

## Henry Kuhn collection, loose correspondence

### Section 25, Pages 721 - 750

Correspondence forms the bulk of this collection. There are small gaps in this series. The years of 1872, 1873, and 1874 are missing; as are the years 1878 to 1884. However, the years that are available shed light on most of Kuhn's personal and professional dealings both as a civilian and as a military officer. Various correspondents comprise the letters both received and sent by Henry Kuhn, which include both the famous and the common man. The voucher stubs give summary information regarding military meat purchases at Fort Leavenworth Kansas. Henry Kuhn was born in Franklin County, Pennsylvania, on February 2nd, 1830. In 1854 he moved his family to Atchison County, Kansas Territory, where he was the first superintendent of public instruction, county surveyor, and helped organize the First National Bank. Kuhn enlisted in the Eighth Kansas Infantry in September 1861. He served under Colonel John A. Martin (Kansas Governor 1885 - 1889) until the end of the war. His last active rank was commissioned Captain. From 1865 to 1891 he resided at Fort Leavenworth where he organized the German Savings Bank, built the city's first railroad, and was chief clerk and acting agent for the Indian agency in Indian Territory (Oklahoma). Then he moved to Marion County where he farmed and raised stock. In 1890 he began publishing the "Marion Times." In February 1899 he moved back to Atchison and published the "Atchison Champion." In the autumn of 1899 he moved to Topeka where he died June 11th, 1900.

Creator: Kuhn, Henry, 1830-1900

Date: 1864-1898

Callnumber: Henry Kuhn Papers #411, Box 1 Folders 1-15

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Item Identifier: 212589

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Henry Kuhn collection, loose correspondence

we can. If you can possibly do  
this please accommodate me, and it  
will be a great accommodation. I  
know it is asking a great deal of  
you but I hope you will not lose  
any thing by it in the end. Whether  
you can, or can not, please telegraph  
me to Box 278, so that I can get  
it Saturday or Sunday. And know what  
I can depend on. If you can give  
me this accommodation you shall  
never lose any thing by it, and I  
hope to be able to repay you in some  
way before long. Please don't neglect  
to telegraph, and write me at least  
afterwards.

Mrs. Graham sends best respects  
to you and family, and says she  
would be glad to see you, at any  
time. Hoping to hear from you  
immediately I remain your friend  
James H. Graham



Henry Kuhn collection, loose correspondence

Bettendorf, M.

New Chicago Kans  
April 27<sup>th</sup> 1871

Dear Mr. H. Kuhn

Yours of the 25<sup>th</sup> inst has just been received and in reply to say that your letter enclosing blank note for \$12.60<sup>00</sup> was recd and the note signed about ten days ago and sent to you without delay, and should the letter have been misarrived I will make another note and send it as soon as I hear from you.

I received a letter from Mr. J. P. Prader, the man who has been living to the house since about 2 months, in which he says that he has rented it for 8 dollars but the costs for repairs - and the fence & board door had cost 11 dollars. further more he says that somebody wants to buy it and wants me to state terms.

If I could get anything near what it cost me and safely the same on my note that would be a heavy weight off my mind and since you have full power of attorney, I wish you would say him.

I wrote in my last letter that I would probably go to Brown about 20 miles from here the terminus of the Sedalia R.R. and see what was going on there. I went down



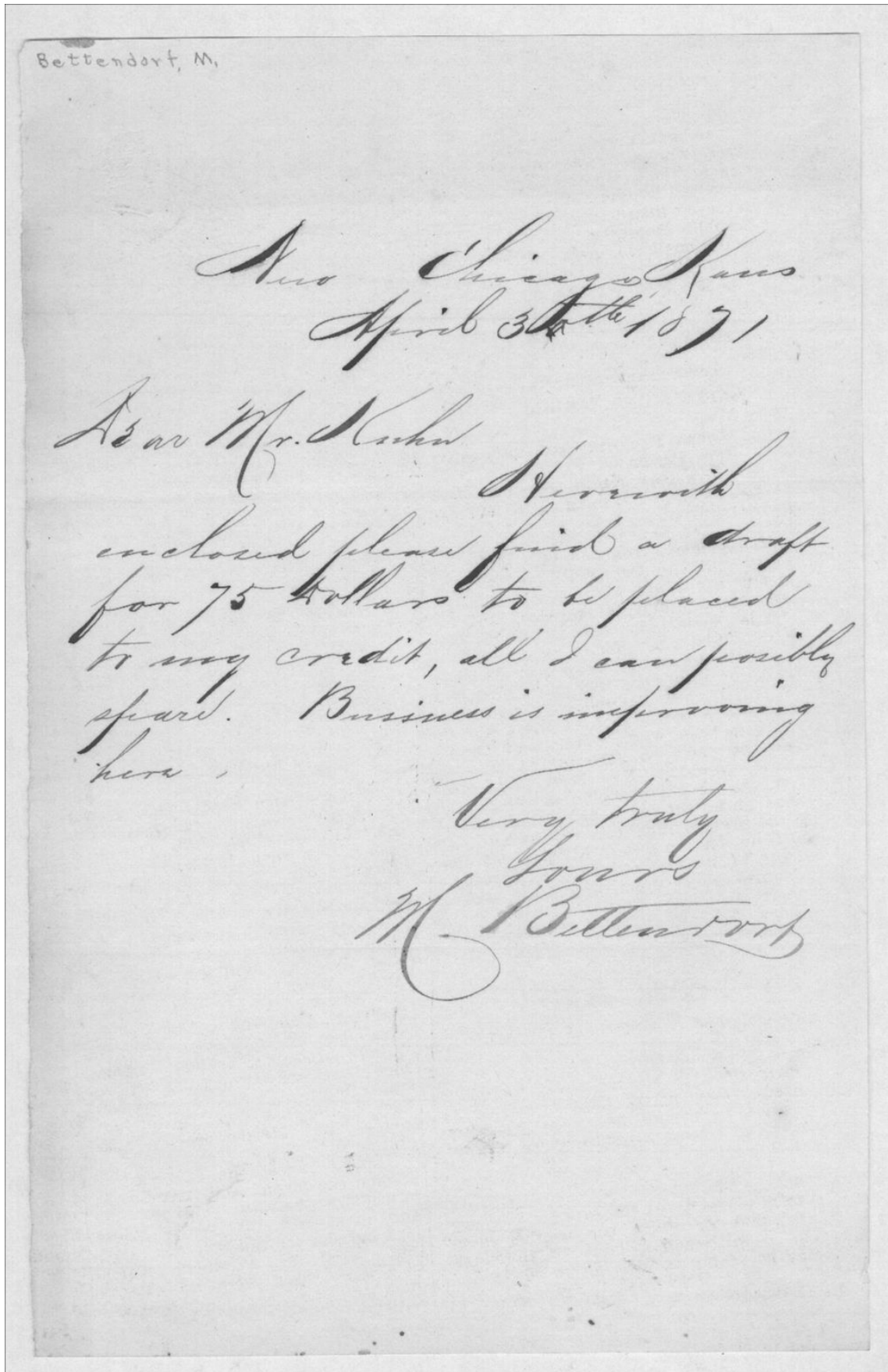
## Henry Kuhn collection, loose correspondence

then a week ago but I am not favorably  
impressed with its further prospect.  
In regard to your inquiry about  
those books I am unable to say how  
it would be. business being so depressed  
at present that it is hard to tell what  
to do. what money there was in the  
Country has very near all been used  
to pay for the land at Humboldt  
 Hoping that my letter  
containing the note has arrived  
I remain yours  
Truly  
J. Pettendorf





Henry Kuhn collection, loose correspondence





Henry Kuhn collection, loose correspondence

Ingalls, John J.

9/37

OFFICE OF  
JOHN J. INGALLS,  
ATTORNEY AT LAW.

Atchison, Kansas, 5/24/ 1871.

Harry Kuhn, Esq.  
Fort Leav<sup>th</sup> Kansas.

My Dear Sir:

I see that the  
L.M. advertises for 3000 Cords hard  
wood. I have 1000 Cords that I  
could deliver on R. R. track, or on  
river bank near Sumner. = At what  
price are Contracts usually let? -

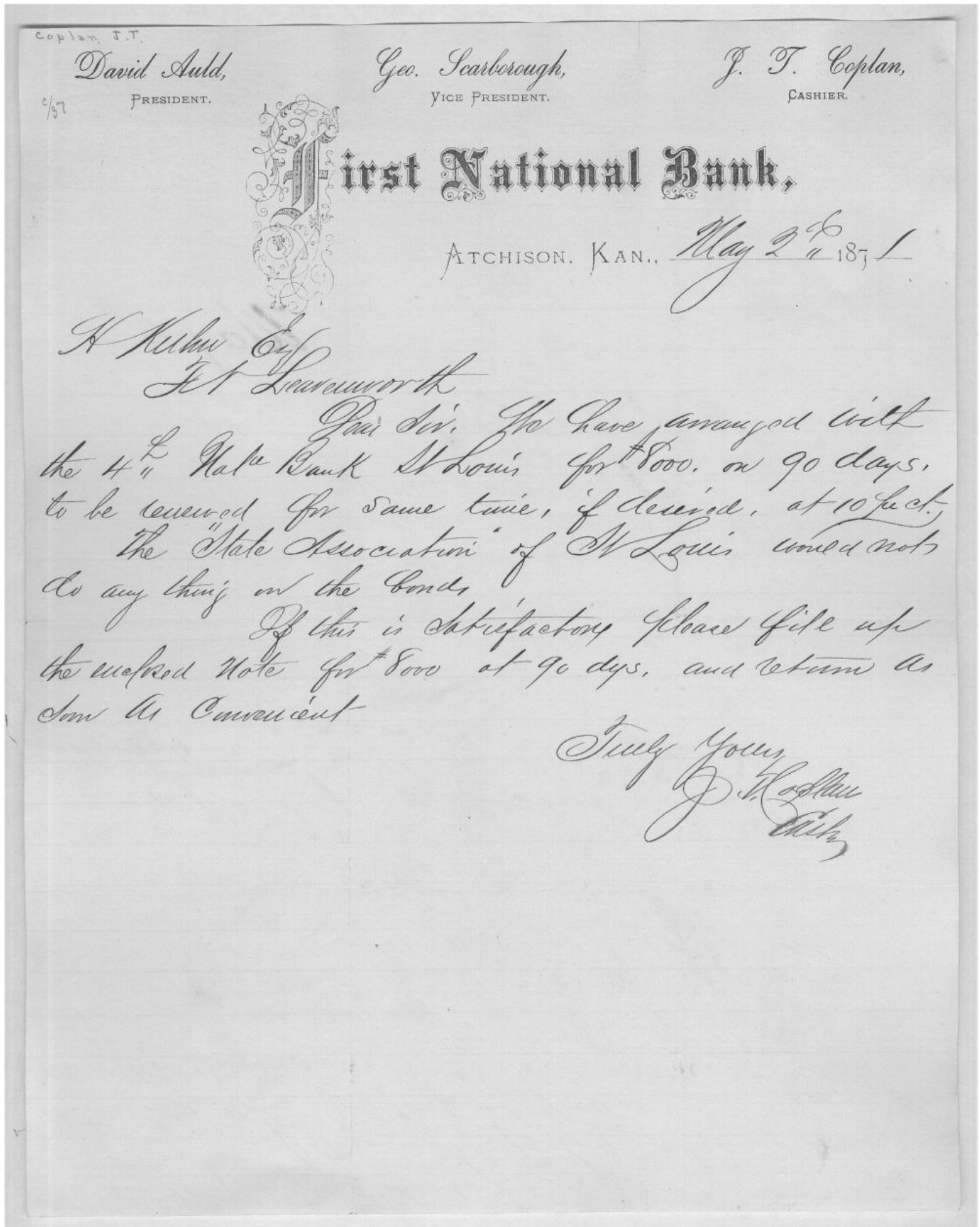
I want you to manage so that I  
can dispose of it. Either by bid, or by  
sale to a Contractor. I will pay very  
liberally, Either by dividing all above  
a low figure for the wood, by per  
cent on amount of sale, or by a gross  
sum as Compensation. Please let me  
hear from you by early mail.

Very Truly yours:

John J. Ingalls.



Henry Kuhn collection, loose correspondence



## Henry Kuhn collection, loose correspondence

Spratley, John W.

Dear Sir May 3 1871

H Kuhn Esq

Dear Sir

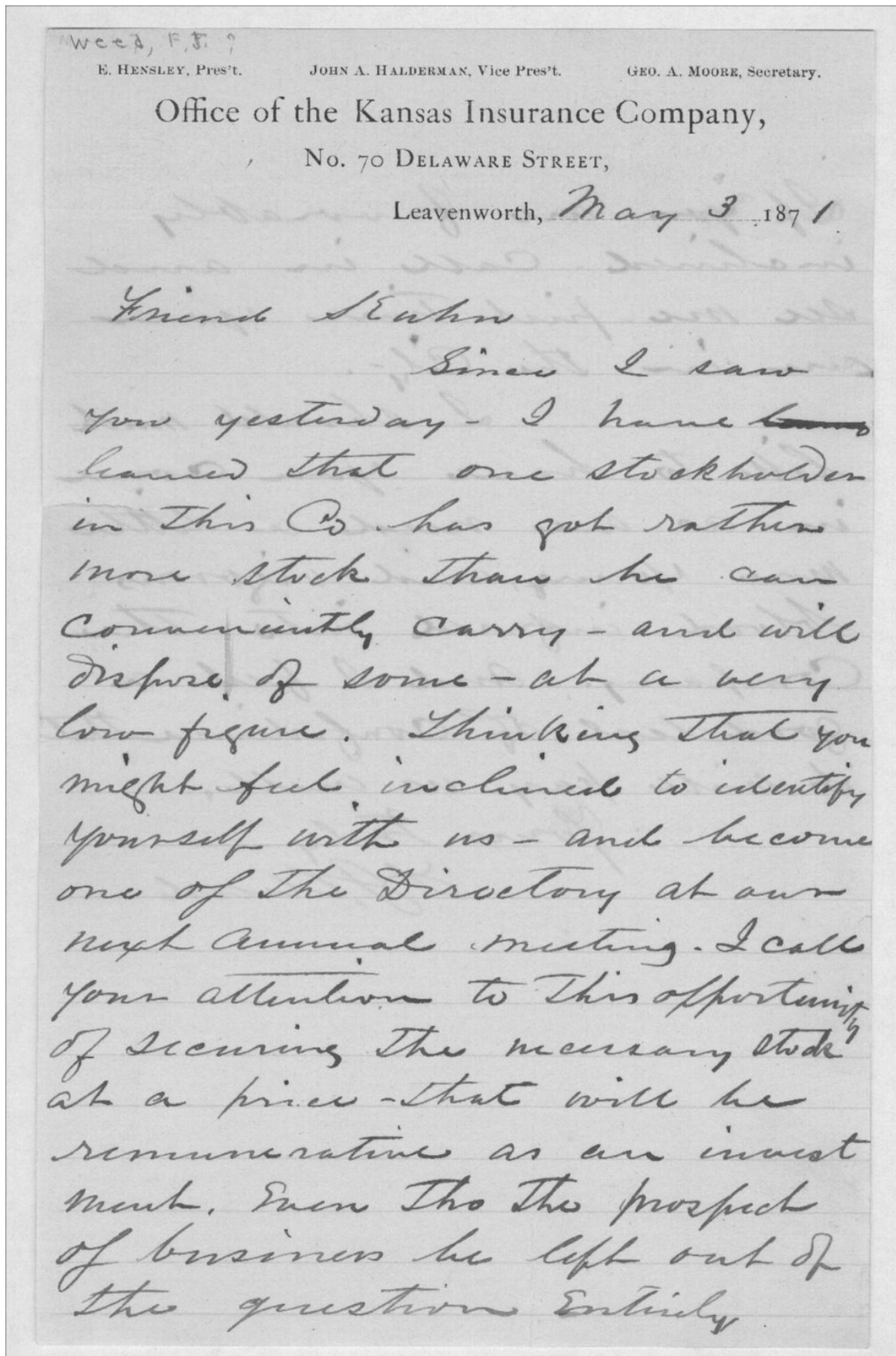
I have made  
no disposition of Loh in "B. 7" as yet.  
Would like for you to have them

Very Respectfully  
J. W. Spratley





## Henry Kuhn collection, loose correspondence





## Henry Kuhn collection, loose correspondence

If you are favorably  
inclined. Call in and  
see me - first time you  
are in the City.

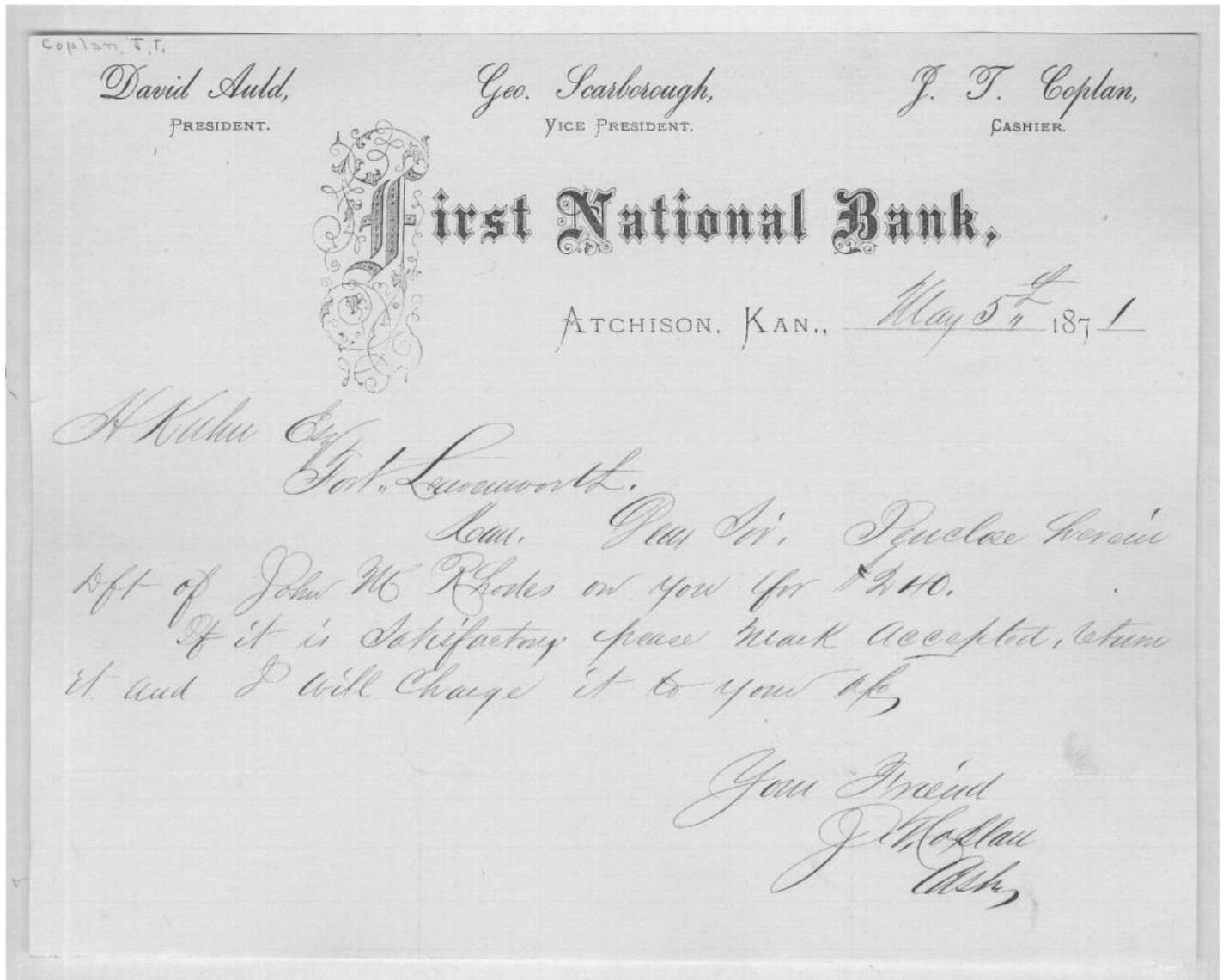
I should much  
like to have you come  
in - as we need a little  
more young, and vigorous  
blood infused into the  
Company. And I put a  
good deal of confidence that  
it will pay us well.

Yours Truly

J. H. Kuhn



## Henry Kuhn collection, loose correspondence



Henry Kuhn collection, loose correspondence

Comstock, D.

SCOTT & CO., BANKERS,

Leavenworth, *May 5<sup>th</sup>* 1871.

*Mr. A. Kuhn*

*Port Leavenworth.*

*My dear Sir.*

*Last evening you  
slipped out of the meeting, before  
I knew it, as I wished to pay  
you the money Mr Joyce gave  
me to pay his dues, and I  
have therefore deposited \$6.- to  
your credit today with the  
German Savings Bank, which  
I trust will be satisfactory to  
you. -*

*Very Truly Yours  
D. C. Comstock*





Henry Kuhn collection, loose correspondence

Wright, Tho.

Office of Kansas Department of the  
LIFE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA.

Leavenworth, Kan., May 8<sup>th</sup> 1871

H. Kuhn Esq.  
J. Leavenworth

Dear Sir:

Please take notice that the regular monthly  
meeting of the Directors of the Kansas Department of the LIFE ASSO-  
CIATION OF AMERICA, will take place at this office on *wednesday*  
*even'g next 10th inst* at half past seven when  
I trust you can make it convenient to attend. I am

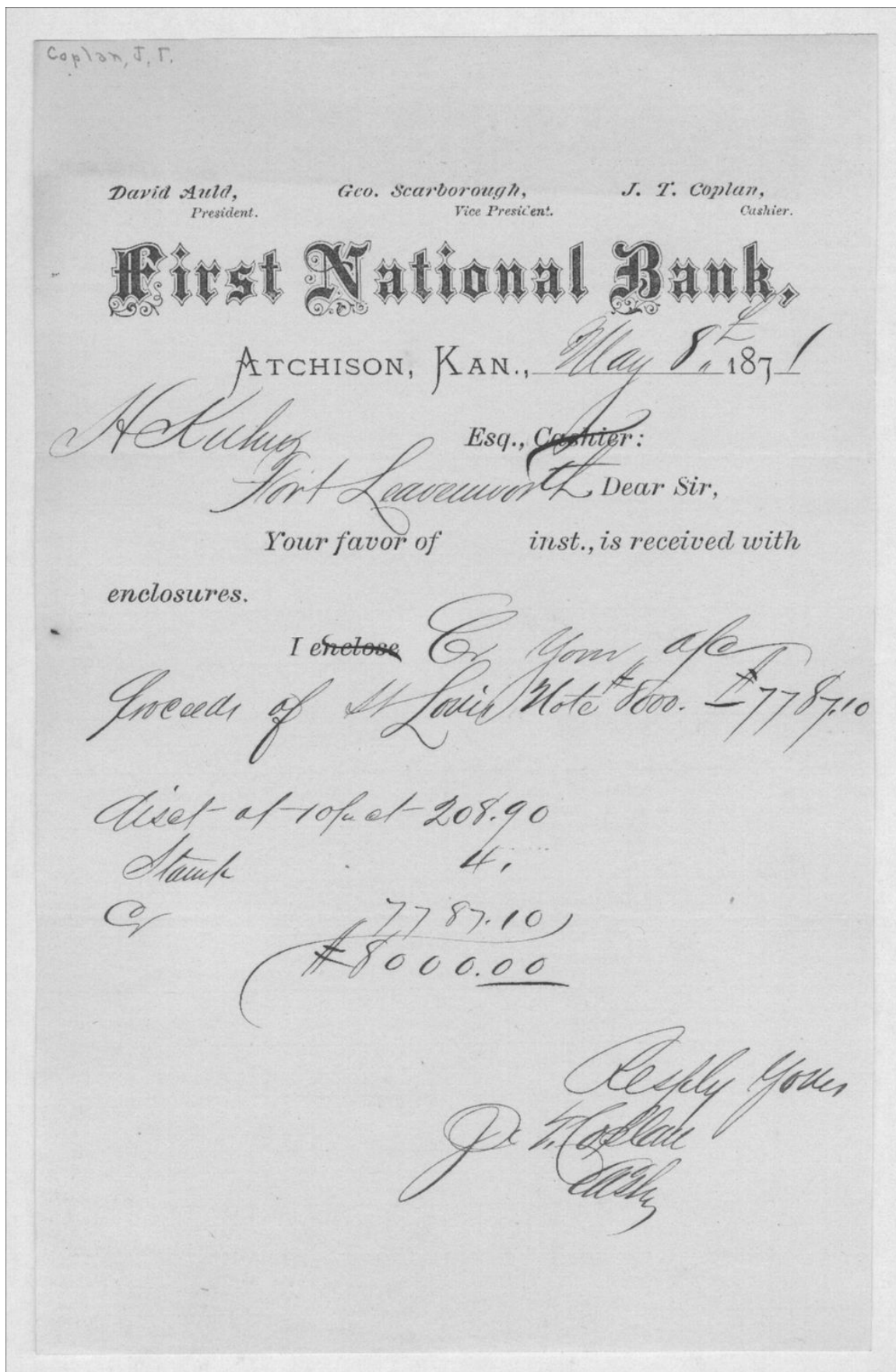
Very respectfully,

Th. Wright

Secretary.



## Henry Kuhn collection, loose correspondence







## Henry Kuhn collection, loose correspondence

Kuhn, H.

Blank No. 1.

**THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY.**

The rules of this Company require that all messages received for transmission, shall be written on the message blanks of the Company, under and subject to the conditions printed thereon, which conditions have been agreed to by the sender of the following message.

ANSON STAGER, Gen'l Sup't, }  
CHICAGO, ILL. } WILLIAM ORTON, Pres't, } NEW YORK.  
O. H. PALMER, Sec'y. }

Dated Chicago Ill May 13 1871

Received at Keokukworth May 13 139 pm

To Carl Moller

German Savings Bank

Will send the W & S Quick

Machine dont suit me -

H. Kuhn

Fremont House

10 paid

CHAS. HOLLAND

GEORGE A. FREAR.

J. APPLETON WILSON.



**Holland, Frear & Wilson,**  
SOLE OWNERS OF THE PATENT RIGHTS FOR THE

**FREAR ARTIFICIAL STONE,**

THE CHEAPEST AND BEST BUILDING MATERIAL IN USE.

**No. 86 MADISON STREET. TRIBUNE BUILDING.**

*Chicago, May 16 1891*

*W. Kuhn Esq  
My Dear Sir*

*I find by of your date  
on my desk and regret exceedingly  
that I could not see you - I wish  
you could stop over tomorrow  
and see some of the buildings we  
have and also visit the manufacturing here.  
Our Mr Frear is now in New York where  
we have large and prosperous interests,  
and it will be impossible for me to meet  
you this evening. I therefore have  
the pleasure of introducing the  
dear Mr My Partner Mr J. A. Wilson.  
who is as thoroughly informed  
of matters pertaining to our  
affairs and also as cognizant  
of the status of the business here  
as I am myself. He is interesting*

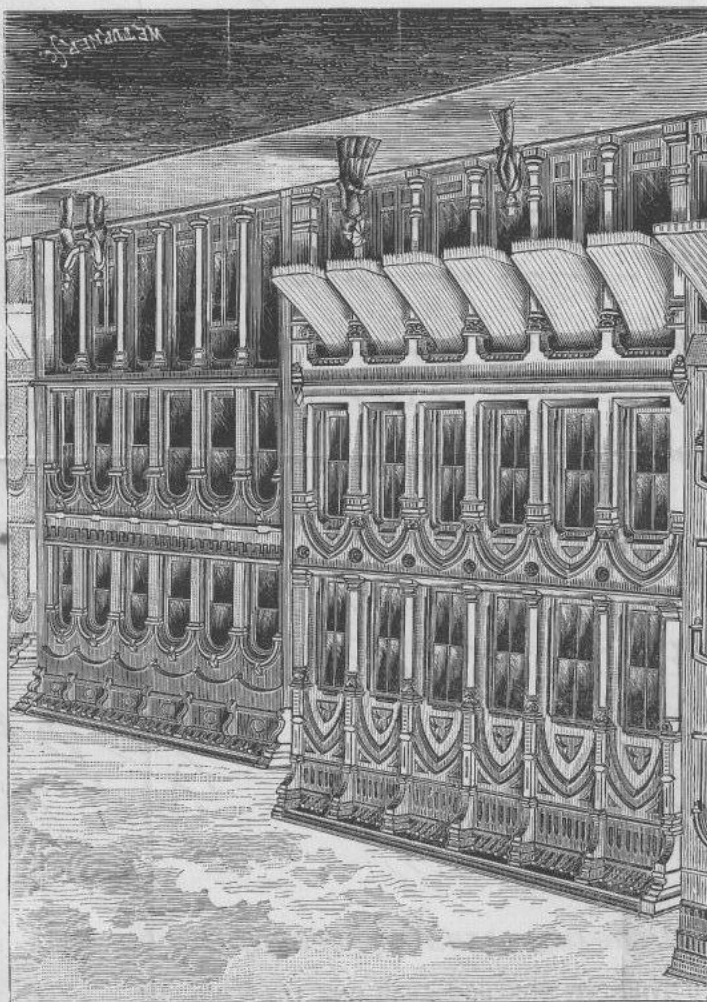


## Henry Kuhn collection, loose correspondence

to visit at Hutchinson sooner as it is found  
necessary in order to further the  
mutual interests of the Kansas people  
adieu

Respectfully A. Hallam

LEMBARD BLOCK, TOLEDO, OHIO,  
BUILT OF THE CELEBRATED FEAR STONE,  
THE CORNICE ALSO OF FEAR STONE.







Henry Kuhn collection, loose correspondence

Price, John L.

Junction City  
May 26. 1871.

H Kuhn Esq  
Fort Leavenworth.

Dear Sir,

In reply to yours of the 23<sup>rd</sup> inst; I would advise your brother in law, not to buy until the close of the season, say after the 20<sup>th</sup> of Sept, when remnants of herds are always cheap. As by that time the Texans want to get home, and generally take what they can get for what they have left on hand. There have been but few sales as yet at 3<sup>rd</sup> gross which will be about the market price this season for Beeres & Fat Cows. Breeding Cows will probably range from \$18.<sup>00</sup> to \$24.<sup>00</sup> and Yearlings from \$4. to \$18.<sup>00</sup> I will write you again in about 30 days, by which time I will be able to give you more positive information about the Cattle market.

Yours truly  
John L. Price



## Henry Kuhn collection, loose correspondence

Marlin, Wm A.  
9/39

Leavenworth May 27. 1871

Sir, The Boardholders of the  
L A M W R R Company are requested  
to meet at the Company's Office  
on Monday evening next (May 29)  
at 7 1/2 o'clock

Respectfully  
Wm A Marlin  
for Secy

H Kuhn J

Henry Kuhn collection, loose correspondence

clough, A.

Fort Reynolds, Ct.

May 29. 1871

H. Kuhn Esq.  
Fort Leavenworth, Mo.

"Dear Sir"

Yours of the 23<sup>rd</sup> inst. is to hand. In regard to Friend Dunnetts affairs, so far as I know they are the same as when I last saw you. You will remember that he transferred a certain Mortgage & notes to me in writing, But as yet I have been unable to obtain possession, or ever ascertain who is in possession of them. I left my agent in Junction City, (Mr Gordon) instructions to take a copy of the Mortgage from Record and forward to you to get Dunnetts acknowledgement to it. But have not heard whether he done so or not. Still I hold myself responsible for one hundred Dollars of his account as I agreed to, which please Charge to me, & Credit him. I will pay you next time I come down which will be the latter part of June or early in July. Tell George Dunnett I telegraphed



Henry Kuhn collection, loose correspondence

to him from Junction before I  
left. telling him I could not find  
the mortgage & notes as Mr. Moller had  
stated, and the parties he referred  
me to, knew nothing of them, so which  
Telegram. I received no reply.

Remember me to Ece. and  
Kind regards to Mrs. Kuhn & Family.  
Should you learn any thing further  
in regard to the matter herein referred  
to, please let me know.

Yours Truly  
A. Blough.

Henry Kuhn collection, loose correspondence

Bettendorf, M.

New Chicago Kans.  
May 30<sup>th</sup> 1871

Dear Mr H. Kuhn

Yours of the 23<sup>d</sup> inst. has been received and enclose herewith Notes as required. That I have made a bad move in coming here under the circumstances that I did I have to acknowledge, but nevertheless have found a friend again here in the person of Mr W. Munz a very wealthy farmer and cattle dealer who has volunteered to assist me and is going on a trip with me west to see if we can find a place where business can be done, we will be gone probably 5 or 6 days and as soon as I return I will inform you of my success. Business in this place is getting worse every day. Mr Munz offered me his influence and name to get a large stock of goods here but I have declined to accept this offer because I can see no good in having a large stock of goods here where everything is overdone. In regard to reducing the debt I am sorry to say that I can not do anything for the present a brother-in-law of mine has a farm in Coffey County which he is trying to sell and as soon as he can effect a sale will let me have the money to straighten my affairs.

Very Respectfully

Yours truly  
M. Bettendorf



Henry Kuhn collection, loose correspondence

Coplan, J.T.

David Auld,  
PRESIDENT.

Geo. Scarborough,  
VICE PRESIDENT.

J. T. Coplan,  
CASHIER.



First National Bank,

ATCHISON, KAN.,

May 30<sup>th</sup> 1871

H Kuhn Esq  
Fort Leavenworth, Kan

Dear Sir. Circumstances render it necessary for me to sell my interest in the Taylor Farm, and before making an effort to sell to other parties I desire to give you the opportunity of taking my third, if desired by you, the cost of the fence will be about \$240. and after defraying that bill, there will probably be some \$250. or \$300. left from the proceeds of the lease.

While I am satisfied that a very handsome profit can be realized by holding the land yet I am not able to do so. Parties are holding the adjoining lands stiff at \$30 + 40 per acre but of course I expect to get nothing like these figures but will sell to you at low water mark, to be frank with you my salary does not permit engaging in speculation and having some introductions to meet I am obliged to part with a piece of property, which I consider very valuable and under other circumstances would like to keep.

Let me hear from you as soon as convenient with a proposition

Truly Yours,  
J. T. Coplan



Henry Kuhn collection, loose correspondence

JOHN H. MAXON President.  
JOHN G. SHELTON, Secretary.

Office Lindell Railway Co.

Cor. Washington Ave. and Third St.,

St. Louis, Mo., June 3 1871

Dr. D Kuhn.

In reply to the letter handed, we  
will say we have a surplus of  
second hand Cars & Wonses that  
we will sell from 350 to 450  
per Car.

Items of Cost of Road per mile	
50 Tons Rails 28 <sup>th</sup> per yard @ 75 per Ton	3750
24000 feet Pine Stringers @ 22 per m	528
26400 " " " "	580
Knocking ties	165
Planing Stringers	132
2800 Keys	84
2000 Angle Blocks	118
10000 Spikes	135
530 Plates	175
Nails & Spikes	50
	<hr/> \$5417. <sup>00</sup>





Henry Kuhn collection, loose correspondence

JOHN H. MAXON President.  
JOHN G. SHELTON, Secretary.

## Office Lindell Railway Co.

Cor. Washington Ave. and Third St.,

St. Louis, Mo., ..... 1871

The above estimate is for  
Material in Saint Louis. and  
then to this is to be added  
the Labor laying track which  
depends upon the ground from  
500. to 1800 per mile and  
then for each curve of  
90° or right angle about  
\$100 extra. \$7500 should  
cover most any ordinary  
route.

Yours truly,

John H. Maxon

June 5<sup>th</sup> 1871

Dear Sir

I suppose that you  
consider me delatory but I gave  
your letter to the Clerk of  
the Com. the same day that  
I received it.

Henry Kuhn collection, loose correspondence

I see that they only estimate  
for laying the track The State  
Necessary for running the road  
are 4 teams for each car

You are all well

Respectfully  
Samuel Kuhn

Love to all the family

John H. Kuhn

June 2, 1871



## Henry Kuhn collection, loose correspondence

McDowell, W. H.

Chamberburg  
June 3. 1871

H. Kuhn Esq.

Dear Sir.

Your favor was duly received. I felt disappointed when I found you were not on the train at Leavenworth. I passed through all the Cars to see if you were on the train. And I assure you I was disappointed when I could not see your pleasant smile.

I arrived at home the Wednesday after I left Kansas. Safe and sound. And found every thing moving in the usual quiet way, there being no more excitement than when I left.

My son will be located I think either in Coffey or Cowley County. I

Henry Kuhn collection, loose correspondence

may possibly be mistaken as to  
Crowly County, not having his last letter  
by me at writing. I hope your father  
will come across here when he visits  
that section of the State,

Thomas B Kennedy

and son and Brother, William L  
Chambers and young Sam, C. L. better  
started yesterday for the West, they  
expect to remain in Chicago over  
Sunday, from there they go to Iowa  
and then to Leavenworth, I think  
they intend visiting Southern Kansas  
before they return,

I take it for granted  
that your mother was better, as you  
said nothing about her in your  
letter,

I thank you for your kind  
invitation to make your house my  
head quarters when I again visit





Henry Kuhn collection, loose correspondence

your state. I shall never forget your kindness to me while at your house. Please remember me to Mrs. Kuhn, your father and mother.

Yours truly.

W. S. M. Donald

Henry Kuhn collection, loose correspondence

Bettendorf, M.

**M. Bettendorf,**

DEALER IN

**Groceries, Provisions, Fruit,**

Wooden and Willow Ware. Liquors, Tobaccos and Cigars.

Fourth Street, between High and Junction,

New Chicago, Kan., June 5<sup>th</sup> 1871

Dear Mr. H. Kuhn

Beaver

of this Mr. You have passed  
by here, and having returned  
from the trip I spoke of  
in my last, I have to  
say that I am afraid  
to make an other move.  
The Mr. Munz that I  
mentioned in my last letter  
still adheres to me and  
says that he will do  
almost anything for me  
if a place can be found  
where business can be done



Henry Kuhn collection, loose correspondence

he has ample means to do so,  
but I do not require  
anything of the kind  
unless I can see my way  
clear. It is unfortunate  
for me as well as <sup>for</sup> you the  
way it is at present  
Hoping that you  
will not crush me  
before I have  
tried everything  
in my power  
I am truly yours  
W. Bittencourt

Mr. C. A. Trapp was here  
about three weeks ago and  
I lend him \$10<sup>00</sup> which,  
if you see fit collect.