Clarina Irene Howard Nichols to Thaddeus Hyatt

This letter, written from Elmira, New York, provides a neat outline of Clarina Nichols' goals and motivations. It deals with her speaking engagements on the situation in Kansas, her goals for the future, her family, and her belief that Susan B. Anthony would be a great help to the free state cause.

Creator: Nichols, Clarina I. Howard

Date: October 4, 1856

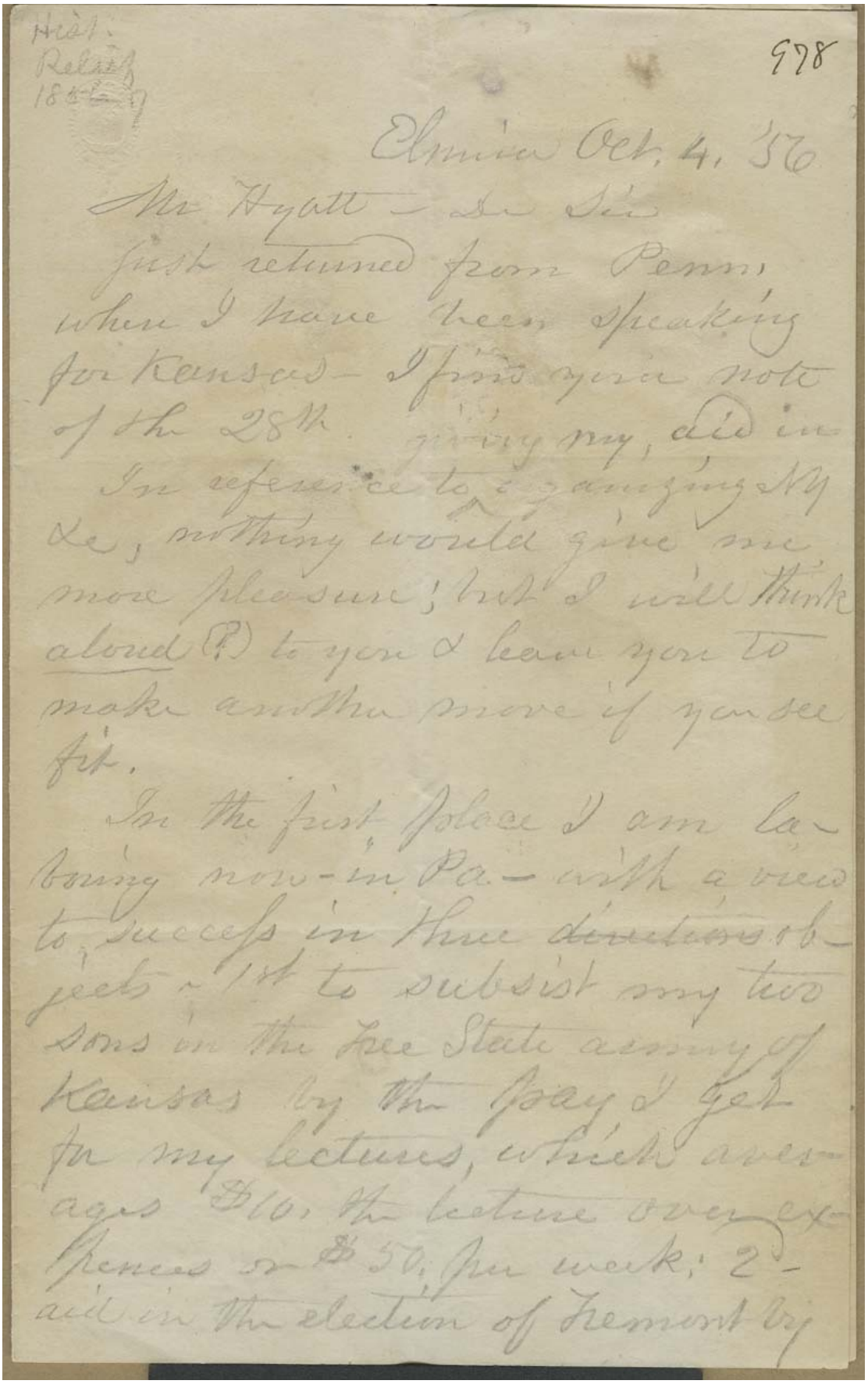
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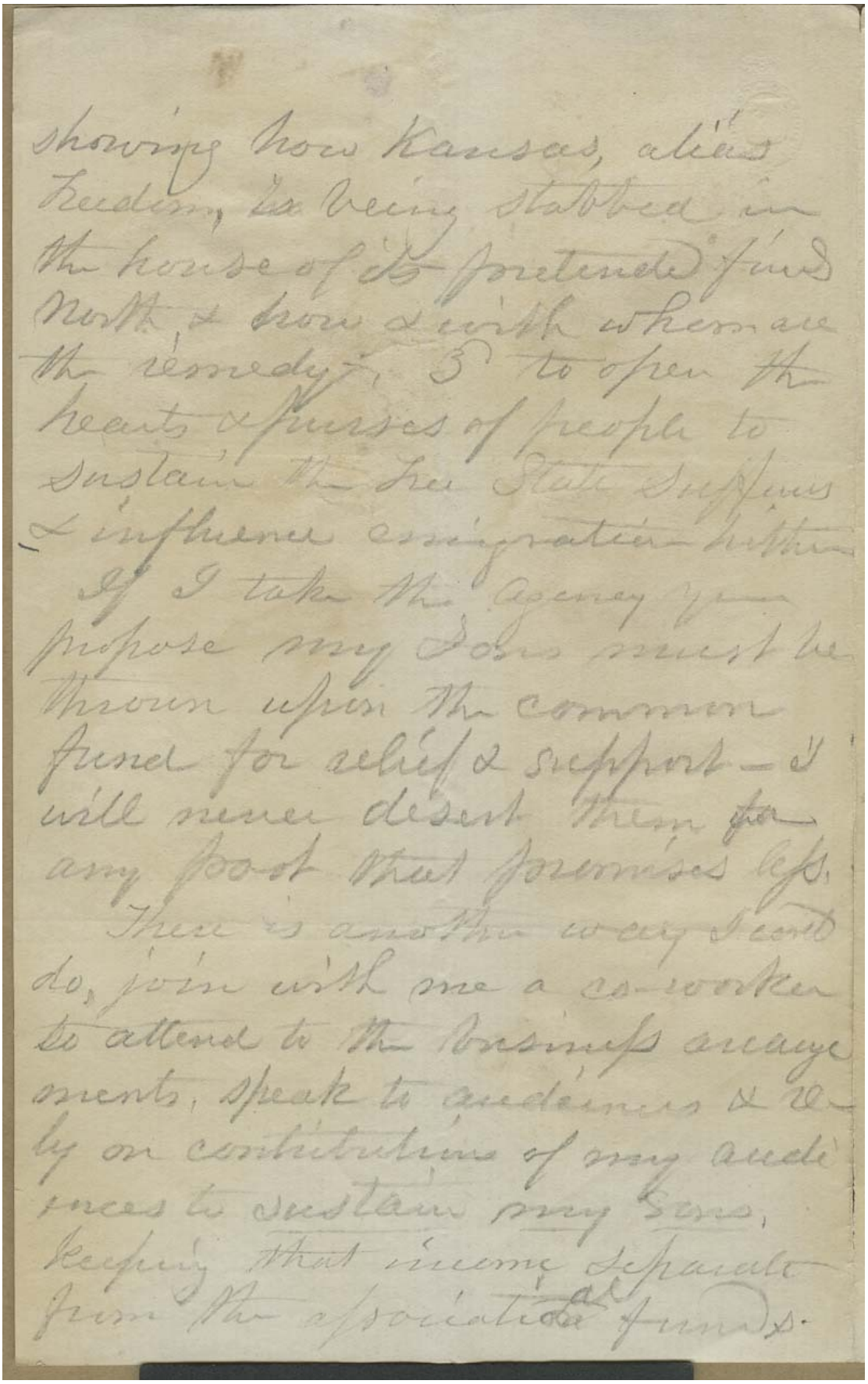
Mr Hyatt – Dr Sir

Just returned from Penn, where I have been speaking for Kansas – I find yours note of the 28th. giving my, did in

In reference to engaging My Ke, nothing would give me more pleasure; but I will think aloud (?) to you & leave you to make another move if you see fit.

In the first place I am laboring now – in Pa. – with a view to success in three directions & objects – 1st to subsist my two sons in the Free State army of Kansas by the pay I get for my lectures, which averages $10. the lecture over expences or $50. per week; 2 – aid in the election of Fremont by

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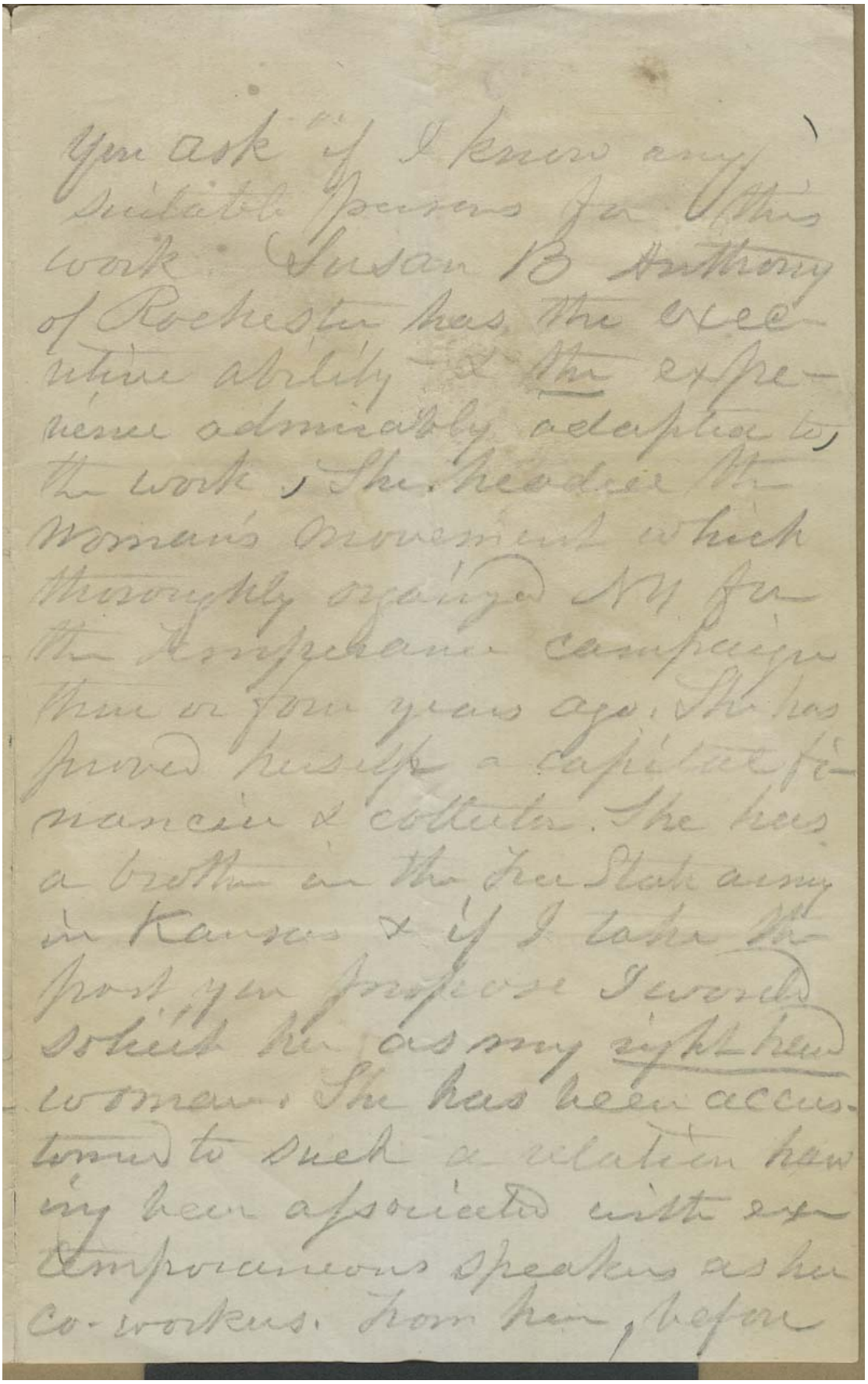


showing how Kansas, alias Freedom, is being stabbed in the house of its pretended friends North & how & with whom are the remedy. 3 to open the hearts & purses of people to sustain the Free State Settlers & influence emigration hither.

If I take the Agency I propose my Sons must be thrown upon the common friend for relief & support — I will never desert them for any post that jeopardizes it.

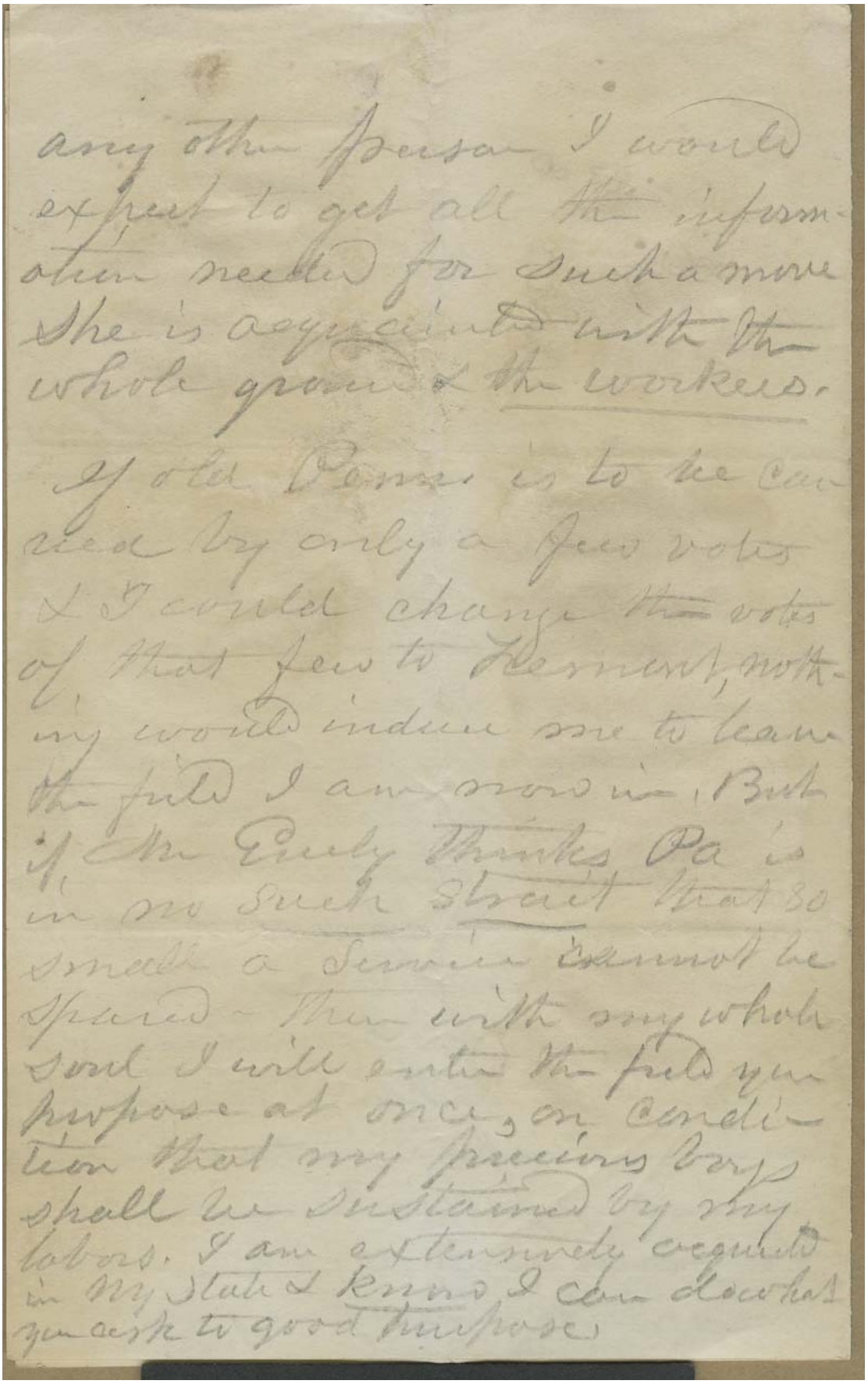
There is another way I could do, join with me a co-worker to attend to the Business arrangements, speak to audiences & rely on contributions of my audiences to sustain my Sons, keeping that income separate from the Association funds.

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You ask "if I know any suitable persons for Utahs work." Susan B Anthony of Rochester has the executive ability & the experience admirably adapted to the work. She headed the Woman's movement which thoroughly organized NY for the Temperance campaign three or four years ago. She has proved herself a capitalist financier & collector. She has a brother in the 3rd State army in Kansas & if I take the post you propose I would solicit her as my right hand woman. She has been accustomed to such a relation having been associated with as Temperance speakers as her co-workers. from her, before

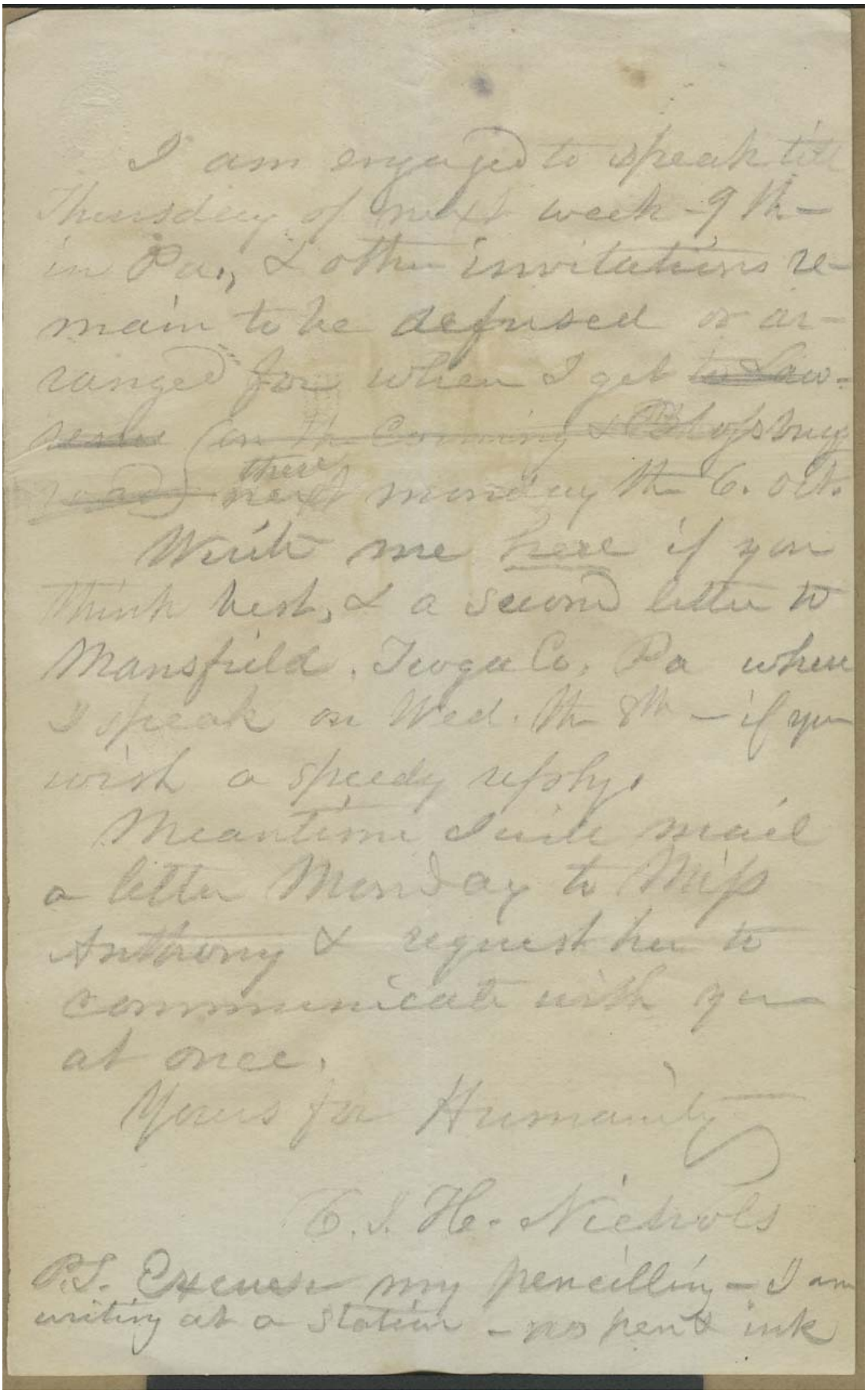
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any other person I would expect to get all the information needed for such a move She is acquainted with the whole ground & the workers.

If old Pierce is to be carried by only a few votes & I could change those votes of that few to Fremont, nothing would induce me to leave the field I am now in, But if Mr Buchanan thinks Pa is in no such Strait that so much a Sermon cannot be spared - Then with my whole soul I will enter the field upon purpose at once, on condition that my precious boy shall be sustained by my labors. I am extensively acquainted in My State & know I can do what you ask to good purpose

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I am engaged to speak till Thursday of next week - 9th - in Pa, & other invitations remain to be declined or arranged for when I get ~~to Lan-~~ ~~caster (on the Coming & Shoffs Buy~~ ~~Road~~ there next Monday the 6. of Oct.

Write me here if you think best, & a second letter to Mansfield, Tioga Co, Pa where I speak on Wed. the 8th - if you wish a speedy reply.

Meantime I will mail a letter Monday to Miss Anthony & request her to communicate with you at once.

Yours for Humanity

C. I. H. - Nichols

P.S. Excuse my pencilling - I am writing at a station - no pen & ink