

Governor Thomas Osborn Indian affairs received correspondence

Section 6, Pages 151 - 180

Governor Osborn compiled this series of correspondence on Indian Affairs from letters received while in office from 1873-1877.

Creator: Kansas. Governor (1873-1877 : Osborn)

Date: 1873-1876

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Governor Thomas Osborn Indian affairs received correspondence

Govt Co Sept 15, 1874

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.

<p>ANSON STAGER, Gen'l Sup't, } CHICAGO, ILL.</p>	<p><i>23</i></p>	<p>WILLIAM ORTON, Pres't, } GEO. H. MUMFORD, Sec'y. } NEW YORK.</p>
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Dated *Buffalo, Ns 15* 187*4*

Received at *Sept 15 = 455 R S Bu*

Govt Thos A Osborn

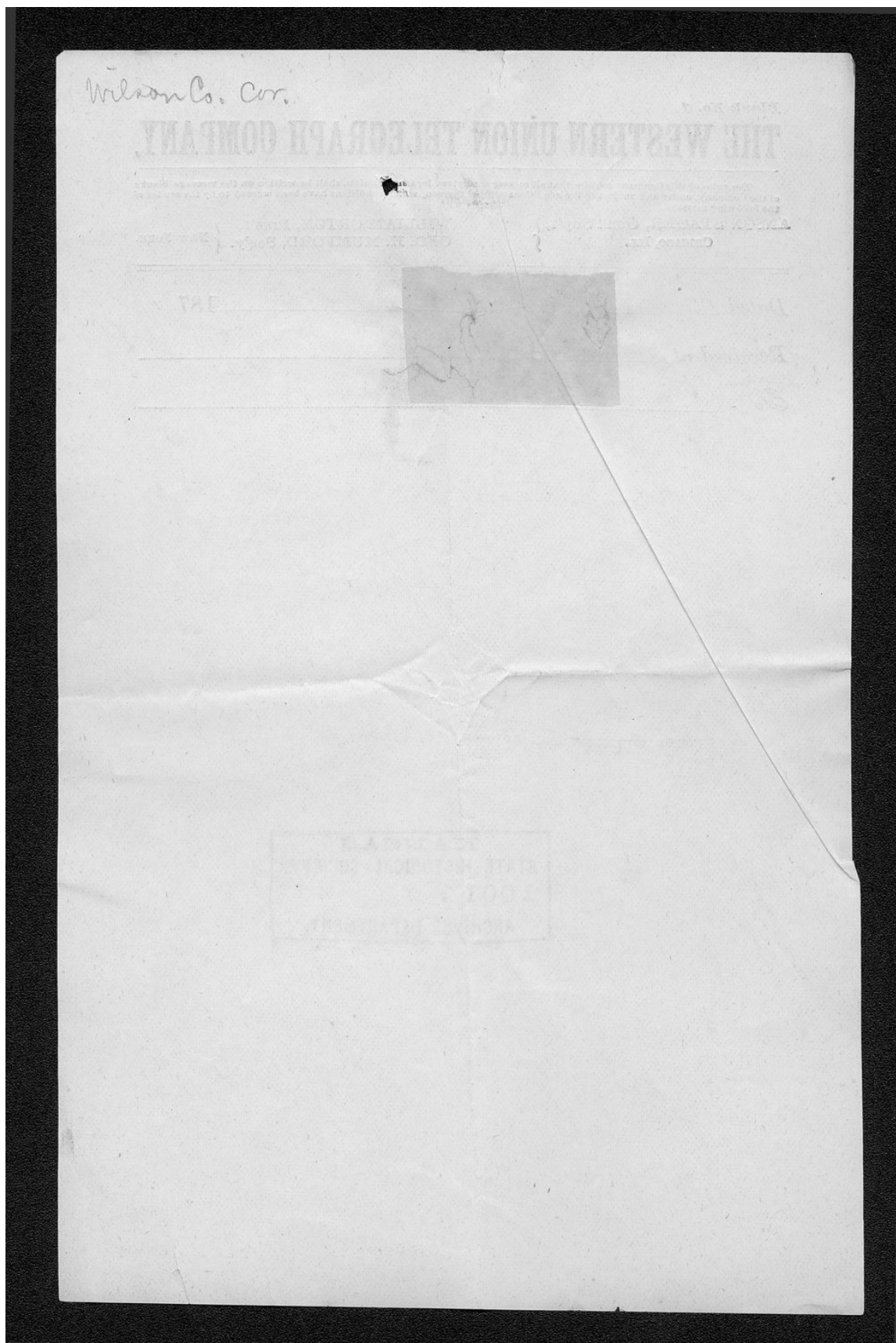
Have written particulars

J L Thompson

3 Collected & paid

KANSAS
STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.
1001
ARCHIVES DEPARTMENT.

Governor Thomas Osborn Indian affairs received correspondence



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Sept 15, 1874

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ANSON STAGGER, Gen'l Sup't, CHICAGO, ILL. WILLIAM ORTON, Pres. (July.)
GEO. H. MUMFORD, Sec'y. NEW YORK.

Dated *At Leavenworth* 1874

Received at *For Osborn*

Spec. Ms

Your telegram regarding Indian disturbance on the Paine and of this date recd. Cavalry left by rail early this morning for scene of disturbances for information regarding disturbance having been sent me by telegraph from At Hays

Just safe

But no girl

Condg

H B Rd yot RA



Governor Thomas Osborn Indian affairs received correspondence

Gen. Pope, Fx Leat. U.S.A
rel. to 2nd raid on Saline, use of Cavalry.

1 d. (Sep?) 15, 1874

(boy, Stowell, killed Sep. 15, 3 mi. nor. Buffalo Sta.
Govr. Co, probably this matter)

KANSAS
STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.
989
ARCHIVES DEPARTMENT.



Governor Thomas Osborn Indian affairs received correspondence

Blank No. 2.

19

THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

ALL MESSAGES TAKEN BY THIS COMPANY SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING TERMS:

To guard against mistakes, the sender of a message should order it REPEATED; that is, telegraphed back to the originating office. For repeating, one half the regular rate is charged in addition. And it is agreed between the sender of the following message and this Company, that said Company shall not be liable for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any UNREPEATED message beyond the amount received for sending the same; nor for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any REPEATED message beyond fifty times the sum received for sending the same, unless specially insured; nor in any case for delays arising from unavoidable interruption in the working of their lines, or for errors in cipher or obscure messages. And this Company is

hereby made the agents of the sender, without liability, to forward any message over the lines of any other Company when necessary to reach its destination.

Correctness in the transmission of messages to any point on the lines of this Company, can be insured by contract in writing, stating agreed amount of risk, and payment of premium thereon at the following rates, in addition to the usual charge for repeated messages, viz.: one per cent. for any distance not exceeding 1,000 miles, and two per cent. for any greater distance. No employee of the Company is authorized to vary the foregoing.

The Company will not be liable for damages in any case where the claim is not presented in writing within sixty days after sending the message.

GEO. H. MUMFORD, Secretary.

WILLIAM ORTON, President.

Nepeka Sept 15 1874

Send the following Message subject to the above terms which are agreed to.

To Station Agent

Buffalo Station N.P. RR.

It is reported from Parks Fork that hostile Indians have been committing depredations in your neighborhood. Please give me the facts

*Thomas A Osborn
Governor*



Governor Thomas Osborn Indian affairs received correspondence

Blank No. 2.

202

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GEO. H. MUMFORD, Secretary.

WILLIAM ORTON, President.

Topeka Sept 15 1874

Send the following Message subject to the above terms which are agreed to.

*To Maj Gen John Pope
Fort Leavenworth Kans
J. C. Henry Station Agent at Parks
Fort on Kansas Pacific Railroad telegraphed
today as follows, A band of hostile Indians
trading north on Saline, near Buffalo Station,
had run off stock and abducted a young
boy
Thomas A Osborn
Governor*



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21

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GEO. H. MUMFORD, Secretary.

WILLIAM ORTON, President.

Topeka Sept 16 1874

Send the following Message subject to the above terms which are agreed to.

To *Capt G. H. Norton*

Arkansas City via Richards

*Supractions are being committed by
Inst of Dodge City, believe to be by Osages
Ascertain if anywar parties of Osages are
out.*

*Thomas A Osborn
Governor*



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22

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GEO. H. MUMFORD, Secretary.

WILLIAM ORTON, President.

Topeka Sept 16 1874

Send the following Message subject to the above terms which are agreed to.

To RR Agent

Dodge City Kansas

*Has this Rath & Co and Leonard
and Myers returned to you the State Arms as
requested. If not are they at Dodge City?*

*Thomas A Osborn
Governor*



Governor Thomas Osborn Indian affairs received correspondence

Blank No. 2.

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GEO. H. MUMFORD, Secretary.

WILLIAM ORTON, President.

Wpuka Sept 16 1874

Send the following Message subject to the above terms which are agreed to.

To: Genl Hoag

Supt Indian Affairs

Lansing Kansas

The Legislature is now in session, and my adjutant General, who is also my private Secretary cannot be spared to act in making the investigation requested until the Legislature adjourns which will probably be next Tuesday. He will then act with some one to be appointed by you in making the investigation.

Wm A Osborn
Governor

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Arkansas City Traveler.

Official Paper of Cow & Co.

C. M. SCOTT, Publisher, D

Arkansas City, Kansas, Aug 18 1874.

Lt. Osborn
Gov. of Kansas

Sir

reports rec'd yesterday
from Mr. Stubbs ~~ex~~ ex Raw
agent who came direct from
the Osage Agency to the effect that
the Osages are on the war path
on account of the death of
certain members recently. Makes
an actual danger in our very
midst. Now we feel that we have a
fight in view of the removal of all
the troops from our borders ^{defendant} that we
be immediately armed or that we
understand that you cannot arm
us so that we can remove our
families. Myself last week have
seen a small party of Osages skulking
on the Creek below the line one of them
I know by sight to be one of the
worst of the Osage tribe, there is but

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one of two things Gov. We must
either be Armed or we must
be put and put in a position
to defend ourselves or we cannot
hold our families here which
will result in depopulating
one half of the Counties along
the border

Yours with Respect

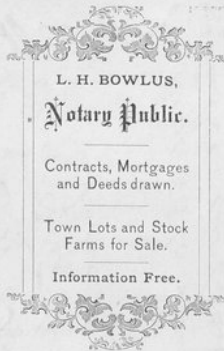
R. Hoffmaster

Capt. Candy

Bolton Co
Cowley Co
KS

no 35-C-240 172
R Hoffmaster
Cottonwood City
Woods County
Aug 18/94

Governor Thomas Osborn Indian affairs received correspondence



OFFICE OF
L. H. BOWLUS,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL
DEALER IN
Dry Goods, Groceries,
BOOTS AND SHOES.

San City, Kan., June 29th 1874

Gov Osborn

Topeka Kans

Dr Sir

All just on the Medicine. This ~~evening~~ ^{morning} Capt Wain M.S.A with one Squadron of cavalry arrived here last night from Ft Hayes. He reports no Indians betwixt here and RRoad. Capt-Puffer from Fort Dodge with one Squadron came in here day before yesterday and stayed part of a day. They left yesterday morning for the Comanche Trail. South West from here. There has not been but three Indians seen for several days. There is a report that there is a large body South of here about 15 miles. I informed to the Capt Wain that we unite our forces and clear the country of Redskins. We have him to move on the expedition. Have heard from you since I saw you. I am



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doing what I think the Emergency of the case
demands, to restore quiet & confidence with the
People. We have a large Territory to defend
& guard, and I think in a few weeks there will
not be an Indian in this part of the country.

I hope you did not commission
Walker or any of his Tribe, It is not
~~good~~ prudent to do so. for if he gets no
commission all will be quiet. They will give
up the ghost. they all say if he gets no commission
they will all join my company. but I will
only take such as I want to fill my company
up to 100. all is well that ends well and I think
this will end all A.B. Hoping to hear from
you soon I remain Respectfully
L. H. Bowler

Capt - L. H. Bowler
St. Louis City Mo
June 29, 1884

In relation to Indian
Ghosts in Osborn
County & vicinity

Governor Thomas Osborn Indian affairs received correspondence

Hutchinson June ^{25th} 23/94
Governor Thomas A Osborn
Topeka Kas.
Your Excellency — - Every thing is quiet here
to night; from some cause not easily
accounted for, our Settlers from the South
West portion of this County, got up a great
Scare and it was a perfect Stampede all
day yesterday & all night last night - but it
is all over now & most of them have returned
to their homes, all will in the Morning - Satisfied
that it was a false Alarm & I think prooff
against anything more of the kind. I recd your
Telegrams & they were a great help - thank you
for them. Have heard from Medicine Lodge
& Sun City - up to 10 O'clock A.M. yesterday
no new Excitement there, they want rations
bald at Medicine Lodge, & I dont know, but
they are rather trying to keep up the Excitement
in the hope of getting them. If the promised
Cavalry gets there, there certainly will no longer

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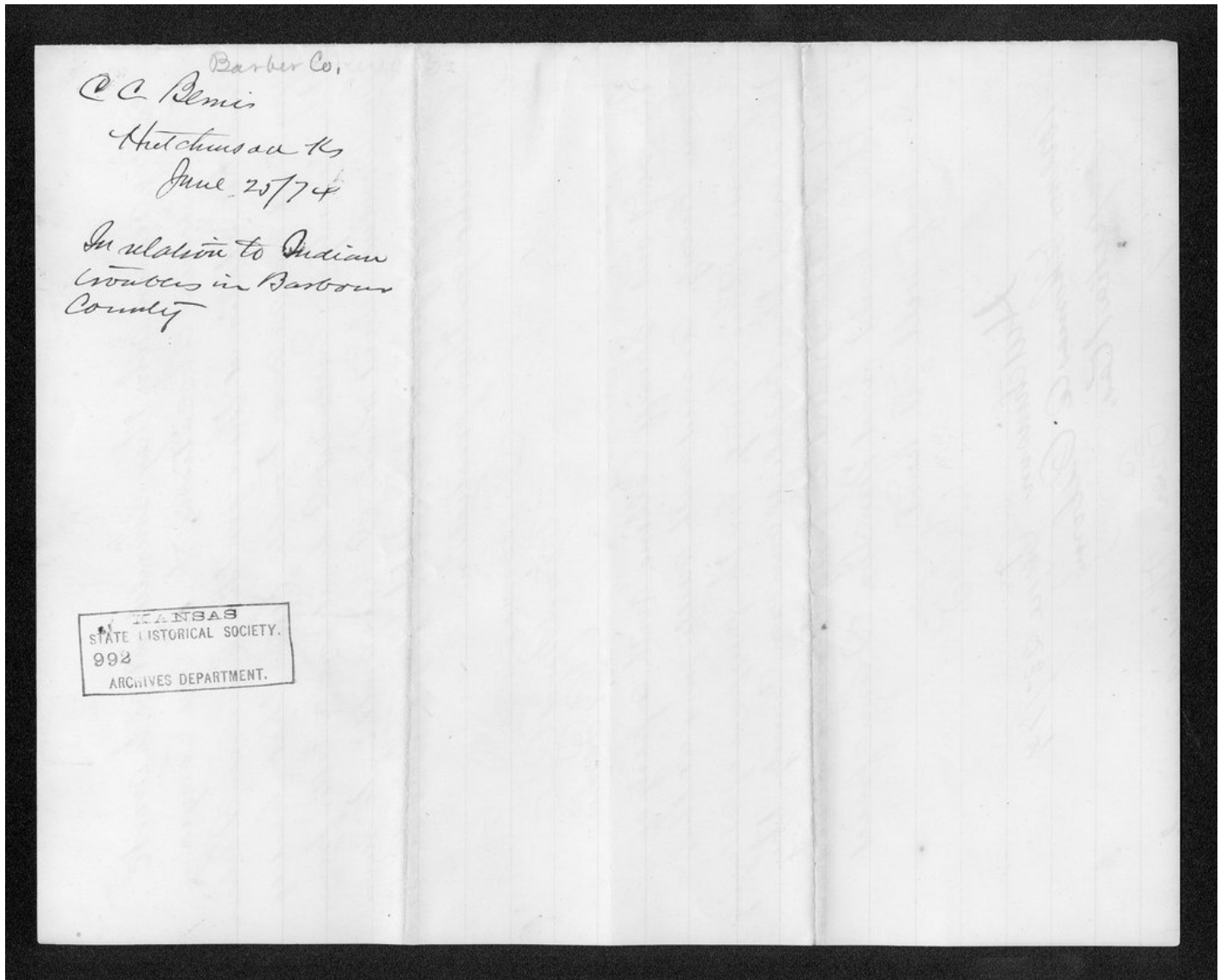
be any reason why they should not go to work
at their usual avocations, & if one Company
can be stationed there for the summer I believe
you will have no more trouble from that part of
the County. - Enclosed I send you a letter from
Mr Bowler. About which, I have nothing to say -
Only in my Opinion the U.S. Troops. will be all
sufficient for their protection

I remain
Yours Most Obedt
C. C. Dennis

We sent out Sheriff Collins. with a party of
some twenty. Armed with rifle guns at the
expense of this County, for the purpose of allaying
the fears of the people of our own County. They
will however, make a pretty thorough scout &
if they should find Mr. Lee. I am afraid
somebody will get hurt.

C. C. D.

Governor Thomas Osborn Indian affairs received correspondence





Governor Thomas Osborn Indian affairs received correspondence

June 25, 1874

No. 41.

~~Full~~ **HALF RATE MESSAGES.**

The Western Union Telegraph Company require that all messages received for transmission shall be written on the blanks of the Company, under and subject to the conditions printed thereon, which conditions have been agreed to by the sender of the following **HALF RATE MESSAGE.**

GEO. H. MUMFORD, Sec'y. WILLIAM ORTON, Pres't.

Dated, *Hutchinson* *Ks* *25 1874*

Received at *June 25 - 10 50 a.m.*

To *Gov. T. Osborn*

No news from Medicine Lodge from Sun City up to twenty third some excitement there there was a boy killed & scalped on Mule Creek

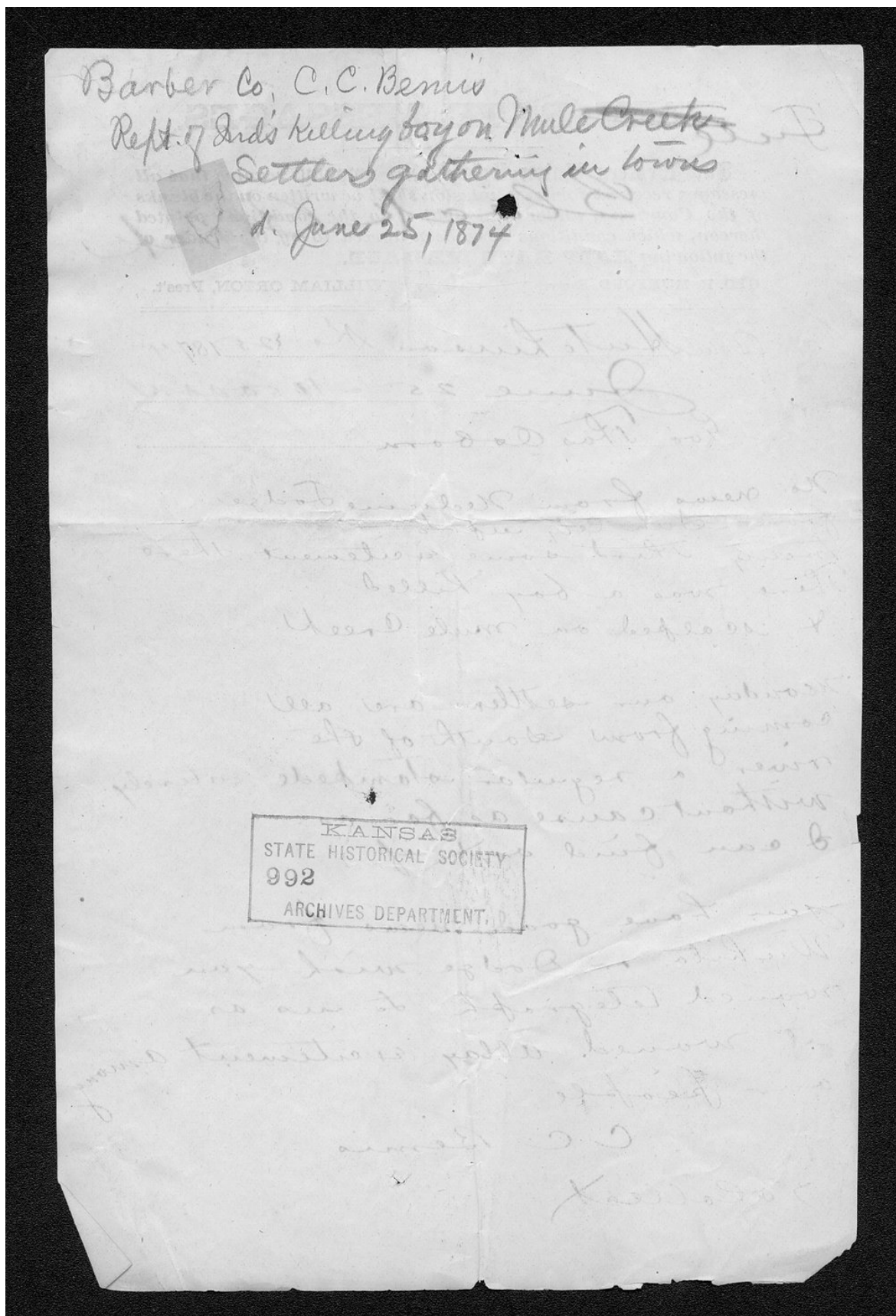
Monday our settlers are all coming from south of the river a regular stampede entirely without cause as far as I can find out if

you have good news from Wichita or Dodge wish you would telegraph to us as it would allay excitement among our people

C. C. Bemis

to collect

Governor Thomas Osborn Indian affairs received correspondence



Governor Thomas Osborn Indian affairs received correspondence

HALF RATE MESSAGES.

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GEO. H. MUMFORD, Sec'y. WILLIAM ORTON, Pres't.

Date, *Hatchinson* *Ks* *23* *1874*
 Received at *7:30 PM*
 To *C. C. Bemis*
Jefft House

How soon can rations be provided for medicine lodge only a weeks supply on hand if not forwarded in time the people will have to abandon the country excitement increasing with appearance of a general indian outbreak

Wm Friedly
S. H. Almer

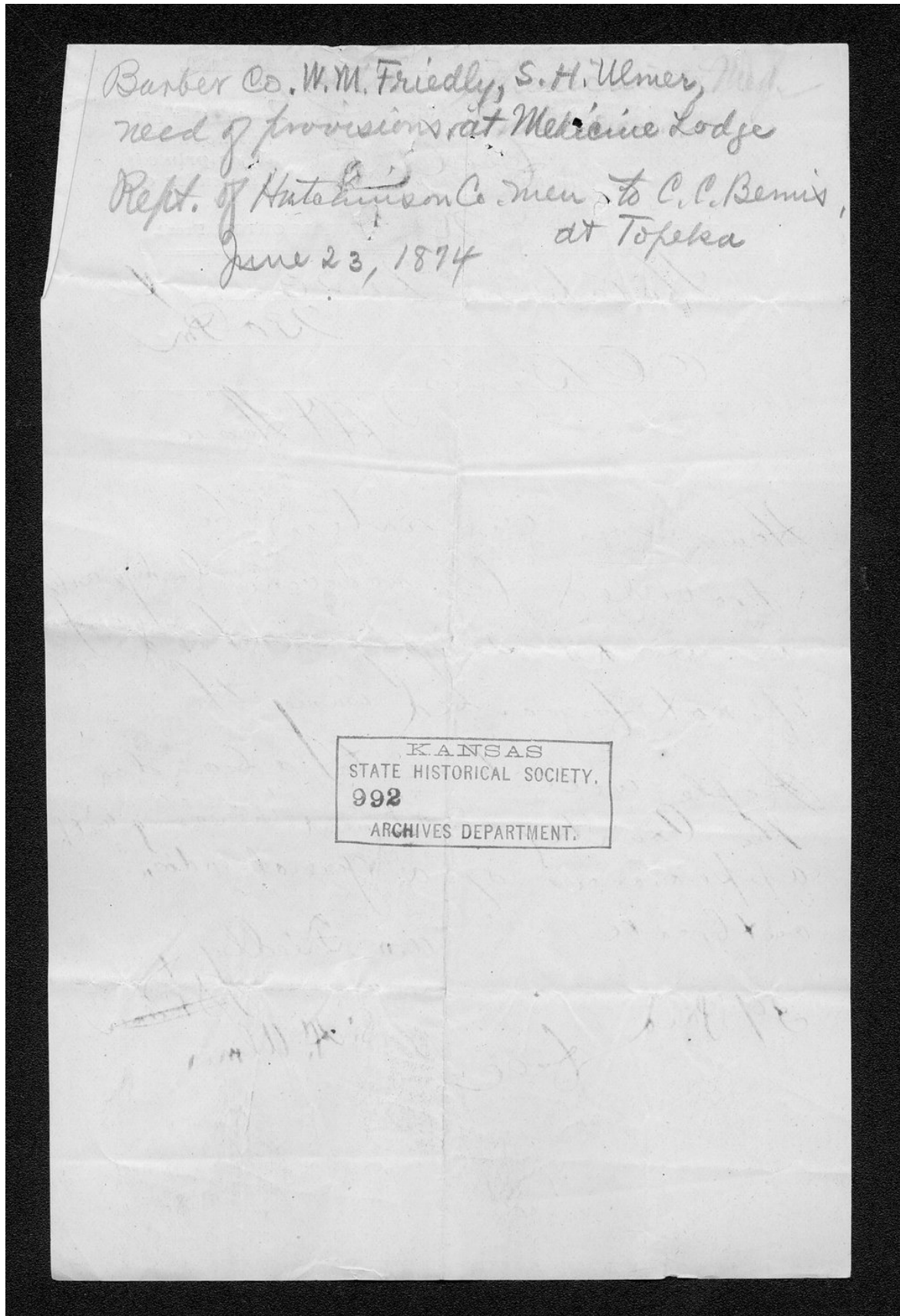
39 Paid
free

No. 52.

HALF RATE MESSAGES



Governor Thomas Osborn Indian affairs received correspondence



Governor Thomas Osborn Indian affairs received correspondence

June 24, 1874

No. 44. *Foot*
~~HALF~~ **HALF RATE MESSAGES.**

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O. H. PALMER, Sec'y. WILLIAM ORTON, Pres't.

Dated *St. Louis* *June 24* 1874
Received at *June 24* = *1050 a.m.*
To *Gov. T. A. Osborn*

Cavalry has been sent to Medicine Lodge Creek & as many troops as are needed will be promptly placed there I presume that reports are likely exaggerated as has been case about Dodge & Supply, according to official advices just recd it is best as we have ~~been~~ hitherto done in the state to allay rather than increase unnecessary stampeding I have no power to issue ^{arms} nor rations nor can either be issued to citizens without act of Congress

John Pope
91 Paid *Foot Rate* Sent May Genl

Governor Thomas Osborn Indian affairs received correspondence

Gen. John Pope, U.S.A. Ft Leav.
to Gov. O., re: to U.S. Cav. sent to
Medicine Lodge.
Exaggerated reports re:
to and raid near Dodge
d. June. 24, 1874

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Governor Thomas Osborn Indian affairs received correspondence

No. 44. *Full* *June 25, 1874*
~~HAIR~~ RATE MESSAGES.

The Western Union Telegraph Company require that all messages received for transmission shall be written on the blanks of the Company, under and subject to the conditions printed thereon, which conditions have been agreed to by the sender of the following ~~HAIR~~ RATE MESSAGE.

GEO. H. MUMFORD, Sec'y. ① WILLIAM ORTON, Pres't.

Dated, *Ft Seavenworth 25/8/74*
Received at *June 26 - 1130 a.m. Ks*
To *Gov T A Osborn*

Officials telegrams dated this am at Ft Dodge just rec'd a cavalry Co. from that Post reaches Sun City this evening and will look after Indians along valley of Medicine lodge if there are any a company of Cavalry from Hays left there yesterday and one from Gibson leaves today for same section so that if any troubles thereafter in that region there will be force enough to deal ^{with} them - Col Compton reports several small parties of hostile

Governor Thomas Osborn Indian affairs received correspondence

No. 44.

~~HALF~~ RATE MESSAGES.

Full

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O. H. PALMER, Sec'y. (2) WILLIAM ORTON, Pres't.

Dated, 187

Received at

To

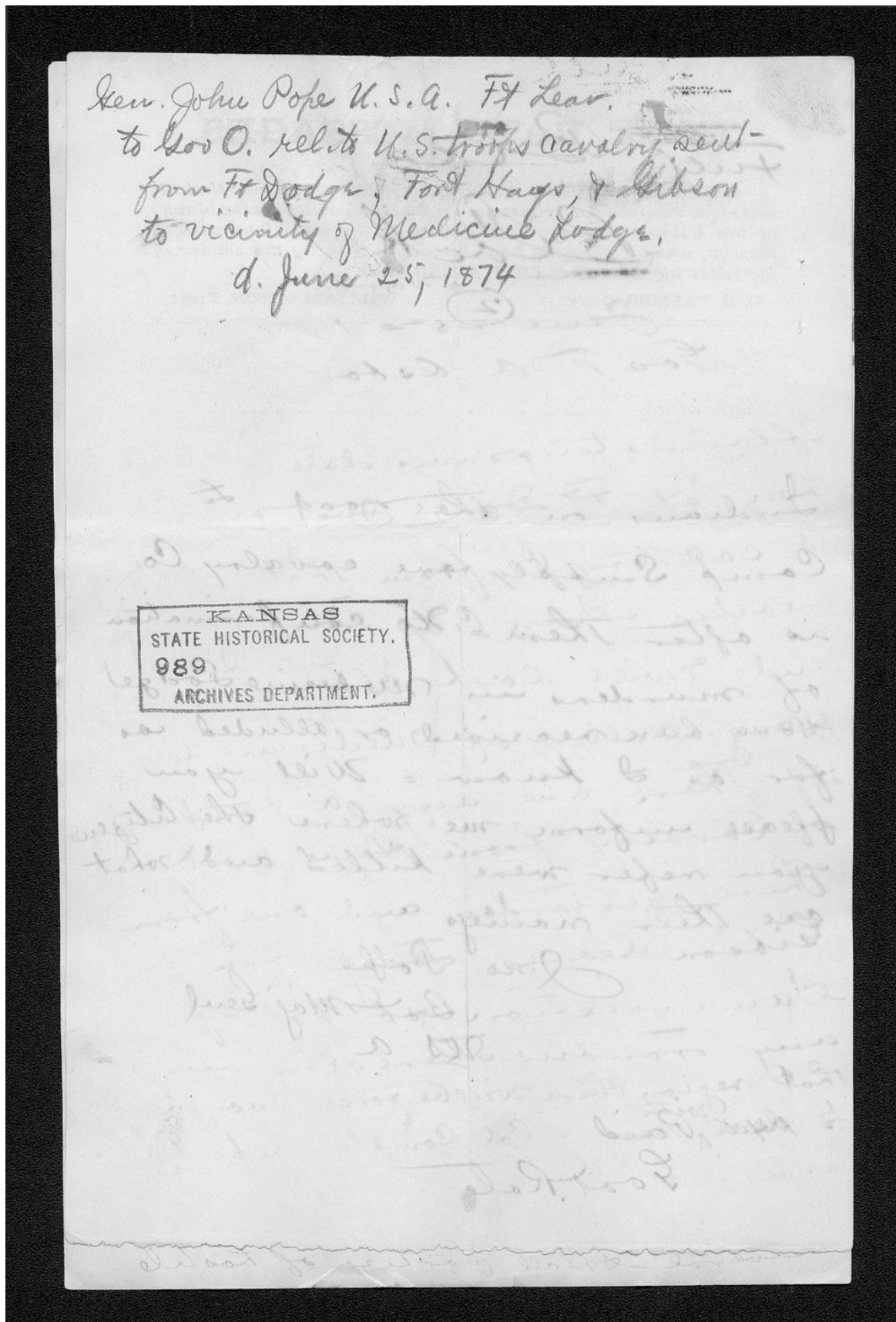
Indians on the road to
Camp Supply one cavalry Co
is after them = No confirmation
of murders in Medicine Lodge
have been received or alluded to
for as I know = Will you
please inform me where the Citizens
you refer were killed and what
are their names

Yours Pofe
Bot May Genl
us a

140 Paid
Post Rate

several small parties of hostile

Governor Thomas Osborn Indian affairs received correspondence



Governor Thomas Osborn Indian affairs received correspondence

Office
U. S. Indian Agent.
Via Wichita } Cheyenne and Arapahoe Agency I. T.
Kansas. } Darlington I. T. 3- Dec- 28- 1874.
Crock Hoag Supt.
Lawrence Kans.
"Little Robe & Bull Bear"
Cheyenne Chiefs have just reported at this Office,
giving information that while they were camped
on the Cimarron south of the Big Salt plains,
some white person or persons I supposed to be headed
by W^m Martin alias "Hurricane Bill" ran off
forty three (43) head of ponies about the 11th
or 12th inst. The Indians followed them, or
rather the trail in the direction of the
settlements in Kansas on the "Neocatanga",
and "Medicine Lodge" creeks. Were informed
by the whites, that they had seen nothing
of the horses or men. They then returned

Governor Thomas Osborn Indian affairs received correspondence

to their camps, when it was decided to move towards Agency, to save their horses, and give the information, that something might be done to recover their stock. The Chiefs are very much provoked, and discouraged over their misfortune, and express the fear that should nothing be done to secure the return of the above stock, and another raid be made upon them, that it will be impossible for them to restrain their young men from a like raid upon the frontier of Kansas. The matter must have attention. These lawless whites on our frontier must be restrained, or we shall not be able to control the Cheyenne. For the above lot of 43 animals were 5 mules & great many white & spotted horses, or ponies. If those or the U. S. Marshal know of the whereabouts of our two (2)

Governor Thomas Osborn Indian affairs received correspondence

Deputy Marshals assigned to this country
it would be well to give them
this information, that they may give the
subject some attention. These men furnish
them whiskey for their robes, & then steal
their horses. We have so stated to the
Chiefs

Respectfully.
{signed} Geo. D. Miles.
U. S. Ind. Agt.

Governor Thomas Osborn Indian affairs received correspondence

COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE, Rooks County, Kansas,

LAF. C. SMITH,
County Clerk.

Stockton, May 1st 1873

To His Excellency
Thomas A. Osborn
Governor

Dear Sir

Feeling as I do a deep interest in this part of the State, and all, I can not but consider it my duty to inform you of the Condition of the settlers hereabout, and their unprepared condition for an outbreak by the Indians.

When you get seven or eight miles west of this place, you find the last settler in this Valley and it may well indeed be called the frontier. - A great many of the settlers came in last winter and last spring and so far as they go, they are utterly unprepared. Being destitute of arms, and without means to buy them. - They are all poor - extremely so, but are industrious and are hard at work, building houses and putting in crops. many of them have families. -

Reports are current here, by hunters and the Press that the Cheyennes and Arapahoes are preparing for war - and I venture to say should they come in upon us, they would make a clean sweep through this part of the Country without being molested in the least.

We have formed out here on the frontier, by the fact that there

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Am not much dependence to be put on the "Nb. troops." - they happen
accidentally to be always in the very place.

Can the settlers by forming a Company, obtain arms and
ammunition from the State - if so I should be in favor of
so doing and will earnestly take part in the matter.

Desiring that you will write me at an early date concerning the
matter for the benefit of the settlers on this part of the frontier.
Sincerely,
Yours Very Respectfully
Laf. C. Smith

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P.S.
If the State has any arms, would it not be best to "put them where
they would do the most good?"

970
Co. Col. Laf. C. Smith. Ref. to
impending troubles with
Indians; & formation militia
with state equipment for defense
May 1. 1873