Governor John Martin to Colonel A. B. Campbell

In this letter, Kansas Governor John Martin is asking Colonel Campbell to travel to Parsons, Kansas, to determine if military support is necessary to control unrest related to the railroad strike. Governor Martin has been sympathetic with the strikers and urges the Colonel to find a peaceful settlement. In February 1885, railroad shop workers walked off the job because of a cut in pay and reduced hours of work. Governor Martin was able to negotiate a settlement to the strike but problems continued throughout Kansas, Missouri, and Texas.

Creator: Martin, John Alexander, 1839-1889

Date: April 14, 1886

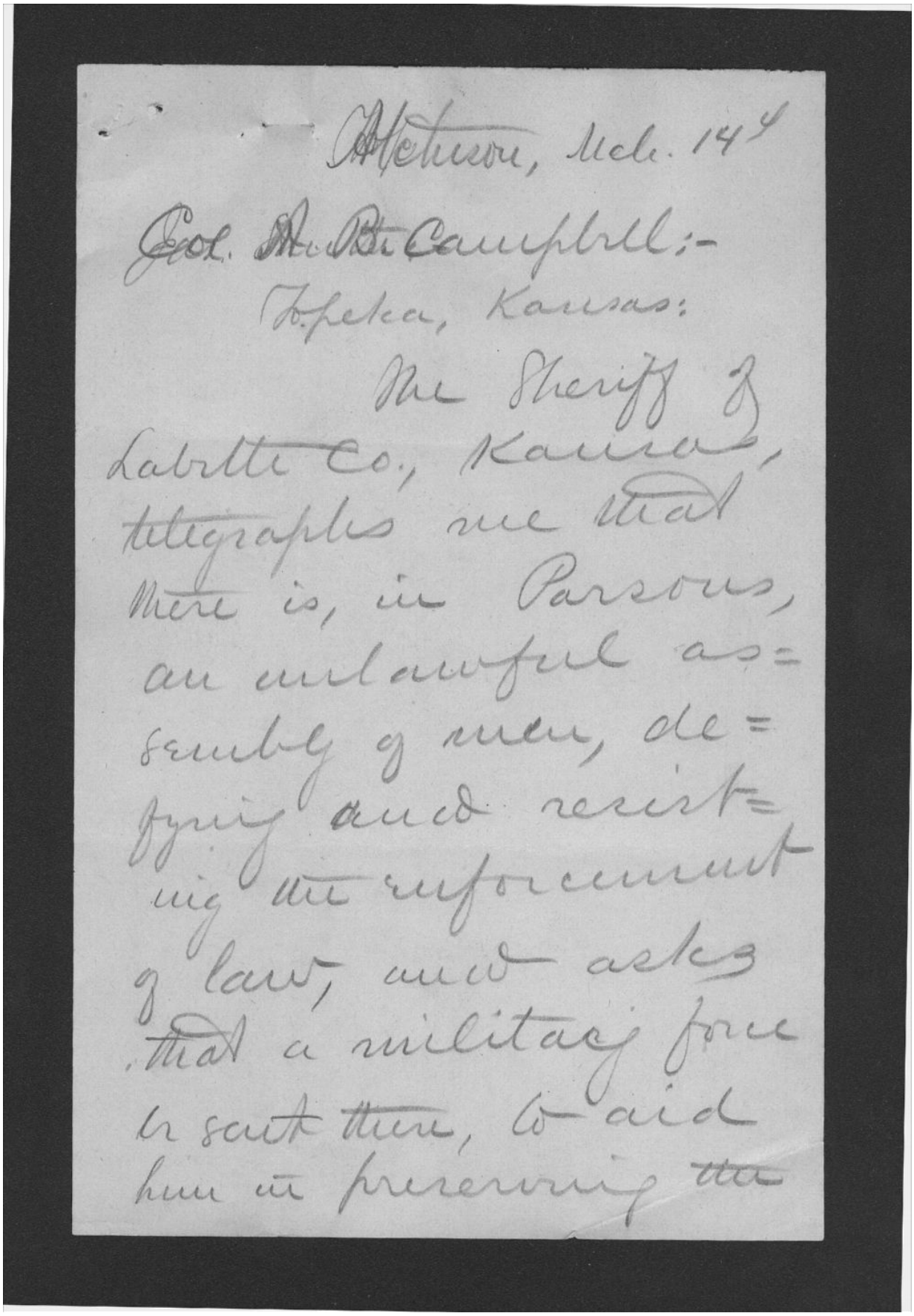
Callnumber: Governor's Office, Martin, Correspondence Received, Box 29, Folder 6

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Governor John Martin to Colonel A. B. Campbell



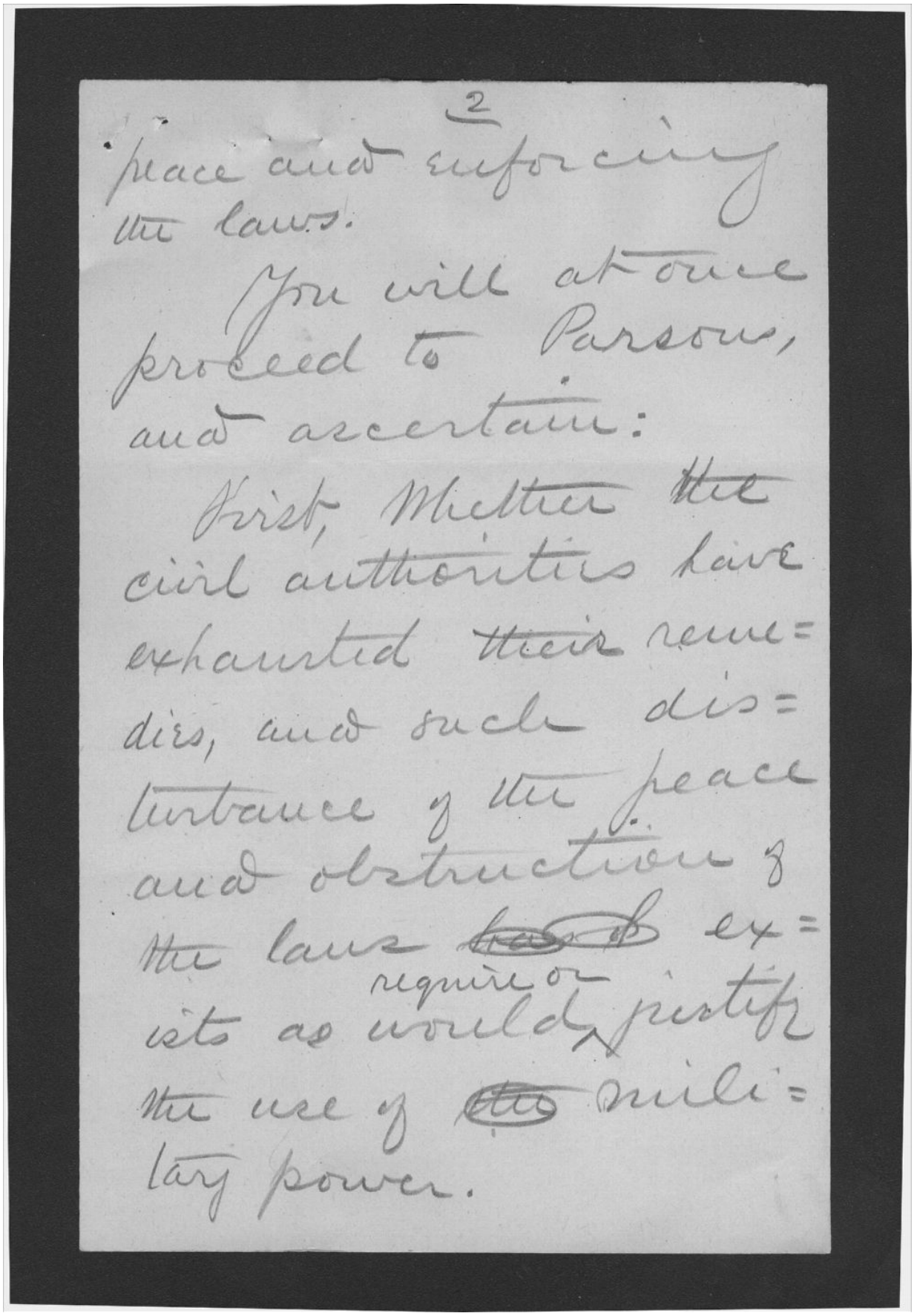
Atchison, Mch. 14th

Col. A. B. Campbell:-

Topeka, Kansas:

Sheriff of Labette Co., Kansas, telegraphs me that there is, in Parsons, an unlawful assembly of men, defying and resisting the enforcement of law, and asks that a military force be sent there, to aid him in preserving the

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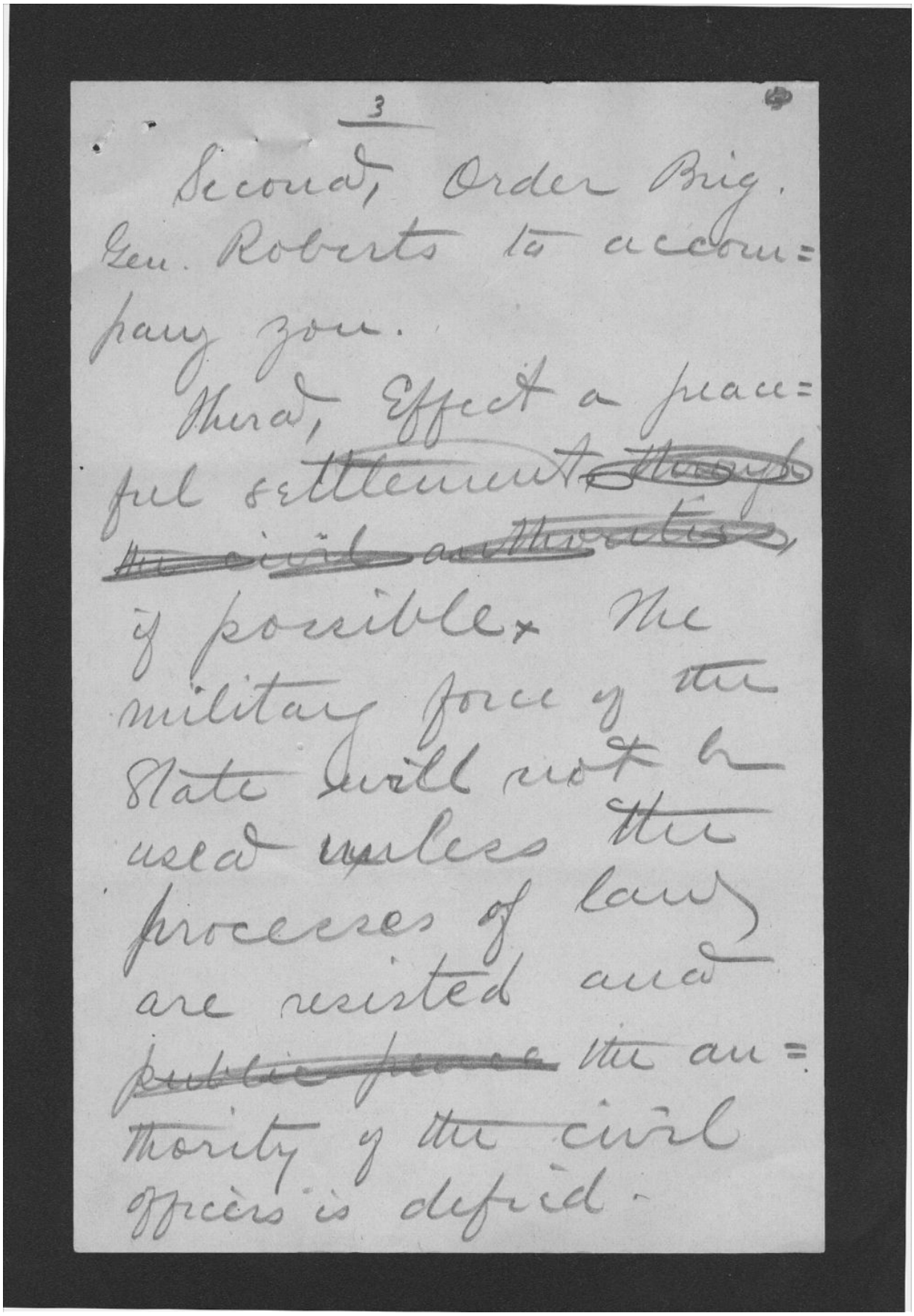
2

peace and enforcing
the laws.

You will at once
proceed to Parsons,
and ascertain:

First, Whether the
civil authorities have
exhausted their reme=
dies, and such dis=
turbance of the peace
and obstruction of
the laws ~~as~~ ex=
ists as would require or justify
the use of ~~the~~ mili=
tary power.

Governor John Martin to Colonel A. B. Campbell

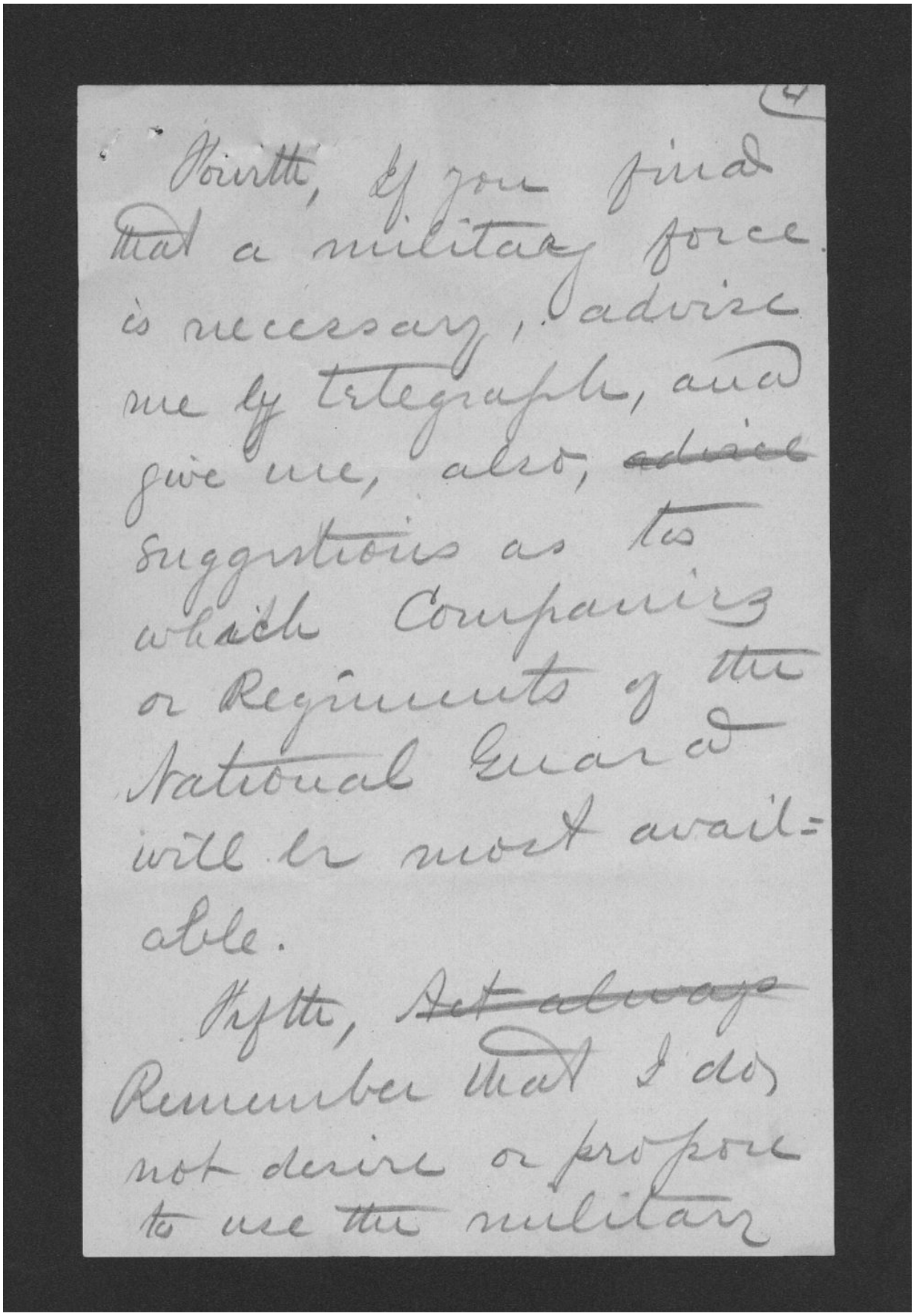


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Second, Order Brig. Gen. Roberts to accompany you.

Third, Effect a peaceful settlement ~~through civil authorities~~, if possible. The military force of the State will not be used unless the processes of law are resisted and ~~public force~~ the authority of the civil officers is defied.

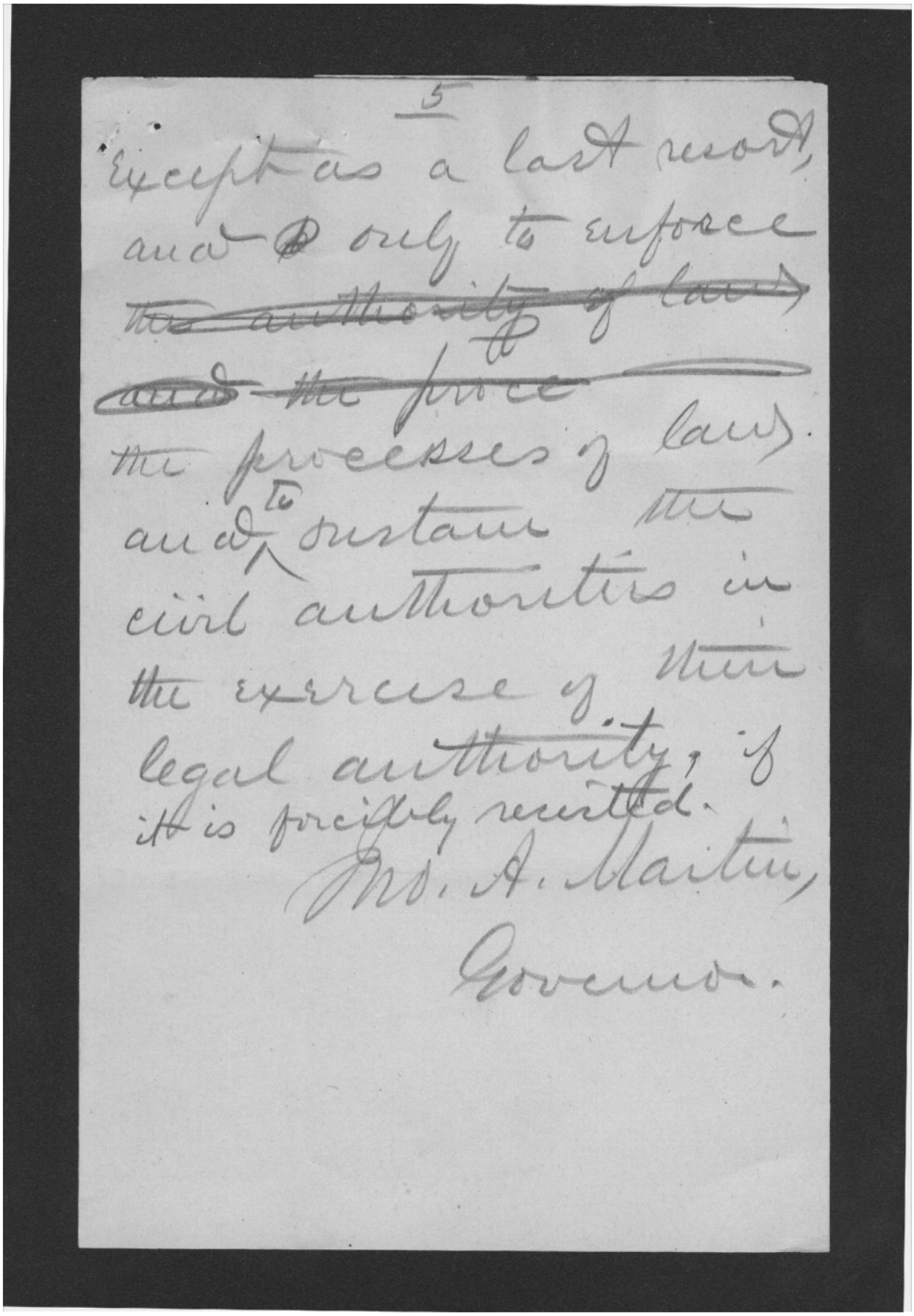
Governor John Martin to Colonel A. B. Campbell



Fourth, If you find that a military force is necessary, advise me by telegraph, and give me, also, ~~advice~~ suggestions as to which Companies or Regiments of the National Guard will be most available.

Fifth, ~~Act always~~ Remember that I do not desire or propose to use the military

Governor John Martin to Colonel A. B. Campbell

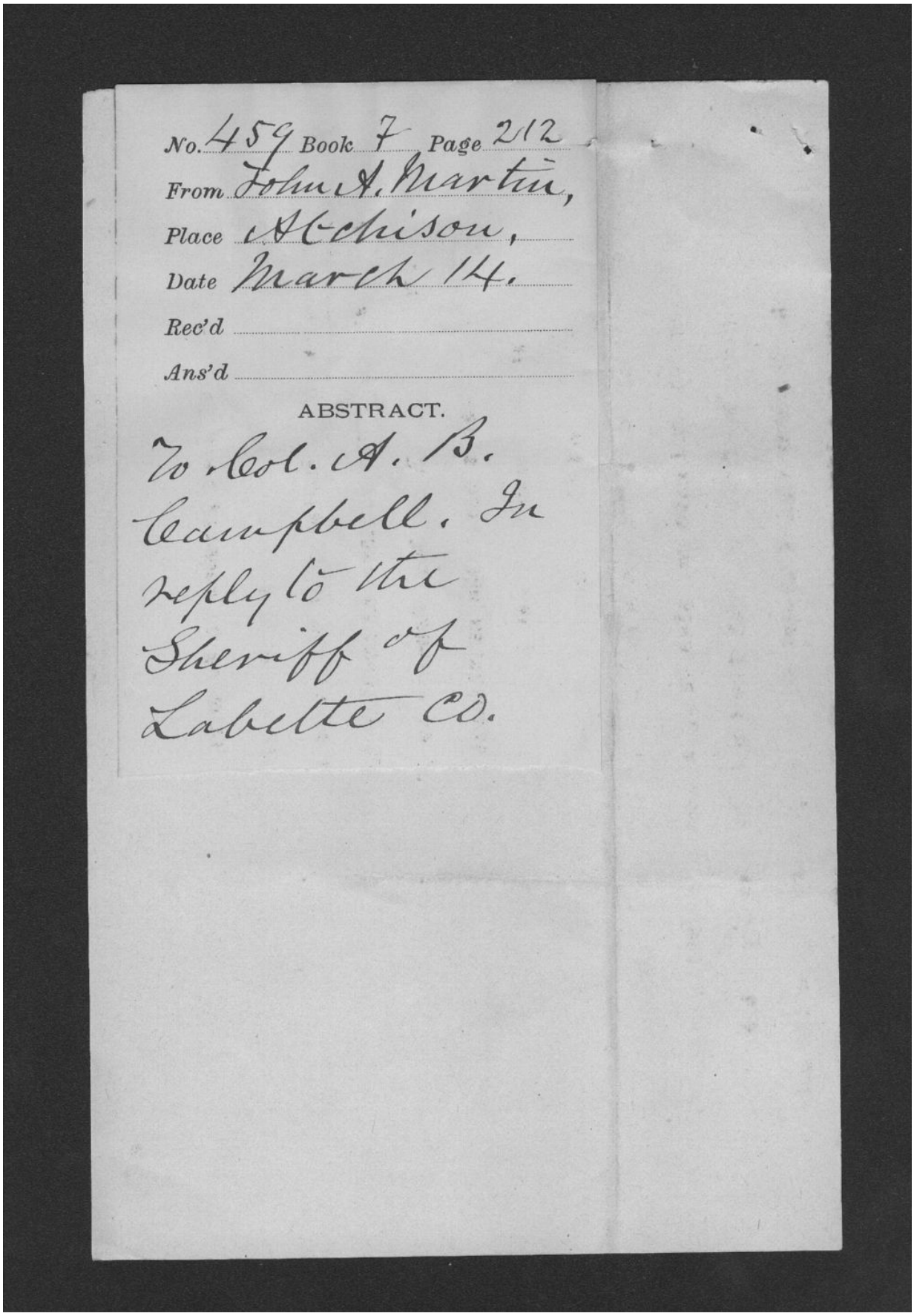


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Except as a last resort, and only to enforce ~~the authority of laws and the force~~ the processes of laws. and to sustain the civil authorities in the exercise of their legal authority, if it is properly invoked.

Jno. A. Martin,
Governor.

Governor John Martin to Colonel A. B. Campbell



No. 459 Book 7 Page 212
From John A. Martin,
Place Atchison,
Date March 14.
Rec'd
Ans'd

ABSTRACT.

To Col. A. B. Campbell. In reply to the Sheriff of Labette Co.