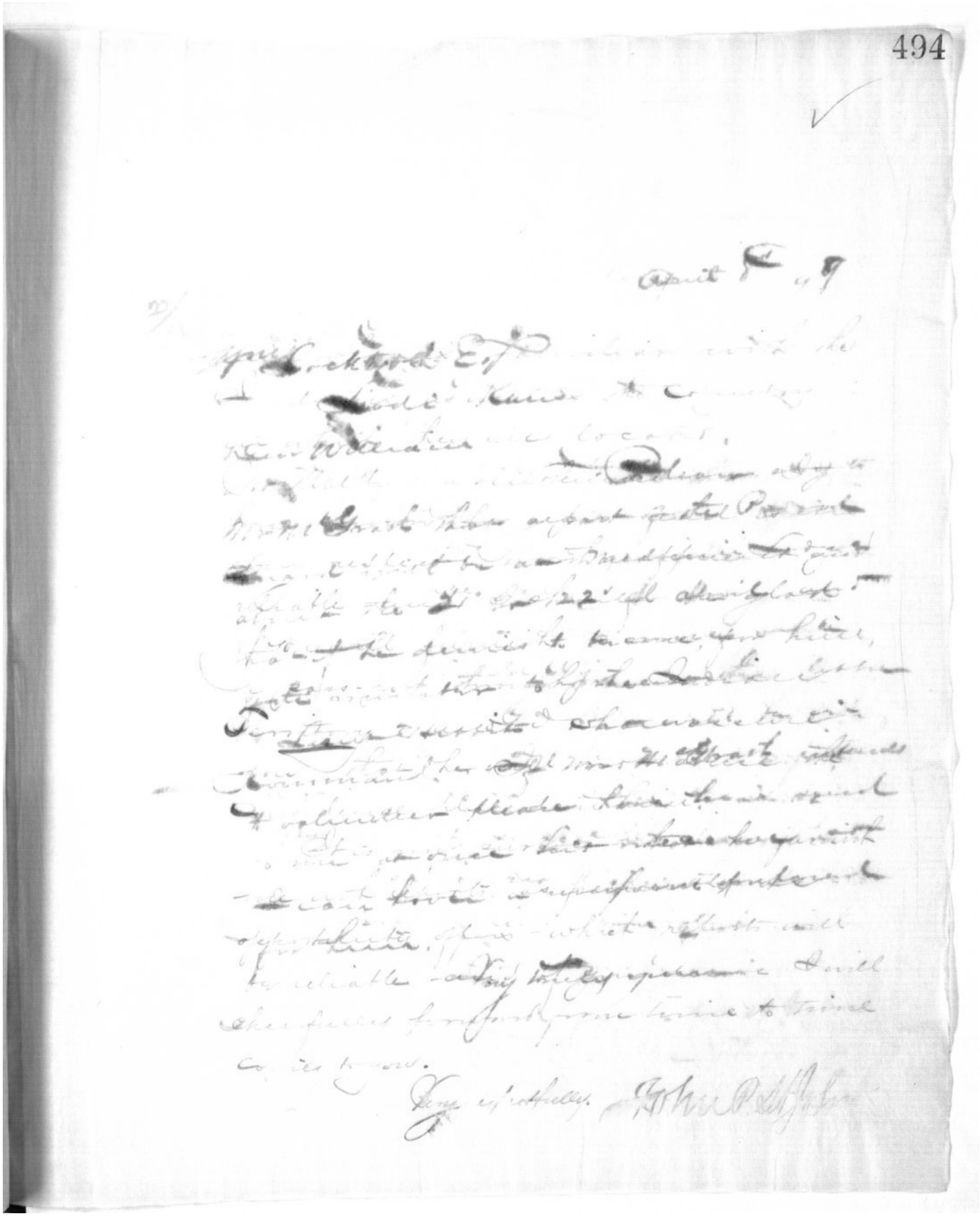
Hon William M Ogden
Private Sec'y Boston Mass
Dear Sir

Enclosed herewith I have the honor to transmit the official signatures of His Excellency Jno. P. St John, & Hon James Smith Sec'y of State, together with an impression of the Great Seal of this State, as requested in your communication of the 2nd inst

Very Respectfully
W H Ward
Private Sec'y


492

493



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April 1st 89

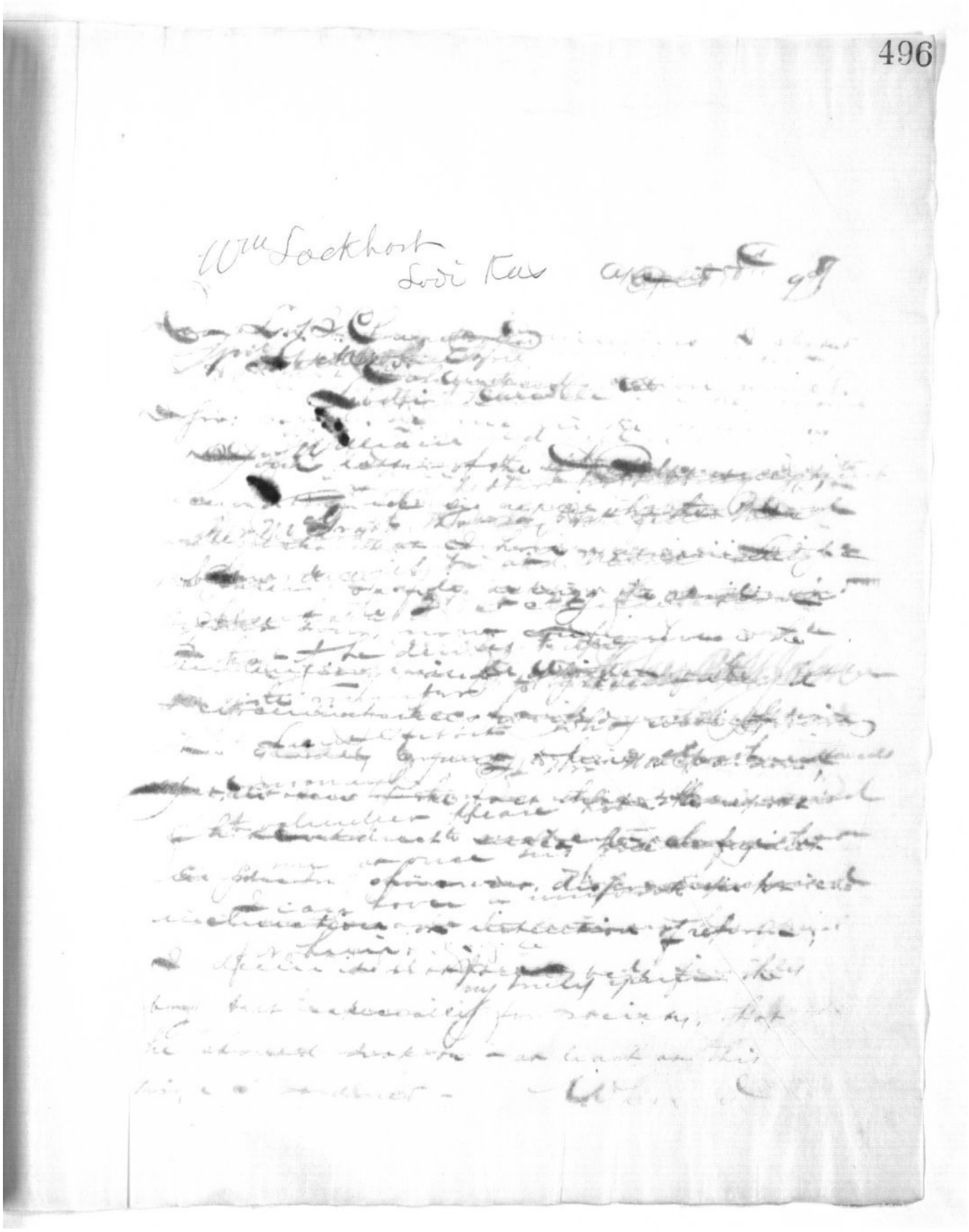
Hon Lockwood Esq
Lodi Kans

Dear Williams

Please notify Mr M Grath that a part of the Patrol Guard will be at Medicine Lodge about the 21st or 22nd of April and that he desires to encamp with the organization to procure their horses & Lieut Stubbs who will be in Command. Mr Mc Grath intends to volunteer please have him report to me at once his reasons why I can have a uniform enforced for him.

Very truly yours

John P St John


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April 8th 97

Rev L. D. Chamberlain

Dear Sir:

Your letter of the 4th inst. duly received & in reply thereto I will state that I have written to the Postmaster at Topeka requesting him to confer with the Trustees of the Washburn College & ascertain their wishes in the premises, & if they desire to have a person appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. Lindsay, I will make the appointment.

Yours truly

John P. St. John

Governor

Apr 5 87

Father wish you as Executive & state to give that the authority action from the Supreme Court decided me in the premises and that I should [illegible] in discharging the duties of my office & the case under consideration which I did do with the exception of [illegible] staff.

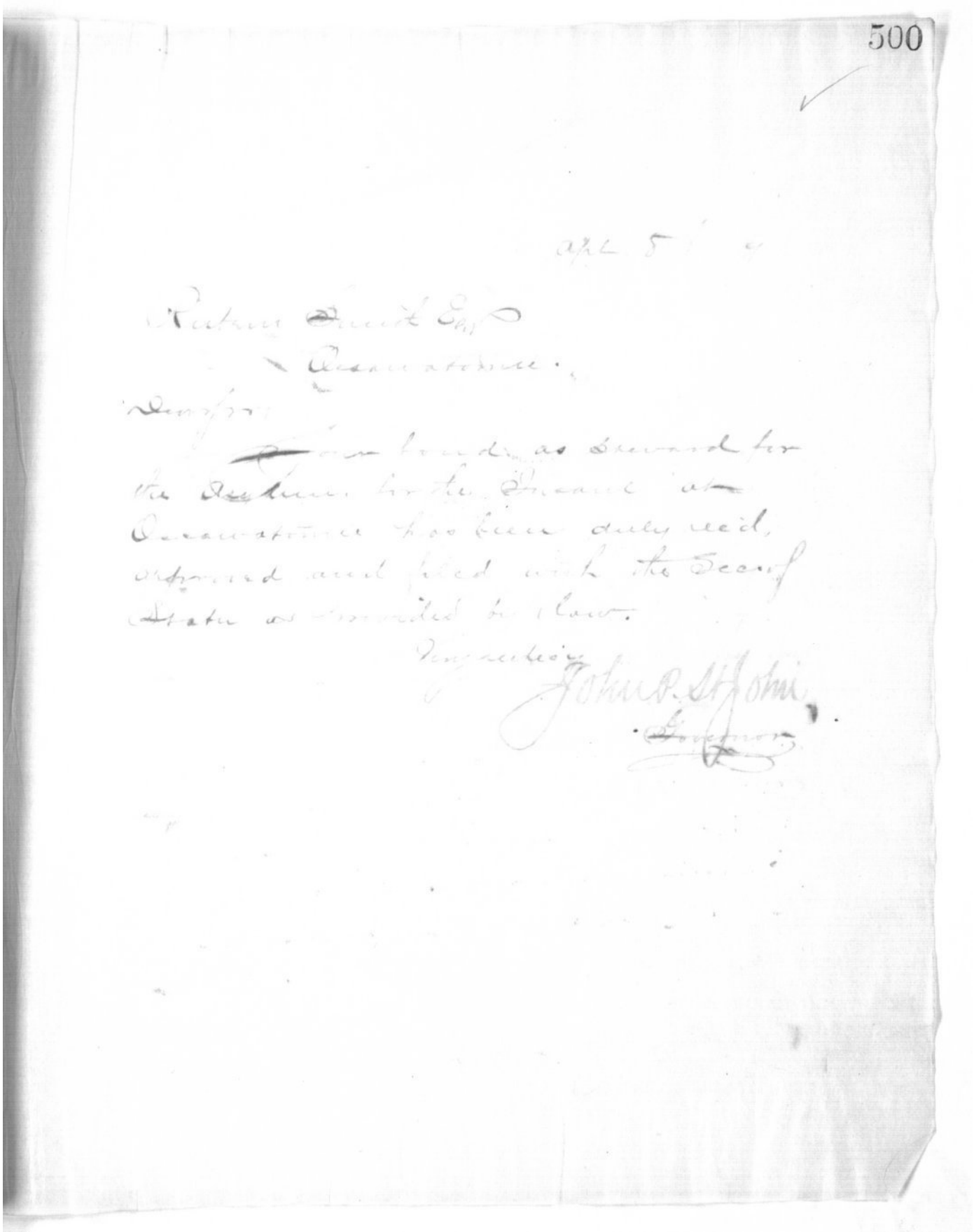
My stenographer, the Warden of the Penitentiary has found nothing true in regard to your note, and I made [illegible] and has continued to make [illegible] the conduct of this order. The communication with reference to his official capacity as Warden and simply states the record of your case in his regards his conduct in [illegible]

Had you two [illegible]

Governor during his imprisonment,
with the showing made in the petition
for pardon, I would feel inclined
to pardon him. But I could not
find, on balancing it conscientiously with
my duty to the state and to society,
to turn him loose with the face of
his prison record.

My opinion upon the
sentiment has found expression. More
we cannot do, as Governor
but we cannot make touching the
conduct of officers. The communication
can not increase the testimony for or against
the petition as it stands, simply
states the record upon which we regard
this conduct as proper.

Had you time to



500

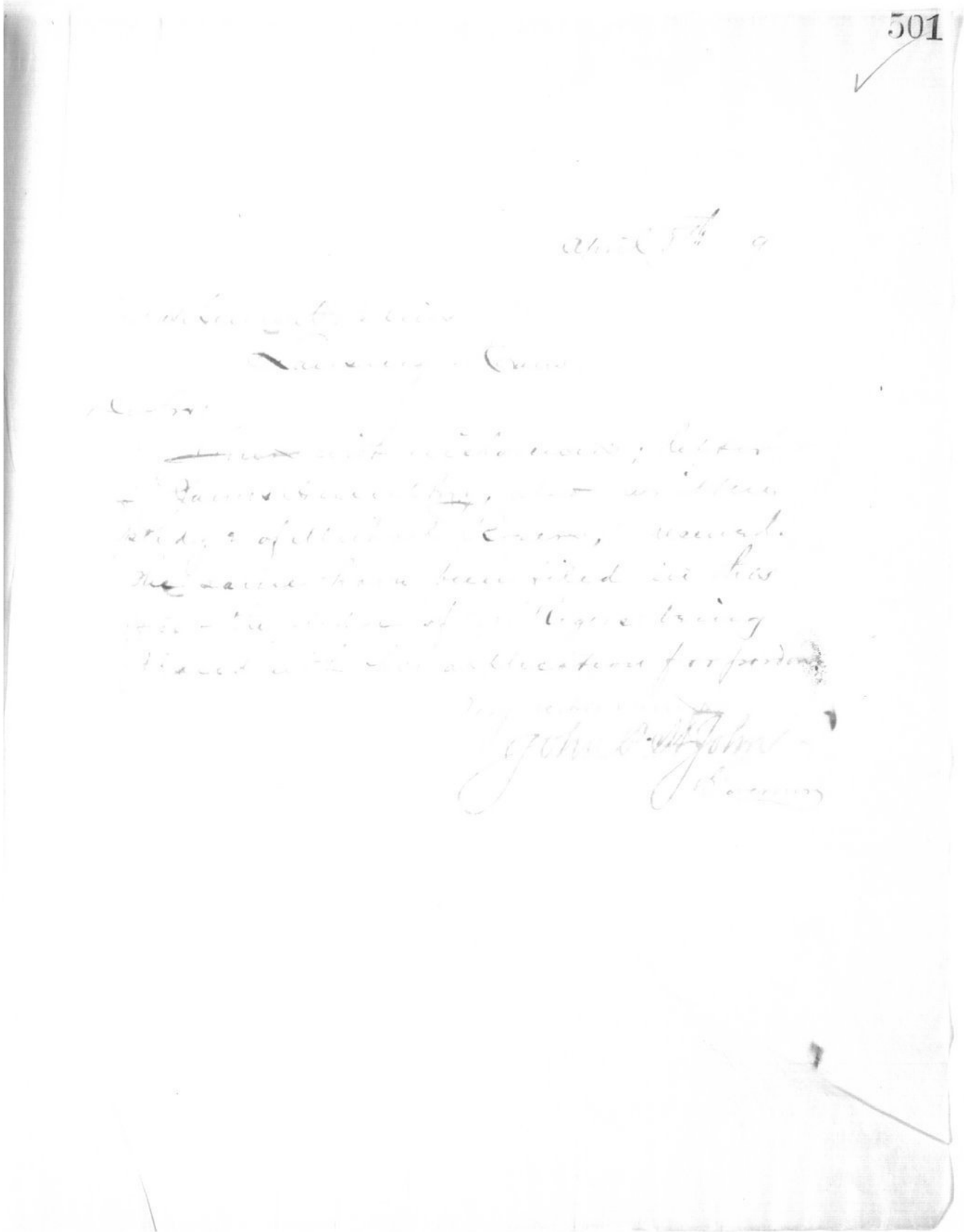
April 5 [illegible]

Victor Smith Esq
Osawatomie.

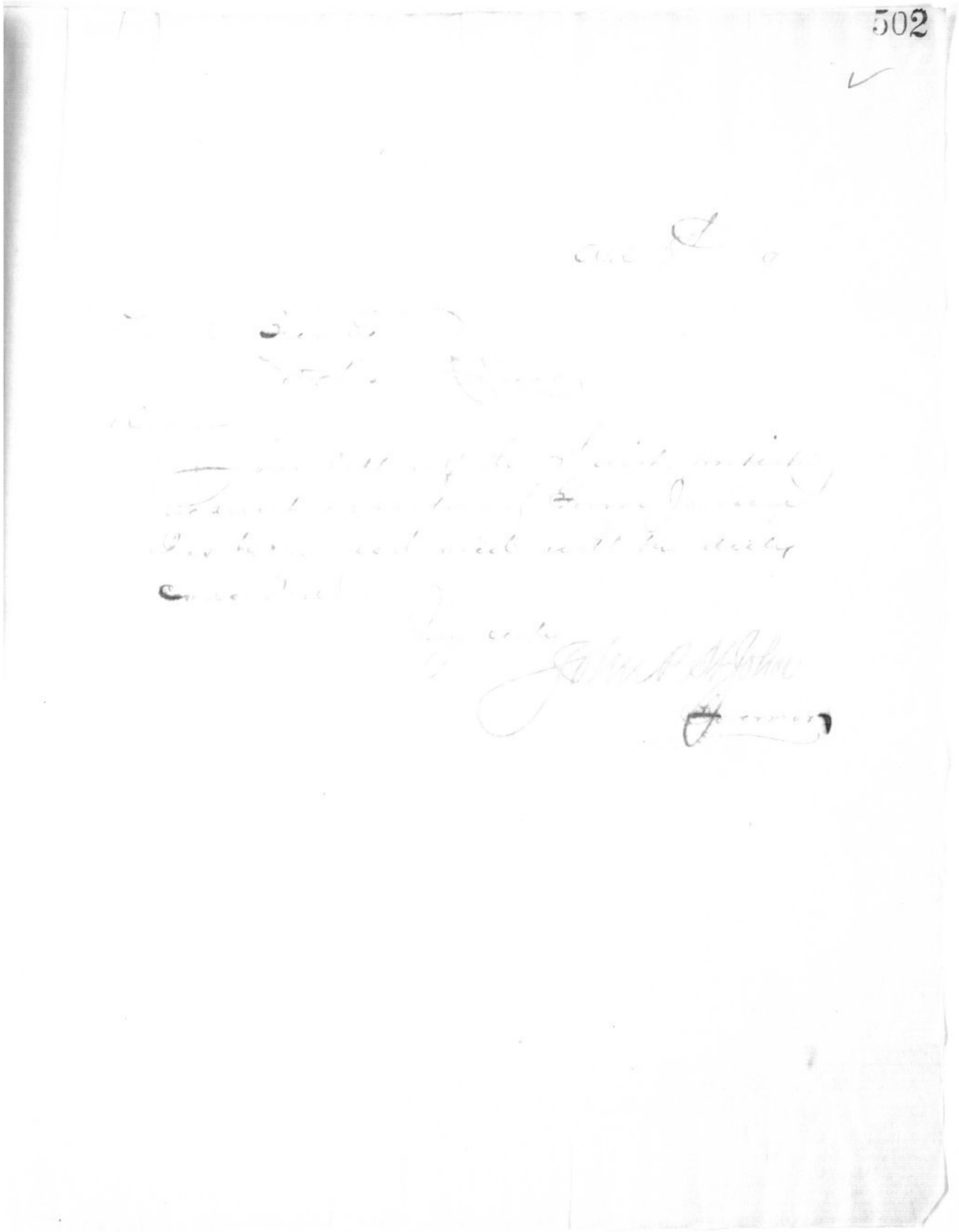
Dear Sir

Your bond as Surveyor for the Seventh District of Osawatomie has been duly read, approved and filed with the Secretary of State as provided by law.

Very truly yours
John P. St. John
Governor


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**Governor John P. St. John letter press book**



April 5th 8

Col Saml Walker
Lawrence Kans

Dear Sir.

If your boy desires to be one of the Patrol on the Frontier, he will report here Wednesday April 16th and will start from here on the 17th. Please let me know whether I can depend upon him or not.

Yours truly.

John P. St. John
Gov

504

Apl 8 — 9

[illegible] Esq
Wichita Kans

Dear Sir:

Your resignation as Commissioner of Insurance, has been received, and is hereby accepted to take effect from and after the appointment and qualification of your successor.

Yours truly

John P. St John

Governor

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Sept 1st 9

Ellen Morgan
Peabody Kas.

Dear

If you desire to spend the summer on the frontier as one of the Patrol Guards, you can do so at $25.00 per month, and board by letting me know immediately. You will be mustered about the 15th of this month at which time you can join others on the train, at Newton

Very truly

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age 5

Frank D. Olcott
Silver ~~Clear~~ Lake (4 Ks

Dear Sir

You will report at Topeka as one of the Patrol Guard on the 16th of this month.

Ruby