

Cyrus Kurtz Holliday to Mary Dillon Holliday

Cyrus K. Holliday wrote from the Wyandotte Convention to his wife, Mary Holliday, in Meadville, Pennsylvania. His efforts to ensure that Topeka would be the capital of Kansas Territory had set back his personal political career (territorially and nationally, that is; he had recently been elected mayor of Topeka). Cyrus anxiously awaited the return of Mary and their children, Lillie and newborn Charles.

Creator: Holliday, Cyrus Kurtz, 1826-1900

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Cyrus Kurtz Holliday to Mary Dillon Holliday

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Wyanotte July. 14, 1859

Dear Mary -

I have now been at this place just one week. Looking after Capital matters - and my political prospects. In a day or two the Capital question will be decided. To say the chances are altogether in our favor - and I now think we will get the Capital located at our place. But the tricking of politicians may change this expectation. I have said or done little for myself since here. I have no doubt my advocacy of the Capital matter will materially improve my political ^{prospects}. But if the Convention will locate the Capital for 4 years at Topeka (what we ask) I am willing to be defeated for a year or two to come.

I have heard nothing from you since I came here. I not having left proper word for the forwarding of your letter other place. Within have I heard from Lizzie - She is stopping with Maggie and I suppose is putting along well.

Every boat that arrives at the Wyanotte I go to see if you are not on board.

I have, some ~~times~~ or other, had great confidence that you would come here

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during the sitting of the Convention
but as yet you arrive not -

We have had some fine showers
recently. but to day is as hot as I
think I ever said it - It is almost
difficult to move around -

I wish very much that you
and Lilla and the babe were all here
sound & well - I would enjoy your
society so greatly - But I don't
like to say ~~go~~ to you to come

As I have given you all instructions
in my power about coming - I think
I can do nothing more than to leave
the matter with you. and let you
come when you think it will be safe
and expedient - You ought not
to start with less than \$50. in money
and that you ought to be very careful
of - I now think of going to Topeka
tomorrow morning - Should I do so
I will be back here again in a day
or two - The Convention will not
adjourn before the close of next week
perhaps not for two weeks to come -

Love to all - Write often -

Kiss Lilla & the babe for me - and
a kiss for yourself - C. K. Holliday

I sent you \$20. about the first of this month - did you get it?