Frederick Chouteau to W. W. Cone correspondence

In this correspondence between Frederick Chouteau and W. W. Cone, Chouteau addresses a number of questions that Cone had submitted to him regarding Chouteau's years among the Native Americans of Kansas. Selling weapons, furs, blankets, alcohol, and other items to the Kansa tribe made Chouteau a wealthy man like the rest of the Chouteau family who had made their name and fortune in the fur trade.

Creator: Chouteau, Frederick

Date: May 05, 1880-November 25, 1880

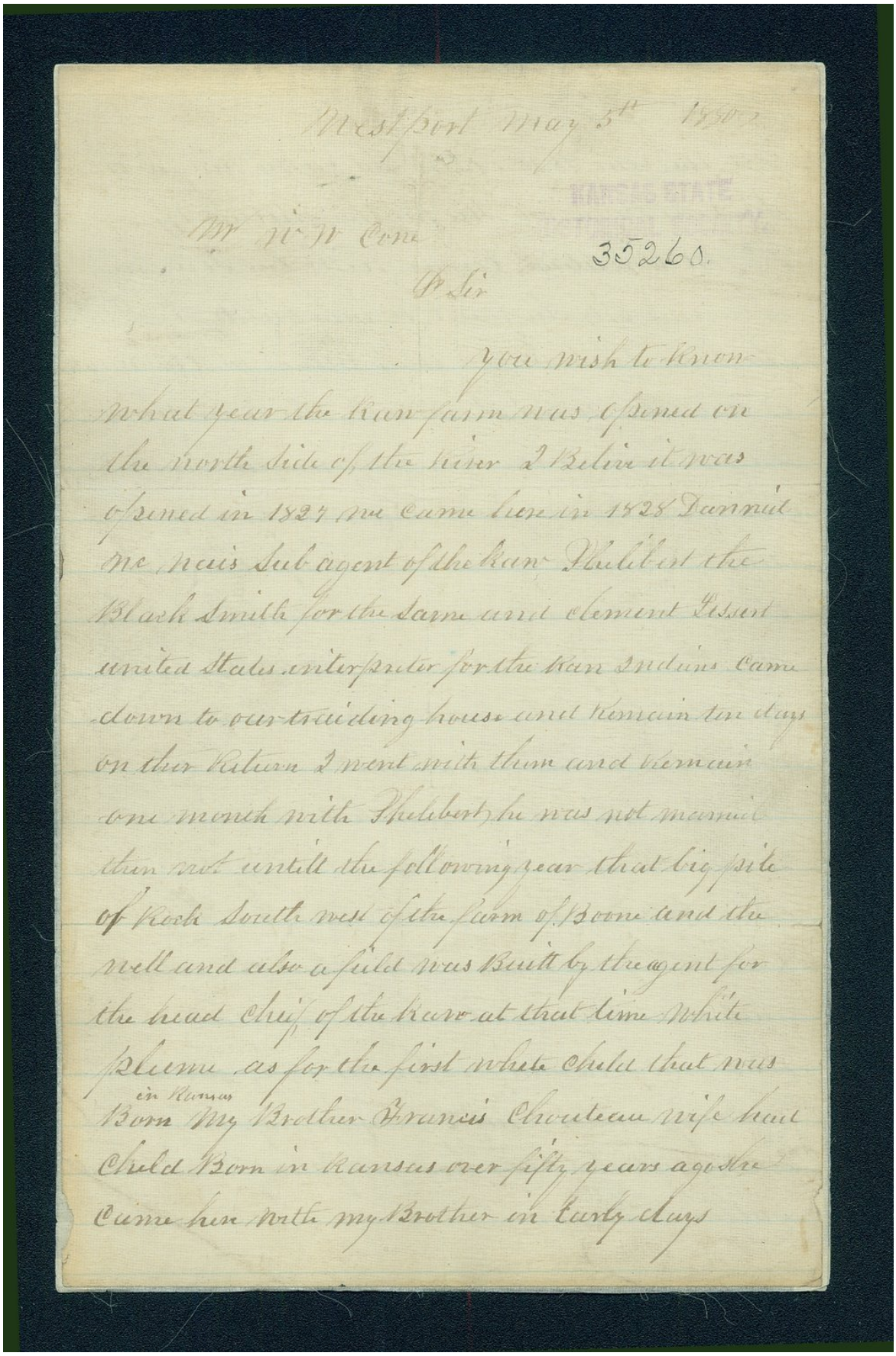
Callnumber: Indians history collection, #590, Box 3 Folder Kansa: Chouteau, Frederick

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Frederick Chouteau to W. W. Cone correspondence



Westport May 5th 1880

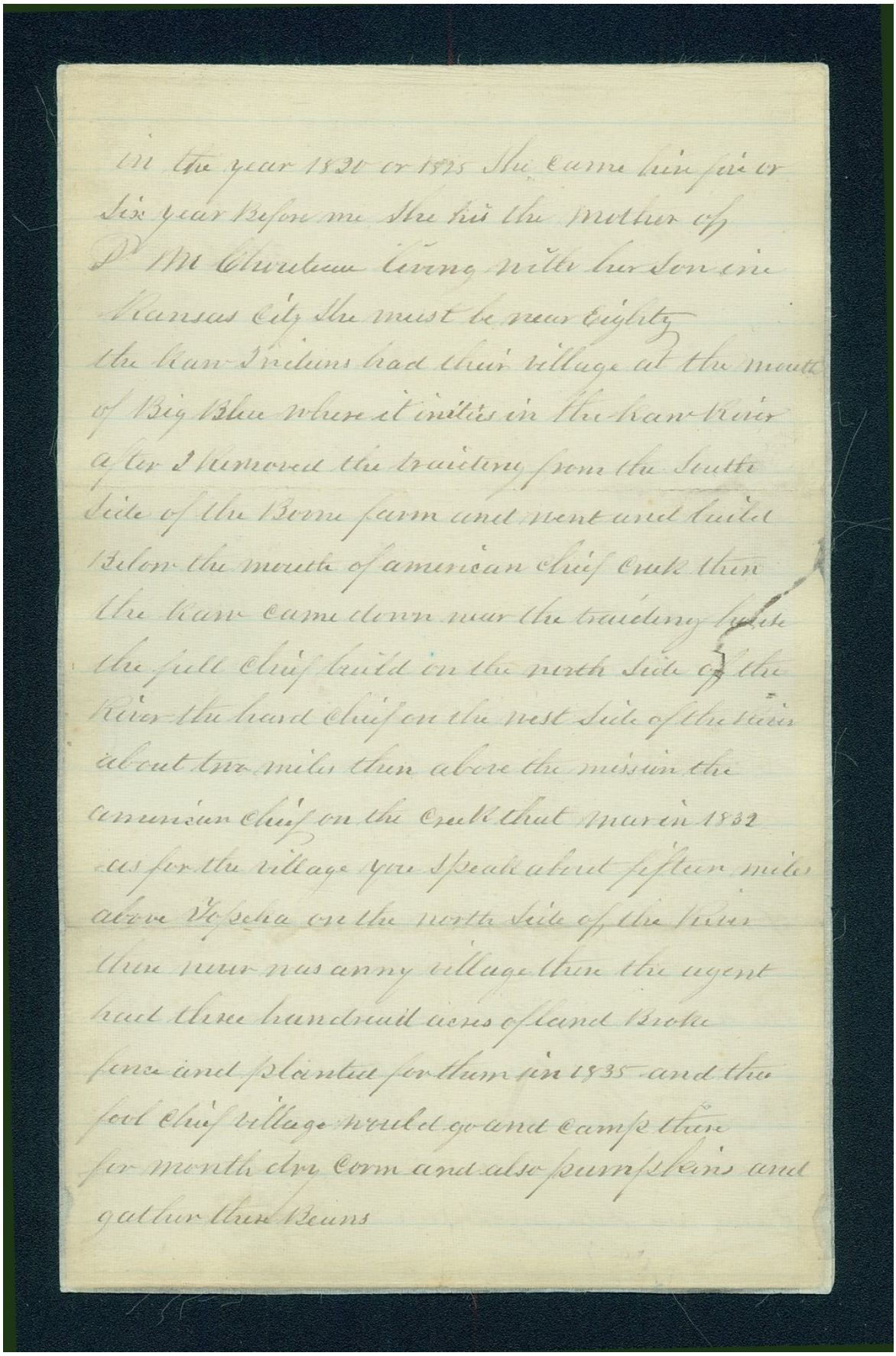
Mr W W Cone

35260.

P Sir

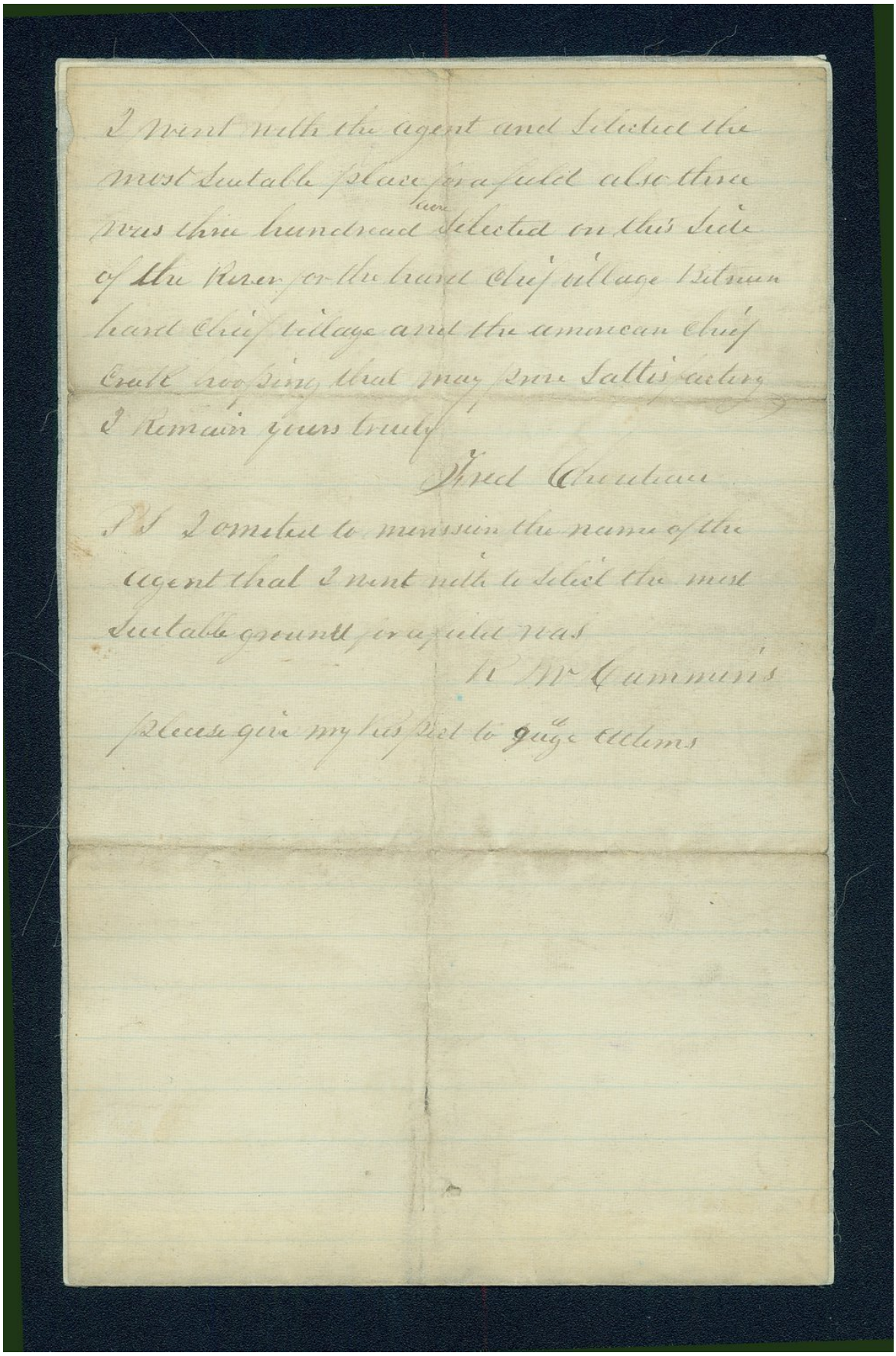
you wish to know what year the Kan farm was opened on the north side of the river & Below it was opened in 1827 me came here in 1828 Dannid Mc Nair Sub agent of the Kan Shubert the Black Smith for the farm and clement Tissut united States interpreter for the Kan Indians came down to our trading house and remain ten days on their Return I went with them and remain one month with Shubert, he was not married then not until the following year that big pile of Rock South west of the farm of Boone and the well and also a fild was Built by the agent for the head Chief of the Kaws at that time White Plume as for the first white Child that was Born in Kansas My Brother Francis Chouteau wife had Child Born in Kansas over fifty years ago she came here with my Brother in Early days

Frederick Chouteau to W. W. Cone correspondence



In the year 1830 or 1825 She came here five or
Six year before me She is the mother of
Dr M Chouteau living with her Son in
Kansas City She must be near Eighty
the Kan Indians had their village at the mouth
of Big Blue where it unites in the Kan River
after I removed the trading from the South
Side of the Borne farm and went and build
Below the mouth of american Chief Creek then
the Kaw came down near the trading house
the full Chief build on the north Side of the
River the hard Chief on the west Side of the river
about two miles then above the mission the
american Chief on the Creek that year in 1832
as for the village you Speak about fifteen miles
above Weshea on the north Side of the River
there never was anny village there the agent
had three hundred acres of land Broke
fence and planted for them in 1835 and the
red Chief village would go and Camp there
for month dry Corn and also pumpkins and
gather there Beans

Frederick Chouteau to W. W. Cone correspondence



I went with the agent and selected the most suitable place for a field also three were three hundread selected on this side of the River or the hard Chief village Isiman hard Chief village and the american Chief Cabb two sing that may suit Satisfactory I Remain yours truly

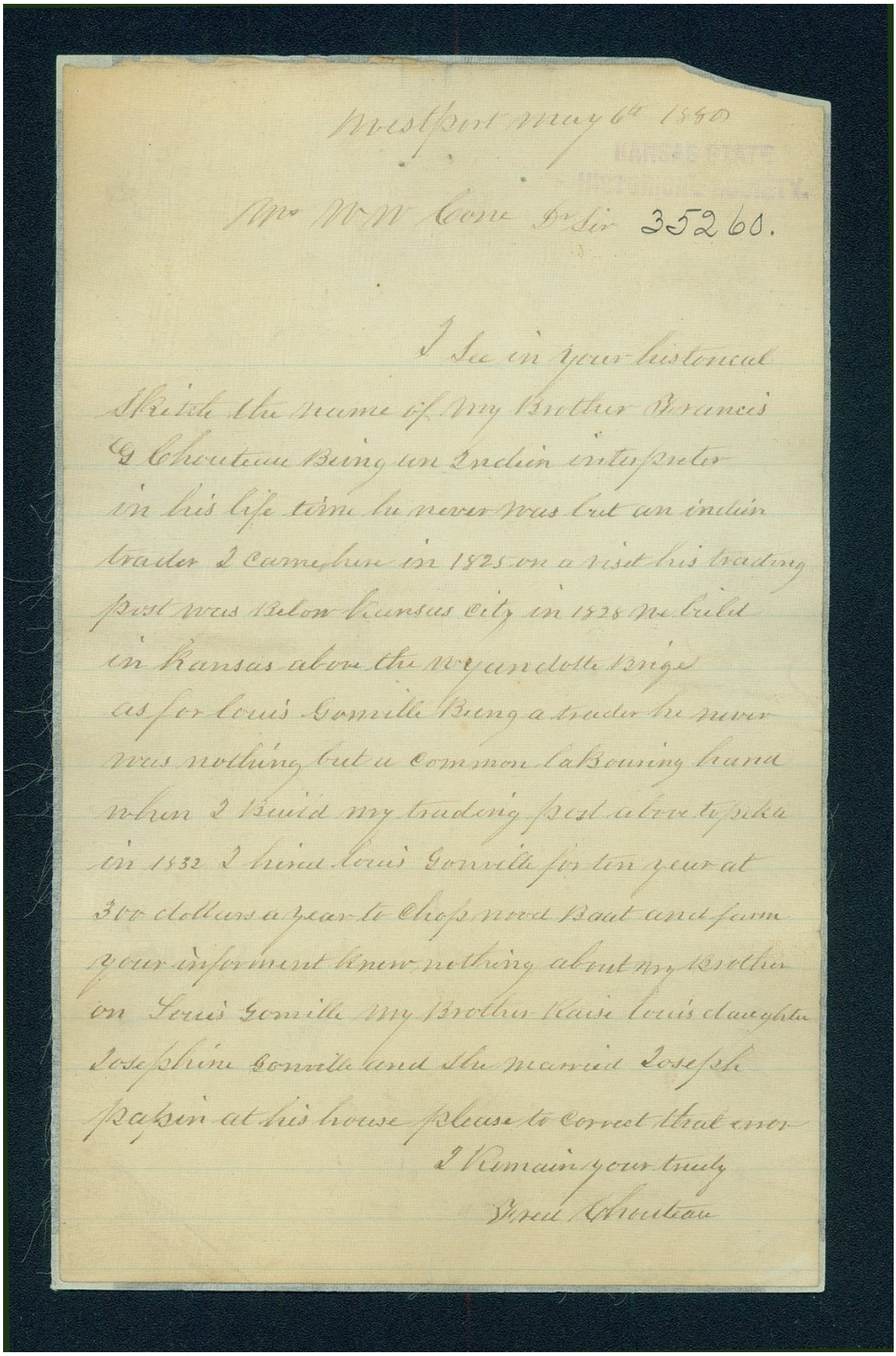
Fred Chouteau

P S I omited to mension the name of the agent that I went with to select the most suitable ground for a field was

H McCummins

please give my kind Respect to Judge Adams

Frederick Chouteau to W. W. Cone correspondence



Westport may 6th 1860

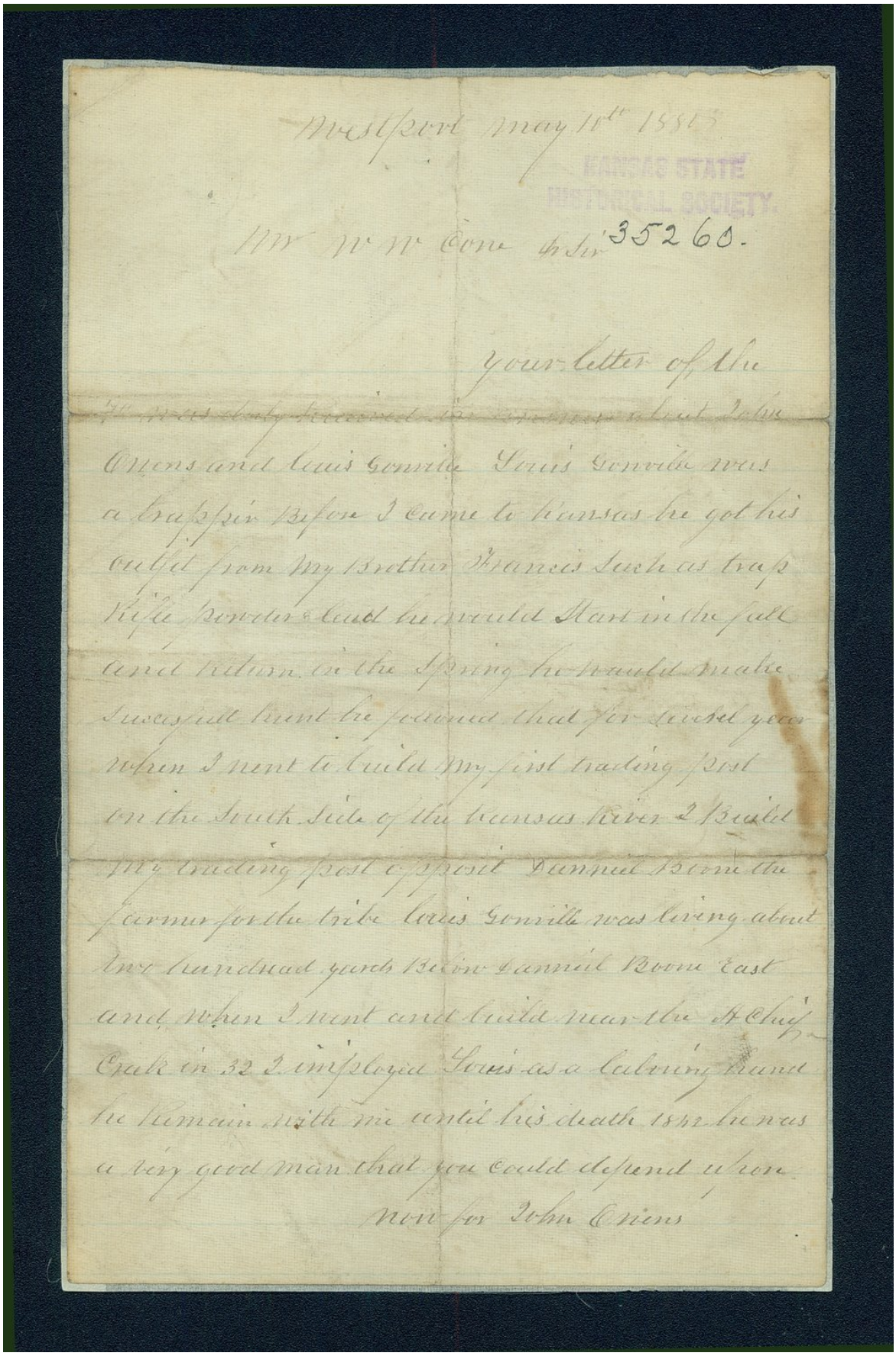
Mr W W Cone Dr Sir 35260.

I See in your historical Sketch the name of My Brother Francis G Chouteau Being an Indian interpreter in his life time he never was but an indian trader I came here in 1825 on a visit his trading post was Below Kansas city in 1828 he build in Kansas above the Weyandotte Binge as for Louis Gonville Being a trader he never was nothing but a Common laBouring hand when I Build my trading post above Topika in 1832 I hired Louis Gonville for ten year at 300 dollars a year to Chop wood Boat and farm your informent Knew nothing about my Brother on Louis Gonville My Brother Kaise Louis daughter Josephine Gonville and She married Joseph Papin at his house please to Correct that error

I Remain your truly

Fred Chouteau

Frederick Chouteau to W. W. Cone correspondence



Westport May 11th 1886

KANSAS STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Mr W. W. Cone Indn 35260.

your letter of the

[illegible] was duly received in answer about John

Owens and Louis Gonville Louis Gonville was

a trapper before I came to Kansas he got his

outfit from my Brother Francis such as traps

Rifle powder and he would start in the fall

and return in the Spring he would make

successful hunt he joined that for several years

when I went to build my first trading post

on the South Side of the Kansas River & Build

My trading post & post Council Room the

farms for the tribe Louis Gonville was living about

two hundred yards below Council Room East

and when I went and build near the A Chief

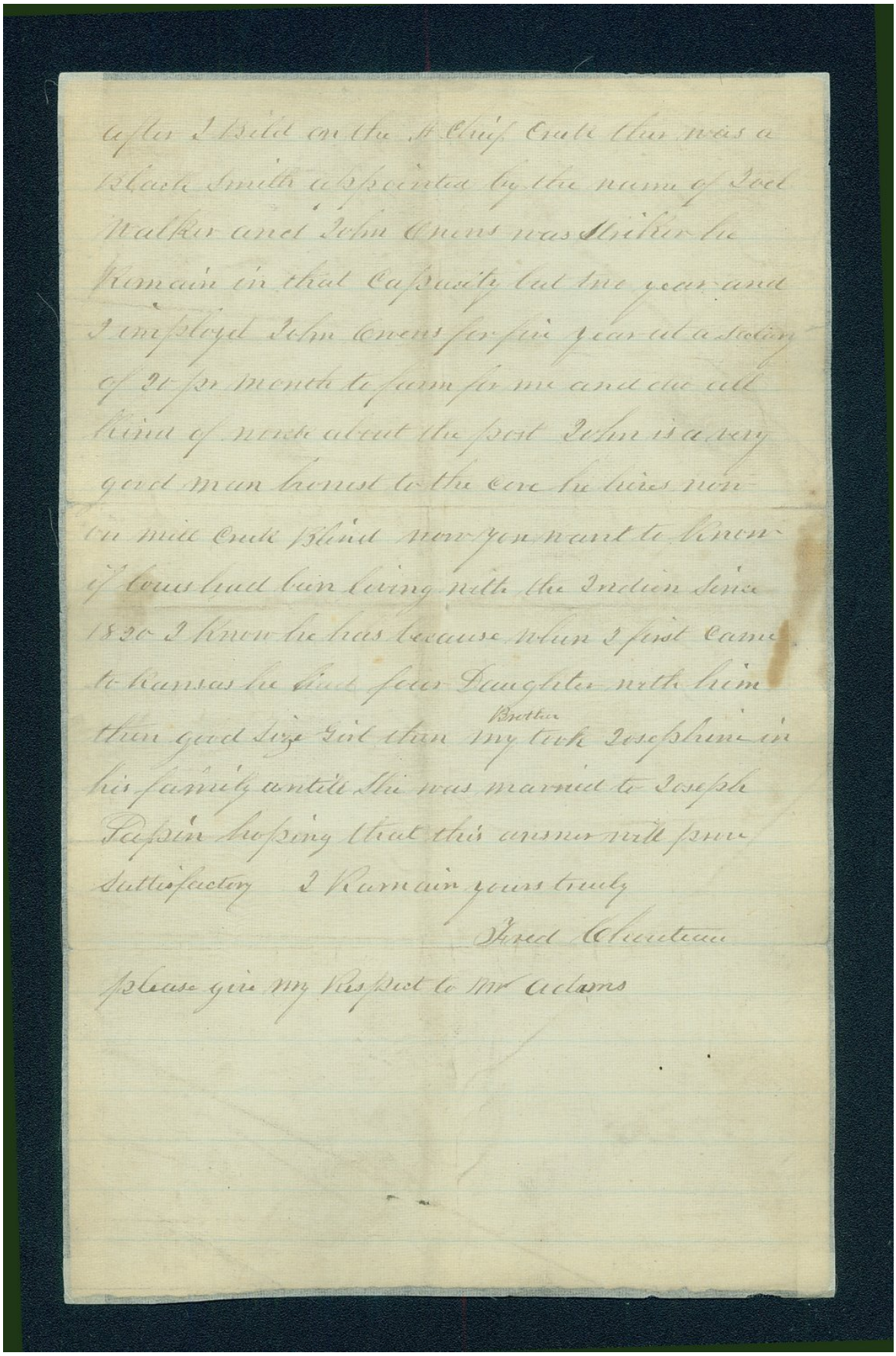
Oak in 32 I employed Louis as a laboring hand

he remain with me until his death then he was

a very good man that you could depend upon.

Now for John Owens

Frederick Chouteau to W. W. Cone correspondence

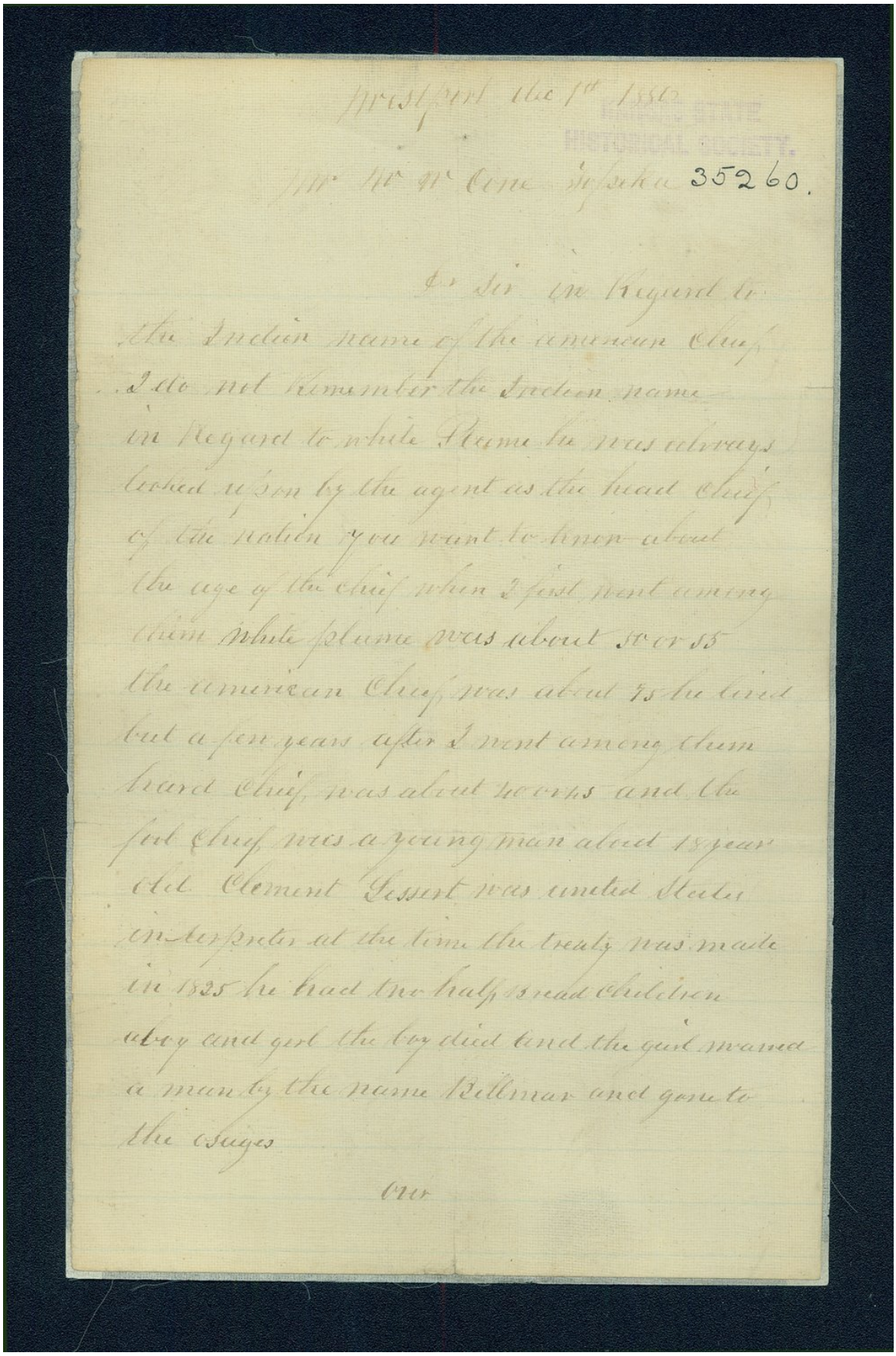


after I Bild on the 4 Chief Creek there was a
Black Smith appointed by the name of Joel
Walker and John Owens was Strikin he
Remain in that Capasity but two year and
I imployd John Owens for six year at a salary
of 20 pr month to farm for me and do all
kind of work about the post John is a very
good man honest to the Core he has non
in mile Creek Blind now you want to know
if I could him living with the Indian Sence
1830 I know he has because when I first came
to Kansas he had four Daughter with him
then good Size Girl than my Brother took Josephine in
his family until She was married to Joseph
Papin hoping that this answer will prove
Satisfactory I Remain yours truly

Fred Chouteau

please give my Respect to Mr Adams

Frederick Chouteau to W. W. Cone correspondence



Present the 1st 1880

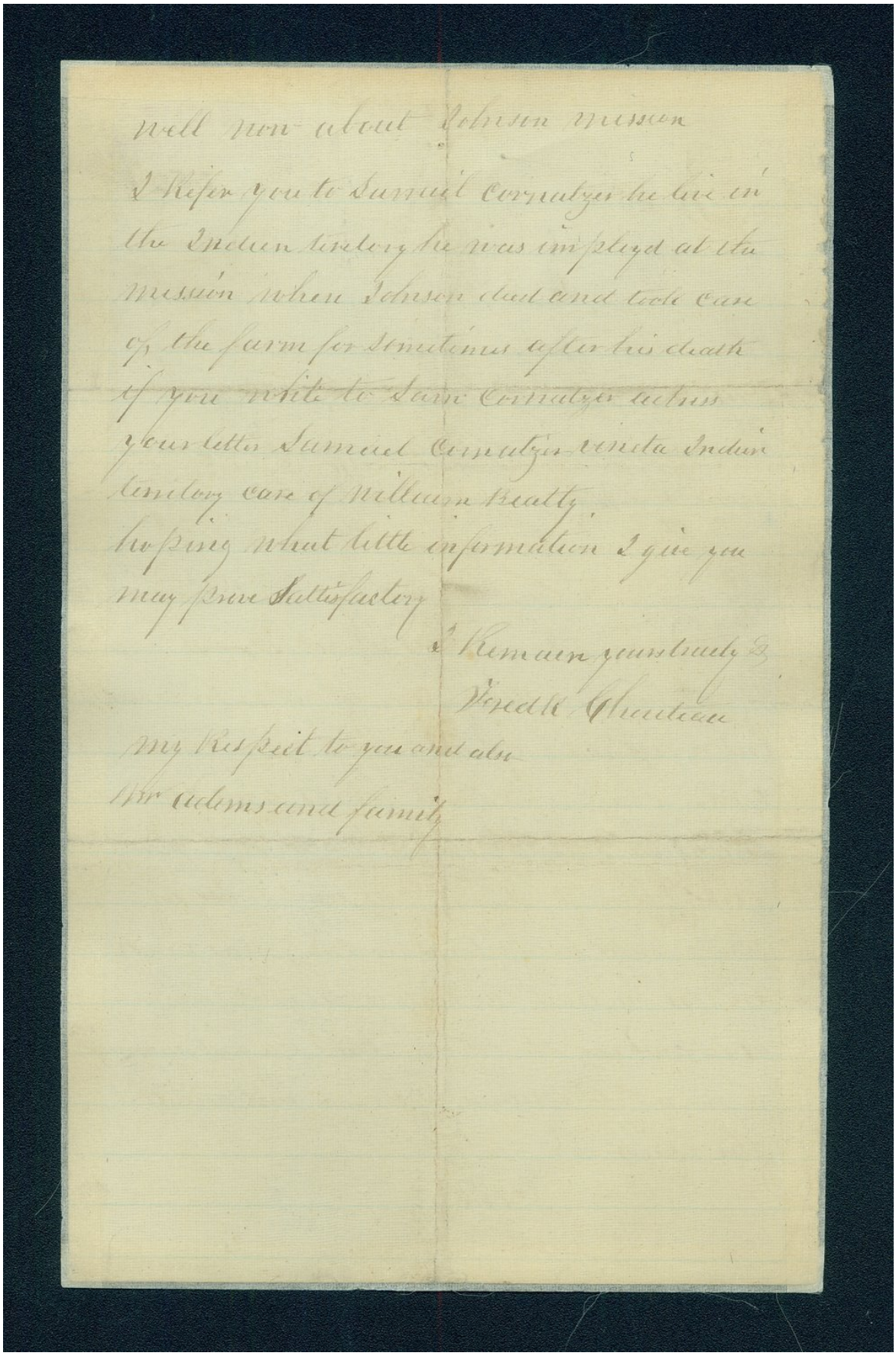
STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Mr W. W. Cone Topeka 35260.

Dr Sir In Regard to the Indian name of the american Chief. I do not remember the Indian name in Regard to which I know he was always looked upon by the agent as the head Chief of the nation you want to know about the age of the Chief when I first went among them White plume was about 50 or 55 the american Chief was about 75 he lived but a few years after I went among them head Chief was about 40 yrs and the first Chief was a young man about 18 years old Clement Lessert was united States interpreter at the time the treaty was made in 1825 he had two half breed children a boy and girl the boy died and the girl married a man by the name Bellmar and gone to the Osages

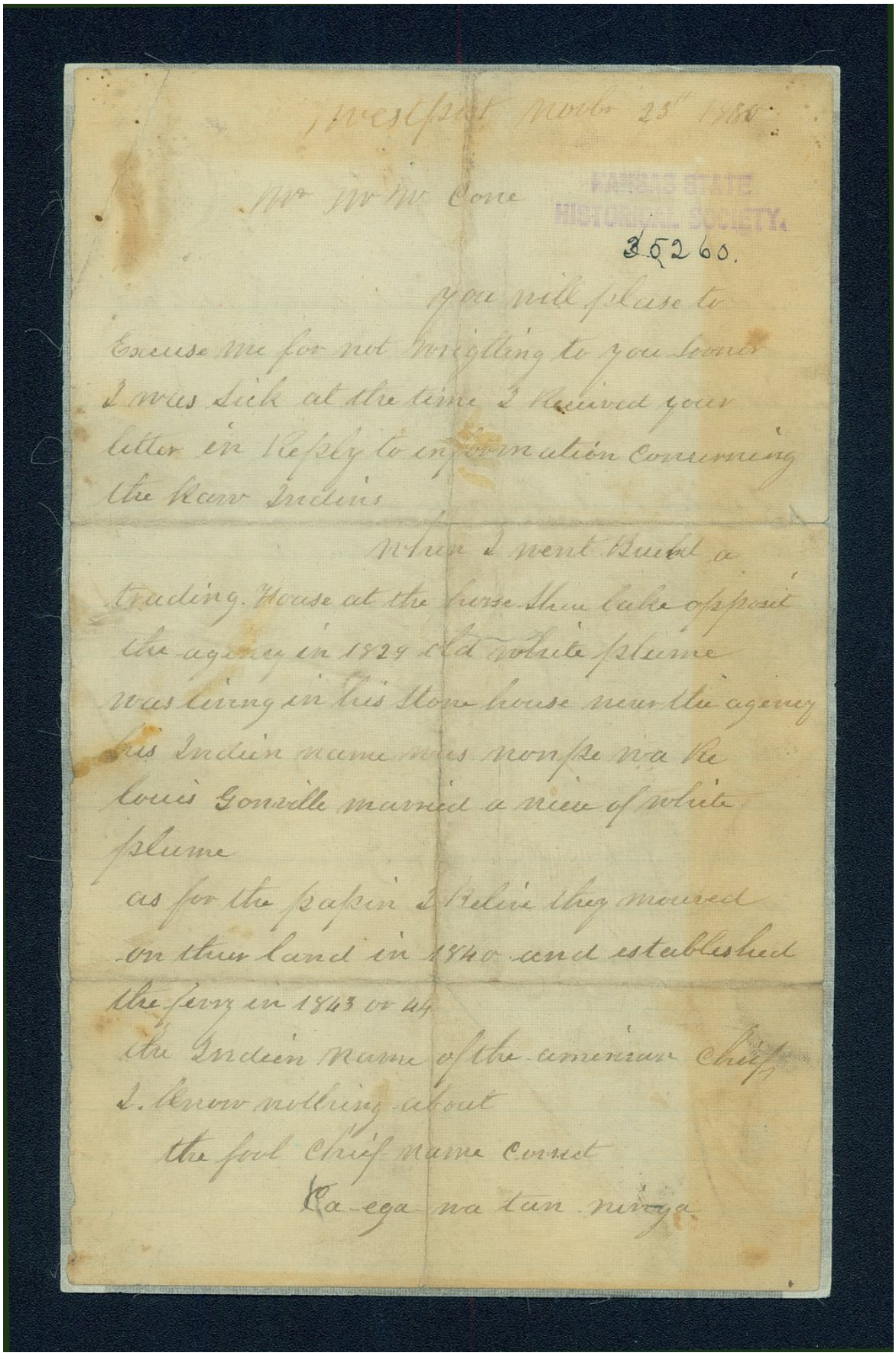
Our

Frederick Chouteau to W. W. Cone correspondence



well now about Johnson Messon
I Refer you to Samuel Connalyer he live in
the Indian territory he was imployed at the
Mission when Johnson died and took Care
of the farm for Sometimes after his death
if you write to Sam Connalyer inclose
your letter Samuel Connalyer Venita Indian
territory Care of Milburn Beatty.
hoping that little information I give you
may prove Satisfactory
I Remain yours truly &
Fredk Chouteau
my Respect to you and all
Mr Adams and family

Frederick Chouteau to W. W. Cone correspondence



Westport Novbr 25th 1880

Mr W W Cone

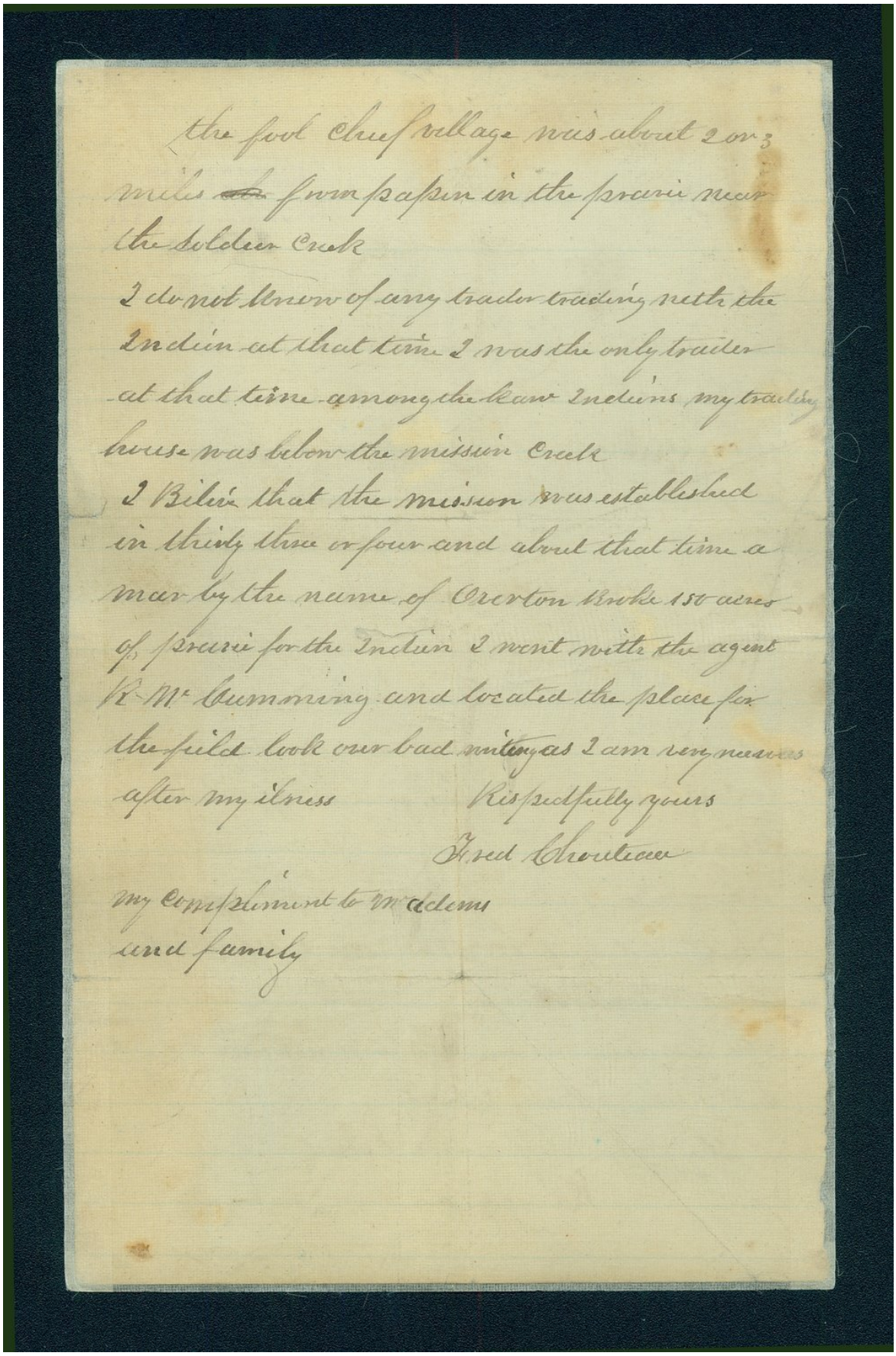
KANSAS STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

35260.

you will please to
Excuse me for not Writting to you Sooner
I was Sick at the time I Received your
letter in Reply to information Concerning
the Kaw Indians

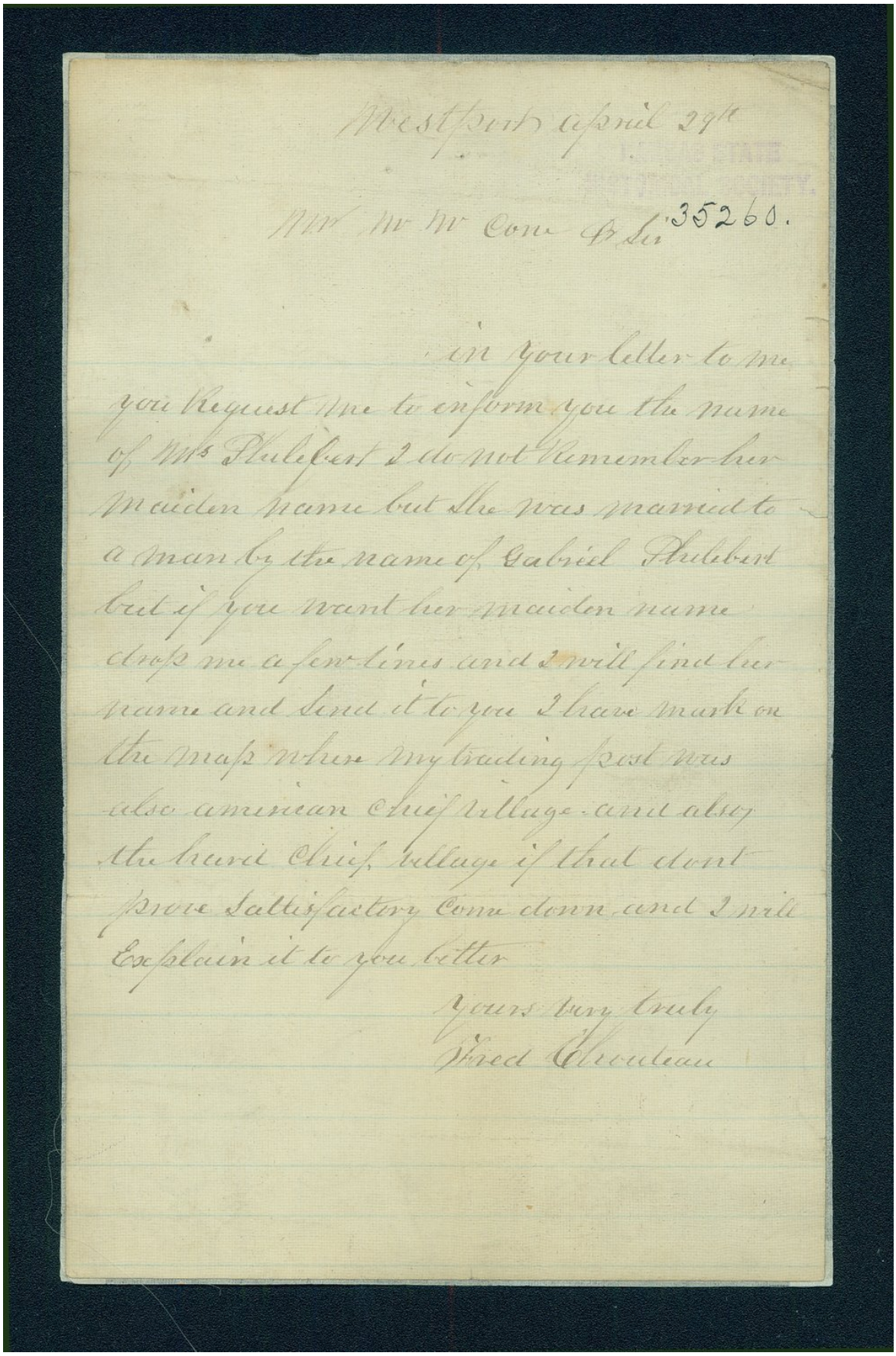
When I went Build a
trading House at the horse Shoe Lake opposit
the agency in 1829 old White plume
was living in his Stone house near the agency
his Indian name was non pe wa Pe
Louis Gonville married a niece of white
plume
as for the papin I believe they moved
on their land in 1840 and established
the ferry in 1843 or 44
the Indian Name of the american Chief
I know nothing about
the first Chief name Comes
Ka-ega-na tan-nunga

Frederick Chouteau to W. W. Cone correspondence



the fool Chief village was about 2 or 3
miles ~~th~~ from papan in the prarie near
the Soldier Creek
I do not know of any trader trading with the
Indian at that time I was the only trader
at that time among the Kaw Indians my trading
house was below the mission Creek
I Bilive that the mission was established
in thirty three or four and about that time a
man by the name of Overton Broke 150 acres
of prarie for the Indian I went with the agent
& Mr Cumming and located the place for
the field look over bad writing as I am very nervous
after my ilness Respectfully yours
Fred Chouteau
my compliment to Mr Adams
and family

Frederick Chouteau to W. W. Cone correspondence



Westport April 29th

Mr W W Cone Agt Sir 35260.

In your letter to me you Request me to inform you the name of Mrs Philibert I do not Remember her Maiden name but She was maried to a man by the name of Gabriel Philibert but if you want her maiden name drop me a few lines and I will find her name and send it to you I have mark on the map where my trading post was also american Chief Village and also the Iowa Chief Village if that dont prove Satisfactory Come down and I will Explain it to you better

Yours very truly
Fred Chouteau