

## Hiram Hill to Dear Wife

Hiram Hill wrote from Lexi[ng]ton, Missouri to his wife in Williamsburgh, Massachusetts on his way to Lawrence, Kansas Territory. The low river had forced him and other steamboat passengers to come ashore 25 miles short of Lexington. Once there, he heard rumors of war, reporting that Missourians "all armed to the teeth" were entering the Territory. Hill was sick and wished to turn back, but fellow travelers Mr. Whitney and Judge Johnson planned to continue. Hill included a brief message for his adopted son, Arthur.

Creator: Hill, Hiram, 1804-

Date: November 31, 1855

Callnumber: Hiram Hill Coll. #382 Box 1 Folder 4

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 3043

Item Identifier: 3043

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## Hiram Hill to Dear Wife

Lexington Missouri Saturday Nov 31/58

Dear Wife I arrived here this afternoon  
We started from St Louis Monday eve  
and arrived at Hills Landing so called about  
25 miles from here where we had to disembark  
on account of low water we could get no farther  
we had over two hundred passengers all had  
to put up and get teams to this place we arrived  
here about 2 o'clock. What was our surprise on  
getting here to learn that there is a war  
going on in Kansas and the inhabitants are  
going from here up there in large parties  
all armed to the teeth. What the result is  
so be God only knows one thing is pretty  
sure that blood has been spilt and there  
is a very great excitement - What I shall  
do I have not decided upon - My health  
has been rather poor ever since I left  
St. Louis the second day after I started  
from that place I have been troubled with  
a diarrhea I could not stop it until yesterday  
I did almost conclude to return when  
the boat concluded to return but feeling  
so much better this morning I concluded to go  
though had I known what I now know I  
should have returned I think now I shall





## Hiram Hill to Dear Wife

go to Fort Independence or Kansas City wait  
the movements of the waters - if my health  
is no worse Mr Whitney will continue his jour-  
ney to Lawrence with Judge Johnson if  
he can get there the excitement is so great  
that it is impossible to tell what the real  
state of things are there - give yourself  
no uneasiness about me for you cannot  
help me it is God that has the hearts of  
all in his hand he controls the affairs  
of men we must try to commit ourselves  
with all our concerns into his hands

Remember me to all our friends  
Kiss Father for me & tell him  
to be a good Boy

affectionately yours

Hiram Hill