

# Kansas Memory



## Dwight H. and Luther H. Platt correspondence

### Section 34, Pages 991 - 1020

This is correspondence of Luther H. Platt and Dwight Henry Platt, missionary son and grandson of Jireh Platt, an abolitionist from Mendon, Illinois. Luther Platt's papers include letters from his wife Nettie, correspondence with religious groups, and correspondence with military officials in the South after the Civil War particularly regarding individuals still being held as slaves. The papers of Dwight Henry Platt include letters to his parents (Luther and Nettie) while he was at Washburn College in Topeka, Kansas, in the early 1880s; letters from friends; and correspondence from other individuals for business and professional purposes. Dwight served as pastor for the Congregational church in northwest Kansas, centered in Goodland.

Date: 1863-1896

Callnumber: Dwight H. and Luther H. Platt Coll. #473, Box 1 & 2

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## Dwight H. and Luther H. Platt correspondence

then we had dinner at Mr. Rhode,  
and a little band of us, held prayer  
meeting in the evening.

The crowd gathered at one of the  
empty houses on Mill Street, and  
had a ~~mass~~ masquerade dance.

It was held next door to Rhinehart's  
drug store, and it is reported that  
a number of the crowd showed the  
effects of imbibing. Several of the  
church members, and several of  
the active Endeavorers were out.

It is causing considerable remark,  
and I am hoping that it will  
have an influence to lead some  
to ask, Does Christ require his  
children to live any different lives  
from that which is common  
in the world? There is need of  
infinite wisdom from above to know  
just what is wise and best to do.  
May the Spirit guide us.

With much love. Your Father  
Dwight H. Platt  
Chicago, Ill.

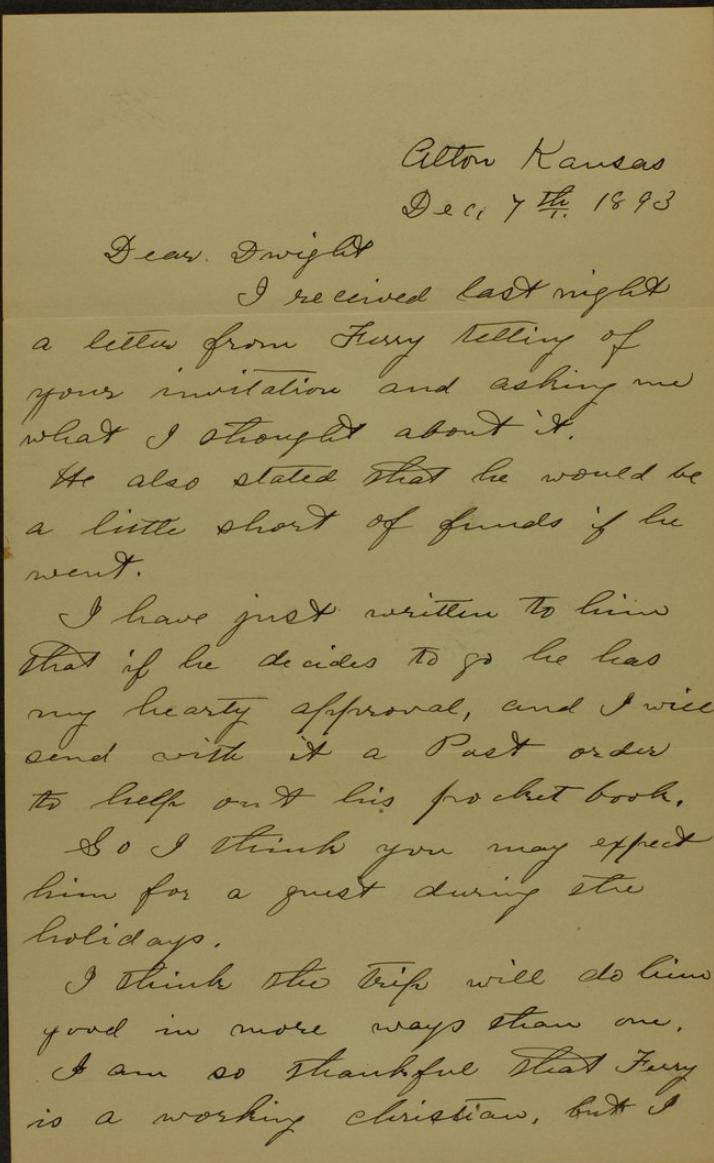
L.H. Platt.

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Dwight H. and Luther H. Platt correspondence



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have not given up the idea  
that he could do good service  
for the Master in the ministry.  
If that is where the Master wants  
him, there is where I want him.

It will be likely to do him good  
to see something of the Seminary  
and of seminary life; and an  
acquaintance with such fellows  
as Ward and Gould can not  
but be helpful to him.

If he goes it will be with  
the earnest hope and prayer on  
our part that God will make  
the visit a blessing to him  
spiritually, as well as that it  
may do him good, and be  
a pleasure in other directions.

With much love from us  
at home

Your Father

[To D. H. Platt  
Chicago, Ill.]

L. H. Platt,

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## Dwight H. and Luther H. Platt correspondence

1733 Lane St. Topeka Kans.  
Dec 9-1893

D. H. Platt

81 Ashland Boulevard  
Chicago Ill.

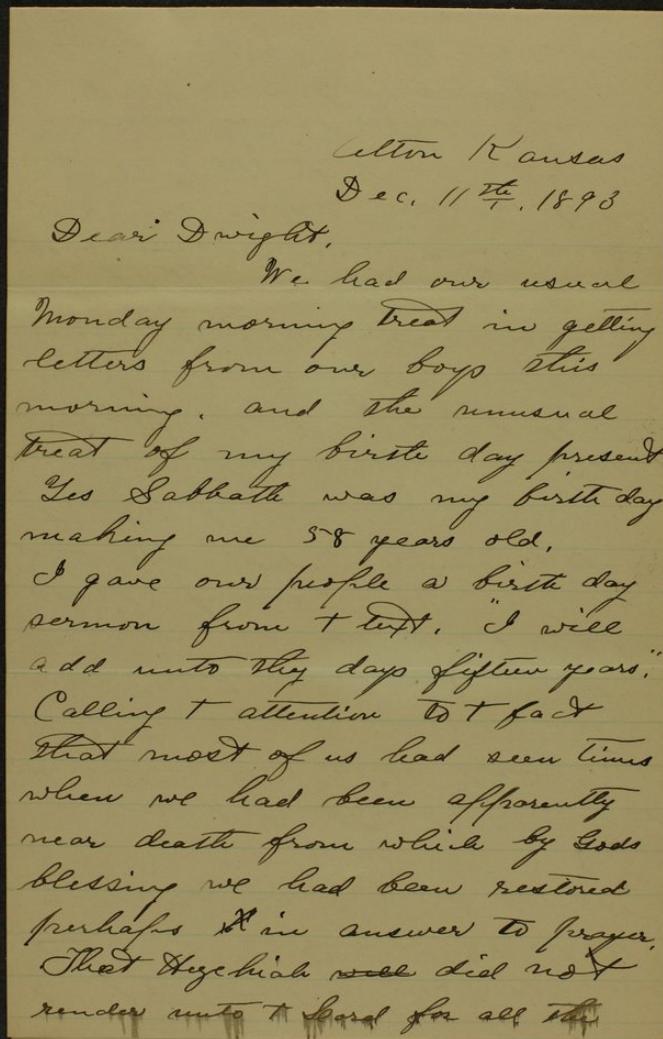
Dear brother: Your letter came duly to hand also one from ~~Dwight~~ Father containing \$13. 85 as a Xmas present and \$10 as a loan. With this and what I have I can square up all my accounts here except tuition, and still have enough to take that trip to Chicago and have a little left over. Gould got the promise of tickets for both Mac & myself for our fare (\$14.00) for the round trip. If you still think you can afford to bear the expense of me I may see you during the holidays. I am going to very hard run for money the rest of the year and do not know whether I ought to spend the money in that way. Father told me to do just as I thought best, and said that if I decided to go I had his hearty approval. Mac has not fully determined to go yet. I don't think I shall start before a week from Monday or Tuesday if I go. I have the second draft of my oration almost finished and if I go I bring it and ~~work on~~ show it to you, and perhaps work on it some. Well I must close will write you again if I decide to go. Yours G. H. Platt.

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benefits that he had received  
but and asking what shall  
we render to God for all  
his benefits to us.

I wished to thank him that  
Hezibials God still lives,  
still hears and answers prayer,  
here and now, and asked  
for more earnest direct and  
specific prayer.

and did that we render our  
thanks by consecrating our  
lives to his service and that  
our standard of living be such  
as would come up to the  
higher standard of Christian  
living which the church  
~~sets up~~, or even church members  
who are called cranky, to live  
up to the standard of Christianity  
to which Christ referred when he  
said let your light so shine  
before men &c, and asked them

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to earnestly strive to live so near to Christ, and so consistently that wicked men and women infidels and atheists would see our good works and say that is Christian living.  
I told them that drunkards and gamblers and impure people themselves demanded a very high standard of Christian living among professed Christians.  
I shall read with interest the "New Era." Thank you.  
I had not run across it, and had neglected to send for it.  
It is a source of special thanks for me that I have now such a good measure of health.  
So far I have had very little cold this winter and fall.  
Have coughed less and clished less with the asthma than for a great many years before.

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so far it seems that that our coming out here has been a benefit to me  
Mamma is about as usual.  
I hardly know what Ferry will decide about coming to Chicago.

If he thinks he can stand the expense I hope he will go, but hardly feel like saying square out I think you had better. I guess I had better let him decide on his own judgment. There is a good deal of colds and some things like the grip around. Some are quite sick, generally not severely so. The Drs. are kept pretty busy.

With much love from us at home

Your Father

L. H. Platt

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Alton Kansas.  
Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> 1893

Dear Dwight.

A letter from Ferry states that he has decided to come to Chicago, at least he thinks he has. He has probably written you of his plans. He spoke of starting Monday P. M. from Topeka. I think he goes by the R. I.

I need not tell you how anxious we are that the visit may be one of spiritual profit, as well as one of pleasure.

God bless our boys.

Your loving Father

L. H. Platt

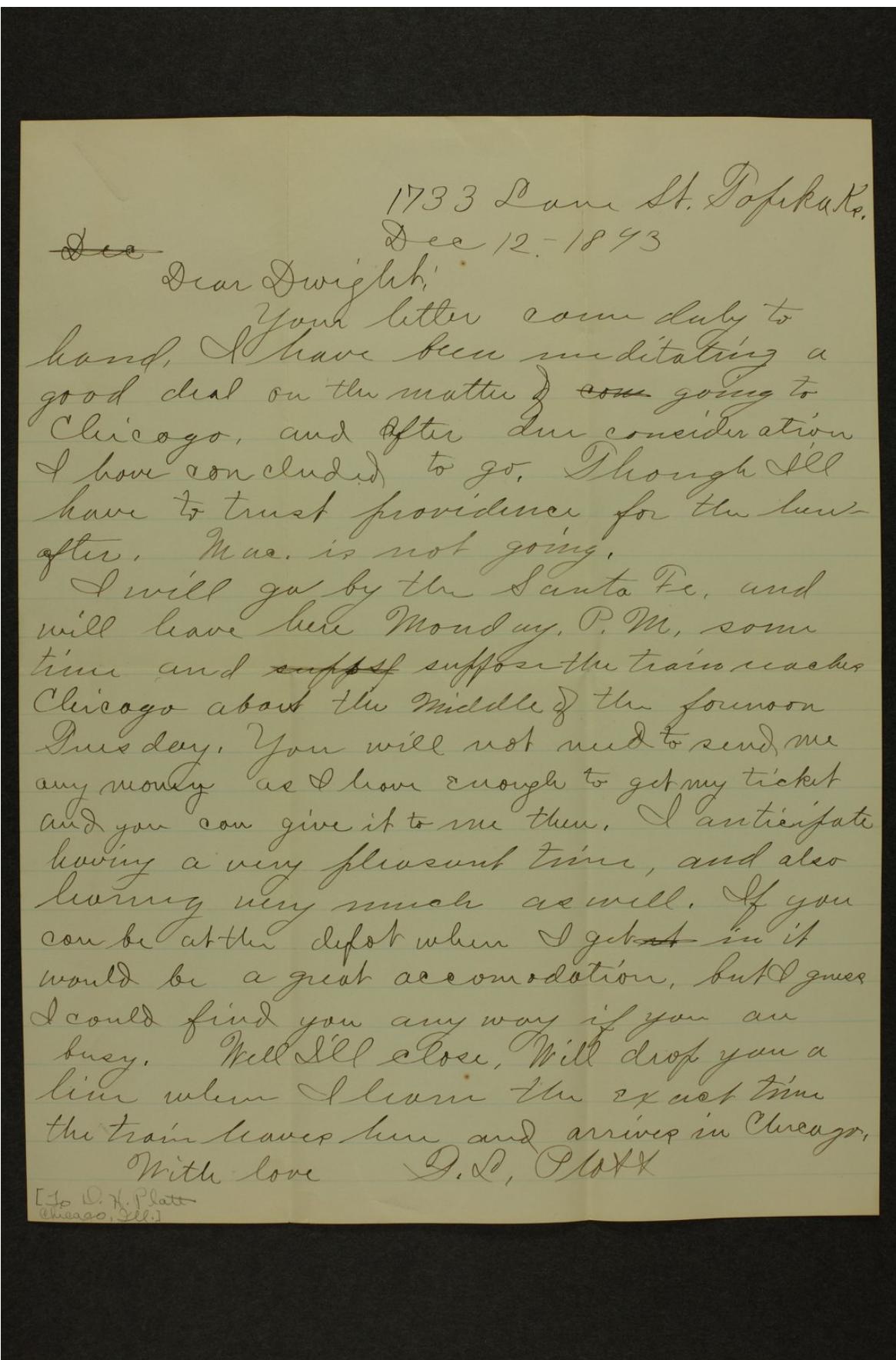
[To D. H. Platt  
Chicago, Ill.]

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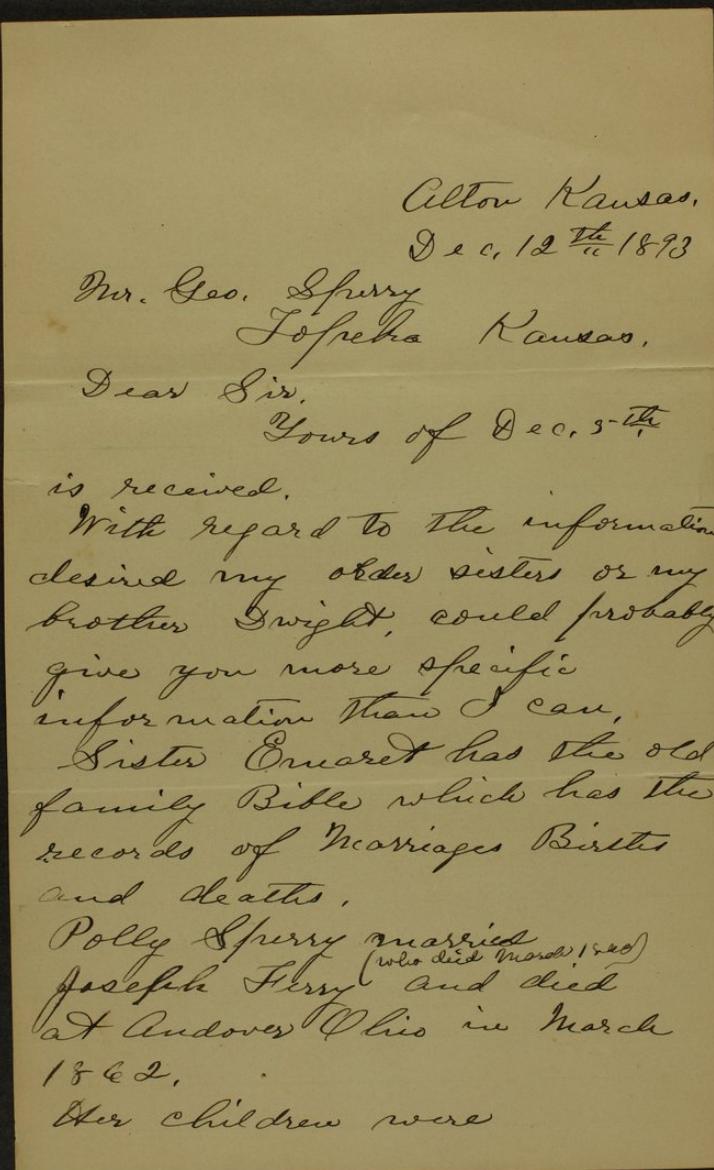


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Alanson Porter  
Eliza  
Emmett Philena  
Charles (die & a few of ye)  
Dwight  
Joseph Jr.  
A pair of infant twins who died  
Sarah  
Mary Louisa  
and Martha Augenette,  
Alanson  
Dr P. Ferry was born in  
Custabula Co. Ohio, in 1820  
Married Miss Sarah Fisher  
of Wabash Indiana  
Died in Wabash Indiana  
in 1880, leaving four children  
Willie  
Fisher  
James and  
Charles.  
Eliza Ferry married  
Henry Whitaker in New Line

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Eliza's present address we do not know, any information in regard to her and her children can be had by addressing Charles Whitaker Severy Greenwood County Kansas.  
Mrs. Edmund Sweet  
Cleveland Center Ashtabula County Ohio.  
Dwight Ferry, Herington Kansas,  
Joseph Ferry's widow  
Mrs. Ella Nicholas  
Eureka Greenwood Co. Kansas,  
Mrs Sarah Gillette Eskridge  
Wabaunsee County Kansas.  
Mrs John Simpson the last we heard from was in Eldorado, Butler County Kansas.  
  
As to places of burial Joseph and Polly Ferry were buried in Wabaunsee Olsonson J. Ferry was buried in Wabasha Indiana  
Joseph Ferry Jr was buried in Topeka Kansas  
Mary Simpson was buried in Eureka Kansas.

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Ashtabula Co. Ohio.  
Her children were  
Charles  
Emily  
Sarah ~~was~~ <sup>was</sup> recently in  
Alice.

Ernest Phileena Ferry  
was born in Ashtabula Co. Ohio.  
Was married to Hiram  
Sweet in Ravenna, Huron  
County Ohio.  
Her children were  
Hubert  
Ida  
Myrtle.

Dwight Ferry was born in  
Ashtabula County Ohio, married  
Harriet Kingman of Kelloggs-  
ville Ohio, <sup>she</sup> died leaving  
no children  
He afterwards married  
Elizabeth Young in Topeka  
Kansas.

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Sarah Dutton, who was born in Ct. in May 1788, and moved to Illinois in 1808, were married in Plymouth Ct. so long ago that date is not remembered. If any farther information is desired in regard to the Platt family it can be secured from the old family record, or by addressing Chester Dutton, Concordia Kansas, who has a record of the genealogy of the Dutton family in all its branches from the beginning. For more definite The Post office address of the ~~children~~ children of Joseph Ferry and Polly Serry as far as now known to us is Widow of Alanson Ferry Mrs. Sarah Ferry Wabash, Wabash Co., Indiana

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His children were,  
Lilly  
~~Sylvia~~  
Alanson  
Ida  
Dora,  
Joseph Ferry married  
Miss Ella Banks of Topeka  
Kansas.  
They had one child  
Banks Ferry.  
He died near Topeka on  
March 5<sup>th</sup> 1869.  
Sarah Ferry was married  
to Drayton Gillette in Rock  
Creek, Ashtabula County Ohio  
Her children were  
Ulpford Pettit  
Frederic  
~~Beata~~  
Armenta  
Leola  
Dora,  
& Harry (who died when about 10 years old)  
Mary<sup>Topeka</sup> Ferry was married to  
John Simpson in July 1868

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Her children were  
Robert  
Ella  
Joseph, (who died in 1874)  
She died in Eureka Kansas  
March 6<sup>th</sup> 1878,

Martha Augenette Ferry  
Born April 1839  
was married to Luther H. Platt. ~~Sept 5<sup>th</sup> 1866~~ in  
Topeka Kansas.

Her children  
Dwight Henry Platt, (Born May 8<sup>th</sup> 1867  
in Eureka Kansas)  
Ferry Luther Platt, (Born April 18<sup>th</sup> 1872  
in Eureka Kansas)  
Infant Tripplets (Born July 10<sup>th</sup> 1877,  
who all died shortly after birth.)

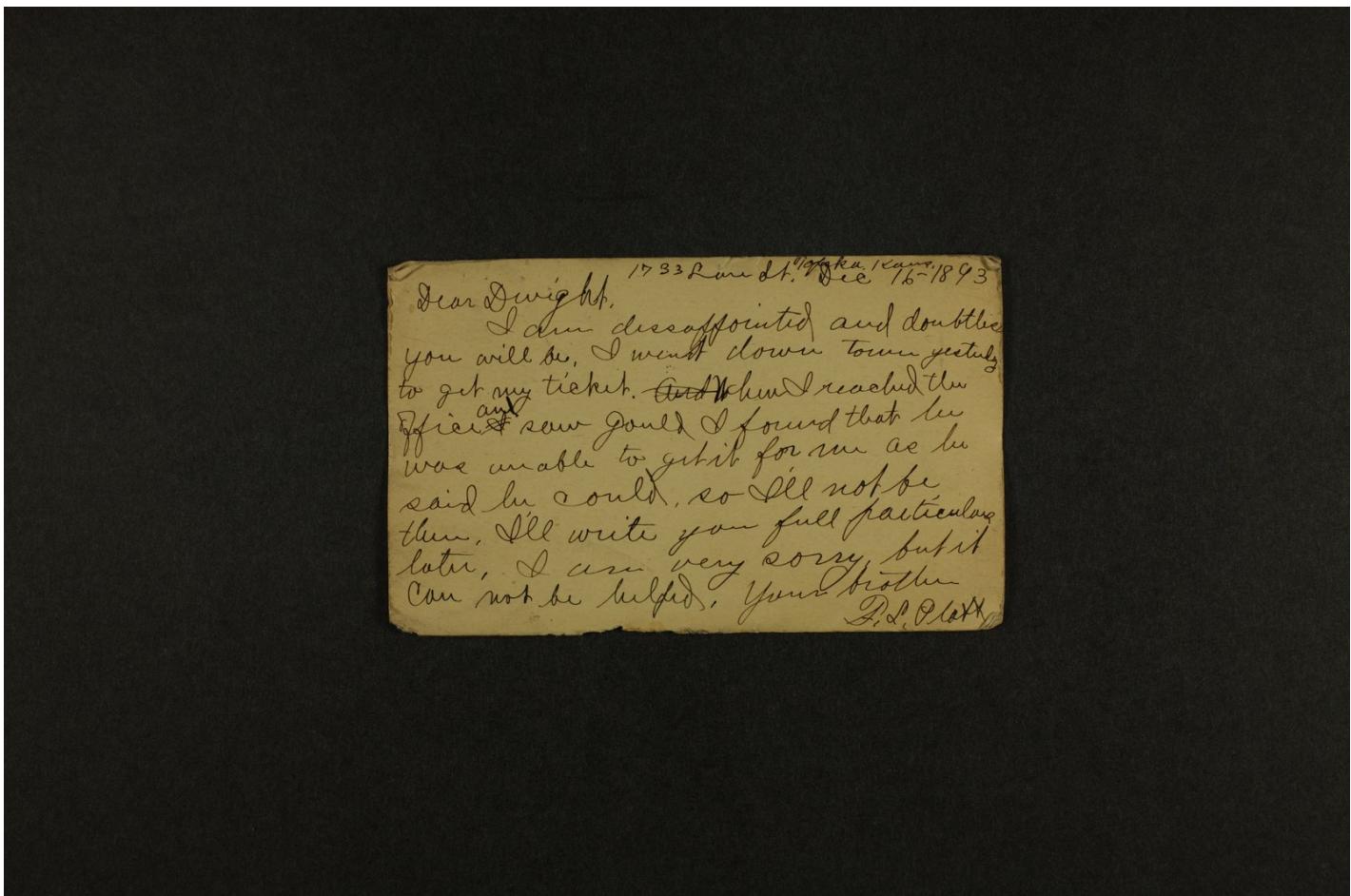
Brother  
Dwight H. Platt. is now in  
his senior year in  
the Union Park Theological  
Seminary Chicago Illinois  
Ferry C. Platt is in his  
Sophomore year in Washburn  
College Topeka Kansas.

Luther H. Platt was born  
in Mendon Illinois Dec 10<sup>th</sup>  
1835, the sixth child of  
Jireh Platt, <sup>Born in Connecticut 1808</sup> and his wife

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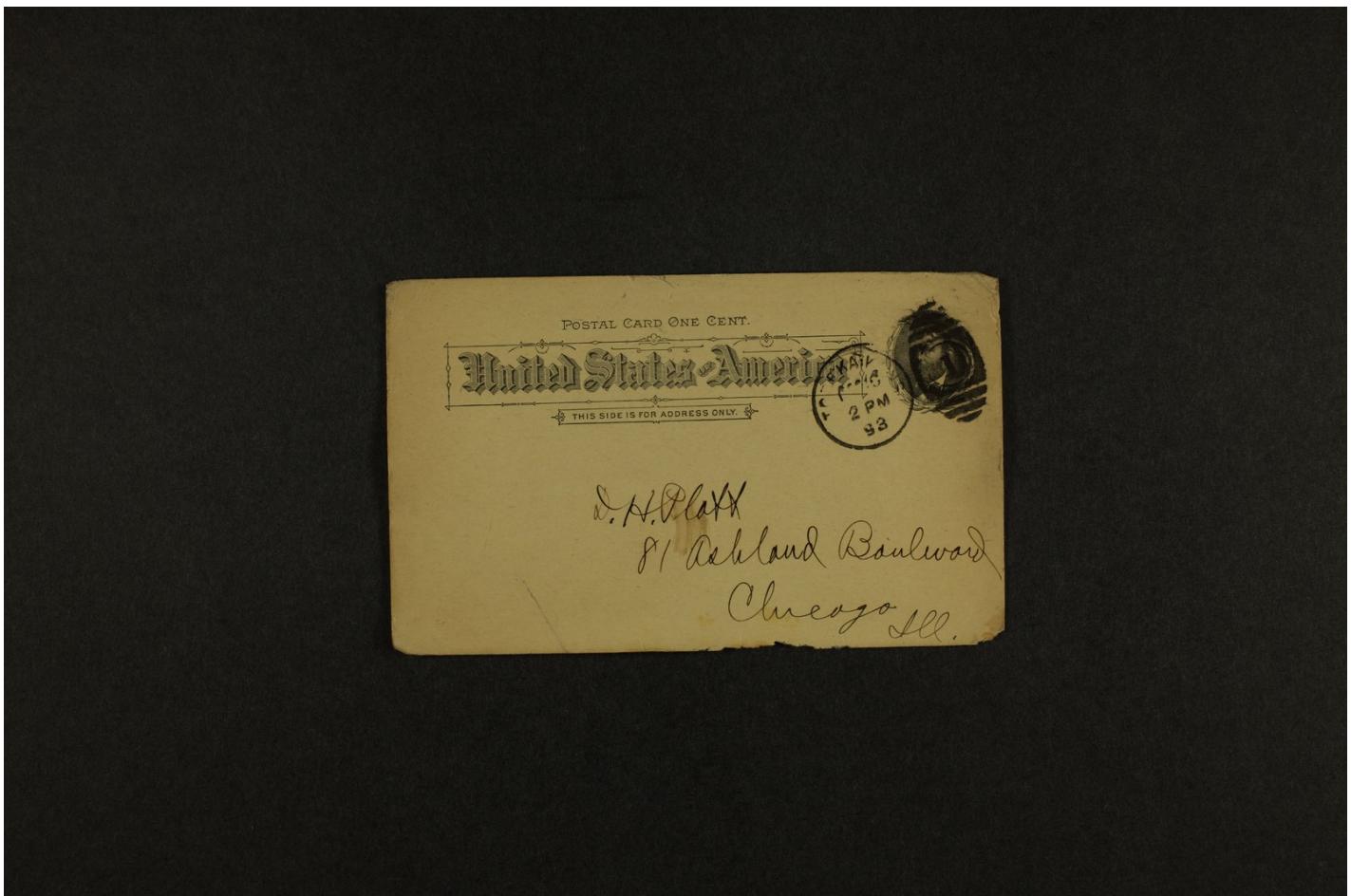
## Dwight H. and Luther H. Platt correspondence



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## Dwight H. and Luther H. Platt correspondence

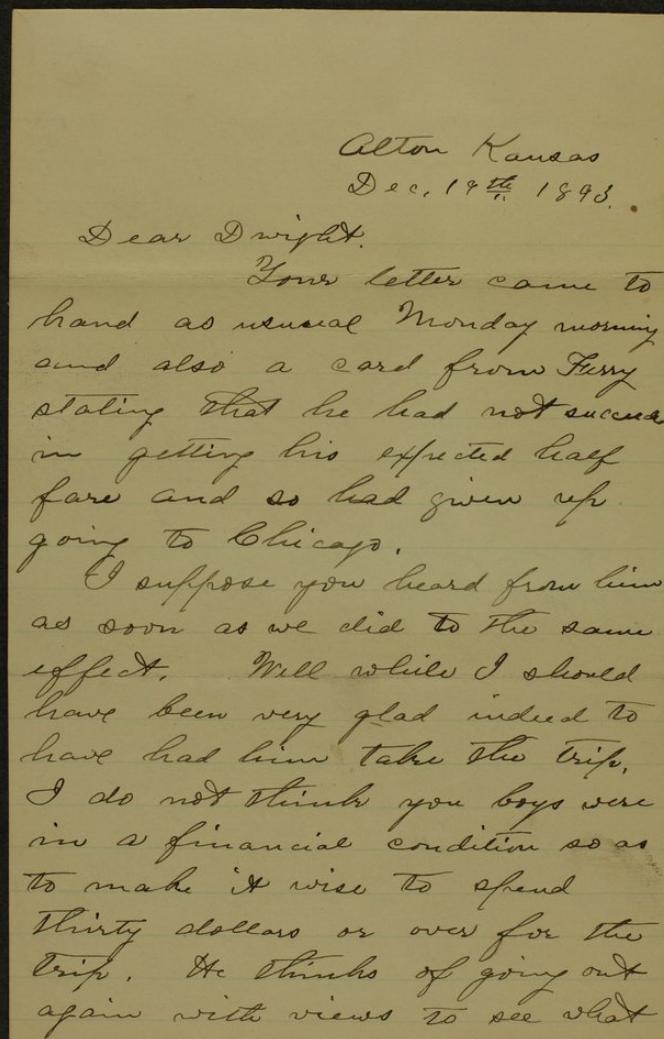


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he can do with them this holiday season.

We are having a change this Christmas season from what we generally have.

Christmas eve coming on Sabbath evening we are going to have a Christmas story service "The Story of Jesus" and instead of having a distribution of presents to the school, we are going to ask them to bring an offering to bestow upon those less favored. in our midst.

I do not know how it will work but we can try it.

I do hope that some of our church members are striving to get to a higher plane of Christian work. To make more of the idea of Christ the Savior from

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sinc and to earnestly strive to lead the children as well as the older ones to Christ and that as far as may be at once for cleansing and pardon.

Let we pastors find it a difficult matter to get any church or group of Christians out of any rut that they may have fallen into, or rather worn.

It is a little hard to get people to strike out to do new lines of work. Like the old Dea, who was fluent in prayer, when a young man said he wanted to be a Christian and asked prayers. the pastor said Dea, will you pray for that young man. hesitated and answered "I've not been in t habit of praying at a mark but I'll try."

The surface of things here in Atchison is being stirred up some, and there

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seems to be more attention turned  
to the church and its work.  
Less of indifference (and any thing  
is better than stagnation)  
Mamma and I have remembered  
a request you made some months  
ago, and have had our photos  
taken. We send two of each to  
you. Select your choice of each  
for yourself, and on Christmas  
day (if convenient) carry the others  
with our compliments to Dr.  
and Mrs. Hall.  
Friday of this week we go to  
Dumas to meet some of the  
brethren and their wives to  
have a meeting for permanent  
organization of a Congl Club  
in the Solomon Valley. How is that  
for Western Kan?  
We are usually well. Both of us  
so far free from colds than  
usual in winter. With love,  
Yours faithfully  
L. H. Platt.

To D. H. Platt  
Chicago, Ill.

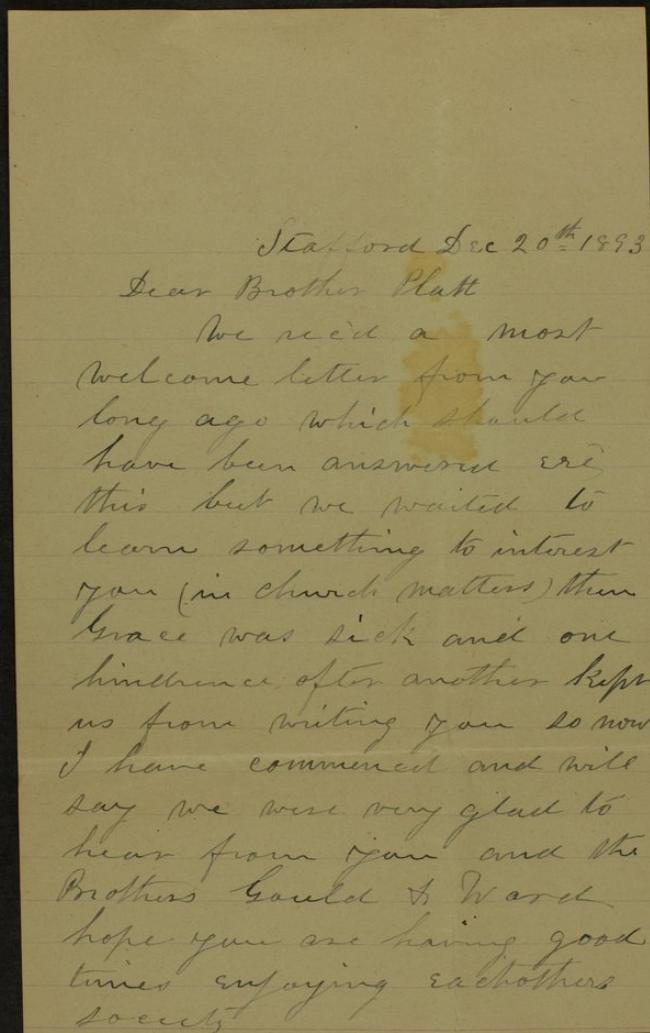
With love,  
Yours faithfully  
L. H. Platt.

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Our church has not as yet received any grant nor do I do not know as a promise of one but we are still hopeful We have a minister for the winter a Mr Ellwood an English man just over from the old country He is a very fine young man of good education and a good preacher is very earnest and anxious to do the Masters will and I think will succeed in his labors here Our people are making preparations for the Christmas services we are to have the Christian Church for the occasion and our little folks are looking for a grand time as the Sabbath school is doing finely

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We have missed you so much<sup>3</sup>  
and thought of you so often  
since you left us and hoped  
you were enjoying life to its  
fullest measure and that you  
would sometime return to us  
for I assure you that you  
would receive a hearty welcome  
from all the people of Stofford.  
Bro. Brown enquires after you  
often and says he misses you  
as well as our church does.  
Mr Ellwood boards with us  
and seems to feel at home  
with us and is very studious  
stays in his room pretty closely  
unless out calling upon  
and getting acquainted with  
the people. Everybody nearly  
are having a tassel with seas  
grippe I have been sick over  
a week but am better now Mrs  
C is complaining some and I am  
afraid she is coming down with it.

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## Dwight H. and Luther H. Platt correspondence

We have the old Telegram building  
where the peoples paper was printed  
last summer for church and  
Sabbath schools &c and is  
makes a handy and pretty  
comfortable place for us  
We are talking of getting an  
Organ for the church but  
may not do so just yet as  
some want to wait until  
we know that we will  
get the grant from building  
fund as we expect to  
know soon I know  
of no news to write you  
so will close asking you  
to kindly remember us to  
Mr Gould and Mr Ward  
and let us hear from you  
again and I will be more  
prompt next time And now  
May God Bless and keep  
you in our Prayer J W & S W Clark

To Dwight H. Platt, Chicago, Ill.

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1733 Lane St. Topeka, Kans.  
Dec 21-1893

D H Platt

81 Ashland Boulevard  
Chicago Ill.

Dear brother:

I suppose en this you have recd. my card saying that I would not be in Chicago. I was greatly disappointed about it my self. Gould told me that could get a half fare rate for Mac and my self if we wished to go. He got the orders for them and I told him I had about concluded not to go. But day I got your letter which decided me to go and the next time I saw Gould I told him I had decided to go. He said that it would be impossible for me to go on that ticket as he had signed it and sold it. He said though that he would see Mr. Rowley and see if he would let me go on Mac's ticket as Mac. had concluded not to go to Chicago. Gould had tried to get me to sign the ticket when I told him I guess I would not go, but I would not do it. Now before Gould saw Rowley about my going on Mac's ticket, Rowley called Gould up and gave him "particular fits" for doing has he had done with my ticket. He had telegraphed to the conductor

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to take the ticket up when presented. Of course after that Rowley of course would give Gould no more favors so that knocked me out so that I could not go for less than \$28, which was more than I thought I could afford. I had a long talk with Gould both before and after he signed the ticket and told just what I thought of it and he says now that he sees that he did very wrong. He not only will lose some \$25. on it but what is much more has lost the respect of Rowley Bros. two men whom it does well to stand in with."

So much for that. Now for the W.C. L.S. reception which was held in Boswell Library last Friday night, and which was the grandest affair of a social nature which Washington ever held.

Twice last year and once this year the "Gamma Sigs" have given receptions to the college girls. In each case they have held it here and asked the use of our room which is across the hall from this. Of course we granted it. Well current report among the girls had it that our fellowmen all right when it came to speaking in

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public, but from a social point we were decidedly "clumsy." In order to drive this opinion from the minds of the girls, in order to "break it off in" the "Gammas Sigs" we made a still hunt among our fellows and got up the biggest and finest reception ever held at Washburn. We ~~were~~ invited not only the college girls and the "Dac" but the lower town girls and the "Gammas" themselves. In fact we invited every body in town that had any thing to do with the school. We worked it up on the sly, and when the invitations came out the thing strange to say had not leaked out at all, ~~at~~ And ooh it was a picnic to ~~solo~~ watch the Gammas "thrusting around like bob tailed steers in fly time." They were completely undressed, and have not ~~ever~~ recovered from the shock yet.

Well school is out and I am going to spend my vacation in Topeka, working on my oration and doing some extra work in English Lit, and Greek. By the way can you think of a name for my oration, I am going to on Catholicism and its relation to the few institutions in these U. S. today. I want