James Barnes Whitaker correspondence

Section 74, Pages 2191 - 2220

This collection includes materials related to all aspects of James Barnes Whitaker's professional life, including his real estate business and his legal career, particularly for the pensioners he helped. He came to Tecumseh, Shawnee County in 1856 and worked there as a surveyor. In 1857, he moved to Topeka where he remained, serving as county sheriff, surveyor, and Topeka city engineer. He owned an abstract and real estate business in Topeka and was an attorney, representing numerous Civil War veterans in obtaining disability pensions, many of whom served in Kansas units. The collection consists of Whitaker's correspondence (arranged chronologically) and Whitaker's 1857 certificate of appointment as a U.S. Deputy Marshal.

Date: 1855-1909

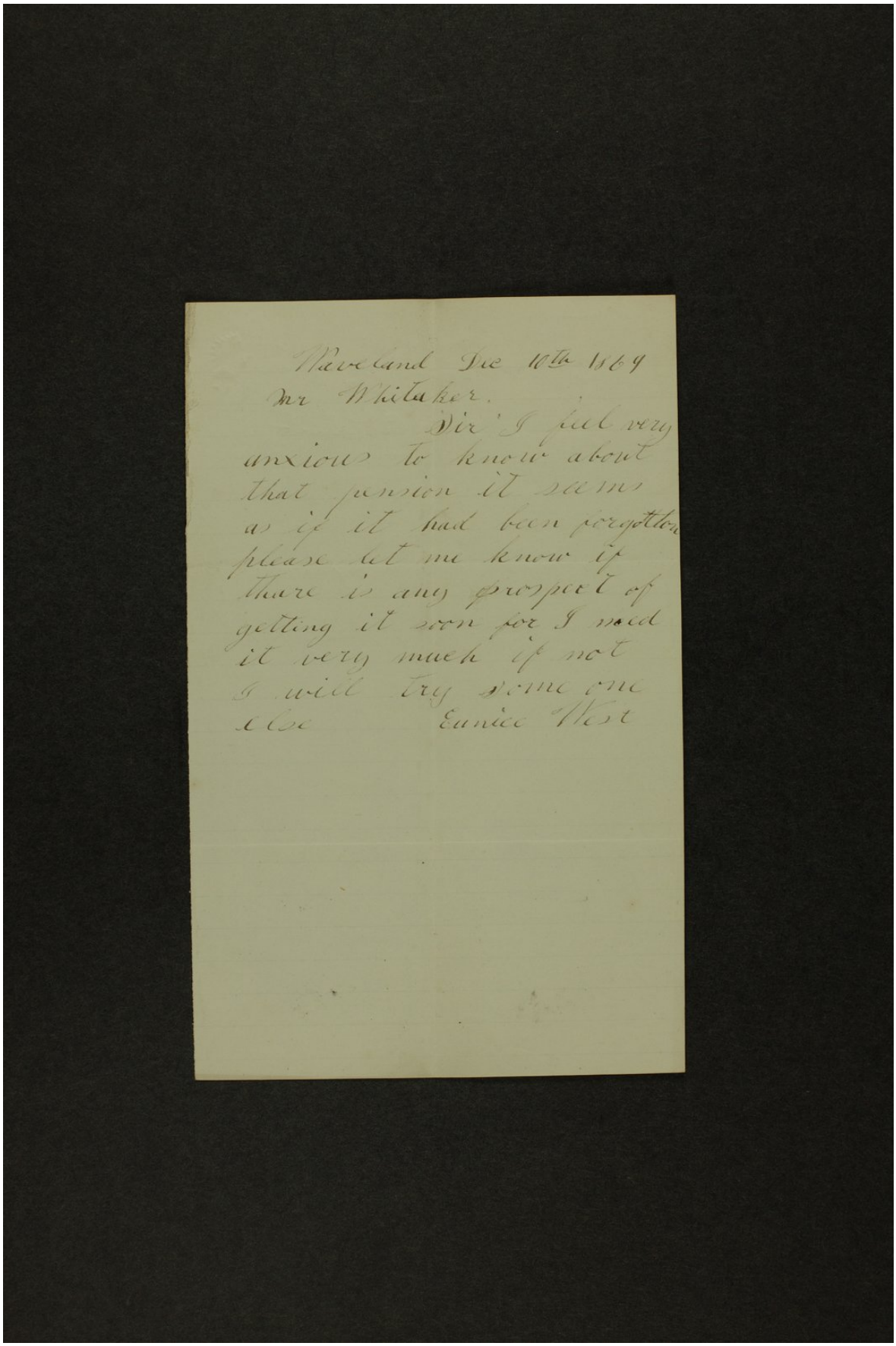
Callnumber: James Barnes Whitaker Coll. #540, Box 1 - 3

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 228667

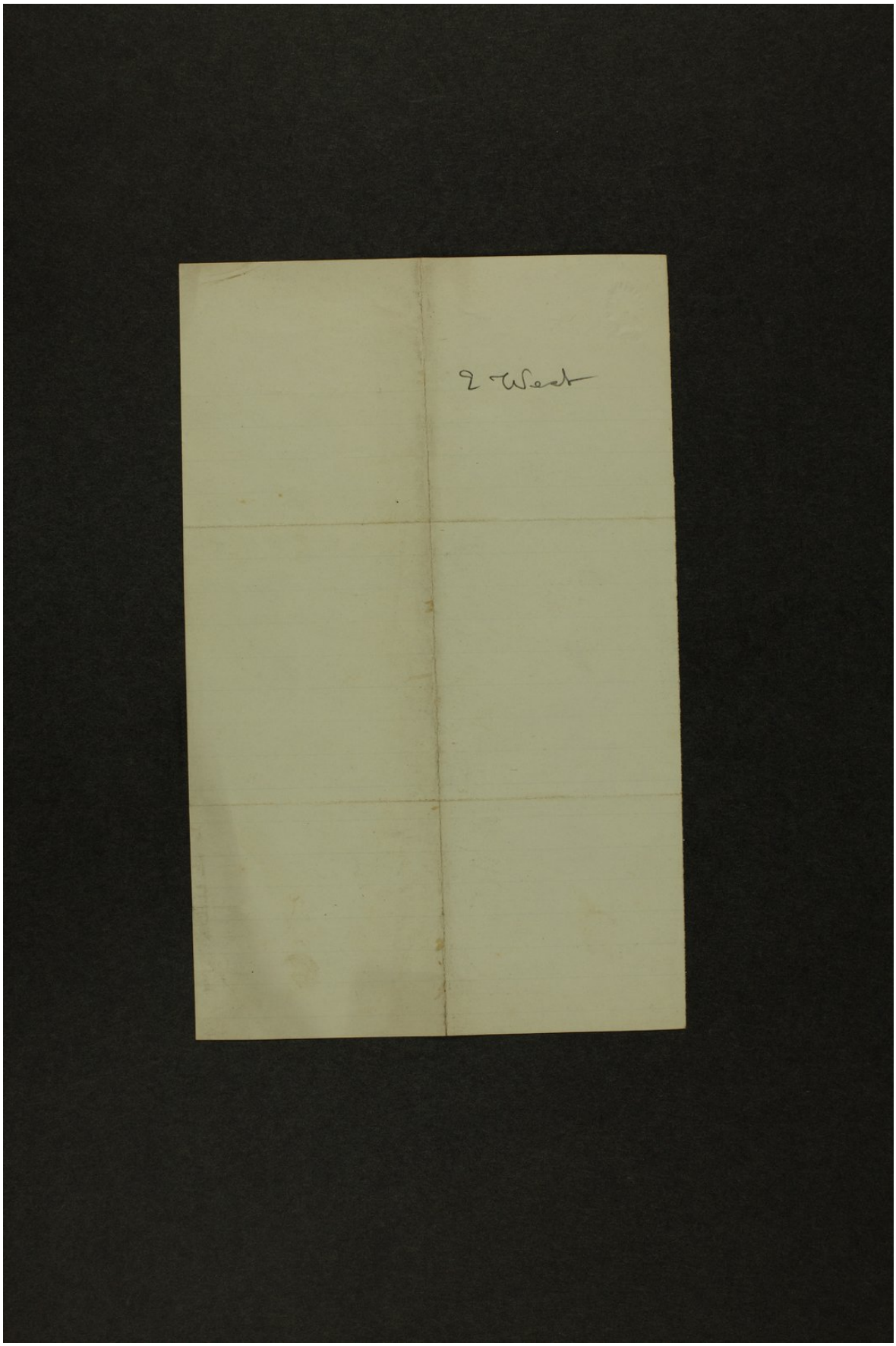
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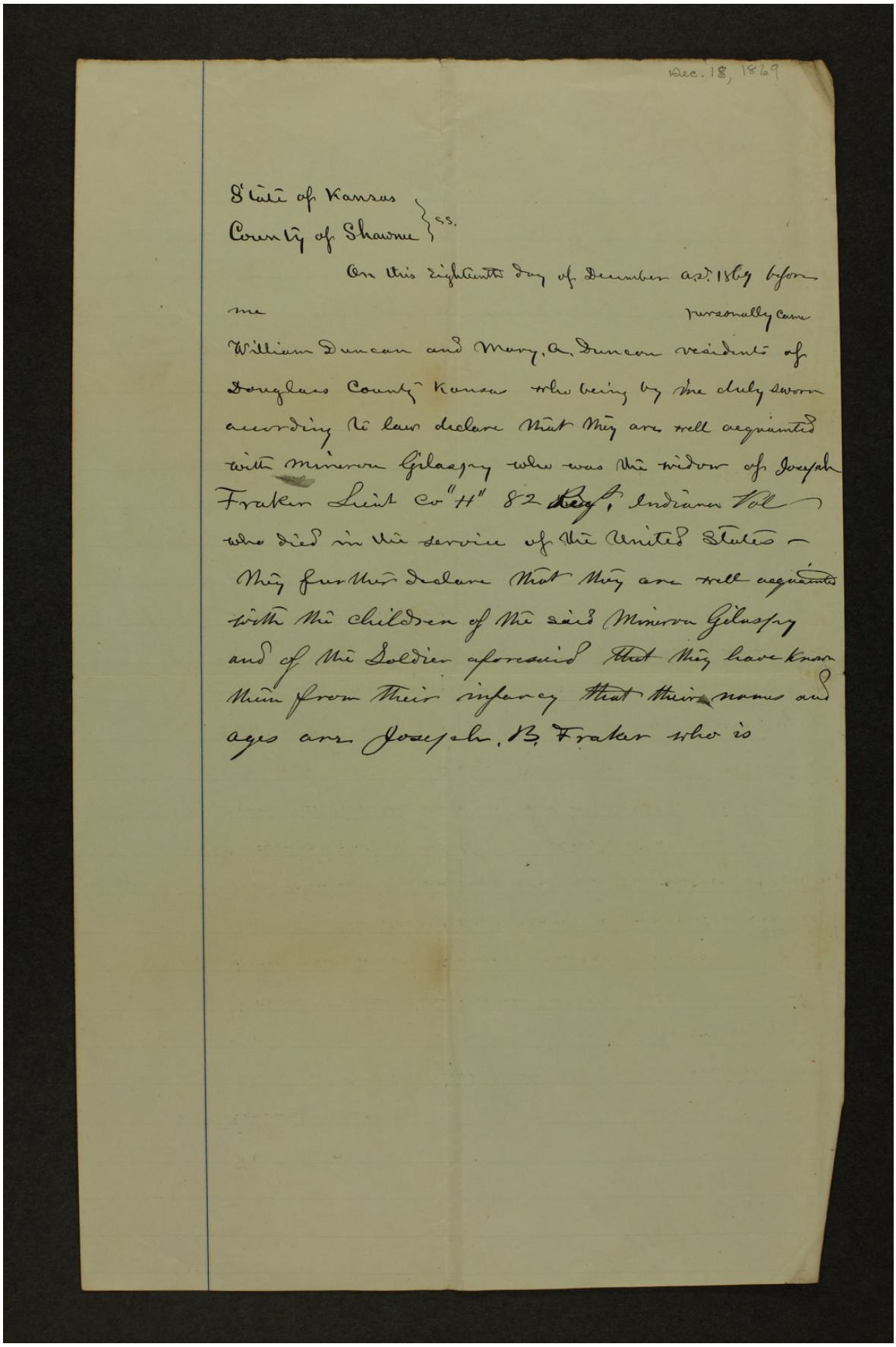
www.kansasmemory.org/item/228667

James Barnes Whitaker correspondence



Waveland Dec 16th 1869
Mr Whitaker.
Sir I feel very
anxious to know about
that pension it seems
as if it had been forgotten
please let me know if
there is any prospect of
getting it soon for I need
it very much if not
I will try some one
else Eunice West

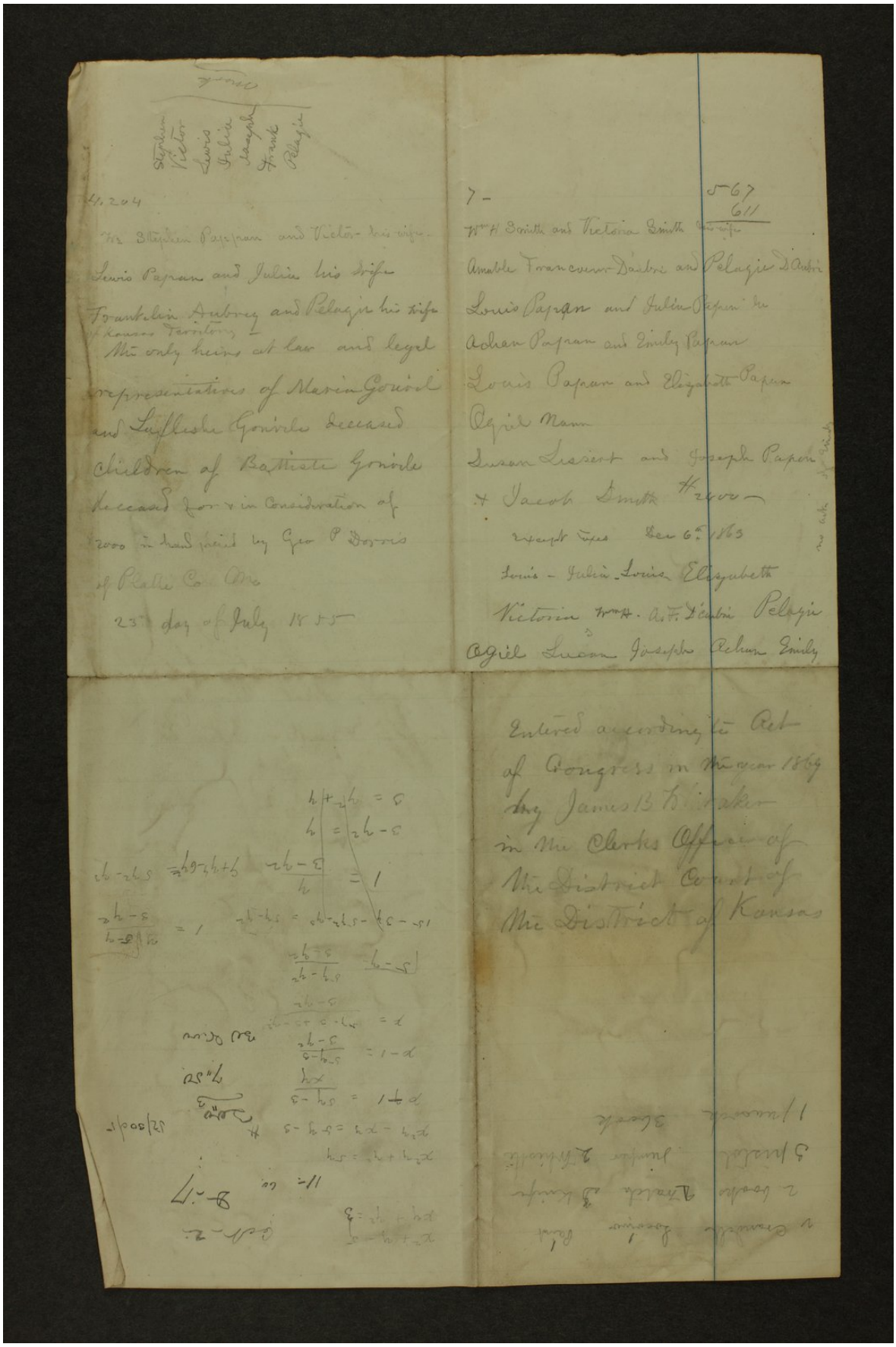

2 West



Dec. 18, 1869

State of Kansas
County of Shawnee } ss.

On this Eighteenth Day of December A.D. 1869 before me personally came William Duncan and Mary A. Duncan residents of Douglass County Kansas who being by me duly sworn according to law declare that they are well acquainted with Minerva Gilaspy who was the widow of Joseph Fraker Lieut Co "H" 82 Regt Indiana Vol who died in the service of the United States — They further declare that they are well acquainted with the children of the said Minerva Gilaspy and of the Soldier aforesaid that they have known them from their infancy that their names and ages are Joseph B. Fraker who is



Stephen Victor Louis Julia Joseph Frank Pelagie

41.204

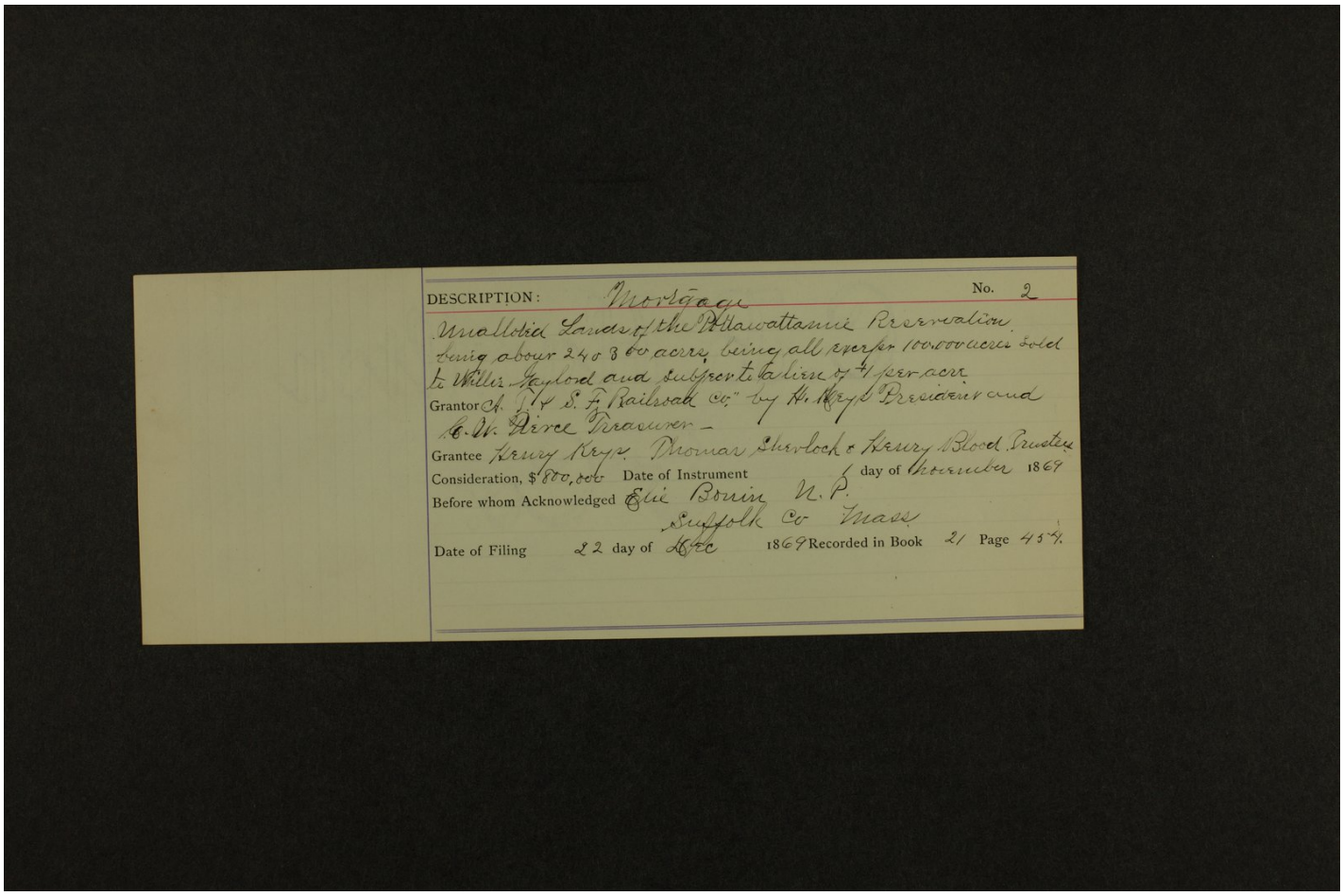
Mr Stephen Papan and Victor his wife
Louis Papan and Julia his wife
Franklin Aubrey and Pelagie his wife
of Kansas Territory
the only heirs at law and legal
representatives of Marin Gonvil
and Lufleshe Gonvile deceased
Children of Battiste Gonvile
deceased for & in Consideration of
2000 in hand paid by Geo P Dorris
of Platte Co Mo
23rd day of July 1855

7-
5-67
611

Wm H Smith and Victoria Smith his wife
Amable Francoeur Aubrie and Pelagie D'Aubrie
Louis Papan and Julia Papin his
Adran Papan and Emily Papan
Louis Papan and Elizabeth Papan
Agiel Mann
Susan Lesieut and Joseph Papin
& Jacob Smith #2400
Receipt Tipes Dec 6th 1863
Louis - Julia Louis Elizabeth
Victoria Wm H. Aub. D'Aubri Pelagie
Agiel Susan Joseph Adrian Emily

Entered according to Act
of Congress in the year 1864
by James B Whitaker
in the Clerks Office of
the District Court of
the District of Kansas

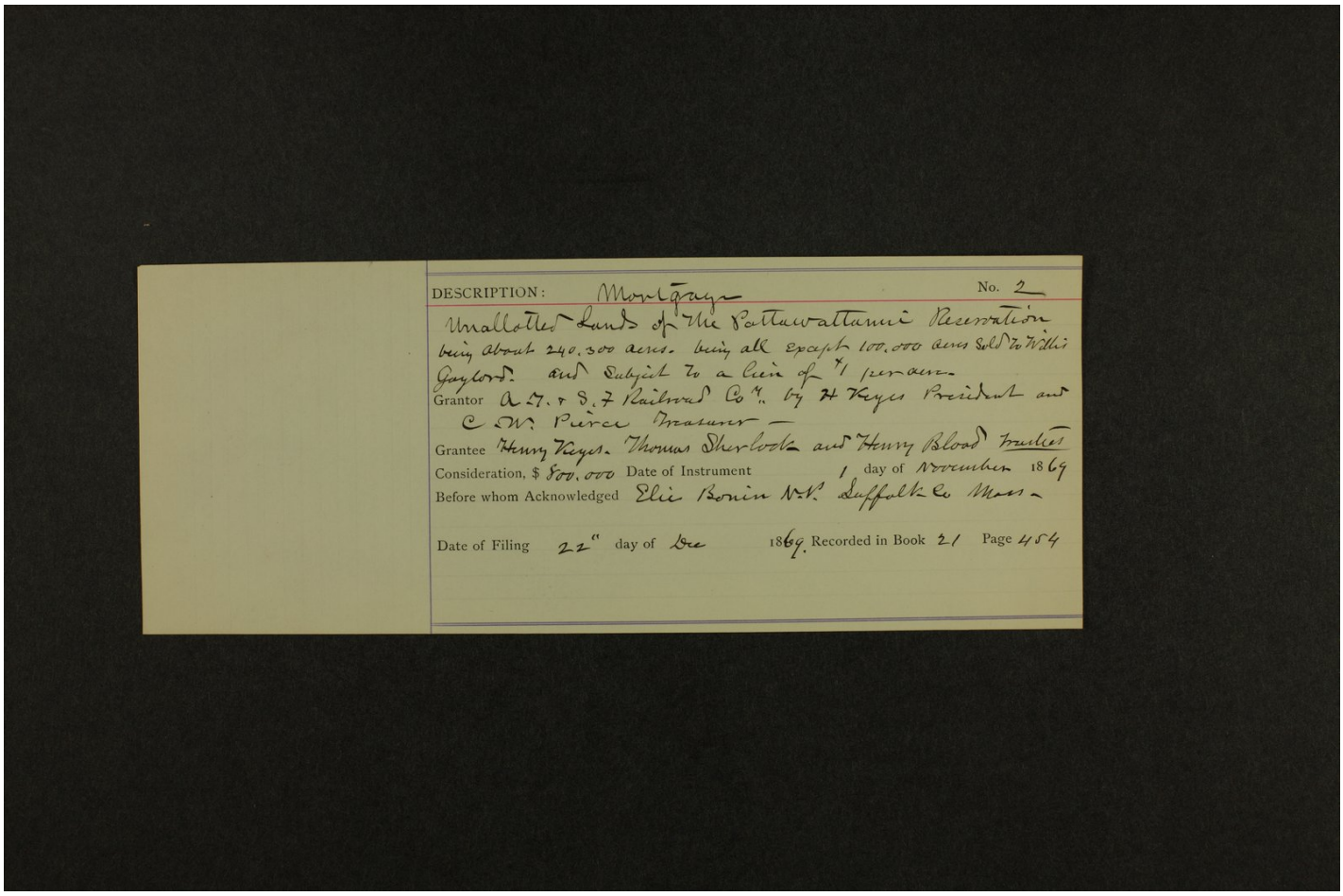
James Barnes Whitaker correspondence



DESCRIPTION: Mortgage No. 2

Unallotted Lands of the Pottawattamie Reservation
being about 240 000 acres being all except 100.000 acres sold
to Miller Gaylord and subsequently taken off at $1 per acre
Grantor A. T. & S. F. Railroad Co. by H. Knight Brewster and
C. W. Pierce Treasurer –
Grantee Henry Knight Thomas Sherlock & Henry Blood Trustees
Consideration, $800,000 Date of Instrument 1 day of November 1869
Before whom Acknowledged Ellis Bonin N. P.
Suffolk Co Mass
Date of Filing 22 day of Dec 1869 Recorded in Book 21 Page 454

James Barnes Whitaker correspondence



DESCRIPTION: Mortgage No. 2

Unallotted Lands of the Pottawattamie Reservation being about 240,300 acres. being all except 100,000 acres sold to Willi Gaylord. and Subject to a lien of $1 per acre.

Grantor A. T. & S. F. Railroad Co'y. by H Keyes President and C W. Pierce Treasurer —

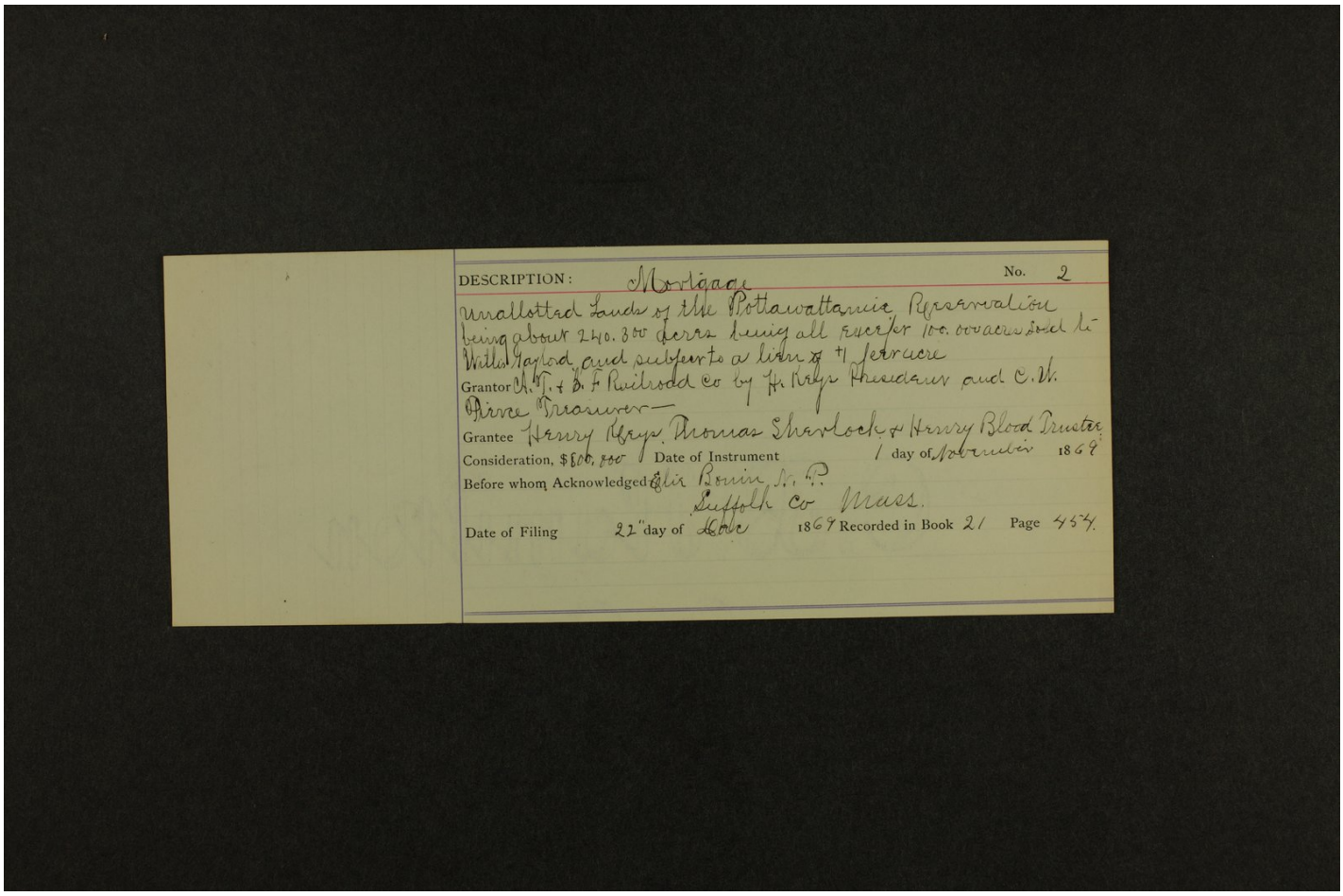
Grantee Henry Keyes. Thomas Sherlock and Henry Blood Trustees

Consideration, $ 800,000 Date of Instrument 1 day of November 1869

Before whom Acknowledged Elii Bonin N.P. Suffolk Co Mass.

Date of Filing 22" day of Dec 1869. Recorded in Book 21 Page 454

James Barnes Whitaker correspondence



DESCRIPTION: Mortgage No. 2

Unallotted Lands of the Pottawattamie Reservation being about 240.000 Acres being all except 100.000 acres sold to Wells Taylor and subject to a lien of 1 February

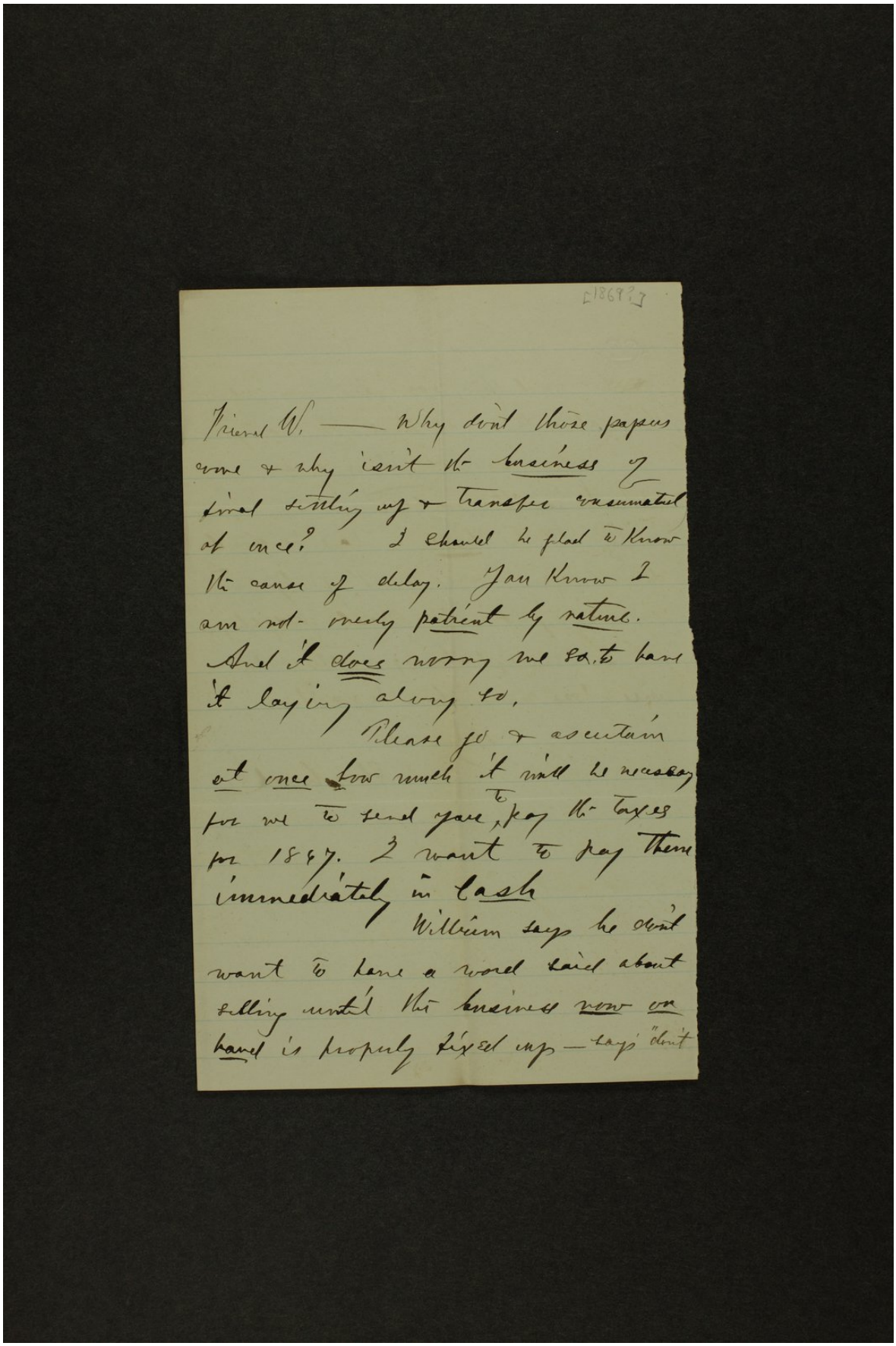
Grantor K. P. & B. F. Railroad Co by H. Keys Thurber and C. W. Pierce Treasurer—

Grantee Henry Keyes Thomas Sherlock & Henry Blood Trustees

Consideration, $800,000 Date of Instrument 1 day of November 1869

Before whom Acknowledged Elis Bowin N. P.
Suffolk Co Mass.

Date of Filing 22 day of Dec 1869 Recorded in Book 21 Page 454

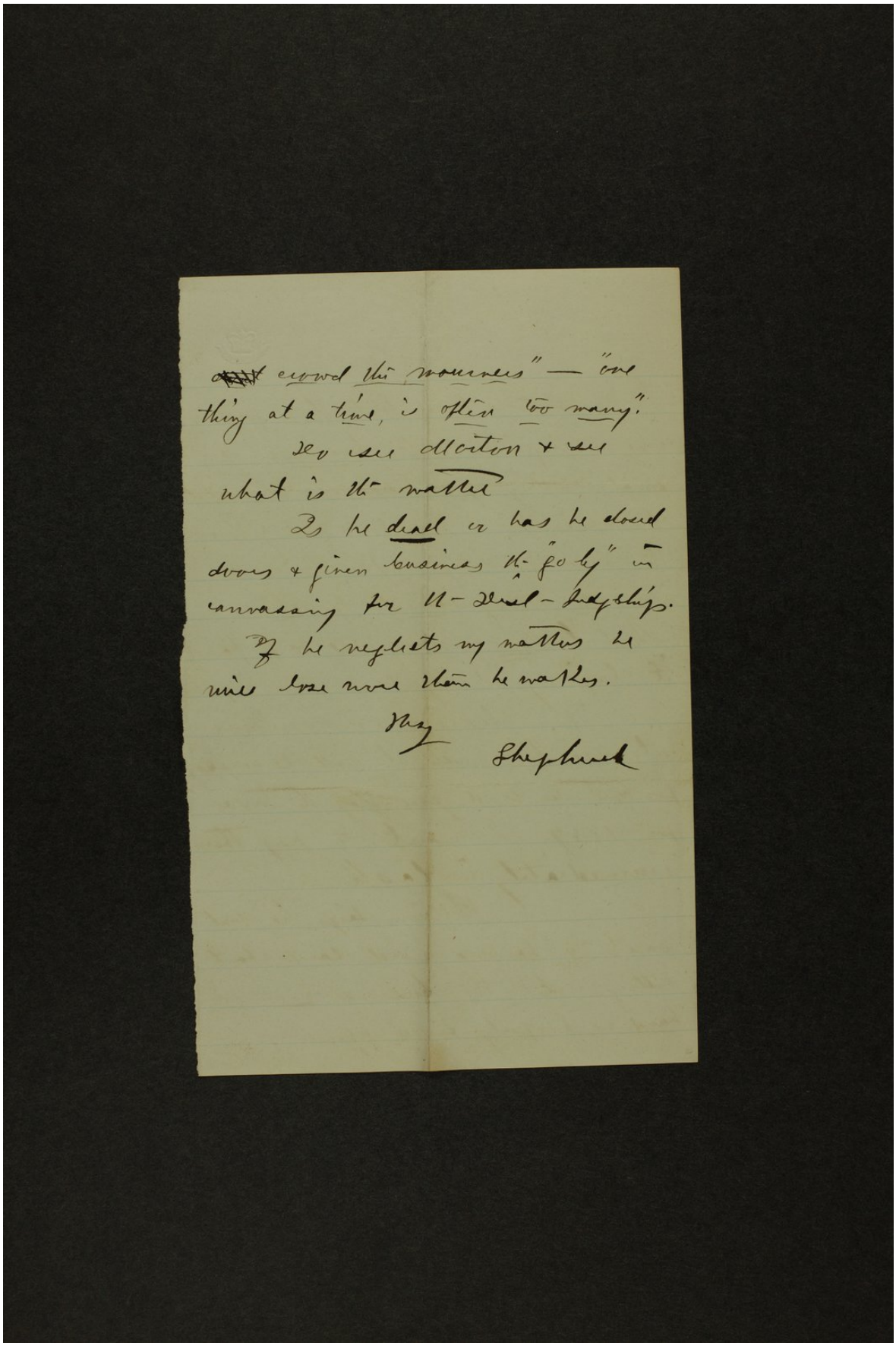


[1869?]

Friend W. —— Why dont those papers come & why isn't the business of deed settling up & transfer consummated at once? I should be glad to know the cause of delay. You know I am not overly patient by nature. And it does worry me to have it laying along so.

Please go & ascertain at once how much it will be necessary for me to send you, to pay the taxes for 1867. I want to pay them immediately in cash

William says he dont want to have a word said about selling until the business now on hand is properly fixed up — says "dont



crowd this moment" — "one thing at a time, is often too many".

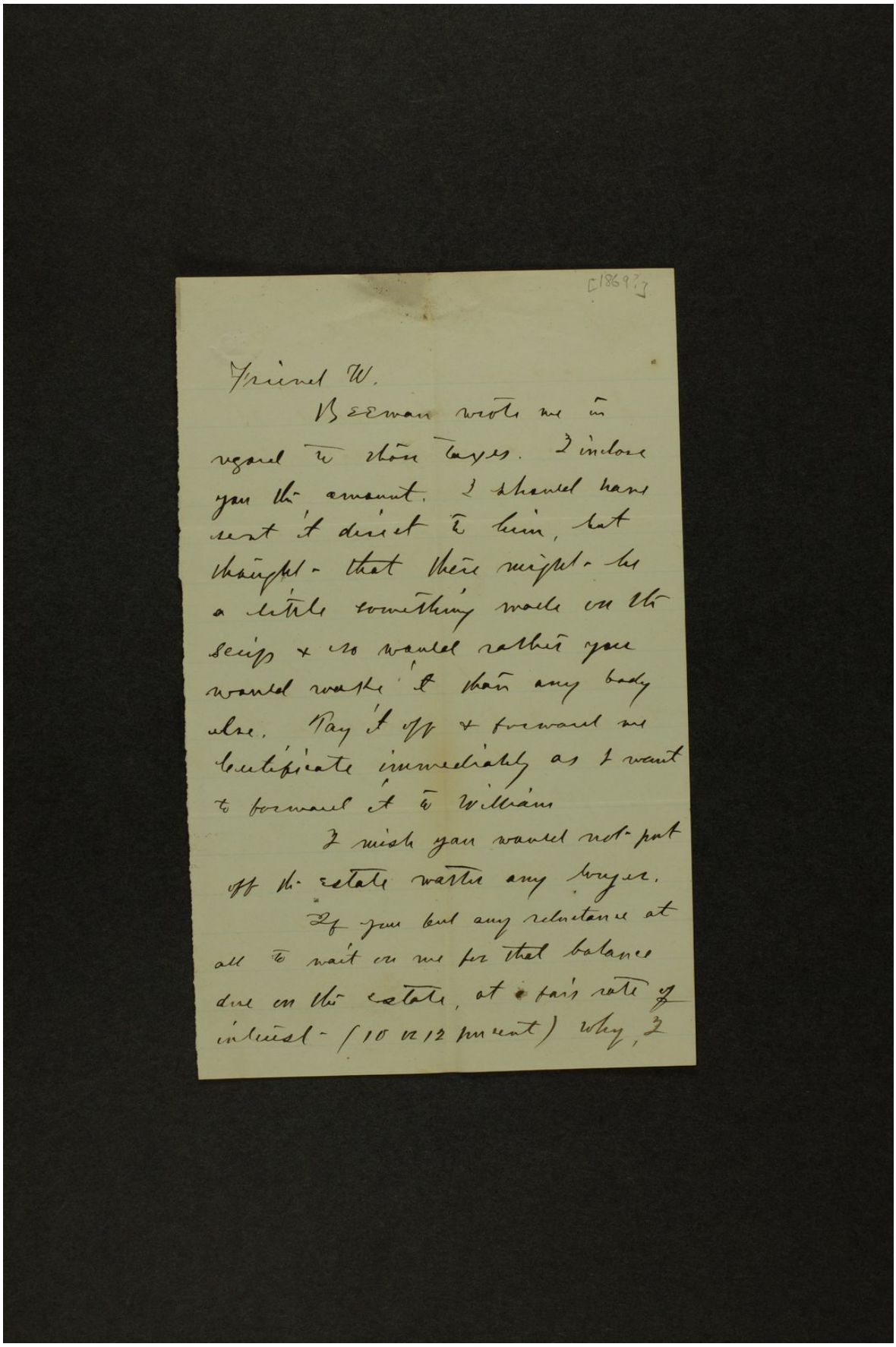
See Wm Allerton & see what is the matter

Is he dead or has he closed doors & given business "go by" in canvassing for U-Dead-Ludgeships.

If he neglects my matters he will lose more than he makes.

Yours

Shepherd



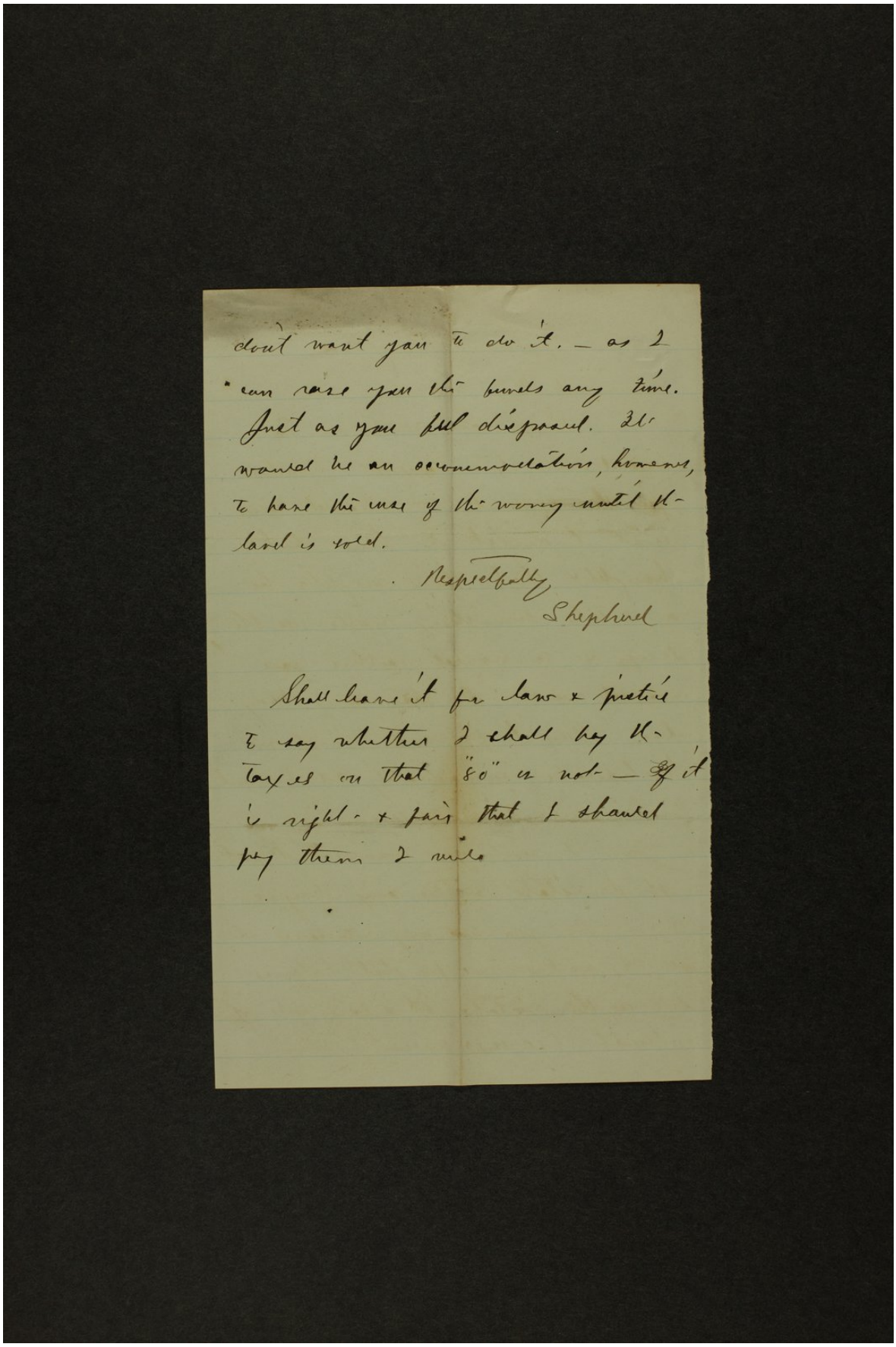
[1869?]

Friend W.

Beeman wrote me in regard to them taxes. I inclose you the amount. I should have sent it direct to him, but thought that there might be a little something made on the scrip & so wanted rather you would make it than any body else. Pay it off & forward me certificate immediately as I want to forward it to Williams

I wish you would not put off the estate matter any longer.

If you feel any reluctance at all to wait on me for that balance due on the estate, at the rate of interest (10 or 12 per cent) why, I

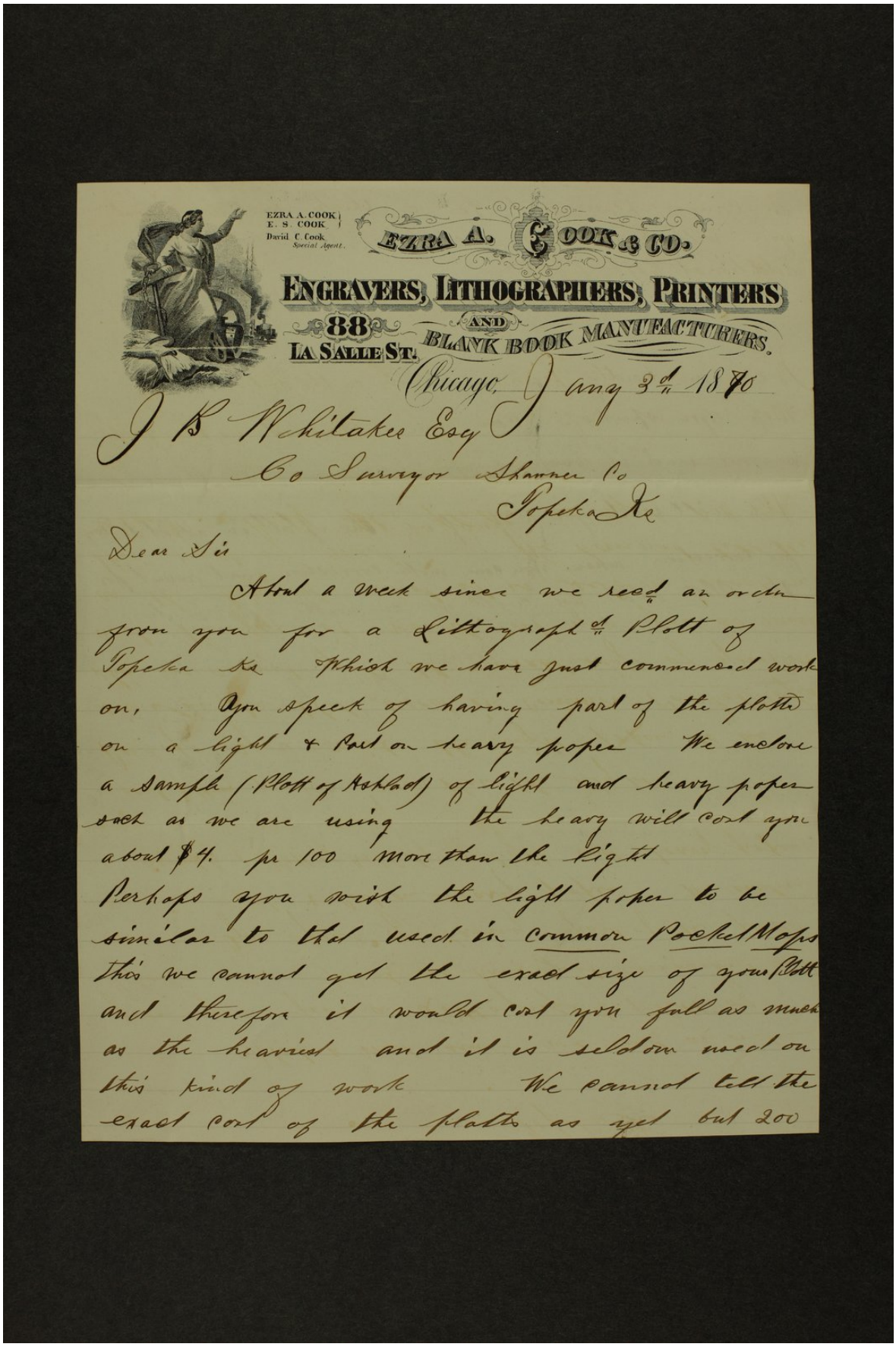


dont want you to do it. — as I can raise you the funds any time. Just as you tell disposed. It wanted be an accommodation, however, to have the case of the wrong united States is sold.

Respectfully
Shepherd

Shall leave it for law & justice to say whether I shall pay taxes on that "so" is not — If it is right & just that I should pay them I will

James Barnes Whitaker correspondence



EZRA A. COOK
E. S. COOK
David C. Cook
Special Agent.

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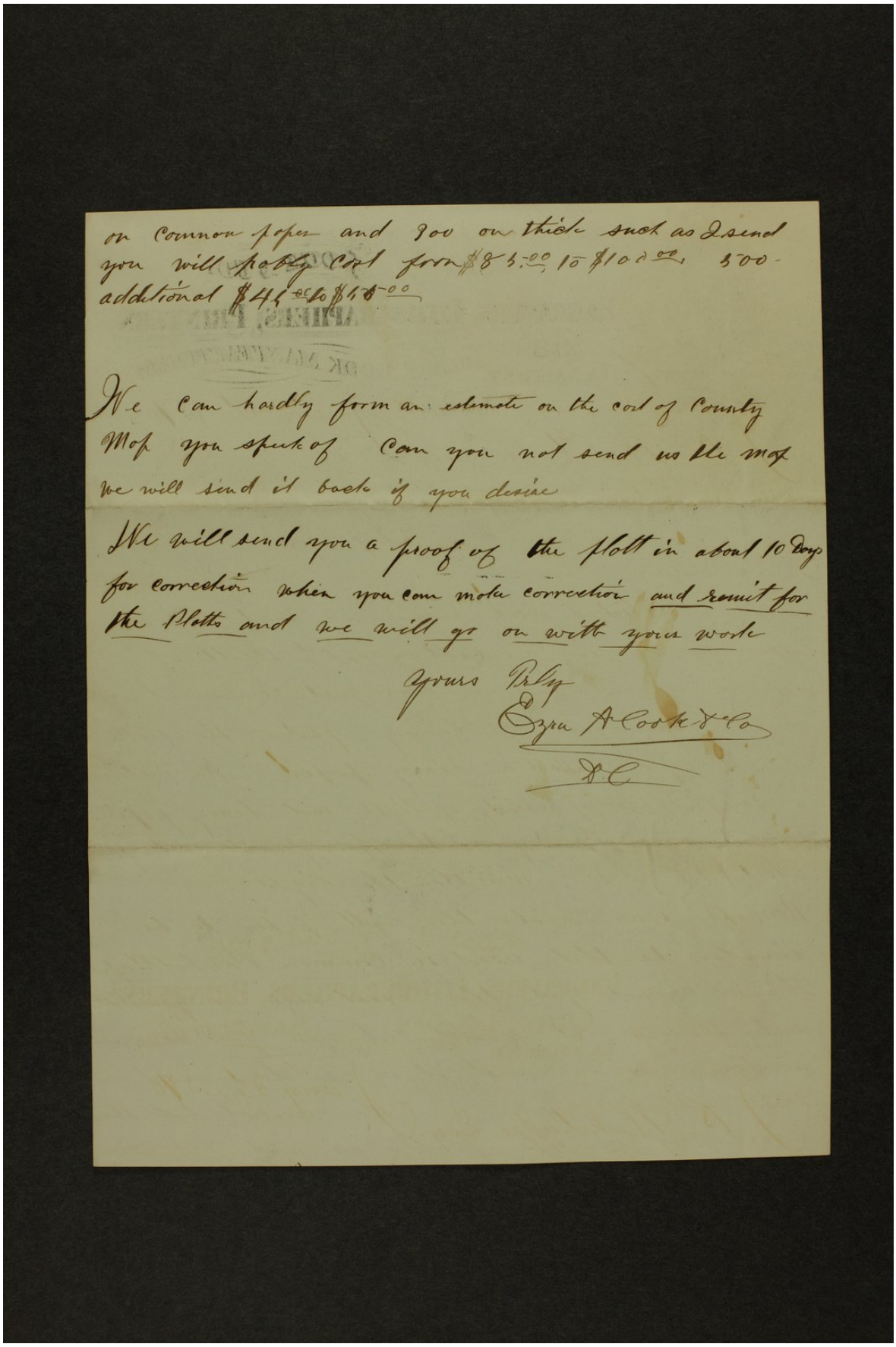
88 LA SALLE ST.

Chicago Jany 3d 1870

J B Whitaker Esq
Co Surveyor Shawnee Co
Topeka Ks

Dear Sir

About a week since we recd an order from you for a Lithograph of Plott of Topeka Ks which we have just commenced work on. You speek of having part of the plotts on a light & part on heavy paper We enclose a sample (Plott of Ashland) of light and heavy paper such as we are using the heavy will cost you about $4. pr 100 More than the light Perhaps you wish the light paper to be similar to that used in common Pocket Maps this we cannot get the exact size of your Plott and therefore it would cost you full as much as the heaviest and it is seldom used on this kind of work We cannot tell the exact cost of the plotts as yet but 200



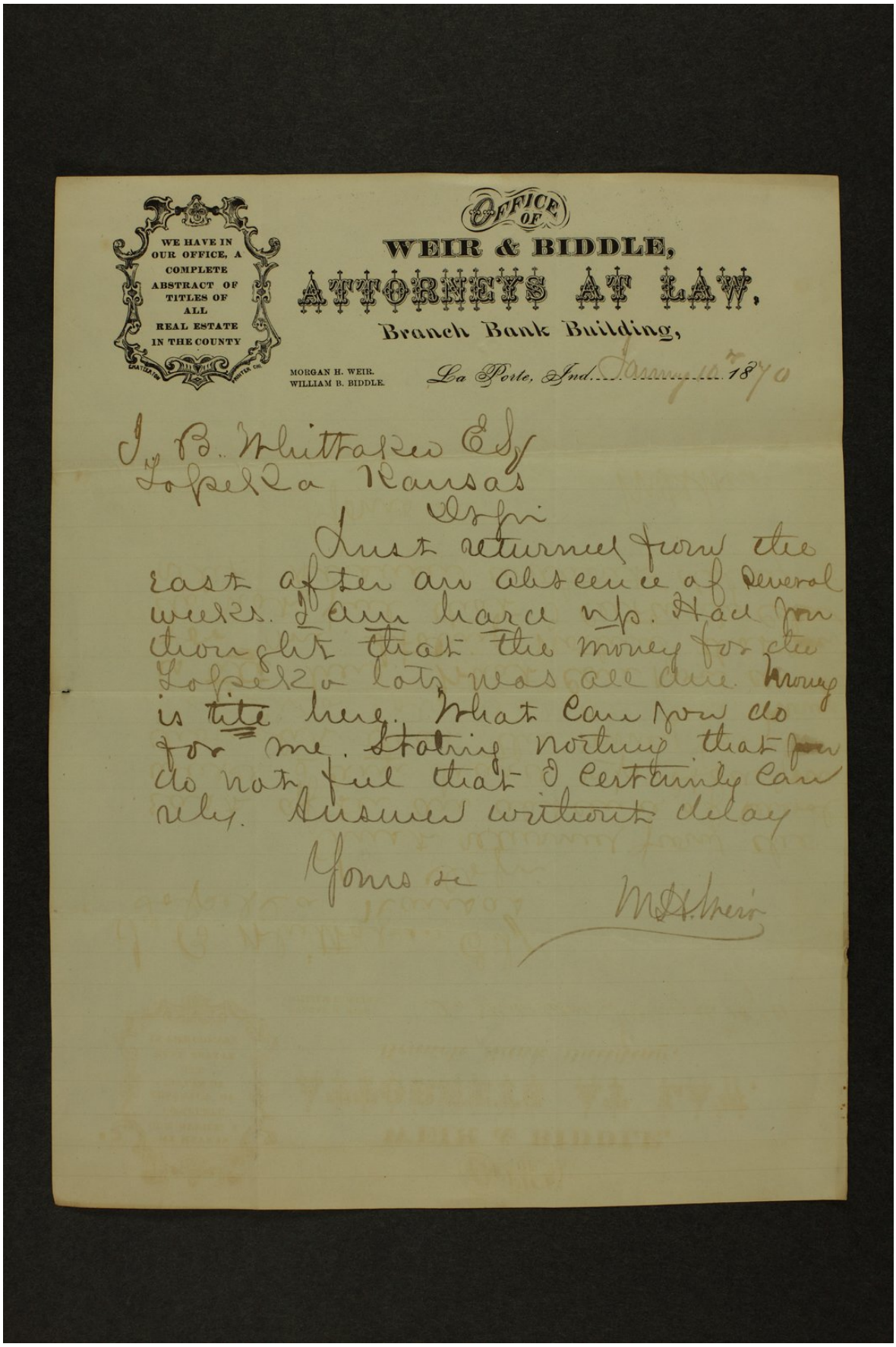
or Common paper and 300 on thick such as I send you will probly cost from $85.00 to $100.00 300 additional $45.00 to $50.00

We can hardly form an estimate on the cost of County Map you speak of Can you not send us the Map we will send it back if you desire

We will send you a proof of the plott in about 10 days for correction when you can make correction and remit for the Plotts and we will go on with your work

Yours Truly
Ezra A Cook & Co
P C

James Barnes Whitaker correspondence



WE HAVE IN OUR OFFICE, A COMPLETE ABSTRACT OF TITLES OF ALL REAL ESTATE IN THE COUNTY

OFFICE OF
WEIR & BIDDLE,
ATTORNEYS AT LAW,
Branch Bank Building,

MORGAN H. WEIR.
WILLIAM B. BIDDLE.

La Porte, Ind. January 17 1870

J. B. Whittaker Esq
Lopeka Kansas

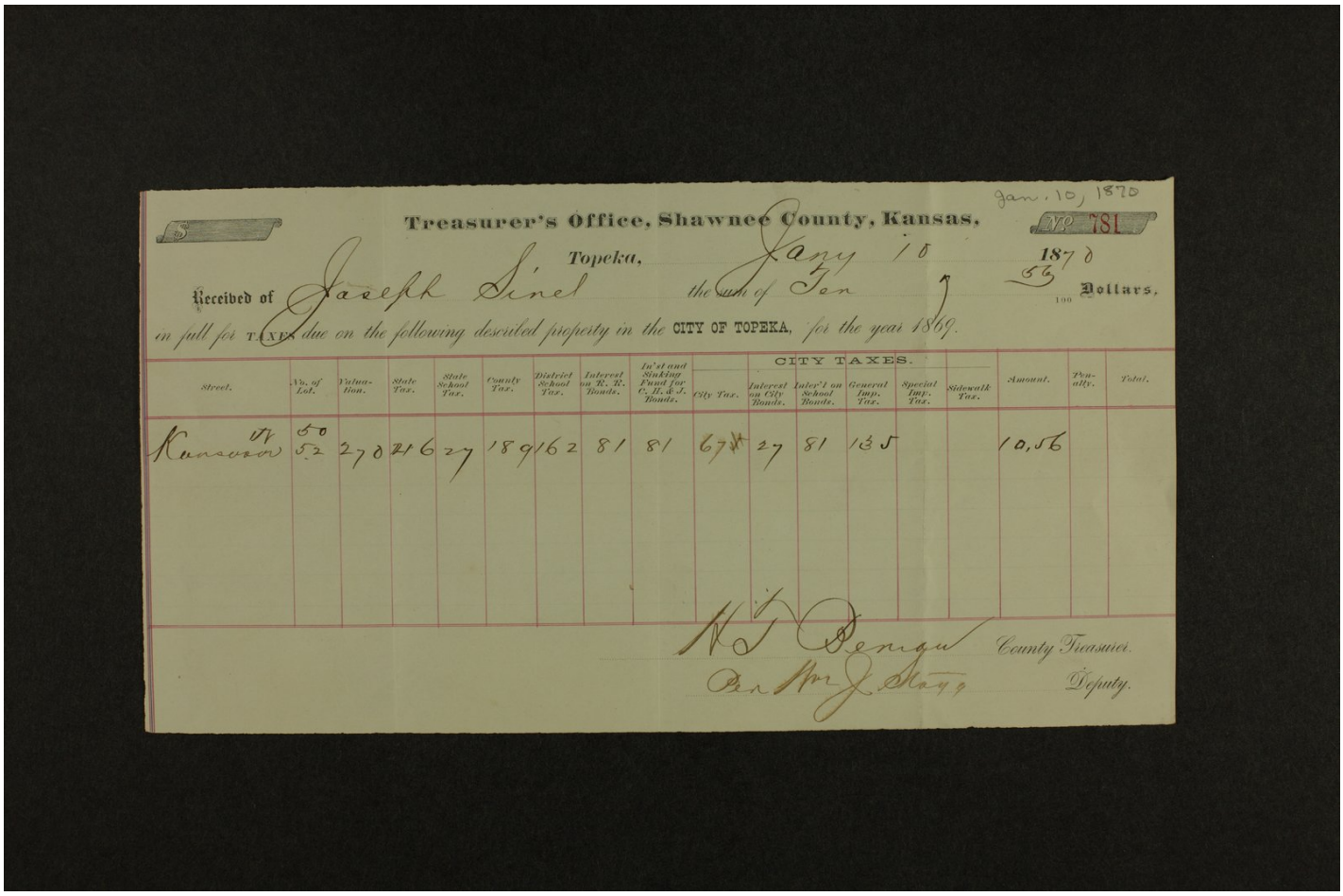
Dear Sir

Just returned from the east after an absence of several weeks. I am hard up. Had you thought that the money for the Lopeka lots was all due. Money is tite here. What can you do for me. Stating nothing that you do not feel that I certainly can rely. Answer without delay

Yours &c

M. H. Weir

James Barnes Whitaker correspondence



Jan. 10, 1870

Treasurer's Office, Shawnee County, Kansas. No. 781

Topeka, Jany 10 1870

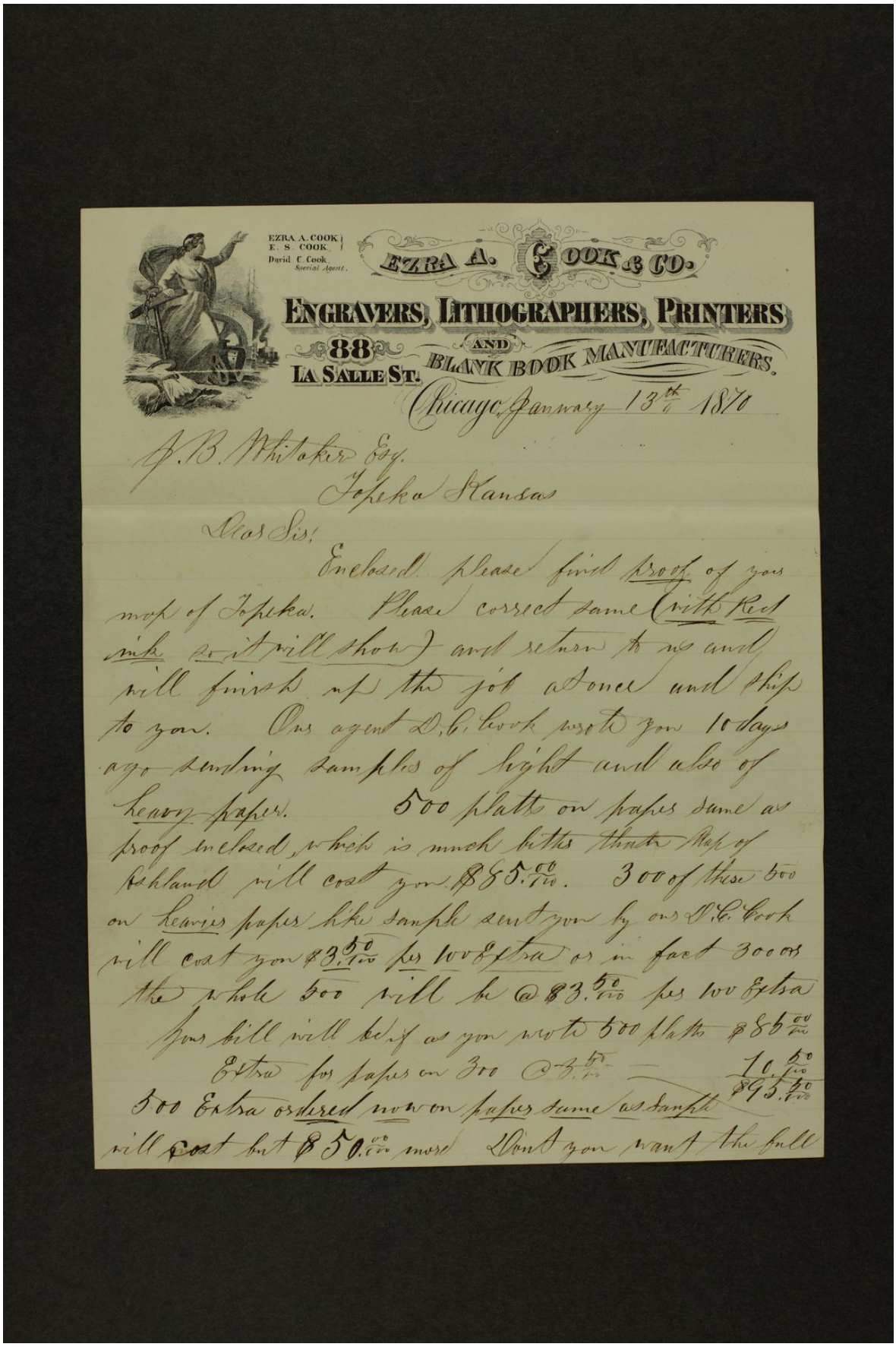
Received of Joseph Sinel the sum of Ten 56/100 Dollars,

in full for TAXES due on the following described property in the CITY OF TOPEKA, for the year 1869.

Street.	No. of Lot.	Valuation.	State Tax.	State School Tax.	County Tax.	District School Tax.	Interest on R. R. Bonds.	In'st and Sinking Fund for C. H. & J. Bonds.	CITY TAXES. City Tax.	Interest on City Bonds.	Inter't on School Bonds.	General Imp. Tax.	Special Imp. Tax.	Sidewalk Tax.	Amount.	Penalty.	Total.
Kansas Av	50 52	270	21	6 27	18 9	16 2	8 1	8 1	6 7½	2 7	8 1	13 5			10,56		

K. J. Denyer County Treasurer.

By Wm J. Hays Deputy.



EZRA A. COOK
E. S. COOK
David C. Cook
Special Agent.

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88 LA SALLE ST.

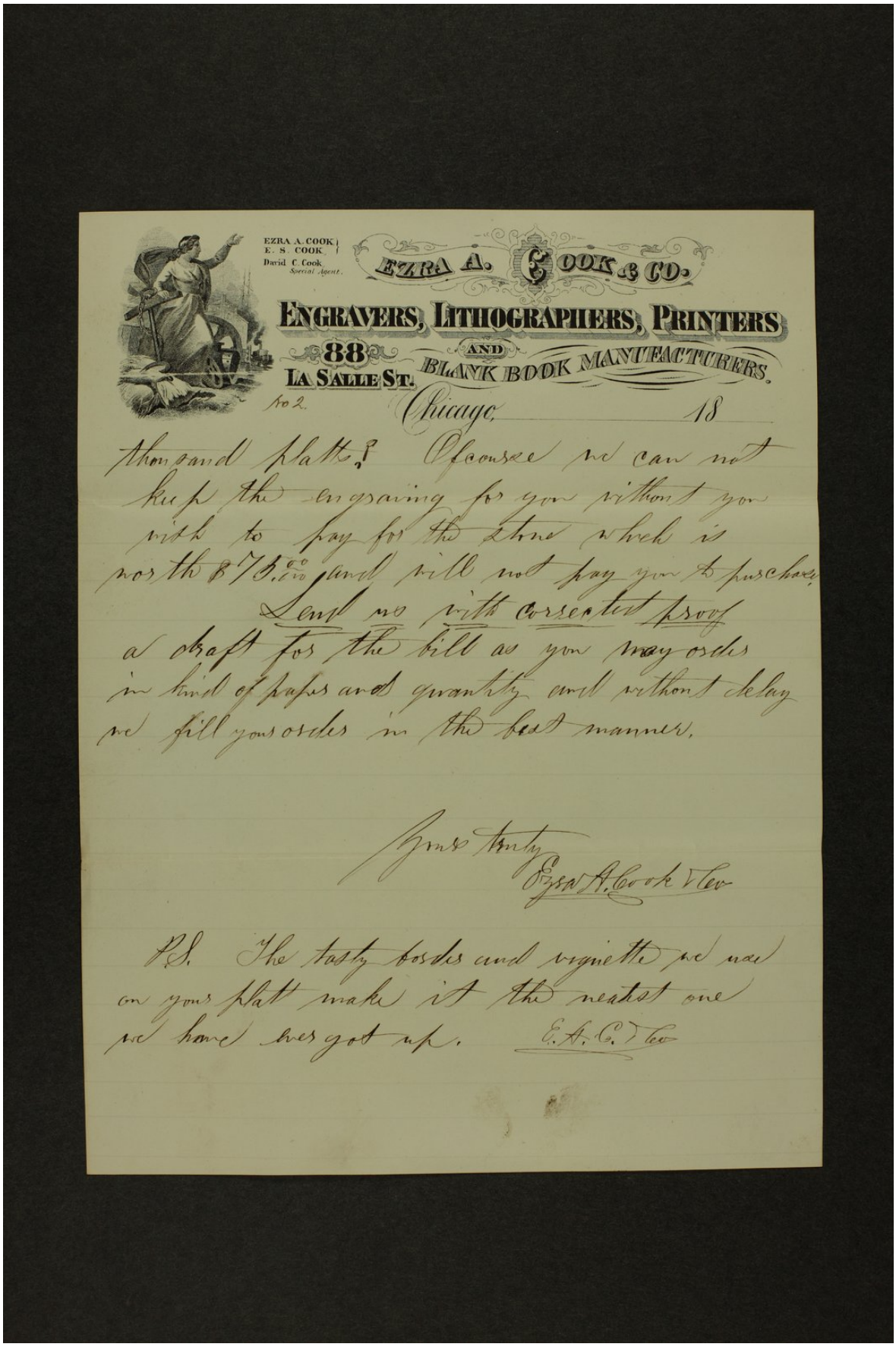
Chicago, January 13th 1870

J. B. Whitaker Esq.
Topeka Kansas

Dear Sir,

Enclosed please find proof of your map of Topeka. Please correct same with Red ink so it will show and return to us and will finish up the job at once and ship to you. Our agent D. C. Cook wrote you 10 days ago sending samples of light and also of heavy paper. 500 plats on paper same as proof enclosed, which is much better than Map of Ashland will cost you $85.00/100. 300 of these 500 on heavier paper like sample sent you by our D. C. Cook will cost you $3.50/100 per 100 Extra or in fact 300 of the whole 500 will be @ $3.50/100 per 100 Extra your bill will be if as you wrote 500 plats $85.00/100
Extra for paper on 300 @ 3.50/100 — 10.50/100
$95.50/100

500 Extra ordered now on paper same as sample will cost but $50.00/100 more Don't you want the full



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E. S. COOK
David C. Cook
Special Agent.

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88
LA SALLE ST.

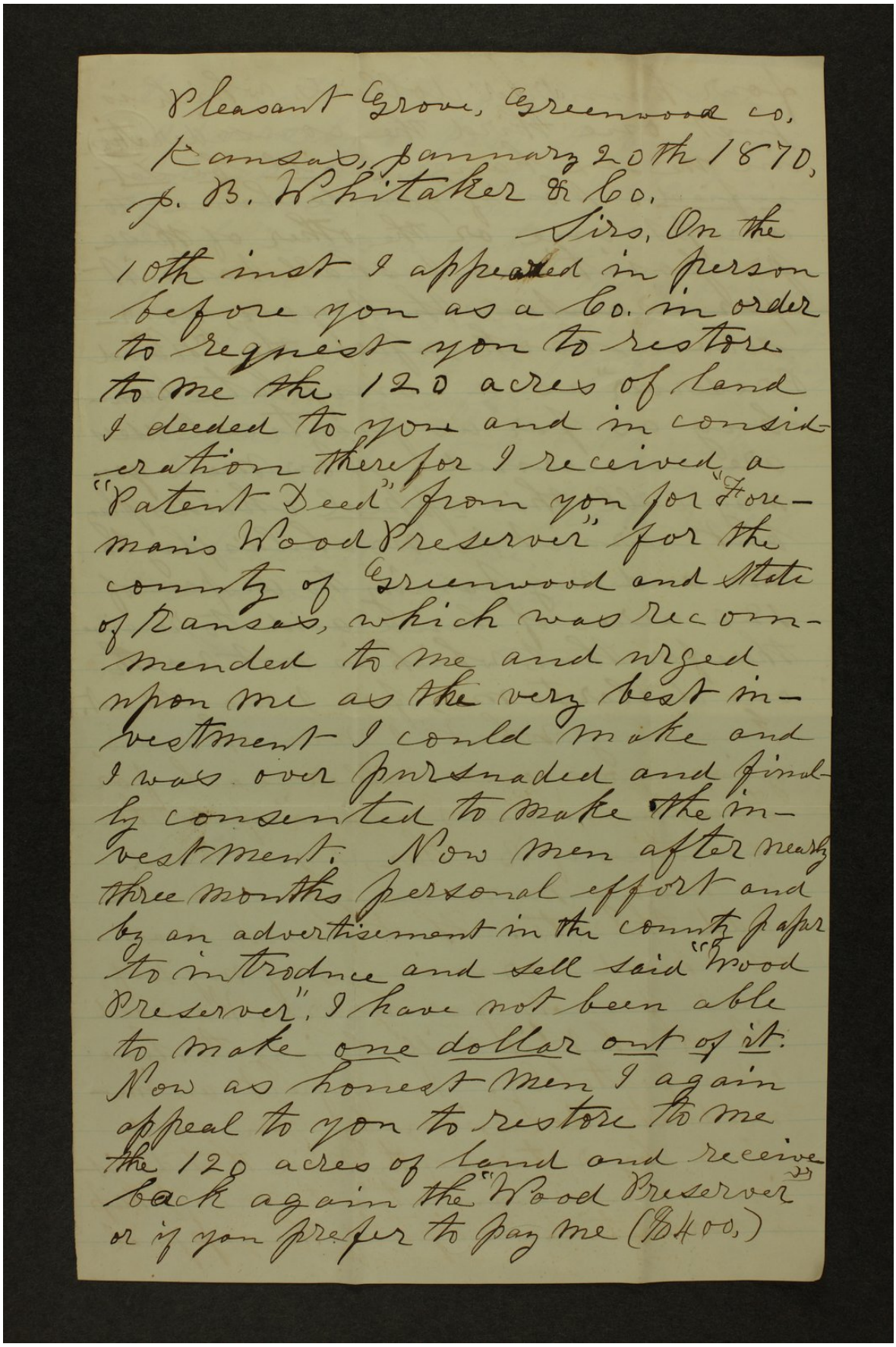
No 2.

Chicago, 18

thousand platte? Ofcourse we can not
keep the engraving for you without you
wish to pay for the stone which is
worth $75.00 and will not pay you to purchase.
Send us with corrected proof
a draft for the bill as you may order
in kind of paper and quantity and without delay
we fill your orders in the best manner.

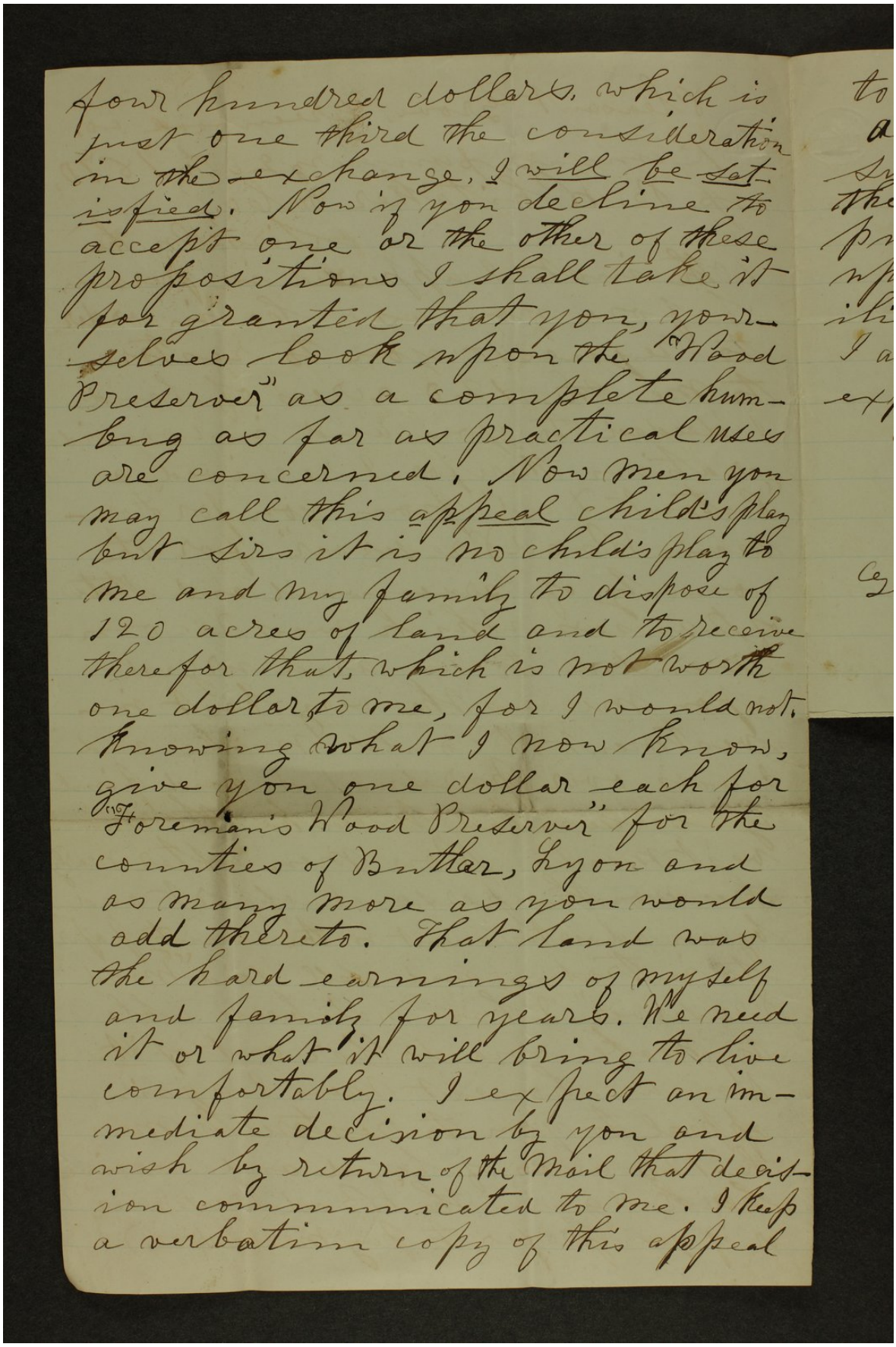
Yours truly
Ezra A. Cook & Co

P.S. The tasty border and vignette we have
on your plat make it the neatest one
we have ever got up. E. A. C. & Co

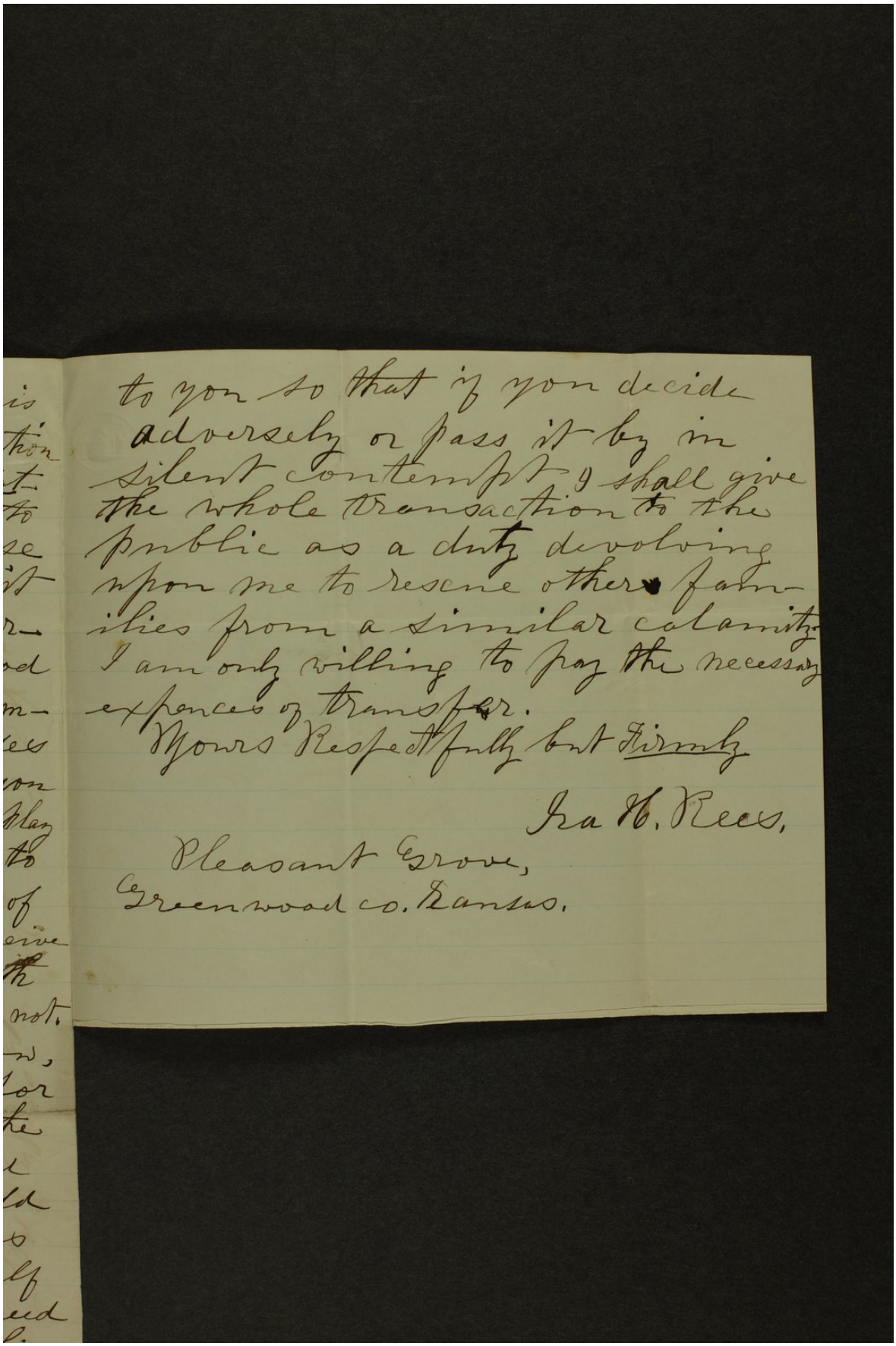


Pleasant Grove, Greenwood co.
Kansas, January 20th 1870.
J. B. Whitaker & Co.

Sirs, On the 10th inst I appeared in person before you as a Co. in order to request you to restore to me the 120 acres of land I deeded to you and in consideration therefor I received a "Patent Deed" from you for "Foreman's Wood Preserver" for the county of Greenwood and State of Kansas, which was recommended to me and urged upon me as the very best investment I could make and I was over persuaded and finally consented to make the investment. Now men after nearly three months personal effort and by an advertisement in the county paper to introduce and sell said "Wood Preserver", I have not been able to make one dollar out of it. Now as honest men I again appeal to you to restore to me the 120 acres of land and receive back again the "Wood Preserver" or if you prefer to pay me ($400.)



four hundred dollars, which is just one third the consideration in the exchange. I will be satisfied. Now if you decline to accept one or the other of these propositions I shall take it for granted that you, yourselves look upon the "Wood Preserver" as a complete humbug as far as practical uses are concerned. Now men you may call this appeal child's play but Sirs it is no child's play to me and my family to dispose of 120 acres of land and to receive therefor that, which is not worth one dollar to me, for I would not. knowing what I now know, give you one dollar each for "Foreman's Wood Preserver" for the counties of Butler, Lyon and as many more as you would add thereto. That land was the hard earnings of myself and family for years. We need it or what it will bring to live comfortably. I expect an immediate decision by you and wish by return of the Mail that decision communicated to me. I keep a verbatim copy of this appeal



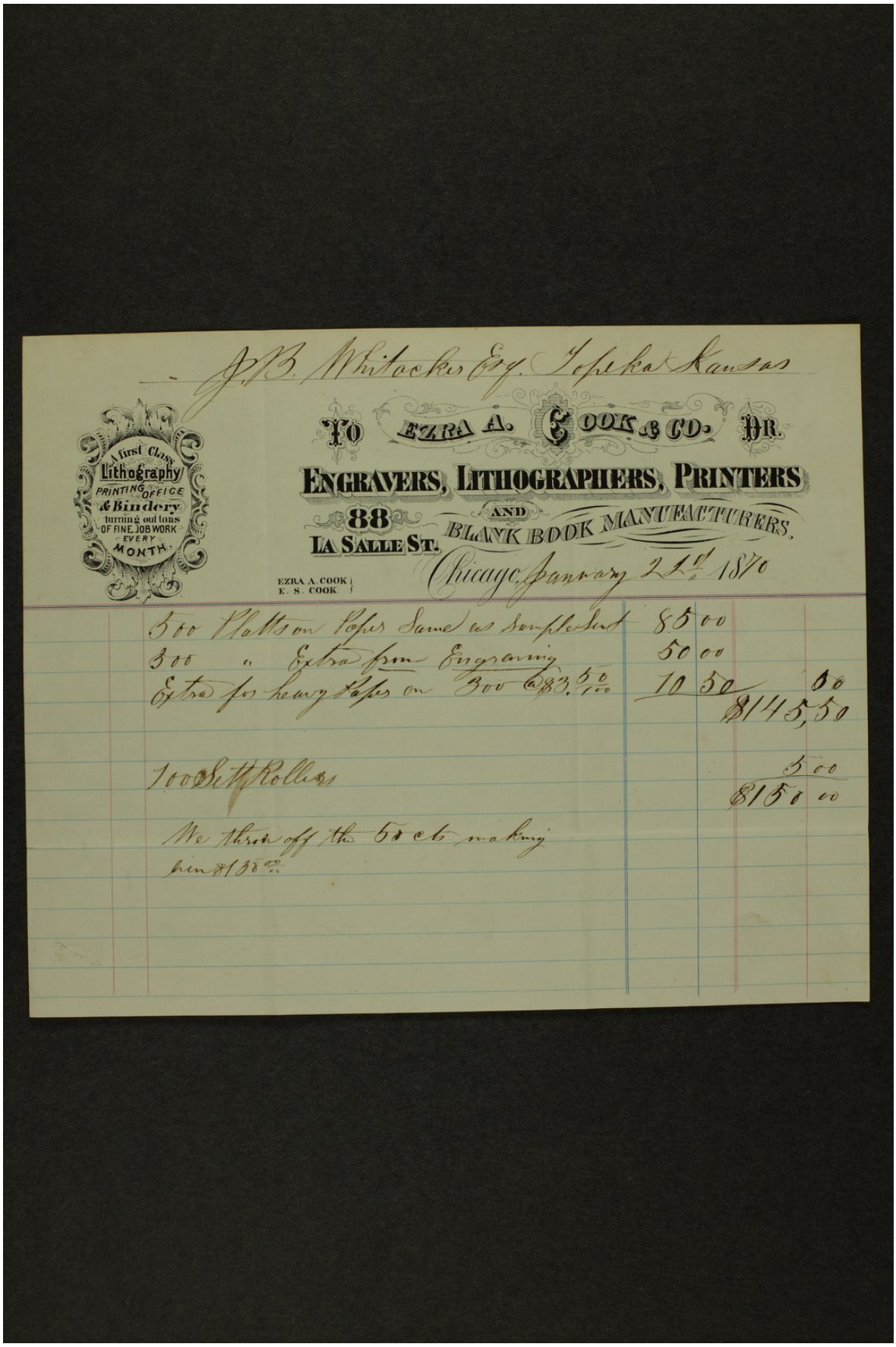
to you so that if you decide adversely or pass it by in silent contempt I shall give the whole transaction to the public as a duty devolving upon me to rescue other families from a similar calamity. I am only willing to pay the necessary expences of transfer.

Yours Respectfully but Firmly

Ira H. Rees,

Pleasant Grove,
Greenwood co. Kansas.

James Barnes Whitaker correspondence



J. B. Whitaker Esq. Topeka Kansas

To EZRA A. COOK & CO. Dr.

A first Class Lithography PRINTING OFFICE & Bindery turning out tons OF FINE JOB WORK EVERY MONTH.

EZRA A. COOK
E. S. COOK

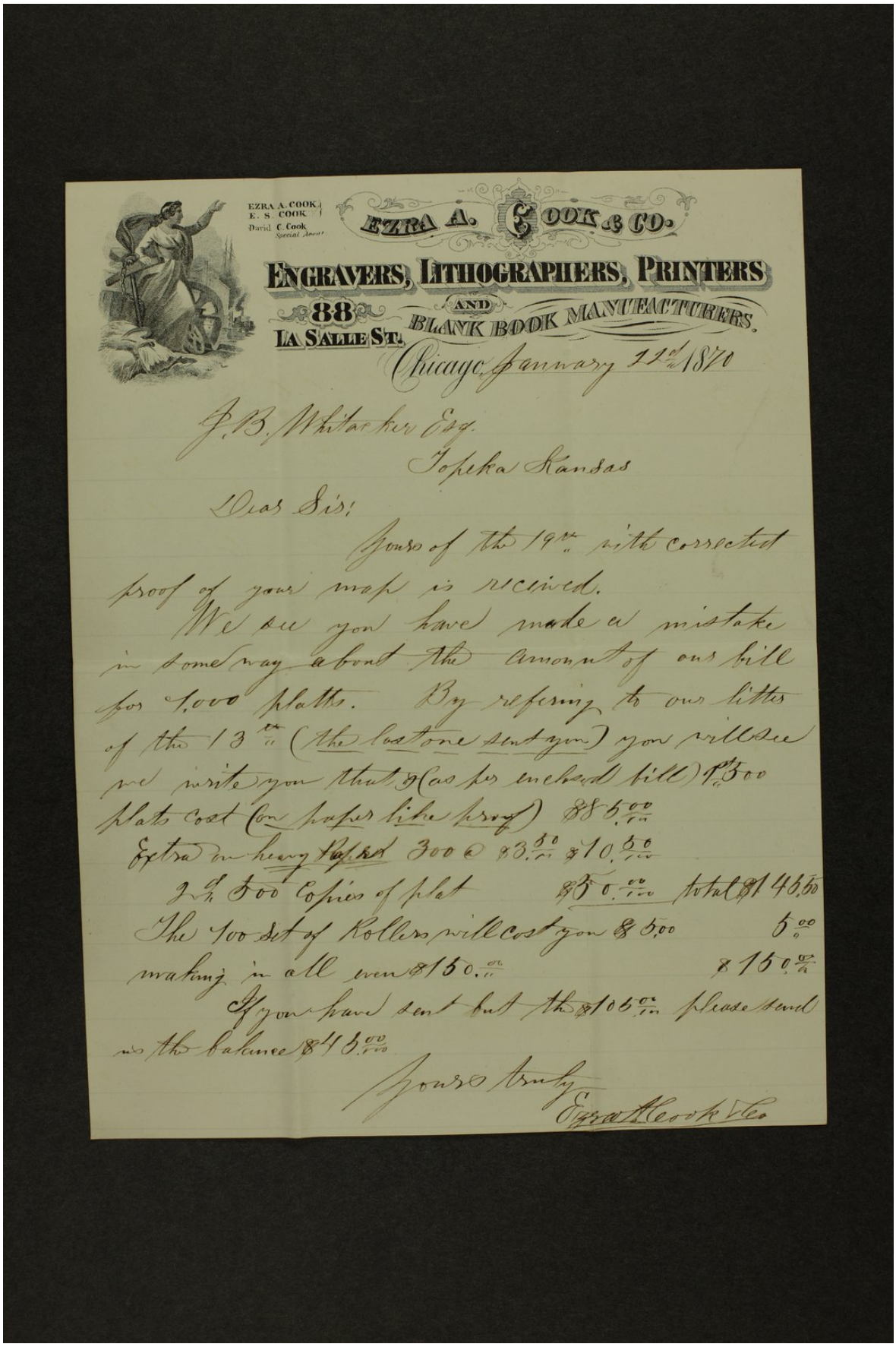
ENGRAVERS, LITHOGRAPHERS, PRINTERS
AND
BLANK BOOK MANUFACTURERS,

88 LA SALLE ST.

Chicago, January 21st 1870

300 Platt on Topics Same as Sample Sent	85 00		
300 " Extra from Engraving	50 00		
Extra for heavy Tapes on 300 @ $3.50 per 100	10 50		00
		$145	50
100 Bill Rollers		5	00
		$150	00

We throw off the 50 cts making him $150 00



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E. S. COOK
David C. Cook Special Agent

EZRA A. COOK & CO.

ENGRAVERS, LITHOGRAPHERS, PRINTERS
AND
BLANK BOOK MANUFACTURERS.

88 LA SALLE ST.

Chicago January 11th 1870

J. B. Whitaker Esq.
Topeka Kansas

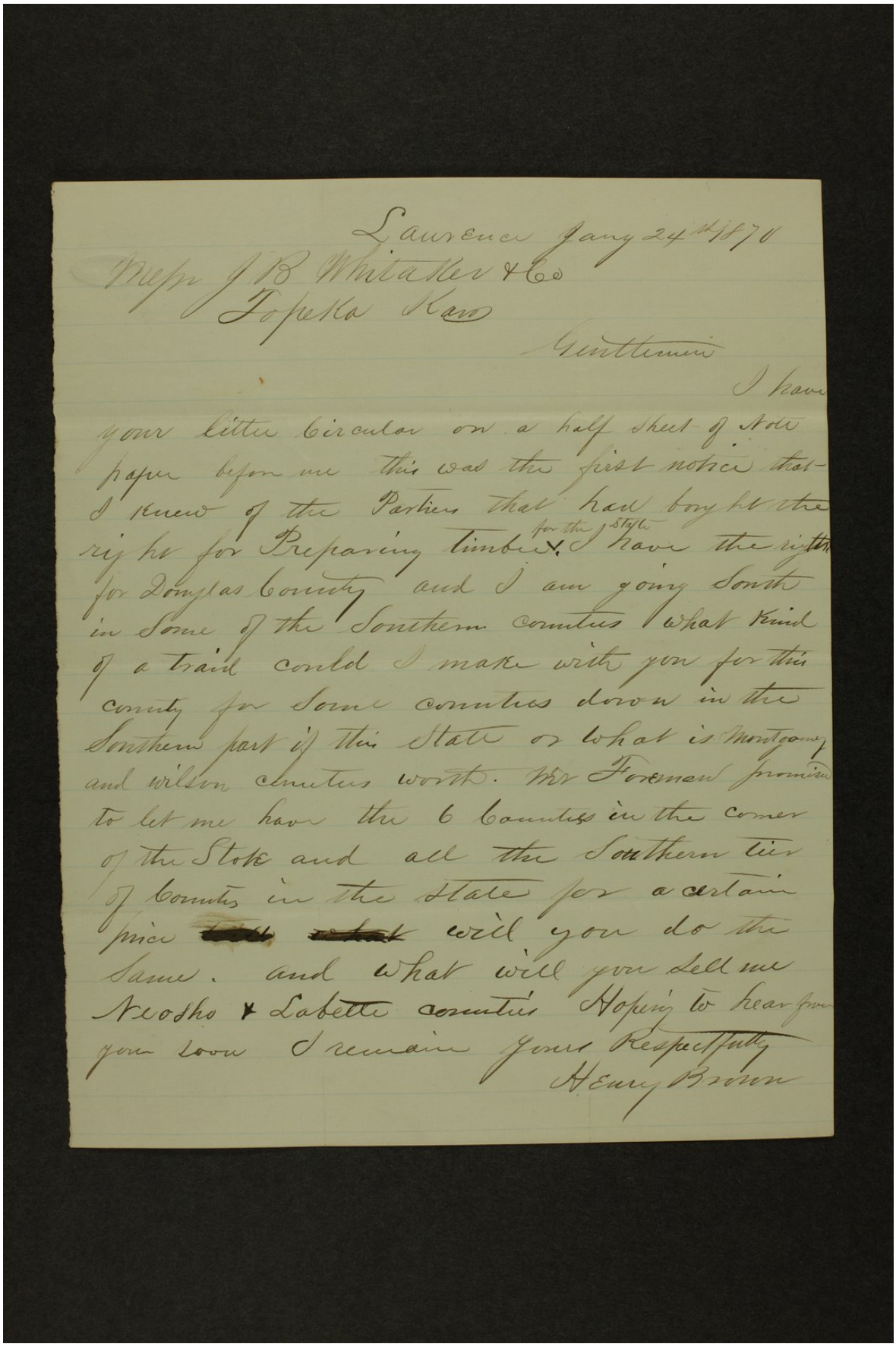
Dear Sir:

Yours of the 10th with corrected proof of your map is received.

We see you have made a mistake in some way about the amount of our bill for 1,000 plats. By refering to our letter of the 13th (the last one sent you) you will see we write you that 3 (as per enclosed bill) 1,300 plats cost (on paper like proof) $85.00/100
Extra on heavy paper 300 @ $3.50/100 $10.50/100
2 1/4 500 Copies of plat $50.00/100 total $146.50
The 100 set of Rollers will cost you $5.00 5.00
making in all even $150.00/100 $150.00/100

If you have sent but the $105.00/100 please send us the balance $45.00/100

Yours truly
Ezra A. Cook & Co



Laurence Jany 24th 1870

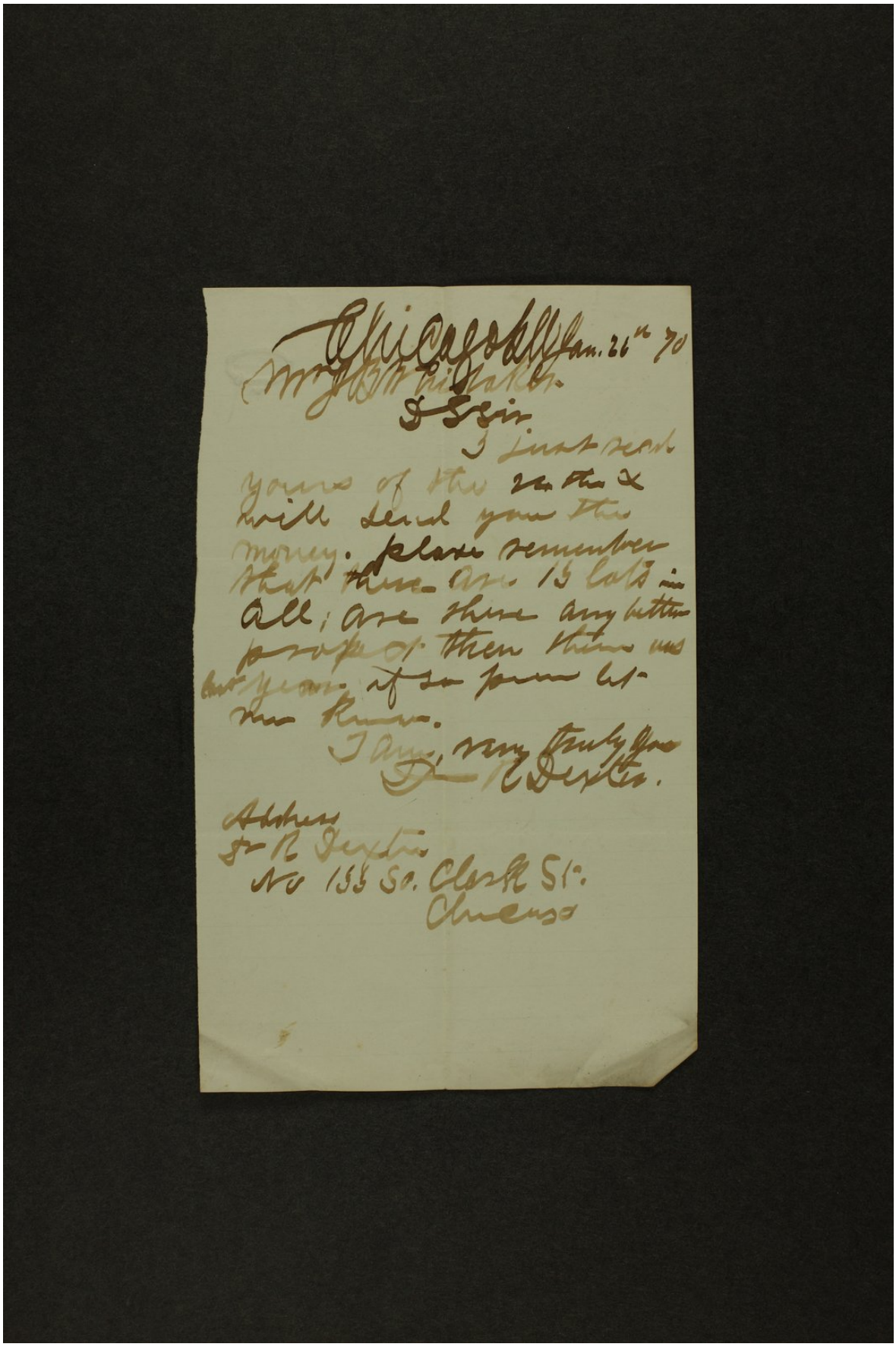
Messrs J B Whitaker & Co
Topeka Kans

Gentlemen

I have your letter circular on a half sheet of note paper before me this was the first notice that I knew of the Parties that had bought the right for Preparing timber for the Stove. I have the right for Douglas County and I am going South in Some of the Southern counties what kind of a trade could I make with you for this county for Some counties down in the Southern part if this State or what is Montgomery and Wilson Counties worth. Mr Foreman promised to let me have the 6 Counties in the corner of the State and all the Southern tier of Counts in the State for a certain price [redacted] will you do the Same. and what will you sell me Neosho & Labette counties Hoping to hear from you soon I remain Yours Respectfully

Henry Brown

James Barnes Whitaker correspondence



Chicago Ill Jan. 26th 70

Mr J B Whitaker.

Dear Sir.

I have rec'd yours of the 24th & will send you the money. Please remember that there are 13 Cats in all; are there any better or more of them than was last year. If so please let me know.

I am, very truly yours

R Dexter.

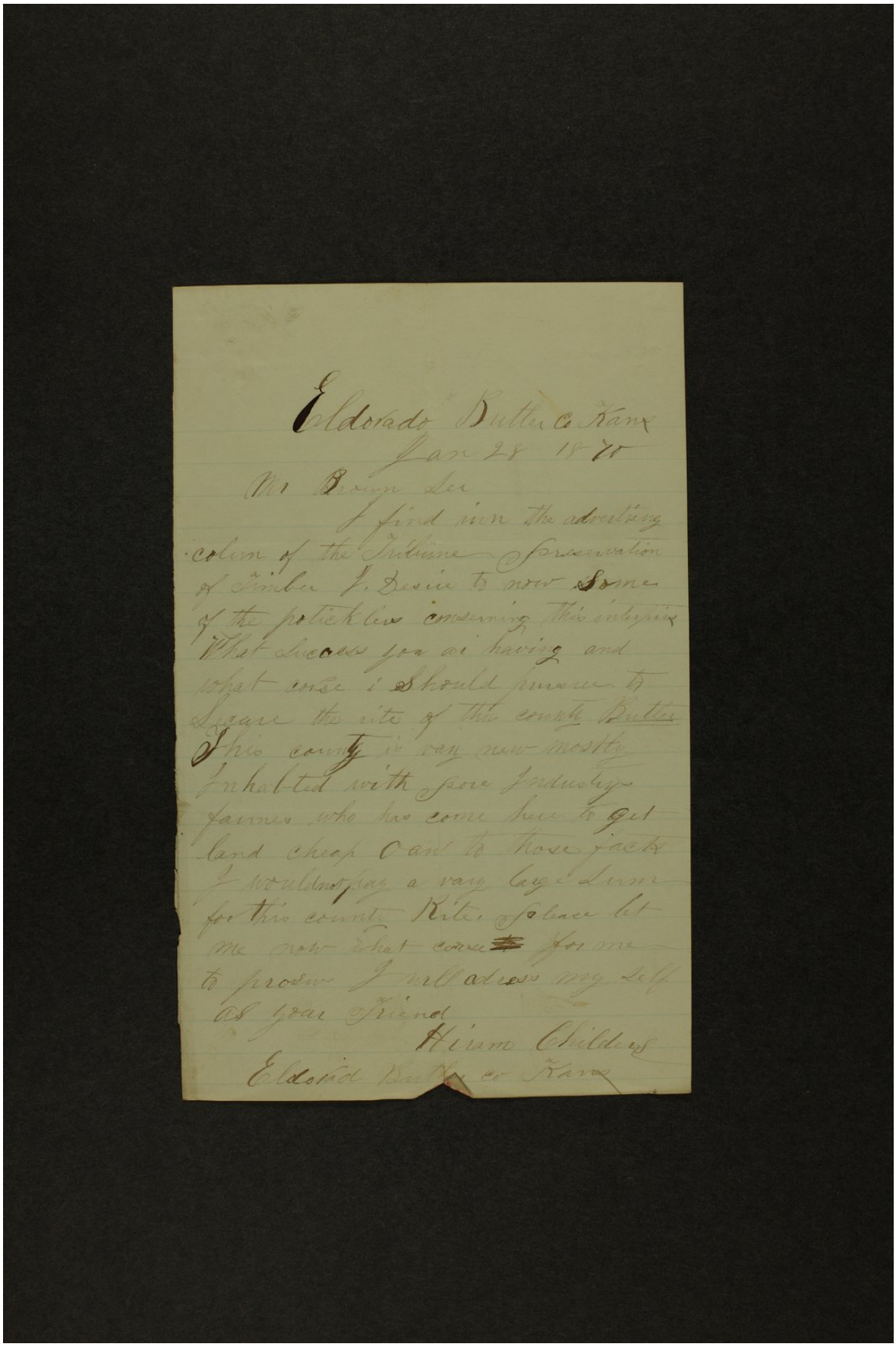
Address

R Dexter

No 135 So. Clark St.

Chicago

James Barnes Whitaker correspondence



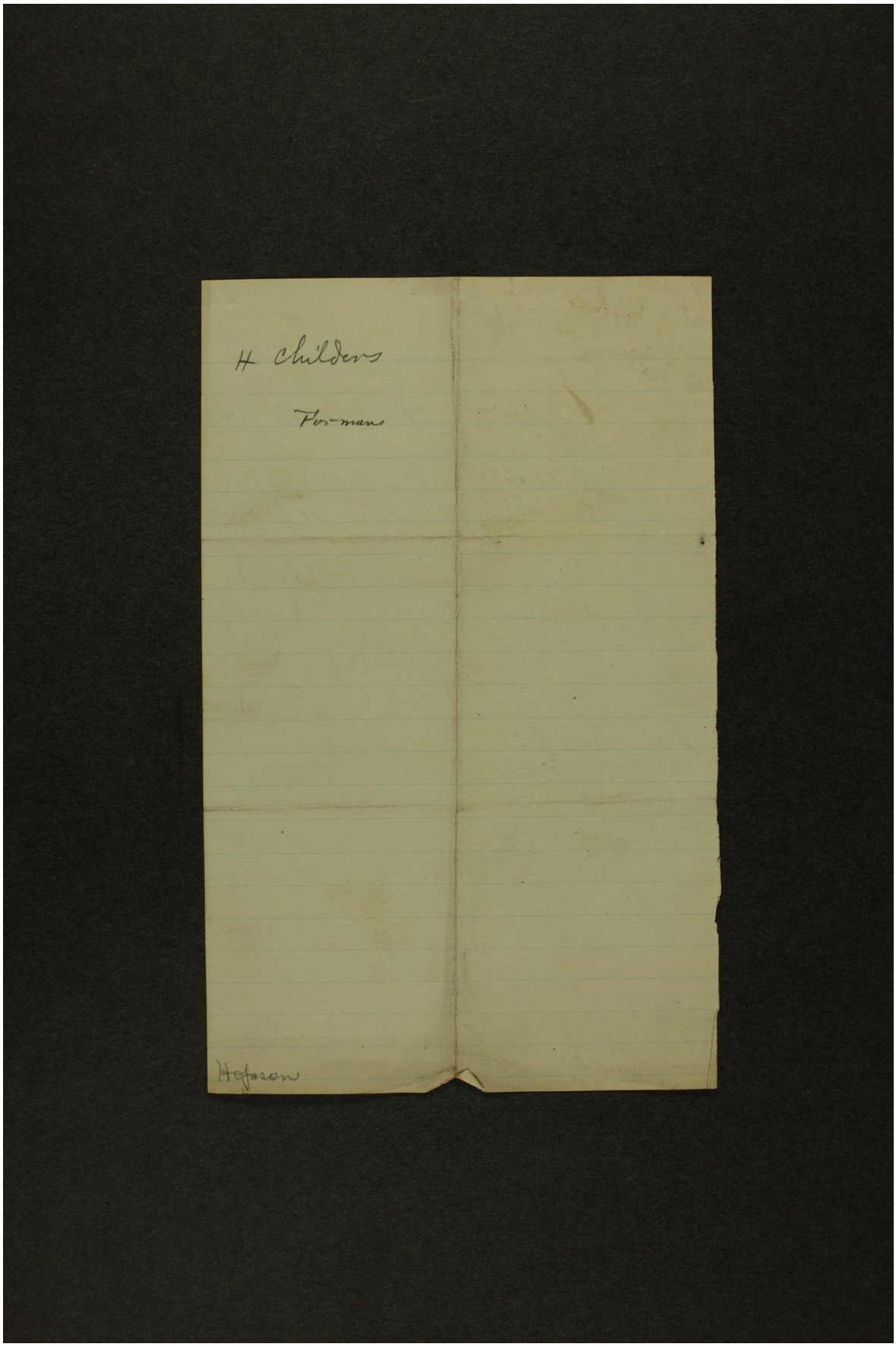
Eldorado Butler Co Kans
Jan 28 1870

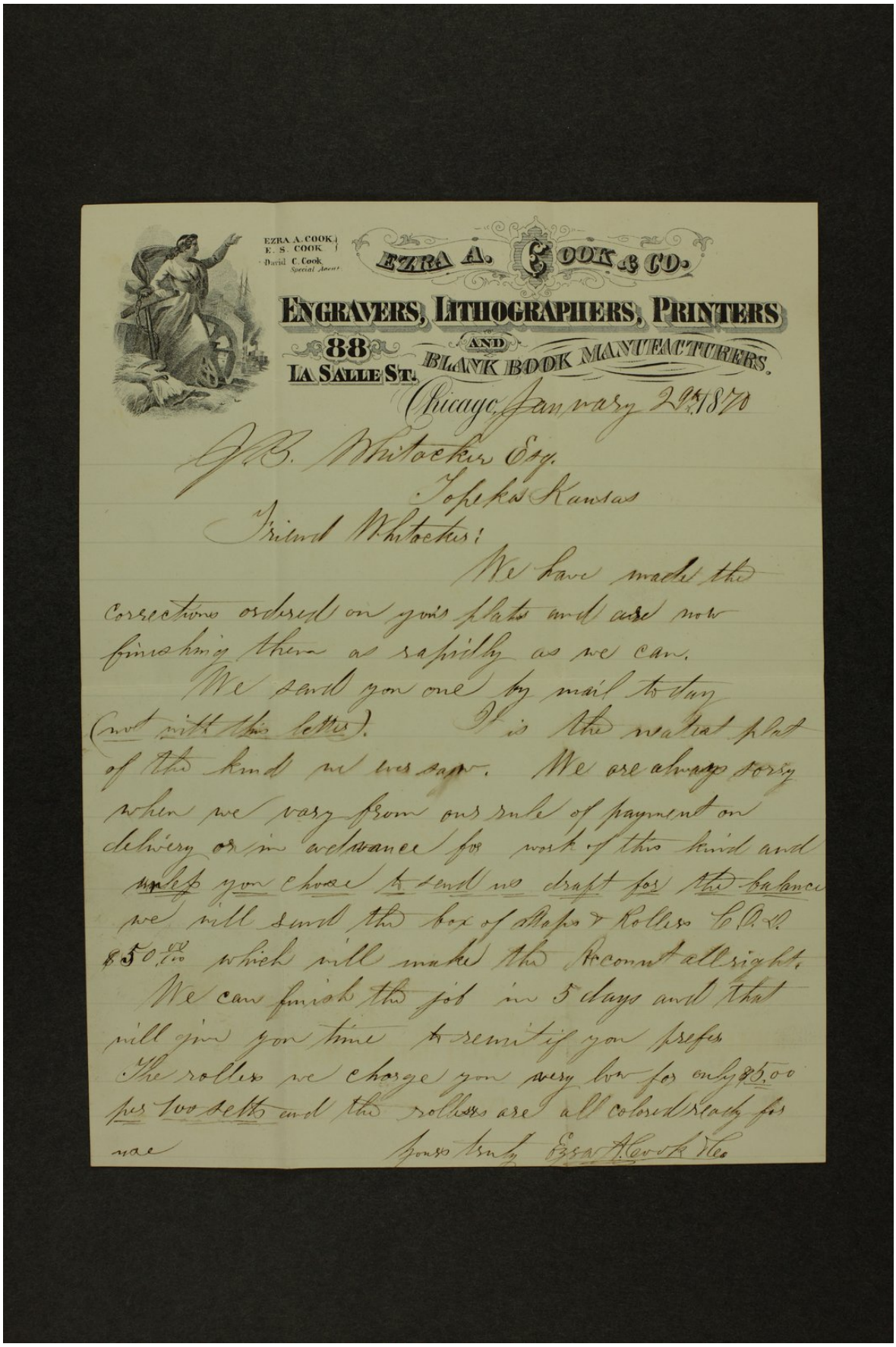
Mr Benjn Lee

I find in the advertising colum of the Tribune proclamation of Timber I Desire to now Some of the particulars concerning this enterprise What success you ar having and what use I should make to secure the site of the county Butler This county is very now mostly inhabited with poor Industrious farmers who has come here to get land cheap Can to those facts I would say a very large Lumber for this county Kite, please let me now what course for one to procure I will adress my self as your friend

Hiram Childers
Eldorado Butler Co Kans

James Barnes Whitaker correspondence





EZRA A. COOK
E. S. COOK
David C. Cook
Special Agent

EZRA A. COOK & CO.

ENGRAVERS, LITHOGRAPHERS, PRINTERS
AND
BLANK BOOK MANUFACTURERS.

88 LA SALLE ST.

Chicago January 29th 1870

J. B. Whitaker Esq.
Topeka Kansas

Friend Whitaker:

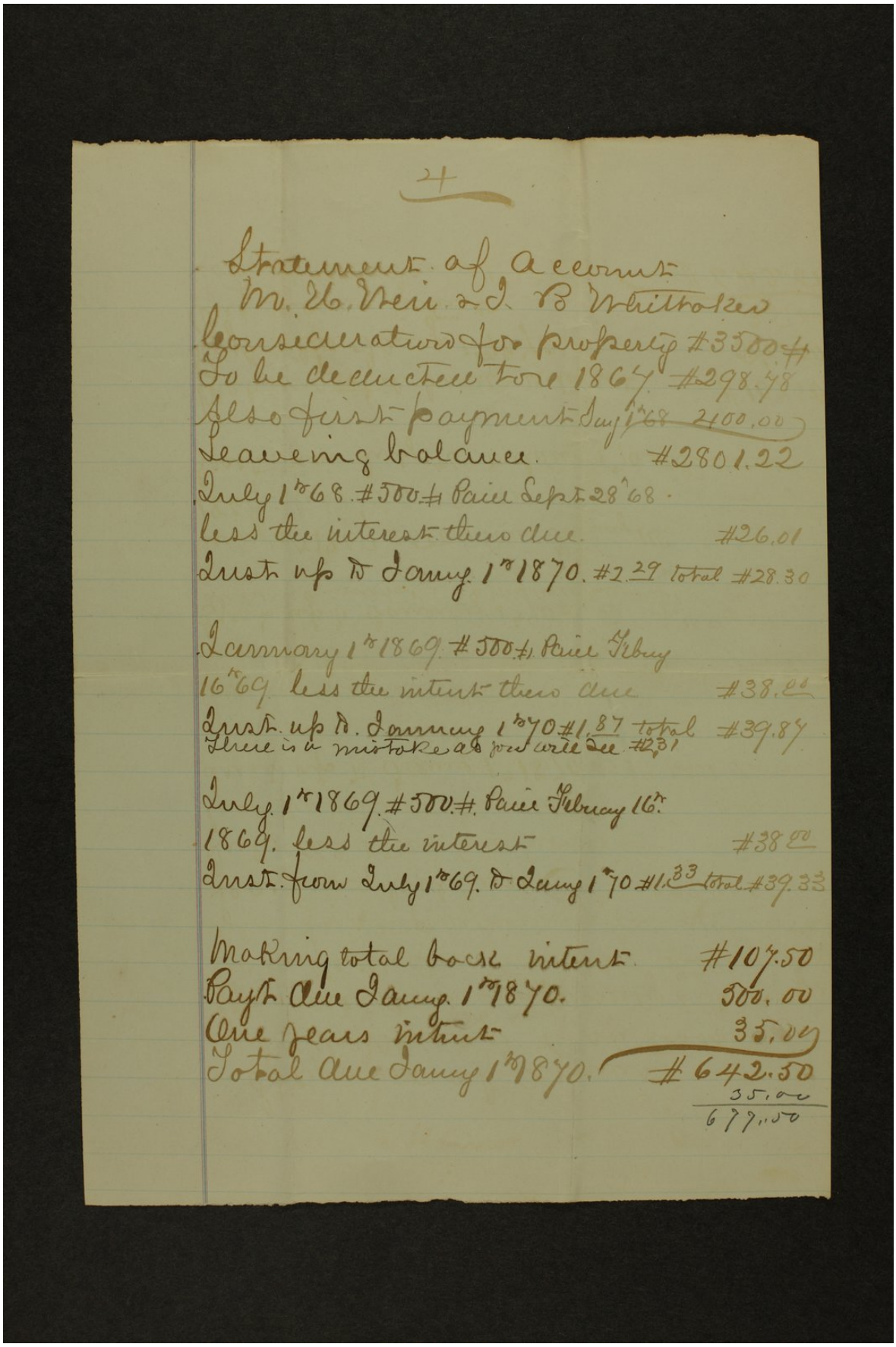
We have made the corrections ordered on your plate and are now finishing them as rapidly as we can.

We send you one by mail to day (not with this letter). It is the nicest plat of the kind we ever saw. We are always sorry when we vary from our rule of payment on delivery or in advance for work of this kind and unless you chose to send us draft for the balance we will send the box of Slops & Rollers C.O.D. $50.00/100 which will make the account all right.

We can finish the job in 5 days and that will give you time to remit if you prefer.

The rollers we charge you very low for only $5.00 per two sets and the rollers are all colored ready for use

Yours truly Ezra A. Cook & Co.



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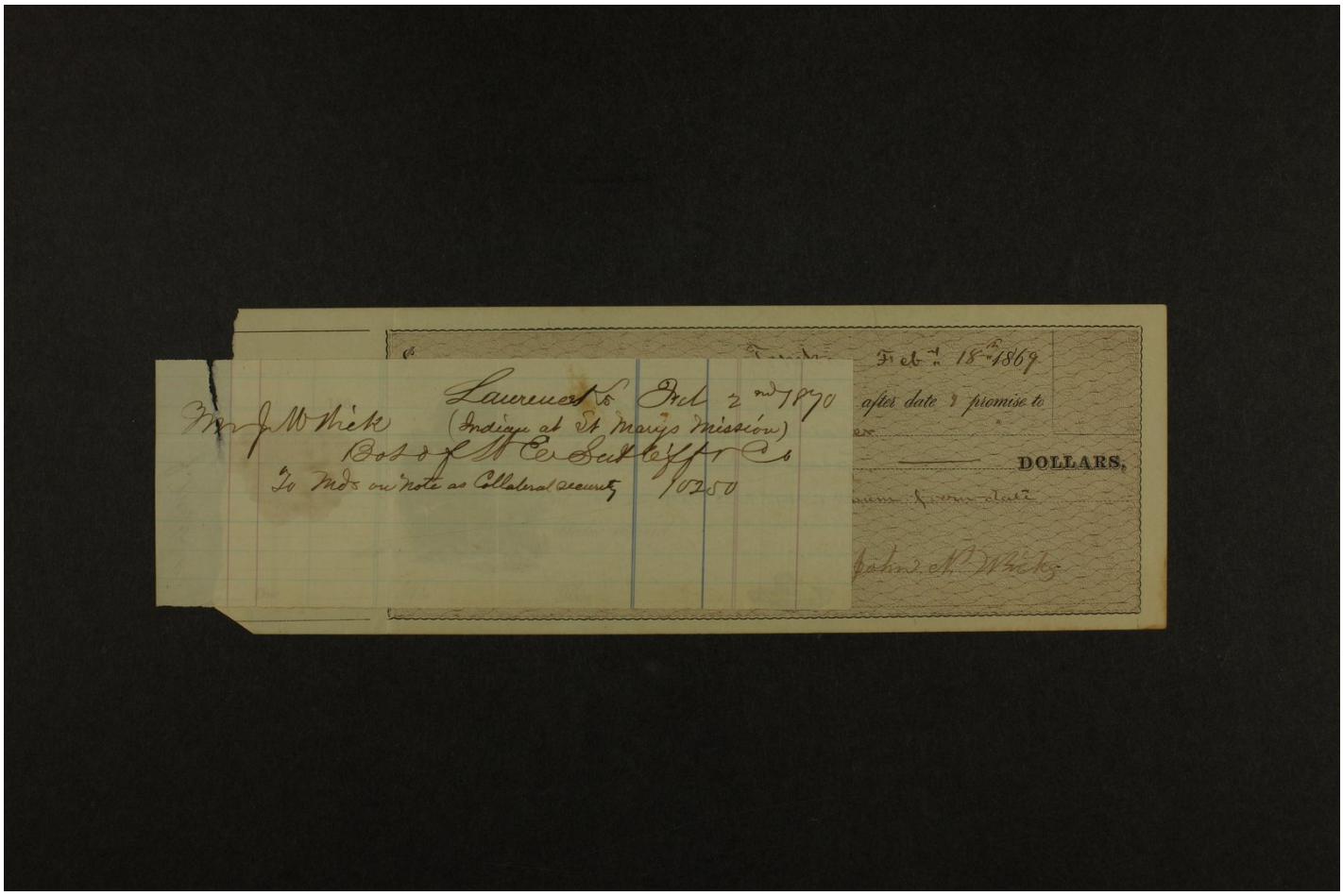
Statement of account
Mr. Wm. Weir & J. B. Whitaker
Consideration for property #3500.00
To be deducted June 1867 #298.78
Also first payment July 1868 2100.00
Leaving balance. #2801.22
July 1st 68. #500.00 Paid Sept. 28th 68.
less the interest then due. #26.01
Interest up to January 1st 1870. #2.29 total #28.30

January 1st 1869. #500.00 Paid Feby
16th 69 less the interest then due #38.00
Interest up to January 1st 70 #1.87 total #39.87
There is a mistake as per article See #2.31

July 1st 1869. #500.00 Paid February 16th
1869. less the interest #38.00
Interest from July 1st 69. to Jany 1st 70 #1.33 total #39.33

Making total back interest #107.50
Paid due January 1st 1870. 500.00
One years interest 35.00
Total due January 1st 1870. #642.50
35.00
677.50

James Barnes Whitaker correspondence



James Barnes Whitaker correspondence


Topeka Feb.y 18th 1869

One year after date I promise to pay to the order of J.B. Whitaker

Seventy ____ DOLLARS,

at twelve per cent per annum from date

Value received.

John A. Wick

No. Due