Governor Crawford Indian correspondence

Section 5, Pages 121 - 150

In response to Indian attacks on frontier settlers, Governor Samuel J. Crawford was authorized by Congress to recruit a battalion of men to handle the crisis. This series of correspondence in Governor Crawford's papers contains many documents from men requesting commissions in the new battalion and permission to recruit soldiers. There are also letters from settlers documenting atrocities, asking for protection from hostile Indians, requesting compensation for stolen goods and livestock, and needing aid merely to survive after losing their supplies to Indian raids. A searchable transcription is available by clicking "Text Version" below. Funds for digitization provided by Mr. Steve Peckel in memory of William Chalfant.

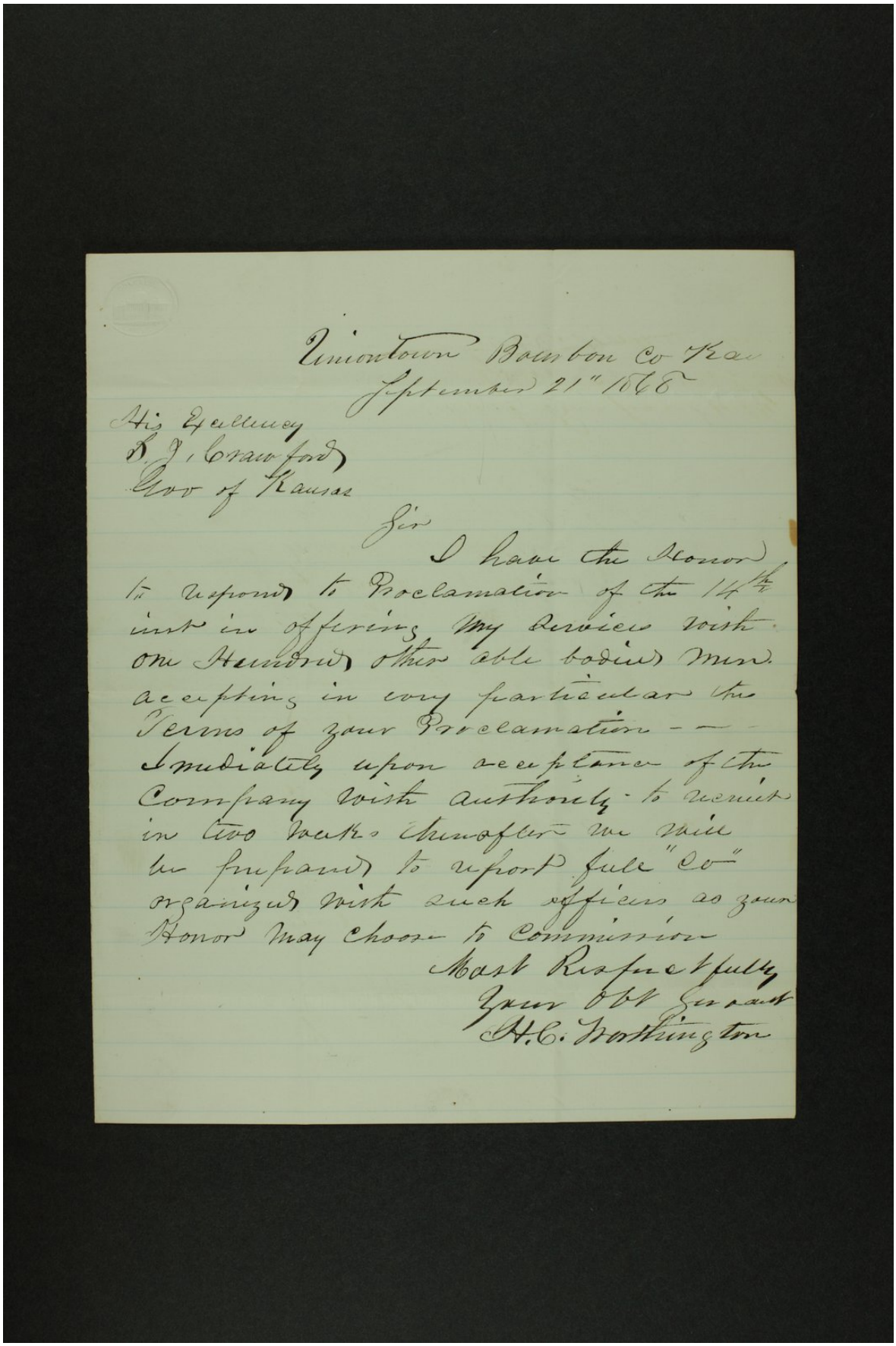
Date: 1867-1868

Callnumber: Governor Samuel J. Crawford, Correspondence, Indian Correspondence

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 304901

Item Identifier: 304901

www.kansasmemory.org/item/304901



Uniontown Bourbon Co Kan
September 21st 1868

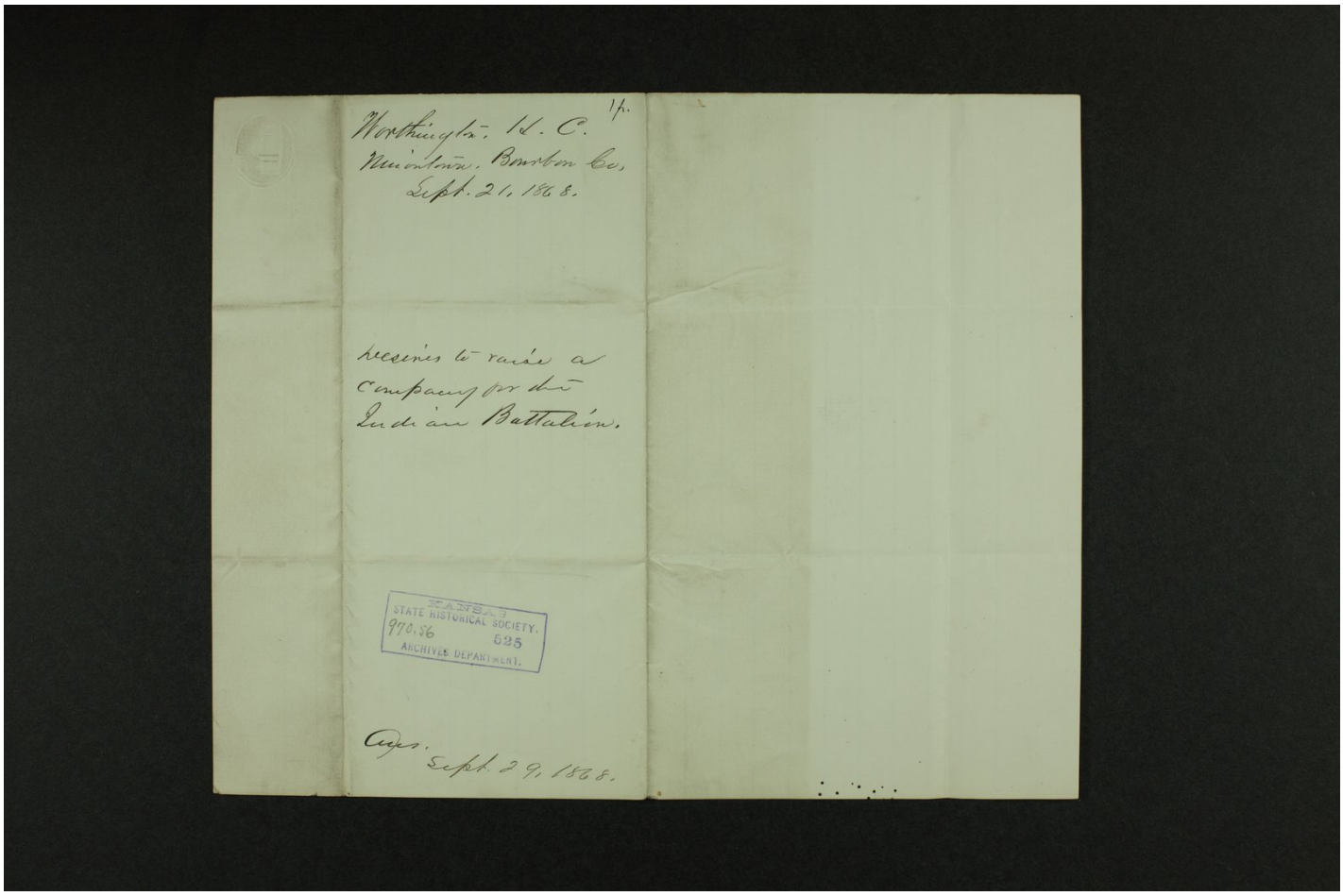
His Excellency
S. J. Crawford
Gov of Kansas

Sir

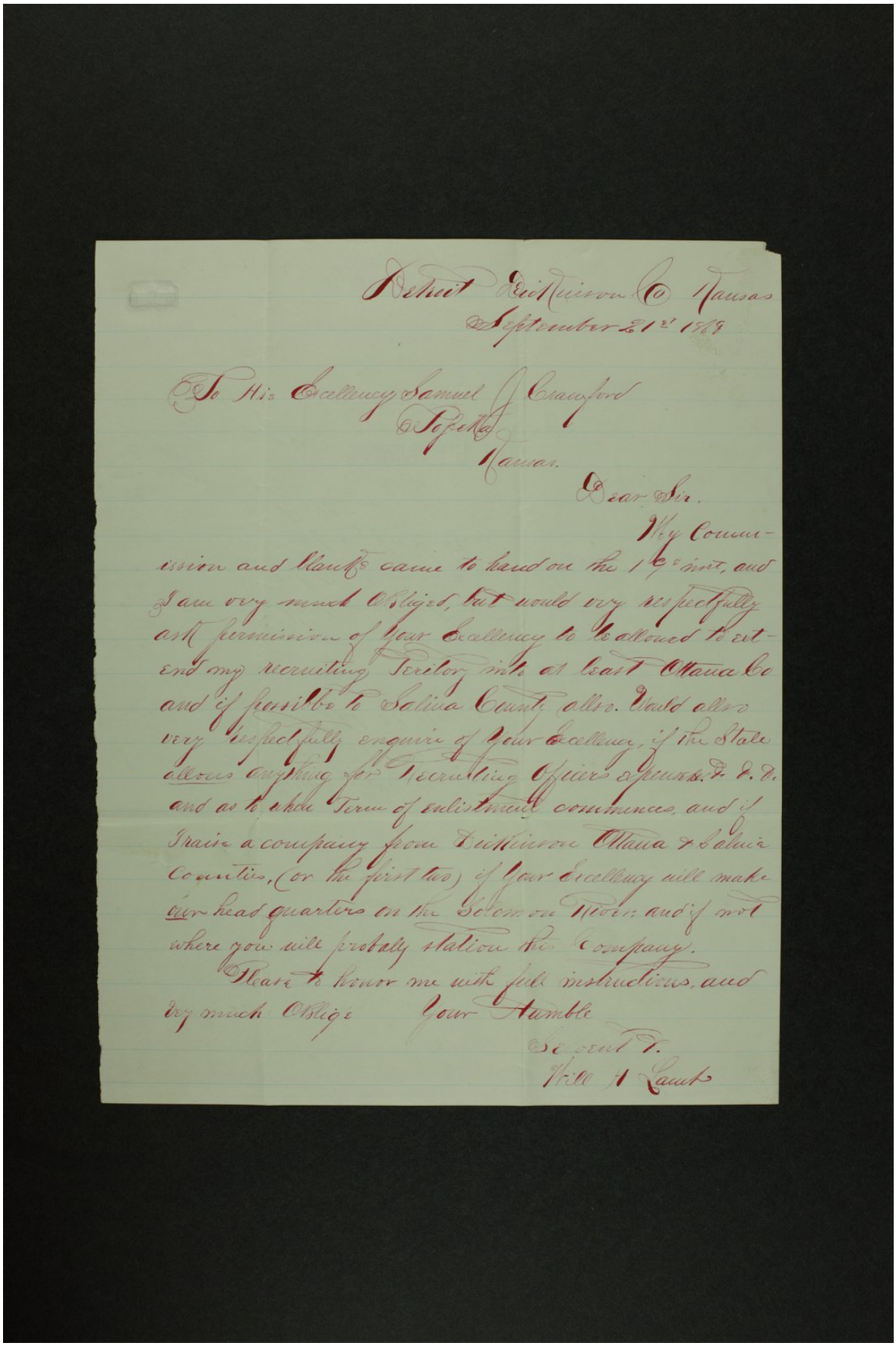
I have the Honor to respond to Proclamation of the 14th inst in offering my Services with one Hundred other able bodied Men accepting in every particular the Terms of your Proclamation — Immediately upon acceptance of the Company with authority to recruit in two weeks thereafter we will be prepared to report full "Co" organized with such officers as your Honor may choose to Commission

Most Respectfully
Your Obt Servant
H. C. Worthington

Governor Crawford Indian correspondence



Governor Crawford Indian correspondence



Delhi Dickinson Co Kansas
September 21st 1868

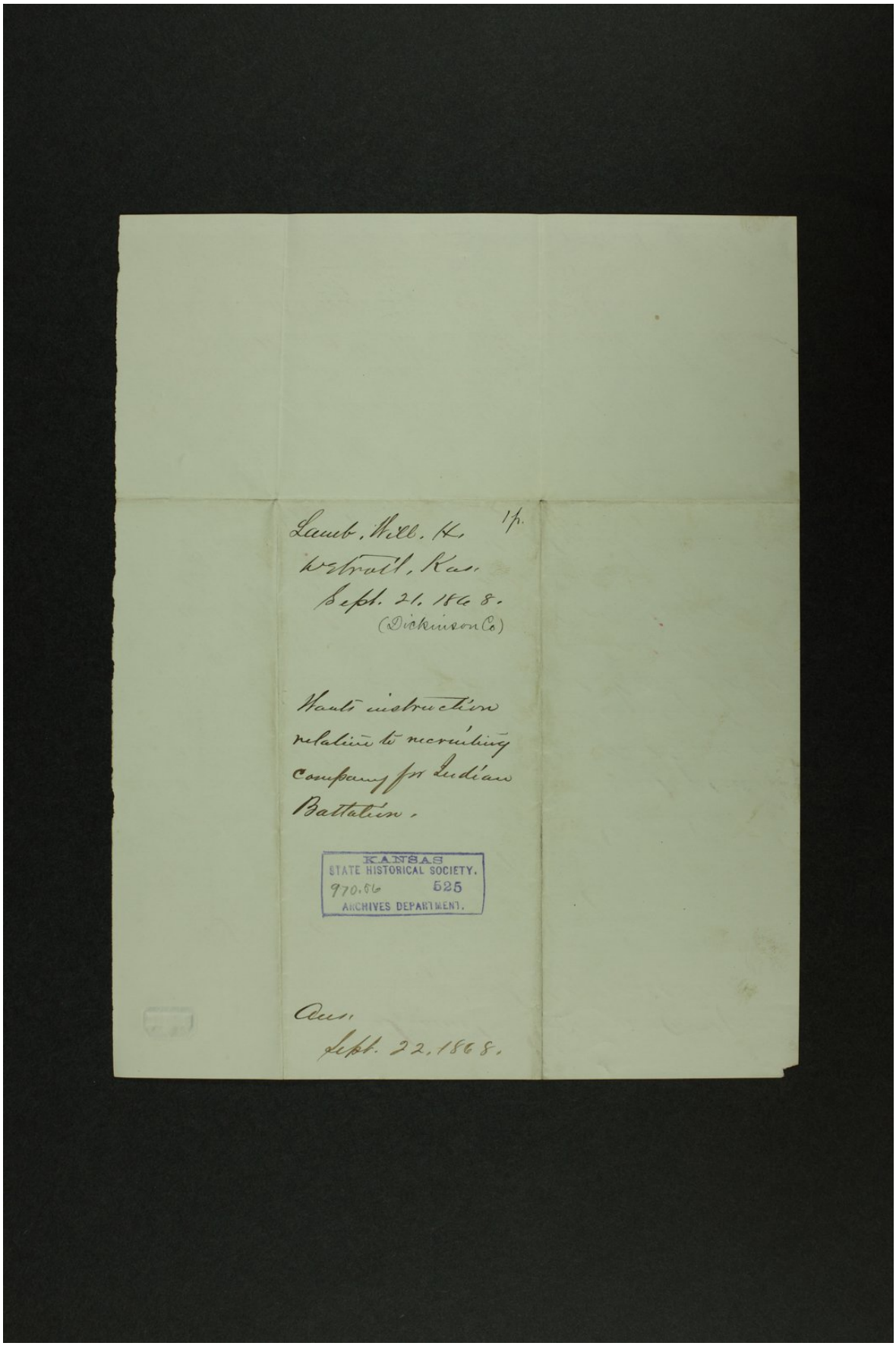
To His Excellency Samuel J Crawford
Topeka
Kansas.

Dear Sir.

My Commission and blanks came to hand on the 19th inst, and I am very much Obliged, but would very respectfully ask permission of your Excellency to be allowed to extend my recruiting Territory into at least Ottawa Co and if possible to Saline County also. Would also very respectfully enquire of Your Excellency, if the State allows anything for Recruiting Officers Expenses &c. &c. and as to when Term of enlistment commences, and if I raise a company from Dickinson Ottawa & Saline Counties, (or the first two) if Your Excellency will make our head quarters on the Solomon River, and if not where you will probably station the Company.

Please to honor me with full instructions, and very much Oblige Your Humble
Servant &c.
Wm H Lamb

Governor Crawford Indian correspondence



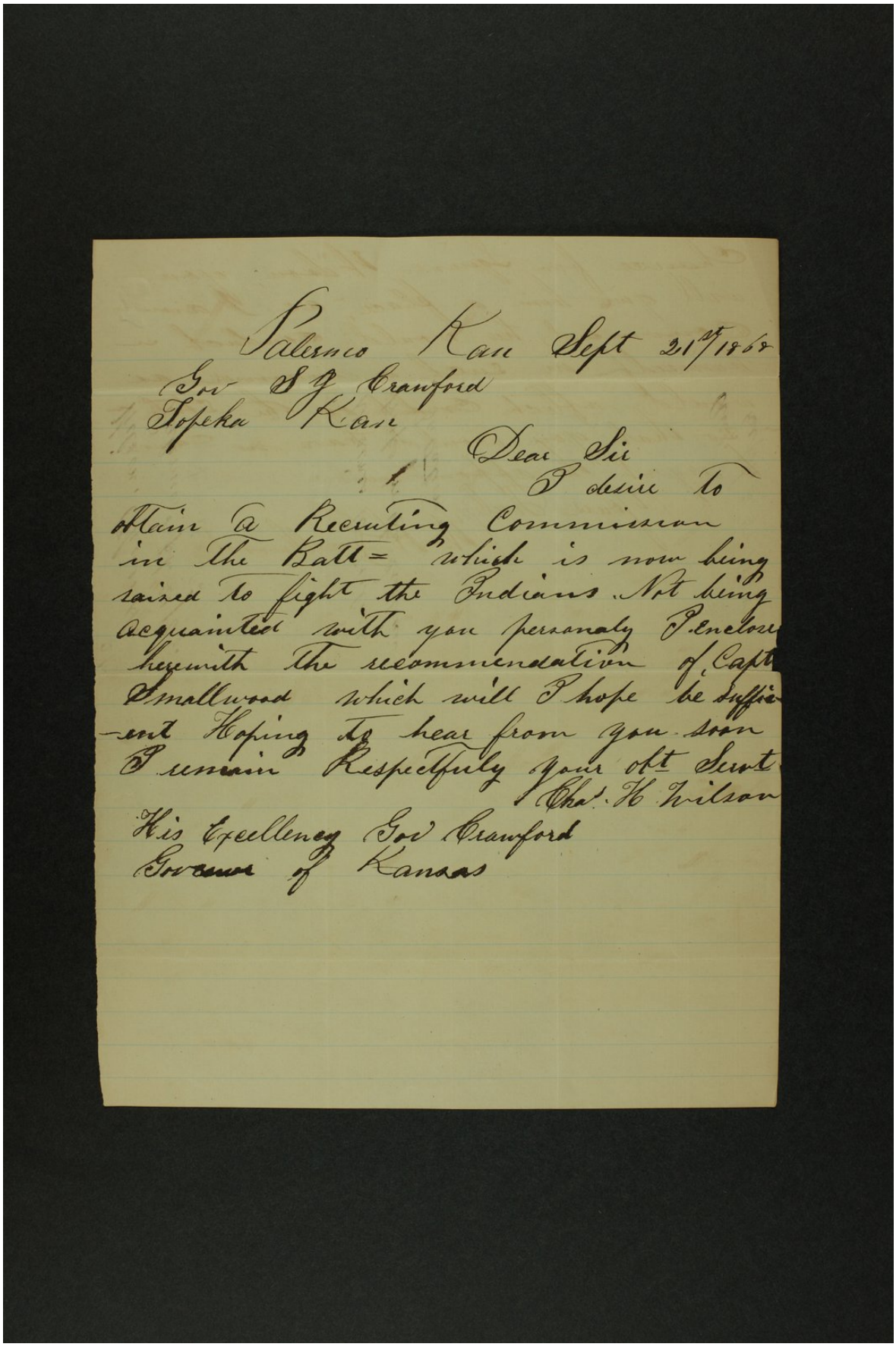
Lamb, Wm. H. 1 p.
Walnut, Kas.
Sept. 21, 1868.
(Dickinson Co.)

Wants instruction
relative to recruiting
Company for Indian
Battalion.

KANSAS
STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.
970.66 525
ARCHIVES DEPARTMENT.

Ans.
Sept. 22, 1868.

Governor Crawford Indian correspondence



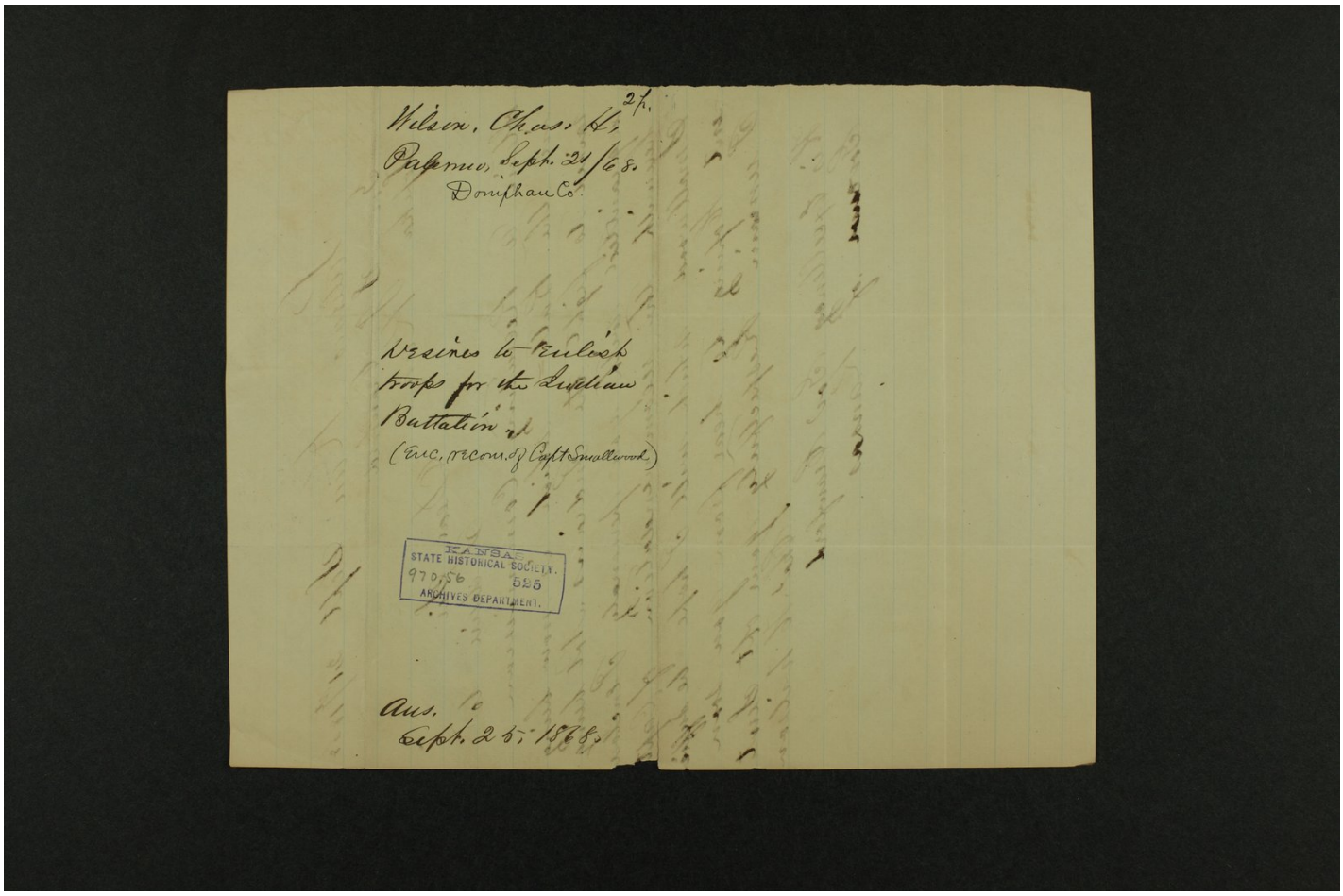
Salemo Kan Sept 21st 1864

Gov S J Crawford
Topeka Kan

Dear Sir
I desire to
obtain a Recruiting Commission
in the Batt= which is now being
raised to fight the Indians. Not being
acquainted with you personaly I enclose
herewith the recommendation of Capt
Smallwood which will I hope be suffici-
-ent Hoping to hear from you soon
I remain Respectfully your obt Servt
Chas. H Wilson

His Excellency Gov Crawford
Governor of Kansas

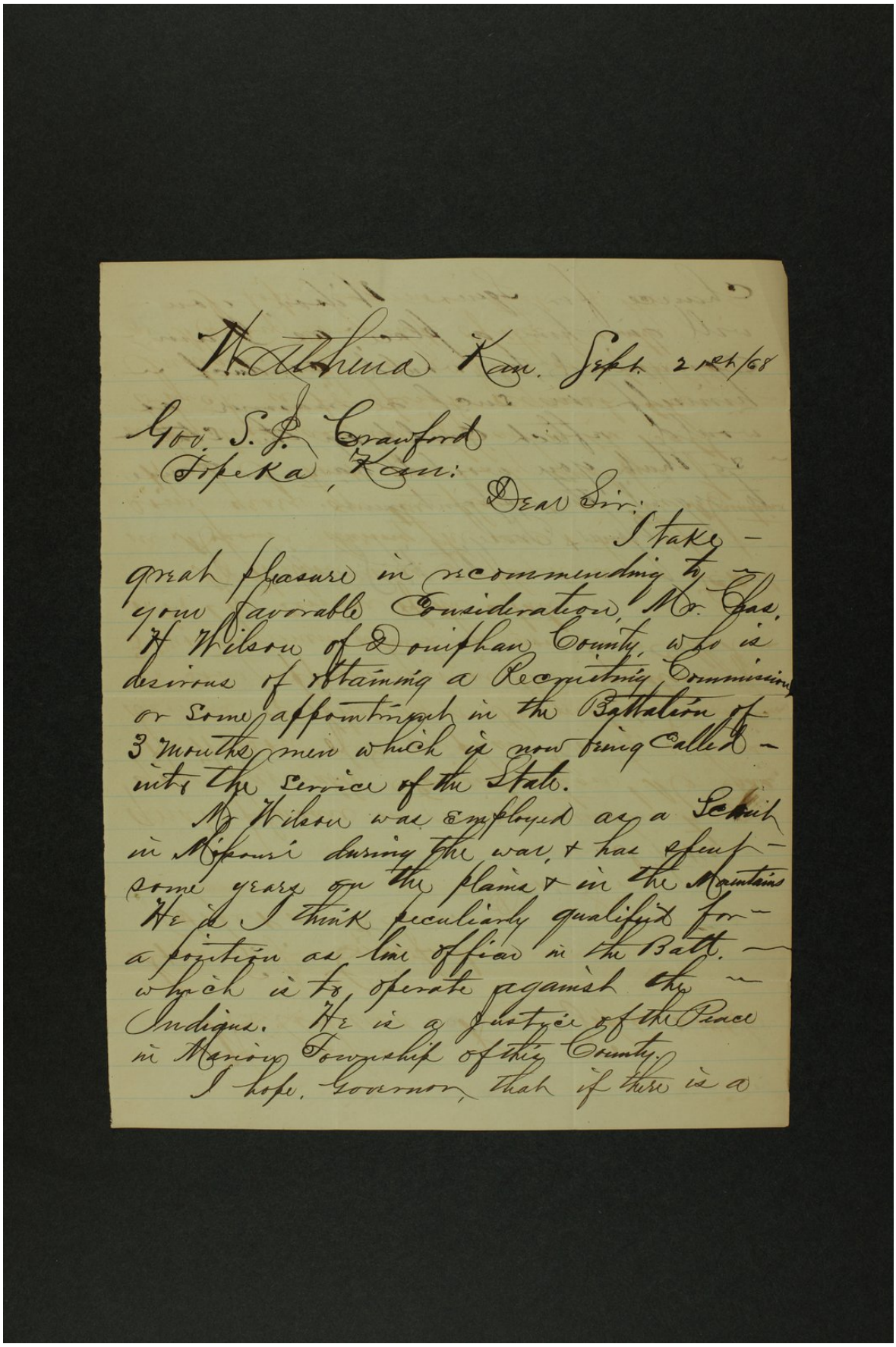
Governor Crawford Indian correspondence


Wilson, Chas. H.
Pvt. Co. H.
Parkman, Sept. 21/68.
Doniphan Co.

Desires to enlist
troops for the Pawnee
Battalion &c
(Enc. recom. of Capt. Smallwood)

KANSAS
STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.
970.56 525
ARCHIVES DEPARTMENT.

Ans.
Sept. 25, 1868.



Wathena Kan. Sept. 22nd/68

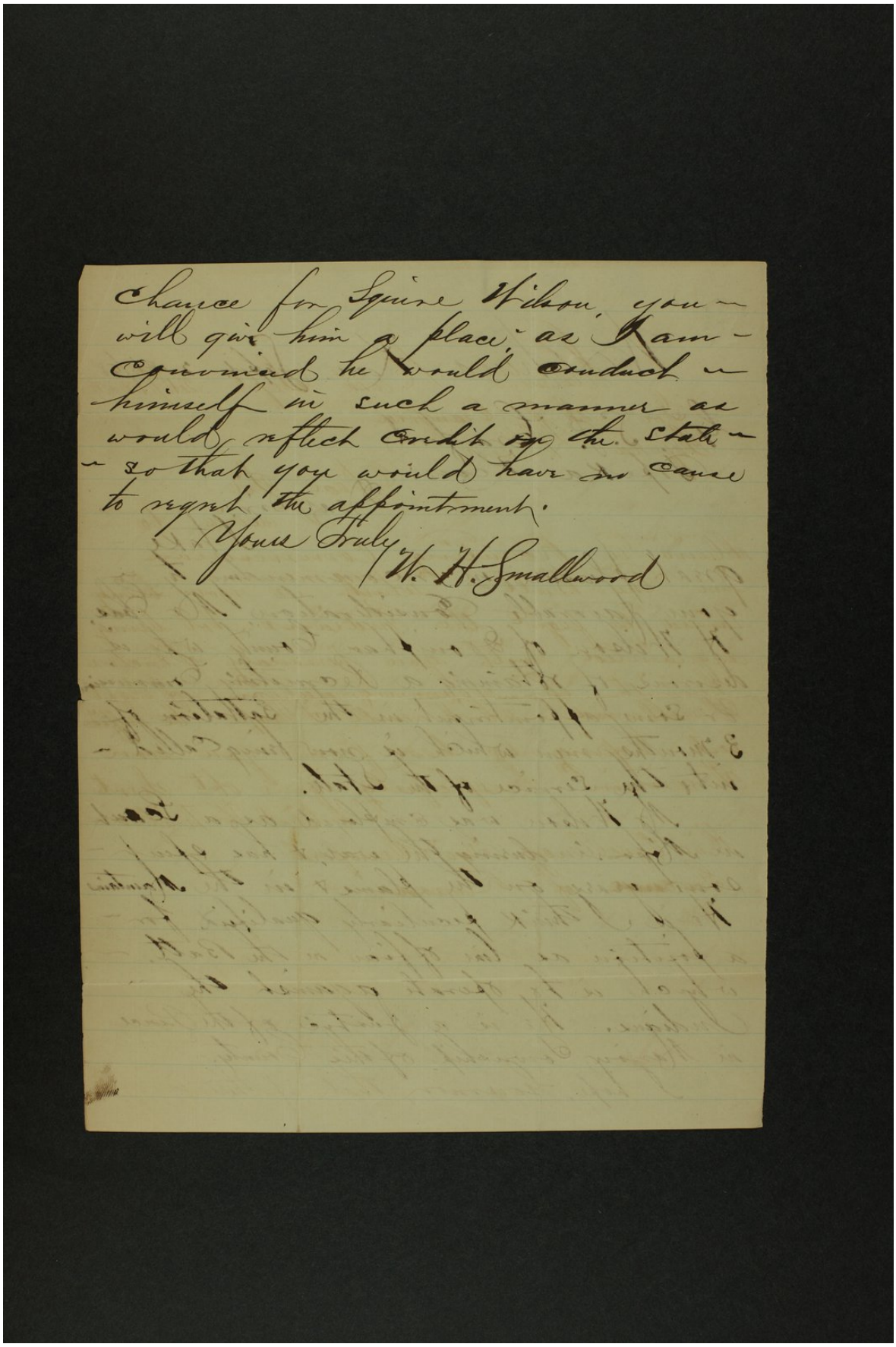
Gov. S. J. Crawford
Topeka, Kan.

Dear Sir.

I take great pleasure in recommending to your favorable consideration, Mr. Chas. H. Wilson of Doniphan County, who is desirous of obtaining a Recruiting Commission or some appointment in the Battalion of 3 months men which is now being called into the service of the State.

Mr Wilson was employed as a Scout in Missouri during the war, & has spent some years on the plains & in the Mountains. He is I think peculiarly qualified for a position as line officer in the Batt. which is to operate against the Indians. He is a Justice of the Peace in Marion Township of this County.

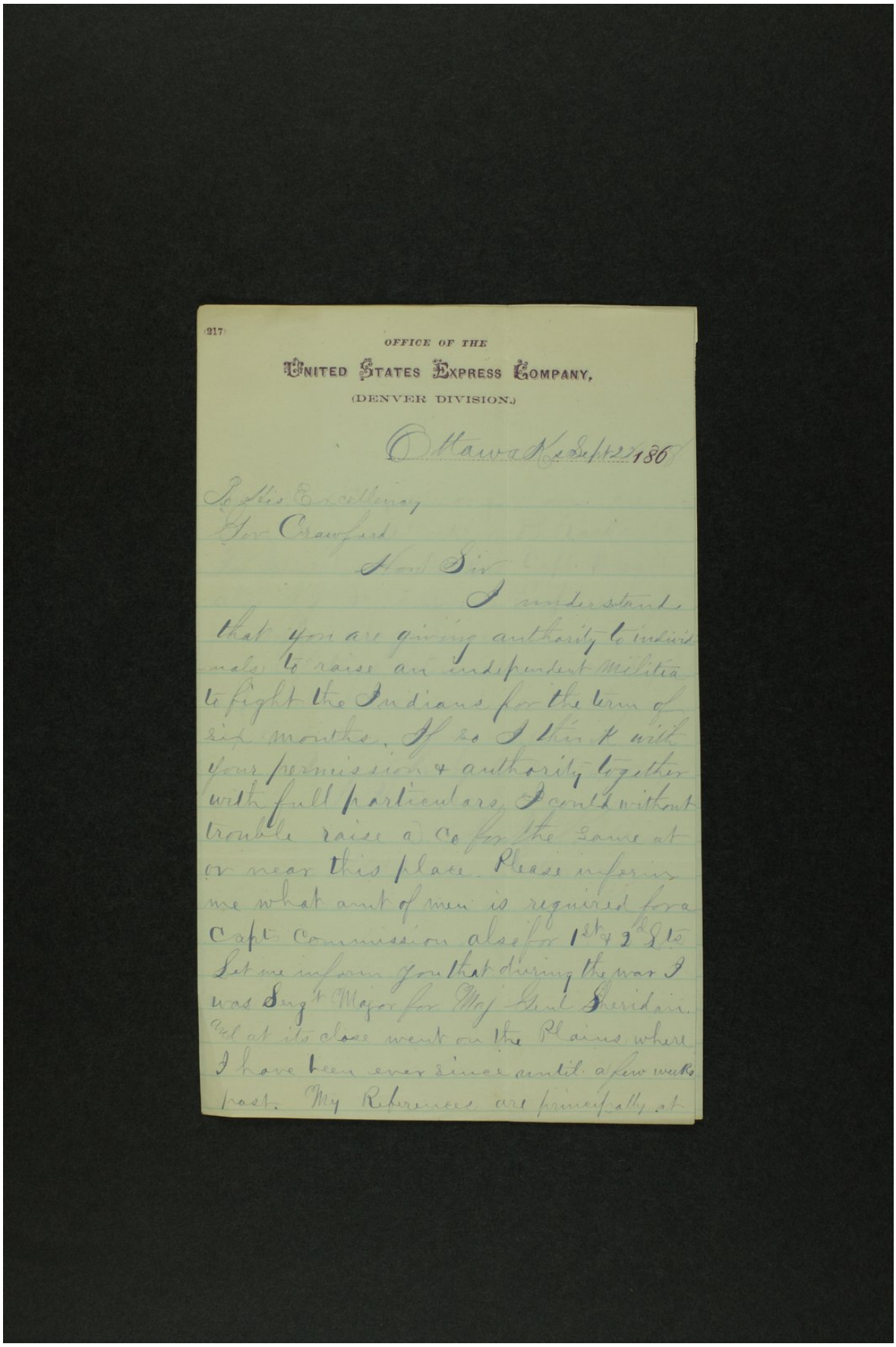
I hope, Governor, that if there is a



chance for Squire Wilson, you will give him a place as Kansas Governor and he would conduct himself in such a manner as would reflect credit on the State so that you would have no cause to regret the appointment.

Yours Truly
W. H. Smallwood

Governor Crawford Indian correspondence



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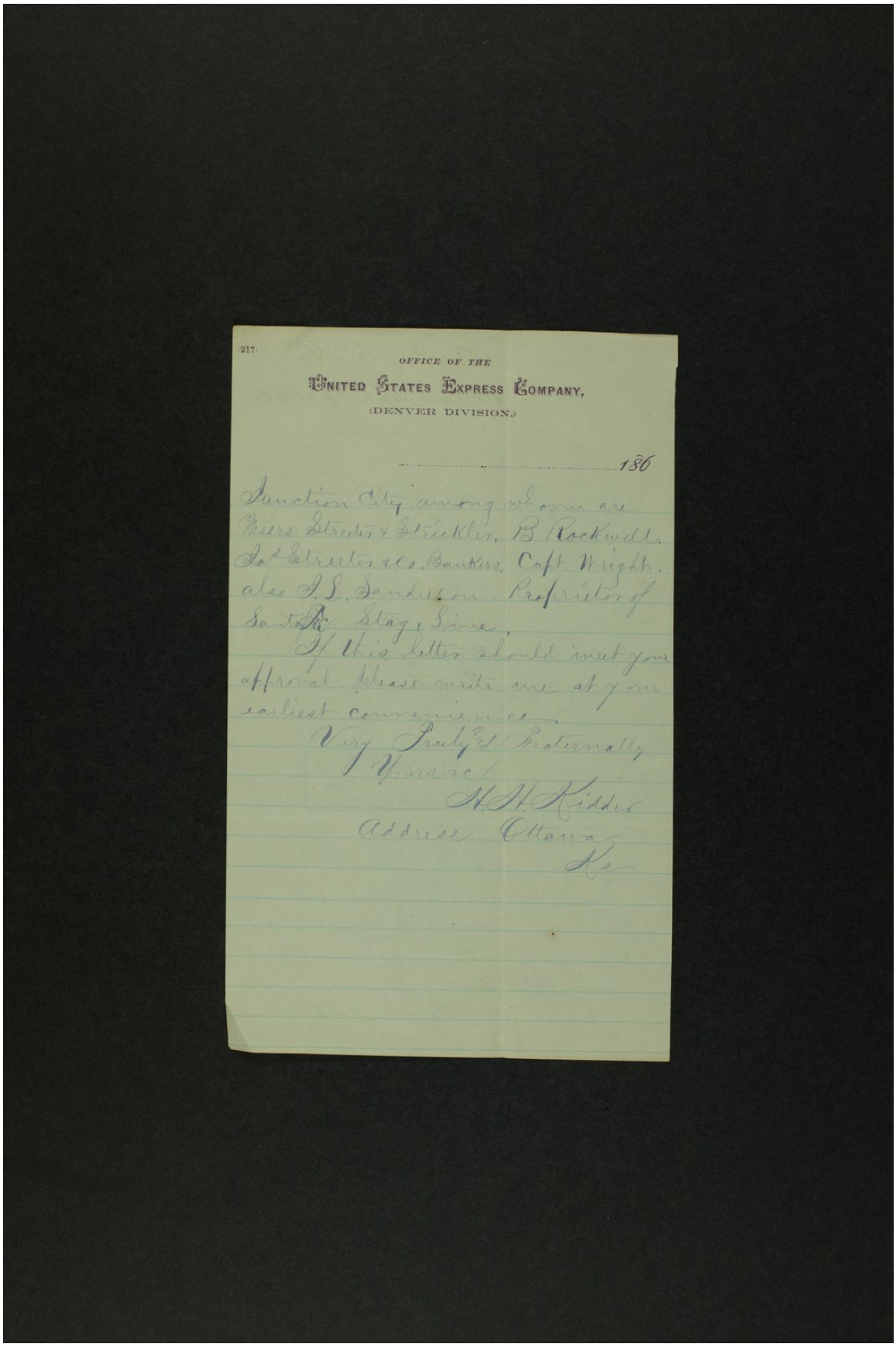
OFFICE OF THE
UNITED STATES EXPRESS COMPANY,
(DENVER DIVISION.)

Ottawa Ks Sept 12 186

To His Excellency
Gov Crawford
Honl Sir

I understand that you are giving authority to individuals to raise an independent Militia to fight the Indians for the term of six months. If so I think it with your permission & authority together with full particulars I could without trouble raise a Co for the same at or near this place. Please inform me what amt of men is required for a Capt Commission also for 1st & 2d Lts. Let me inform you that during the war I was Sergt Major for Maj Genl Sheridan. Left at its close went on the Plains where I have been ever since until a few weeks past. My References are principally at

Governor Crawford Indian correspondence



217

OFFICE OF THE
UNITED STATES EXPRESS COMPANY,
(DENVER DIVISION.)

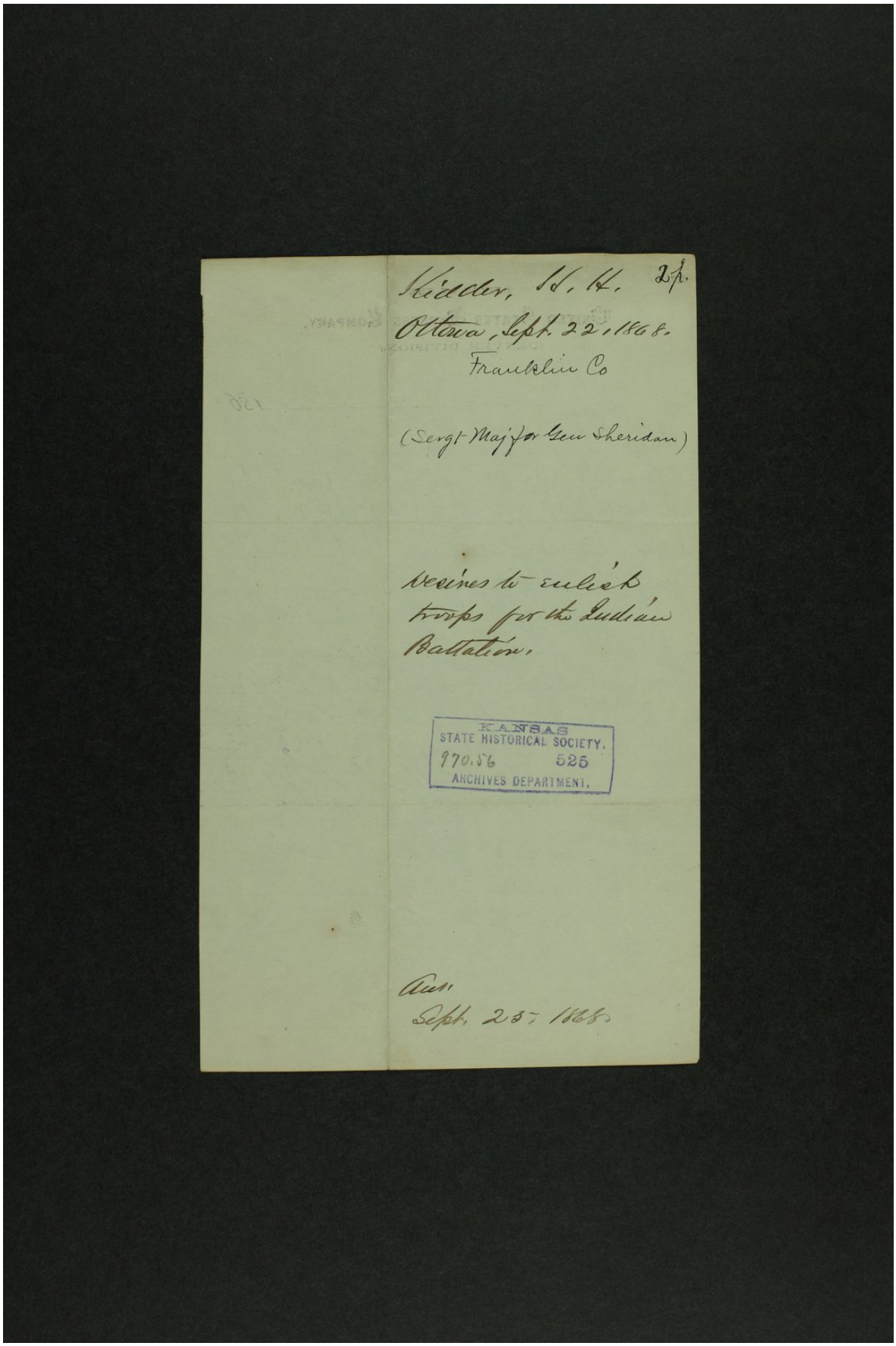
....., 186

Junction City among whom are
Messrs Streeter & Strickler, B Rockwell.
Sol Streeter & Co. Bankers, Capt Wright.
also A S. Sanderson Proprietor of
Santa Fe Stage Line

If this letter should meet your
approval please write me at your
earliest convenience

Very Truly & Fraternally
Yours &c

H. H. Kidder
Address Ottawa
Ks



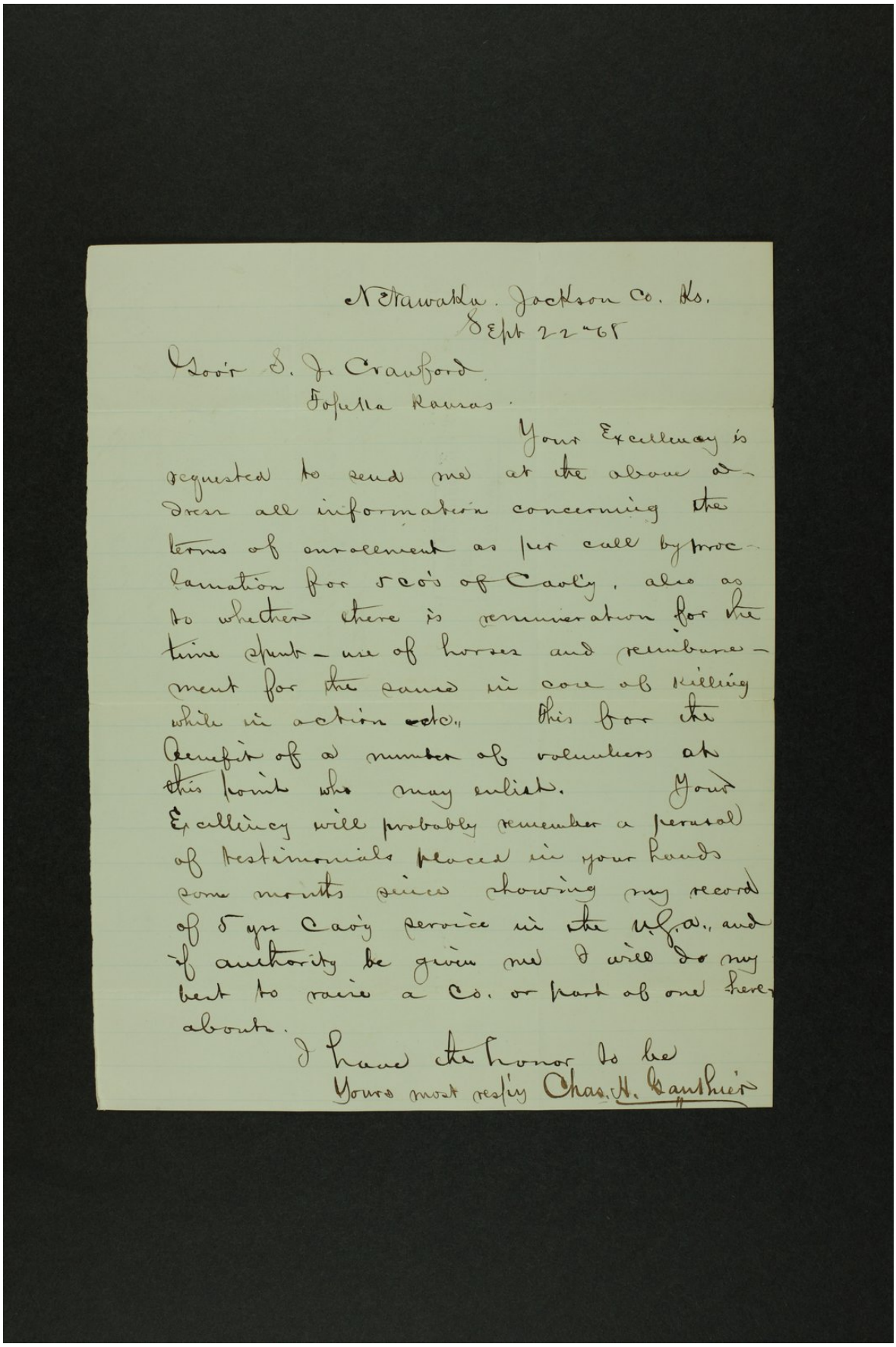
Kidder, M. H. 2 p.
Ottawa, Sept. 22, 1868.
Franklin Co

(Sergt Major for Gen Sheridan)

Desires to enlist
troops for the Indian
Battalion.

KANSAS
STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.
970.56 525
ARCHIVES DEPARTMENT.

Ans.
Sept. 25, 1868.



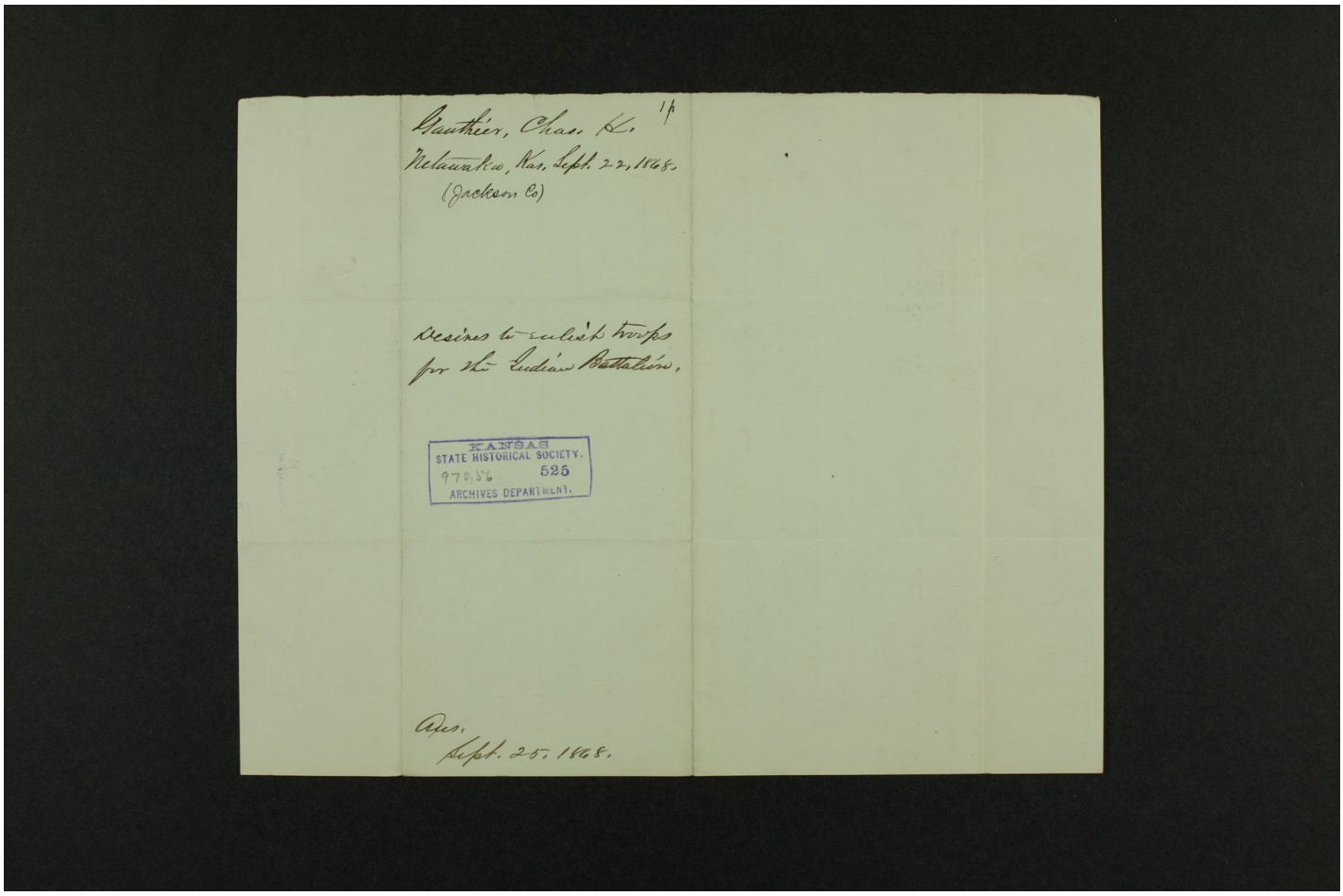
N Etawakla. Jackson Co. Ks.
Sept 22nd 61

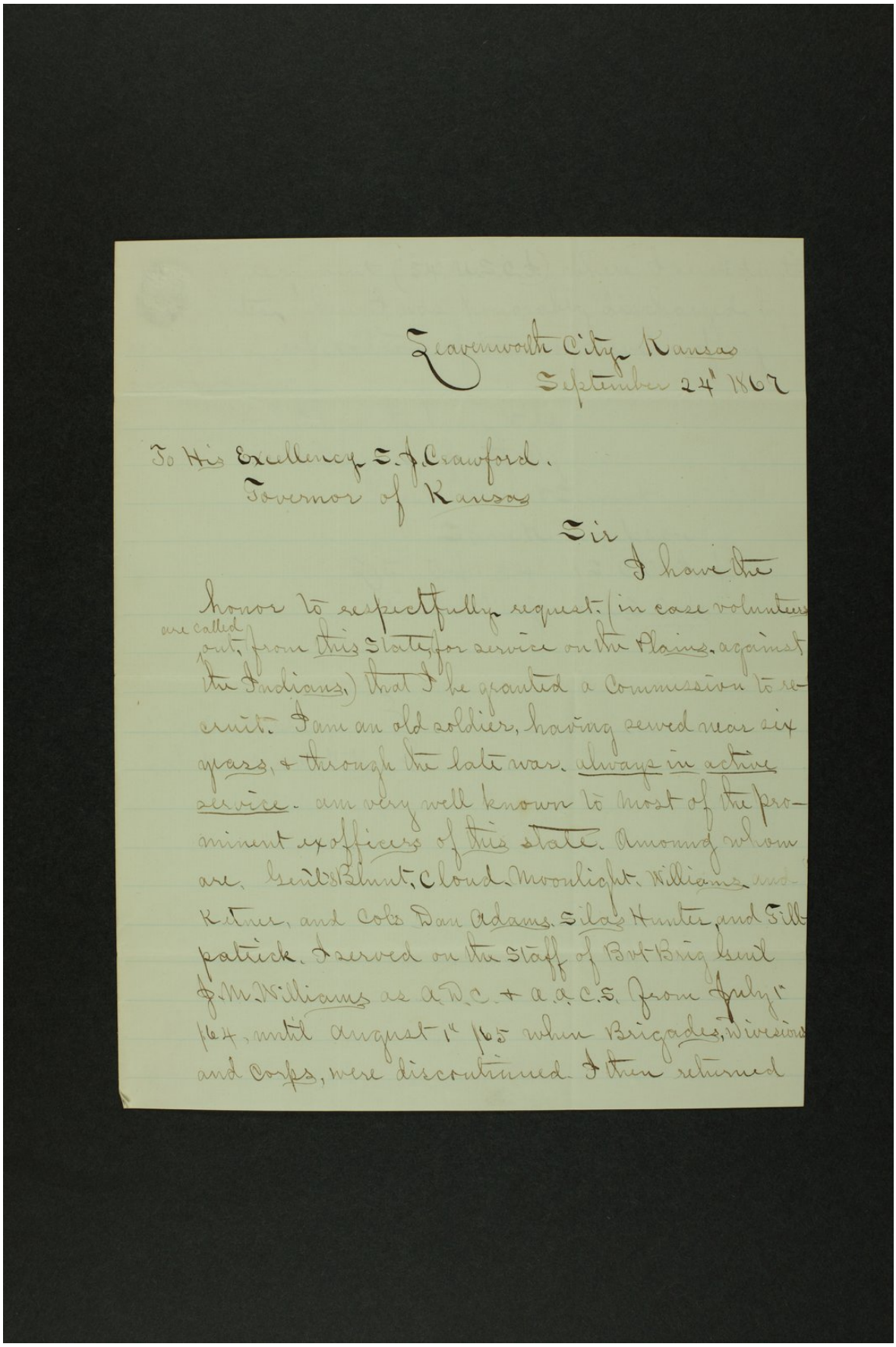
Gov. S. J. Crawford
Topeka Kansas.

Your Excellency is requested to send me at the above address all information concerning the terms of enrollment as per call by proclamation for recs of Cavly, also as to whether there is remuneration for the time spent — use of horses and reimbursement for the same in case of killing while in action etc. This for the benefit of a number of volunteers at this point who may enlist. Your Excellency will probably remember a perusal of testimonials placed in your hands some months since showing my record of 5 yrs Cavy service in the U.S.A., and if authority be given me I will do my best to raise a Co. or part of one hereabouts.

I have the honor to be
Yours most respty Chas. H. Gauthier

Governor Crawford Indian correspondence



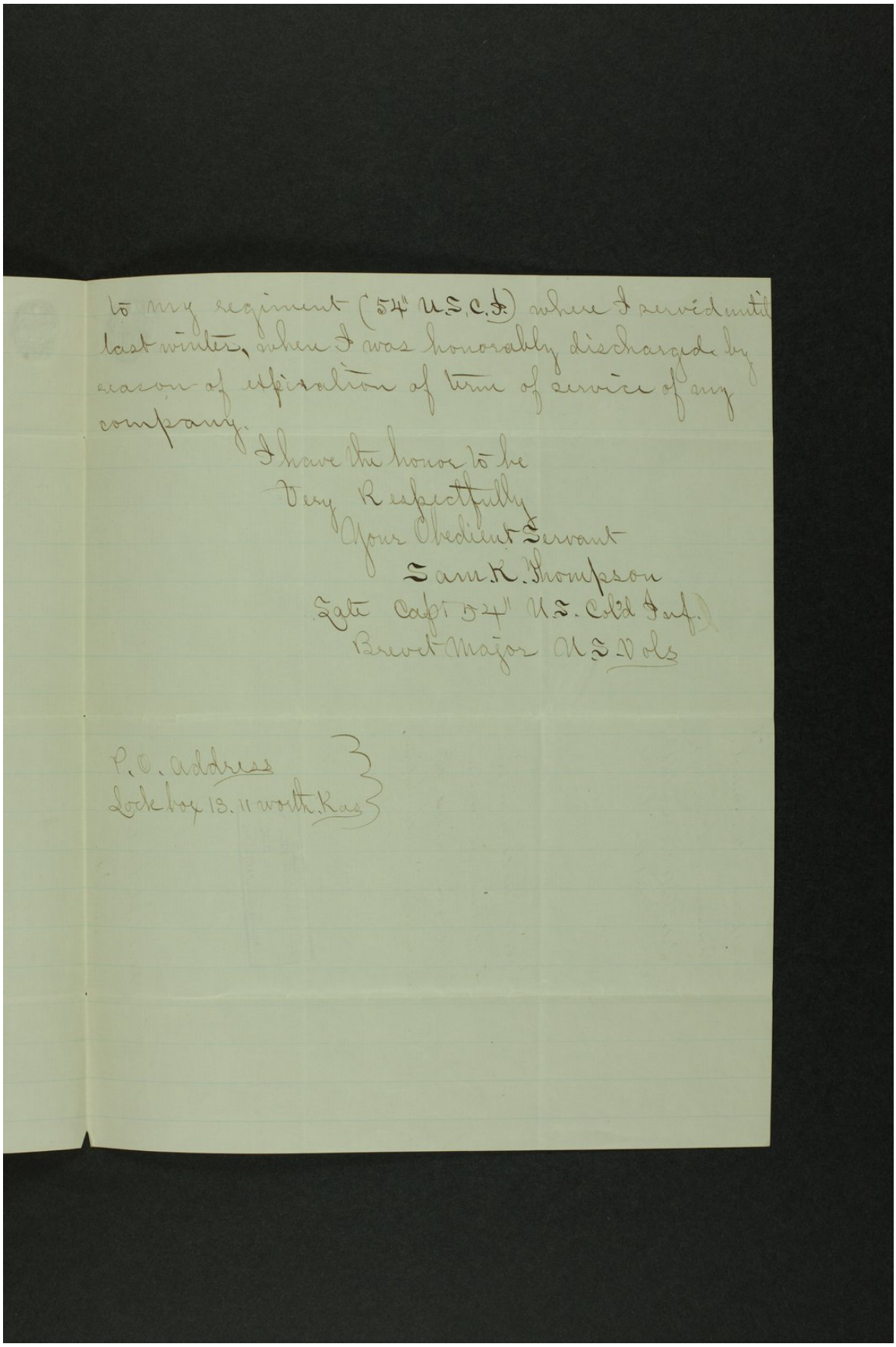


Leavenworth City, Kansas
September 24th 1862

To His Excellency S. J. Crawford.
Governor of Kansas

Sir

I have the honor to respectfully request: (in case volunteers are called out from this State for service on the Plains against the Indians) that I be granted a Commission to recruit. I am an old soldier, having served near six years, & through the late war. always in active service. am very well known to most of the prominent ex officers of this state. Among whom are. Gen'l Blunt, Cloud. Moonlight. Williams. McKinney, and Cols Dan Adams. Silas Hunter, and Tilpatrick. I served on the Staff of Brt Brig Gen'l J. M. Williams as A. D. C. & A. A. G. S. from July 1st 1864, until August 1st 1865 when Brigades, Divisions and Corps, were discontinued. I then returned

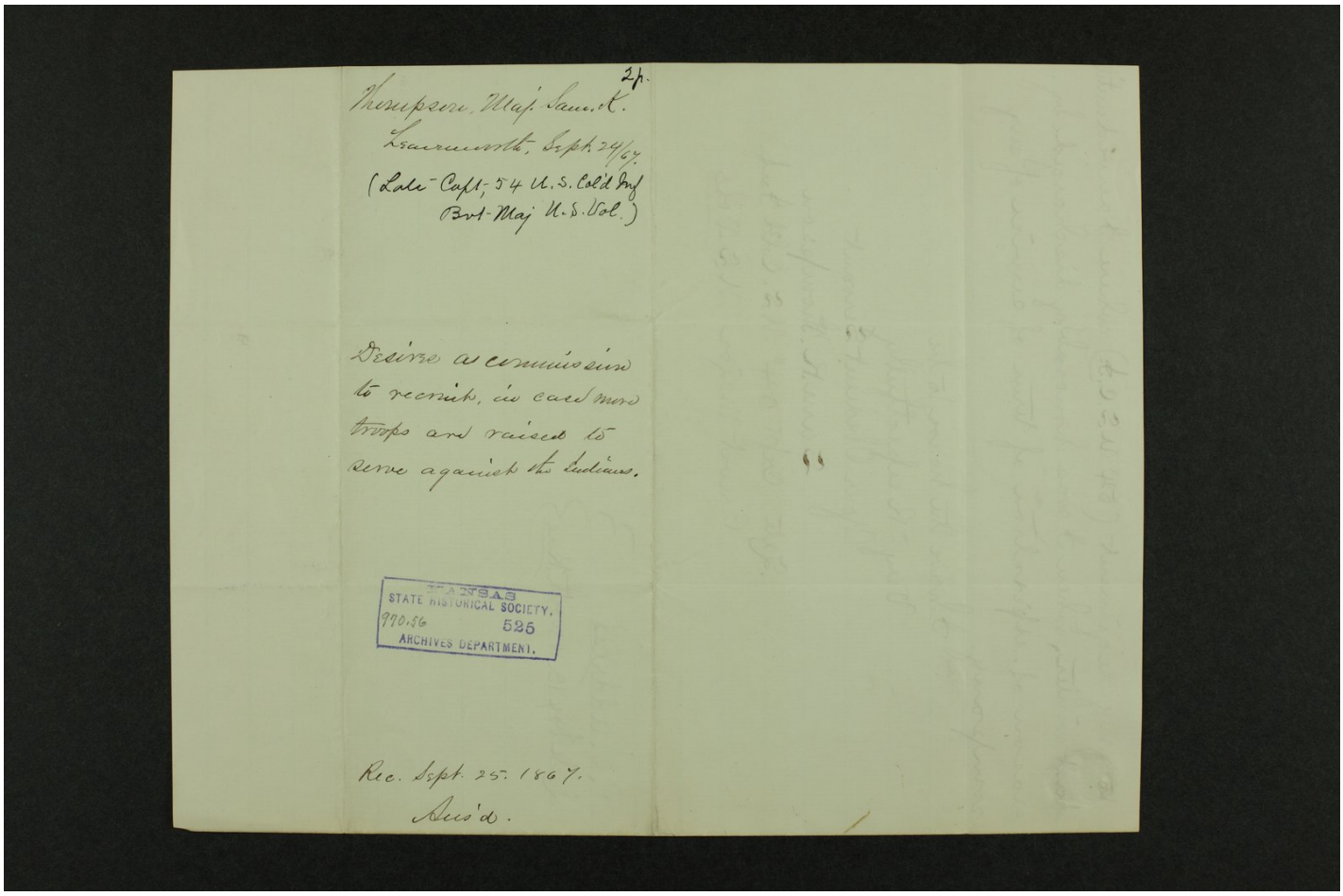


to my regiment (54th U.S.C.T.) where I served until last winter, when I was honorably discharged by reason of expiration of time of service of my company.

I have the honor to be
Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Sam K. Thompson
Late Capt 54th U.S. Colrd Inf.
Brevet Major U.S. Vols

P.O. Address
Lock box 13. Haworth. Kas

Governor Crawford Indian correspondence



2p.

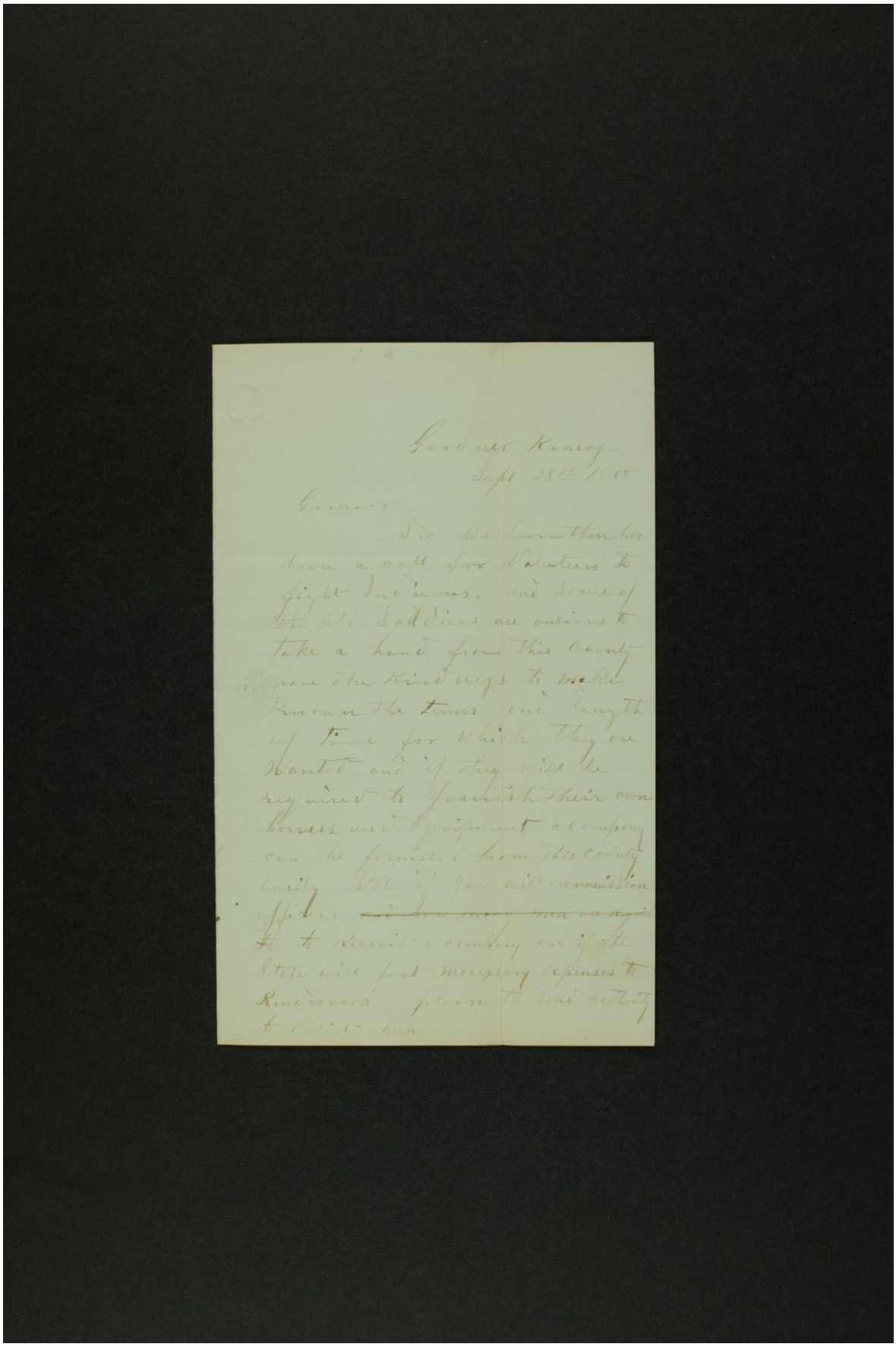
Thompson, Maj. Sam. C.
Leavenworth, Sept. 24/67.
(Late Capt, 54 U.S. Col'd Inf
Brt-Maj U.S. Vol.)

Desires a commission
to recruit, in case more
troops are raised to
serve against the Indians.

KANSAS
STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY,
970.56 525
ARCHIVES DEPARTMENT.

Rec. Sept. 25. 1867.
Ans'd.

Governor Crawford Indian correspondence

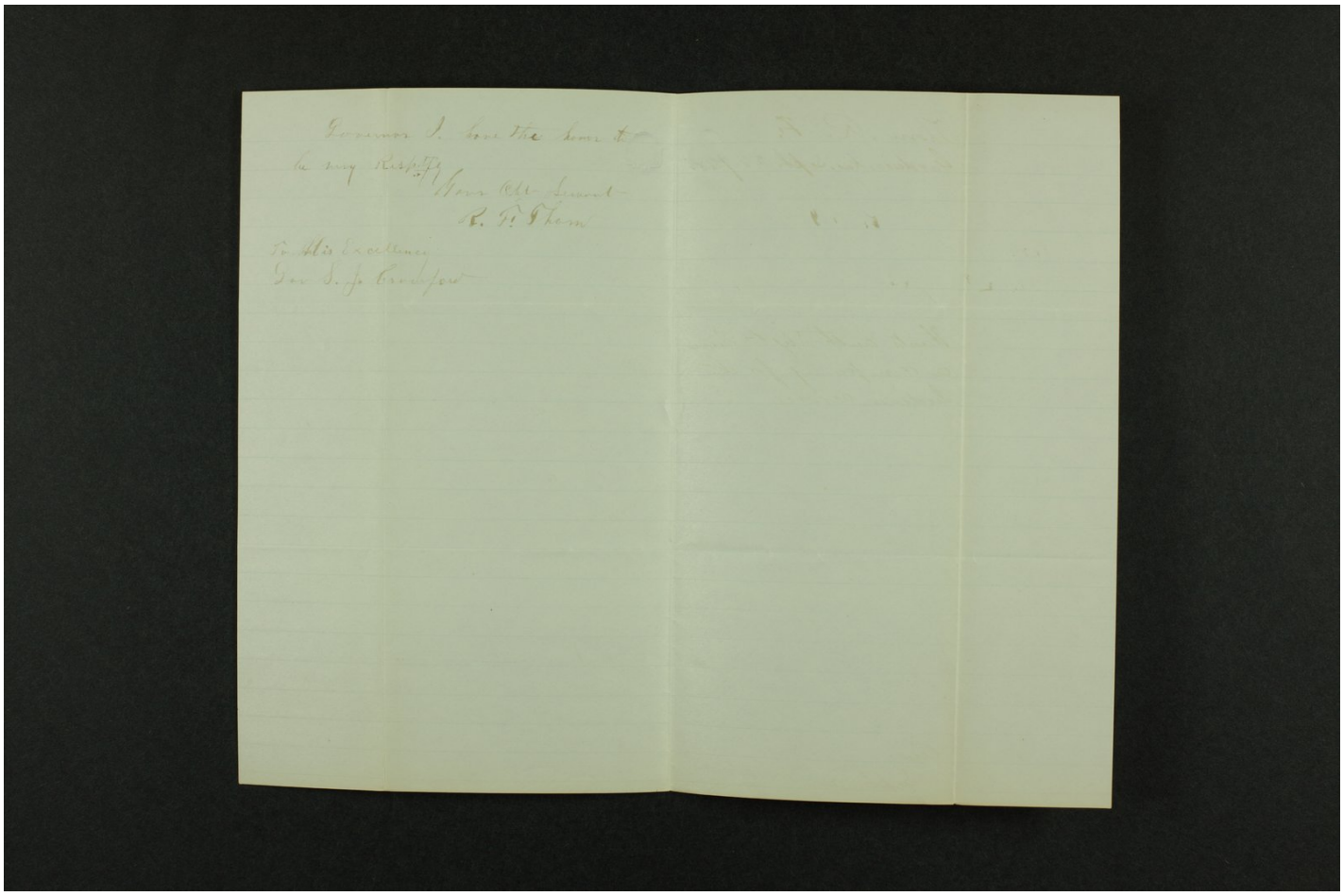


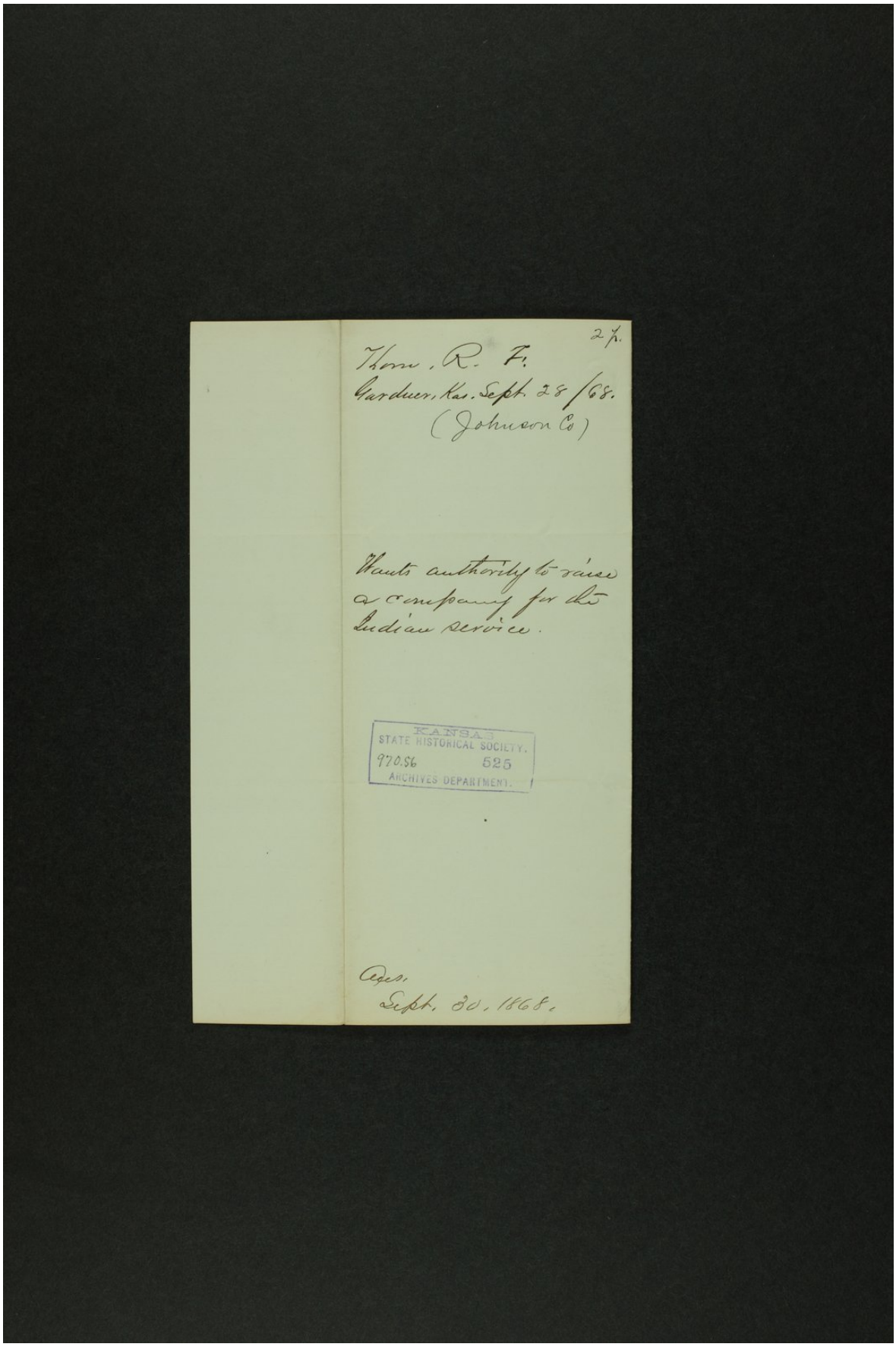
Gov Crawford Kansas
Sept 15th 1864

Governor

Sir We learn that there has been a call for Volunteers to fight Indians, and some of the Old Soldiers are anxious to take a hand from this County from the Kind ness to make known the terms and length of time for which they are wanted and if they will be required to furnish their own horses and Equipment a company can be formed from this County and State if you will commission officers ~~to do so~~ to Recruit a company and if the State will find necessary expenses to Rendezvous please to send authority to Enlist men

Governor Crawford Indian correspondence





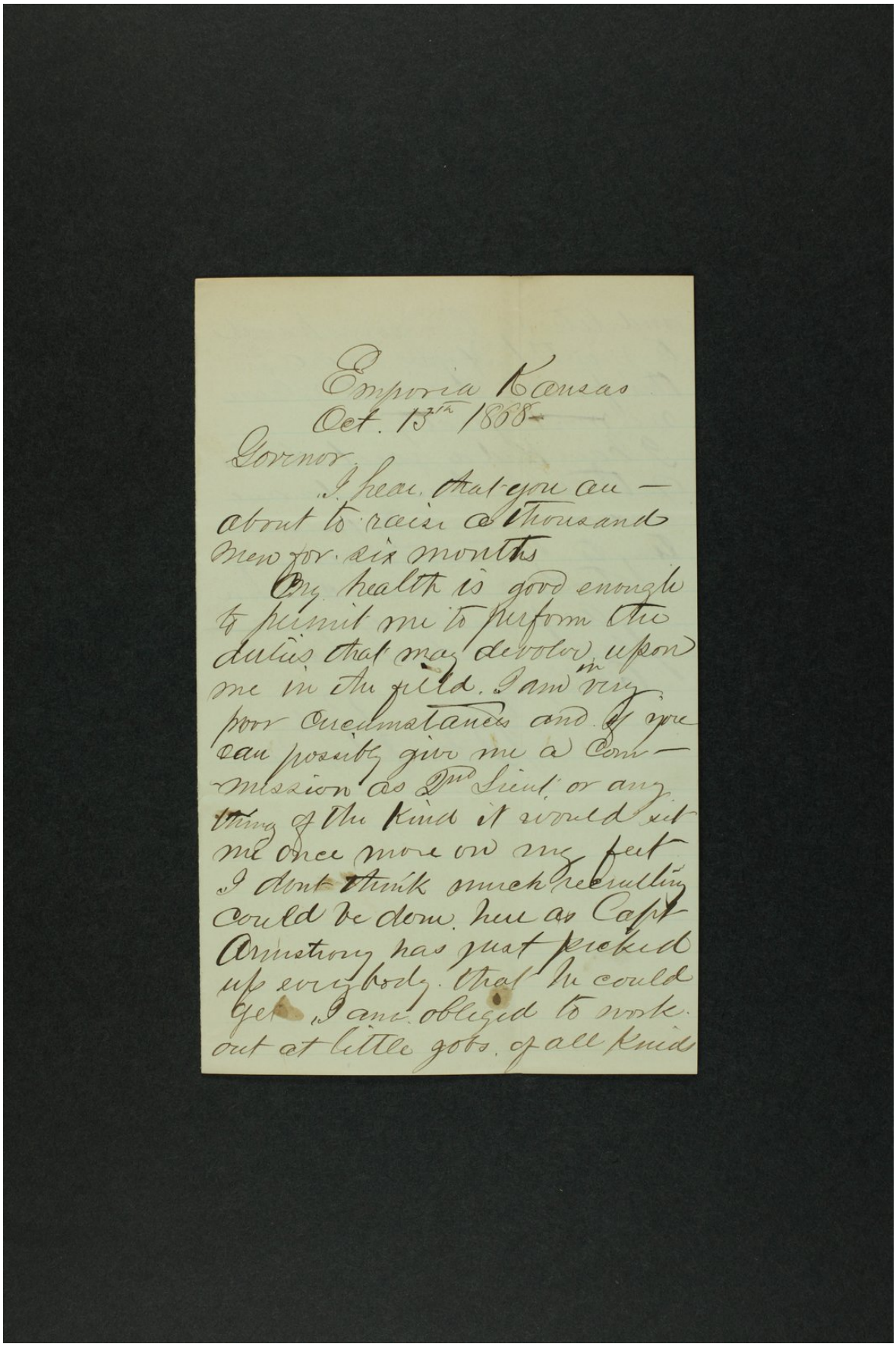
2 p.

Hon. R. F.
Gardner, Kas. Sept. 28/68.
(Johnson Co)

Wants authority to raise a company for the Indian service.

KANSAS
STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.
970.S6 525
ARCHIVES DEPARTMENT.

Ans.
Sept. 30. 1868.

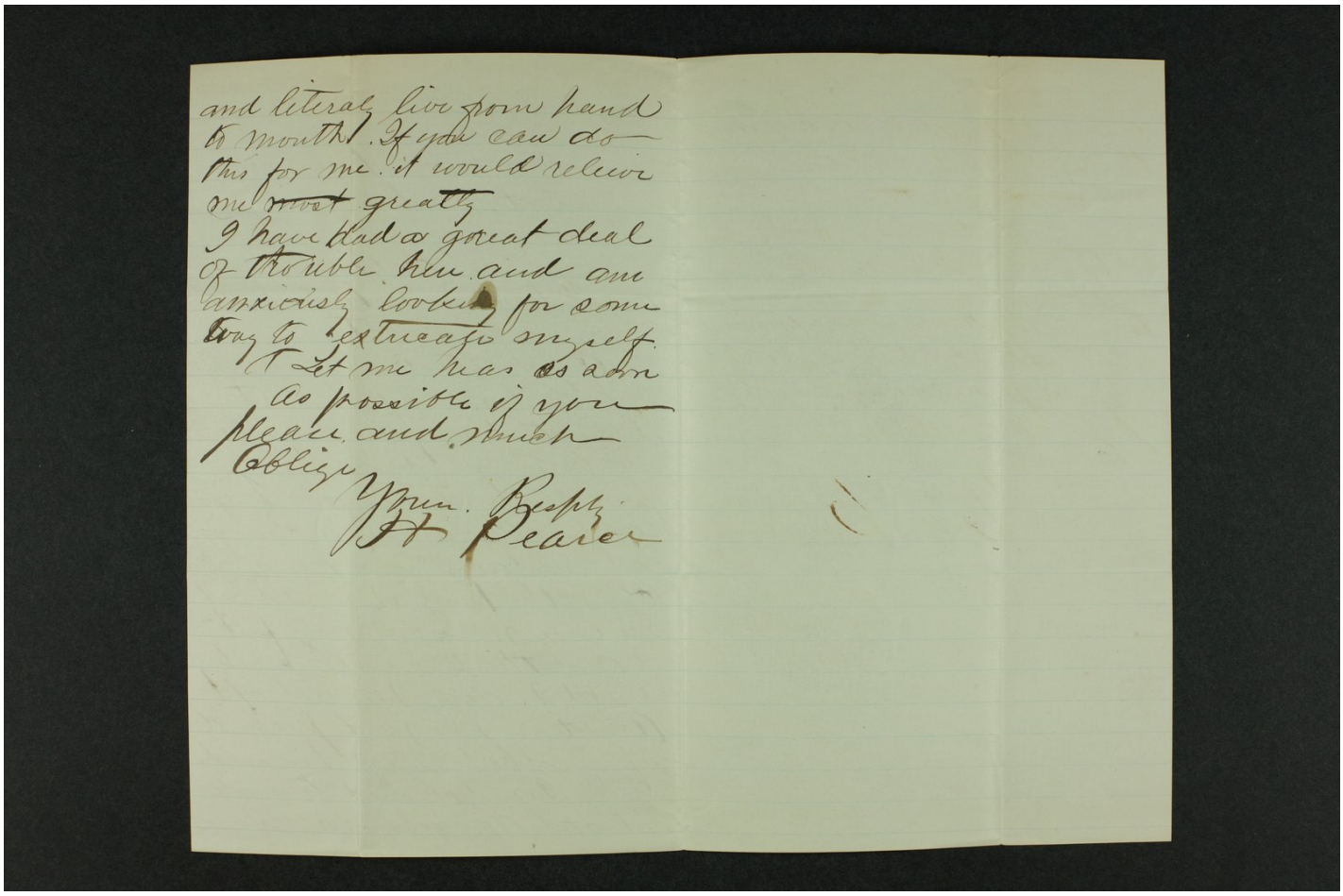


Emporia Kansas
Oct. 13th 1868

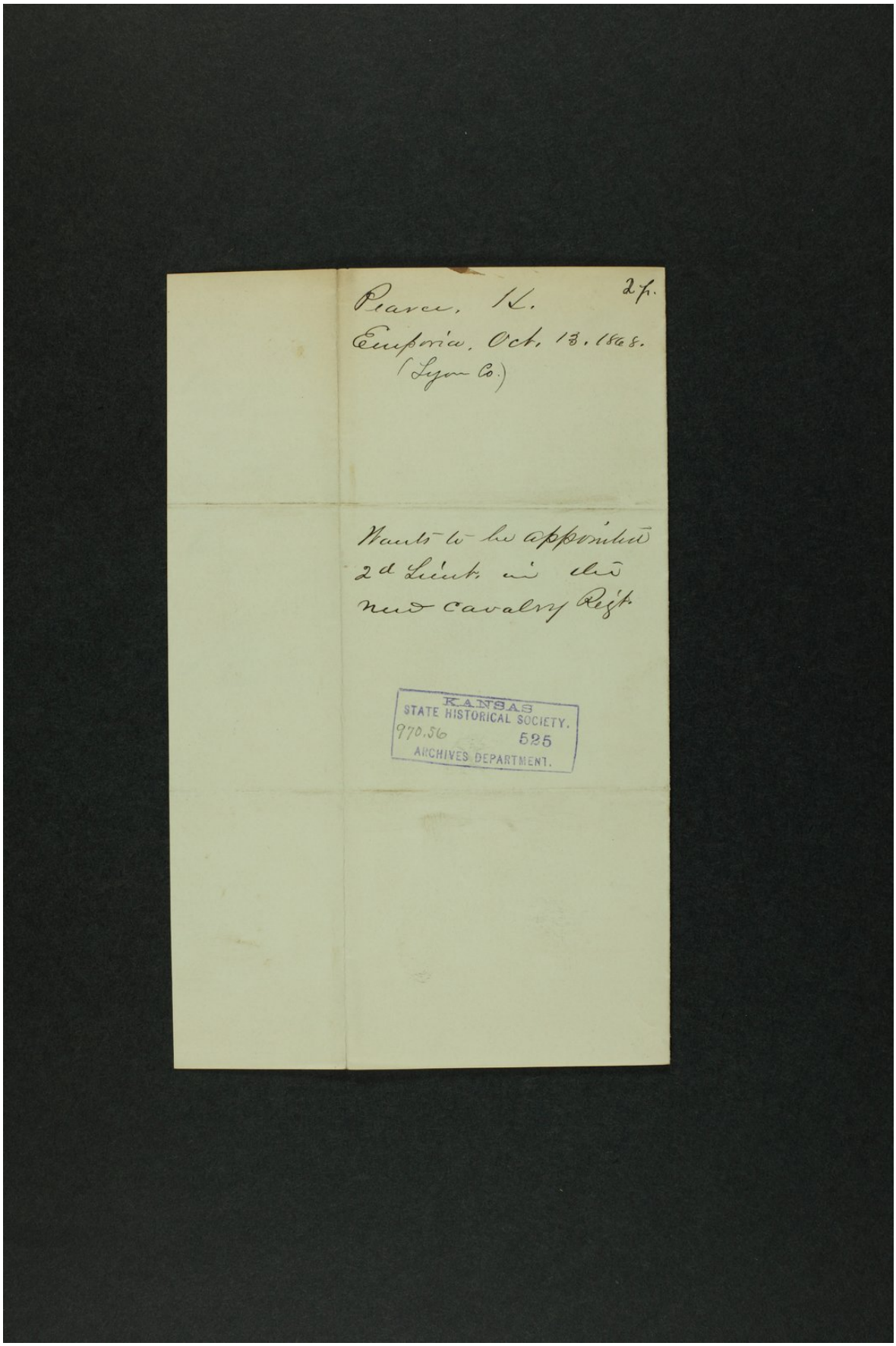
Governor

I hear that you are about to raise a Thousand men for six months

My health is good enough to permit me to perform the duties that may devolve upon me in the field. I am in very poor circumstances and if you can possibly give me a Commission as 2nd Lieut. or any thing of the kind it would set me once more on my feet I dont think much recruiting could be done here as Capt Armstrong has just picked up everybody that he could get. I am obliged to work out at little jobs of all kind



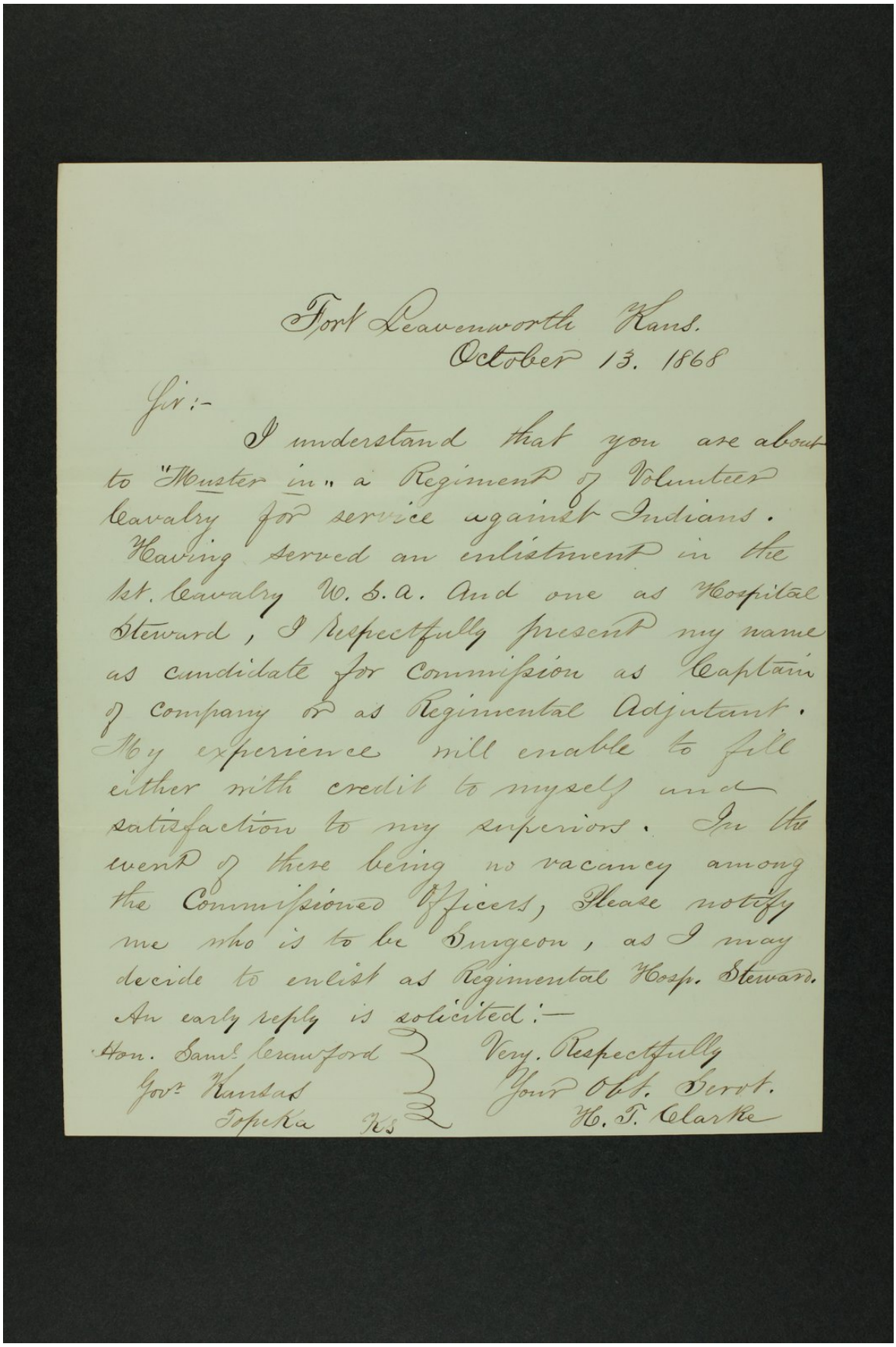
and literal live from hand
to mouth. If you can do
this for me it would relieve
me ~~most~~ greatly
I have had a great deal
of trouble here and am
anxiously looking for some
way to extricate myself.
Let me hear as soon
as possible if you
please and much
Oblige
Your Respt
H Pearce



Pierce, N. 2 p.
Emporia, Oct. 13, 1868.
(Lyon Co.)

Wants to be appointed
2d Lieut. in the
new Cavalry Regt.

KANSAS
STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.
970.56 525
ARCHIVES DEPARTMENT.



Fort Leavenworth Kans.
October 13. 1868

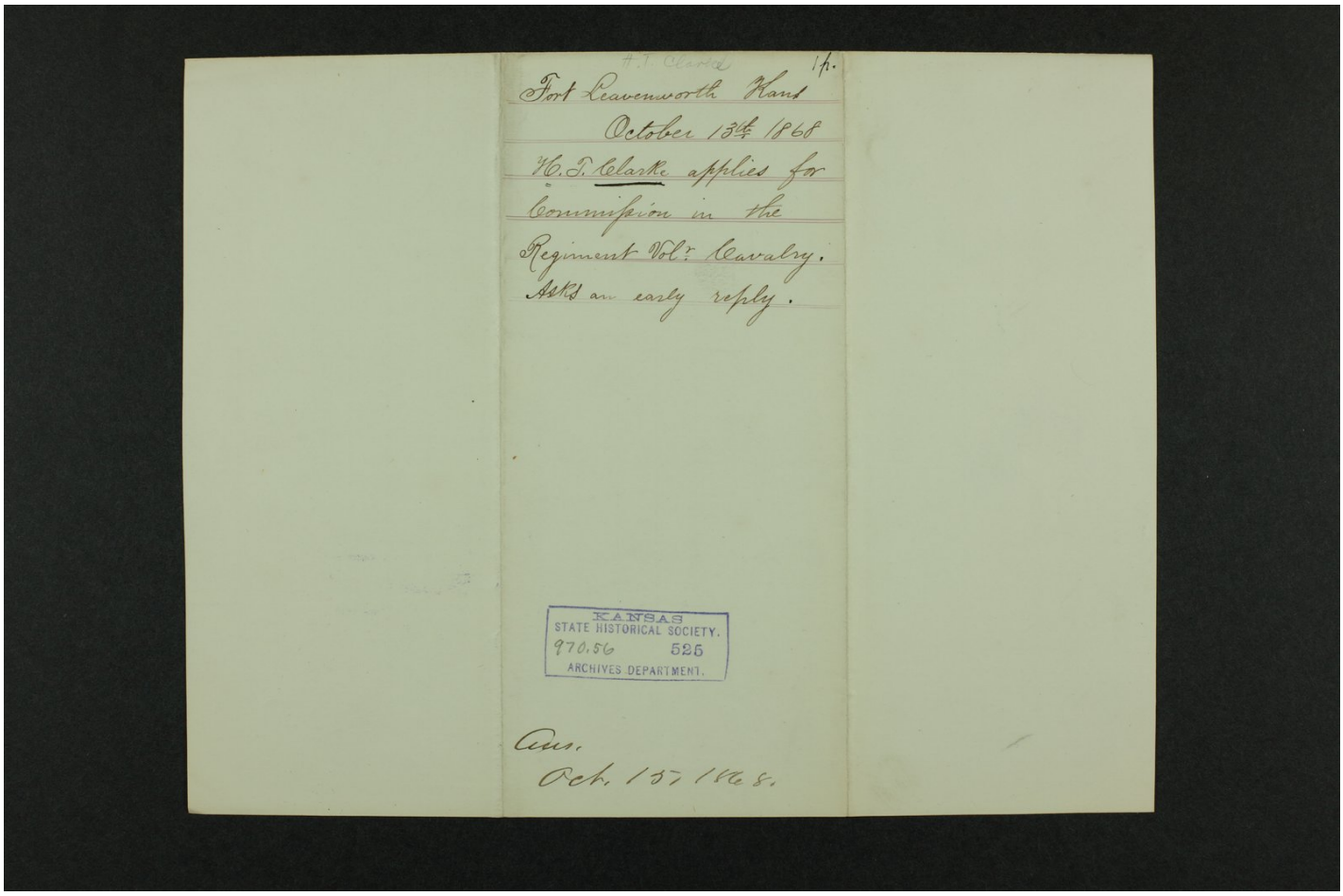
Sir:-

I understand that you are about to "Muster in" a Regiment of Volunteer Cavalry for service against Indians. Having served an enlistment in the 1st. Cavalry U. S. A. And one as Hospital Steward, I Respectfully present my name as candidate for Commission as Captain of Company or as Regimental Adjutant. My experience will enable to fill either with credit to myself and satisfaction to my superiors. In the event of there being no vacancy among the Commissioned Officers, Please notify me who is to be Surgeon, as I may decide to enlist as Regimental Hosp. Steward. An early reply is solicited:-

Very. Respectfully
Your Obt. Servt.
H. T. Clarke

Hon. Saml Crawford
Govr Kansas
Topeka Kas

Governor Crawford Indian correspondence



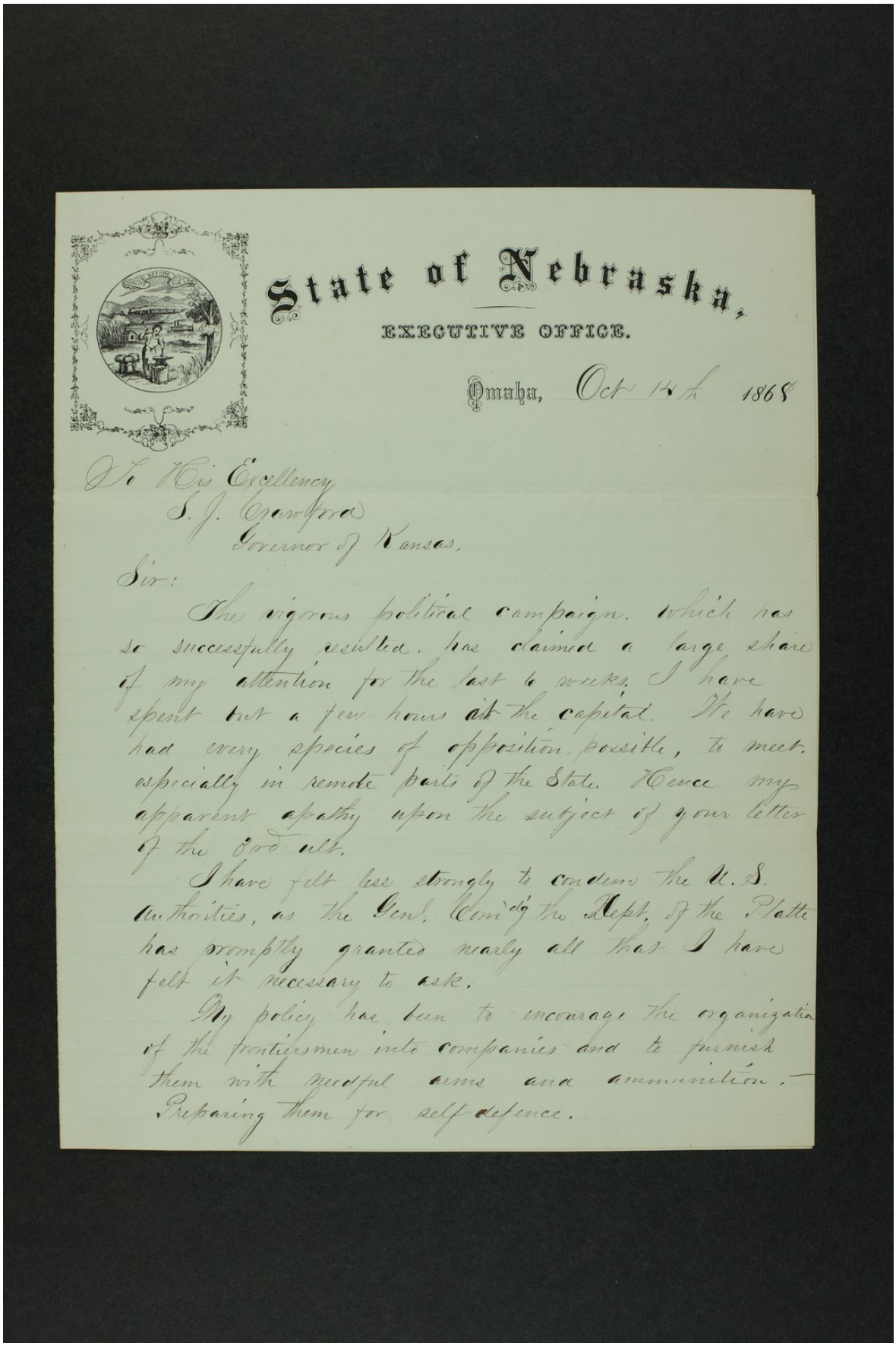
H. T. Clarke 1p.

Fort Leavenworth Kans
October 13th 1868

H. T. Clarke applies for
Commission in the
Regiment Volr Cavalry.
Asks an early reply.

KANSAS
STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.
970.56 525
ARCHIVES DEPARTMENT.

Ans.
Oct. 15, 1868.



State of Nebraska,

EXECUTIVE OFFICE.

Omaha, Oct 14th 1868

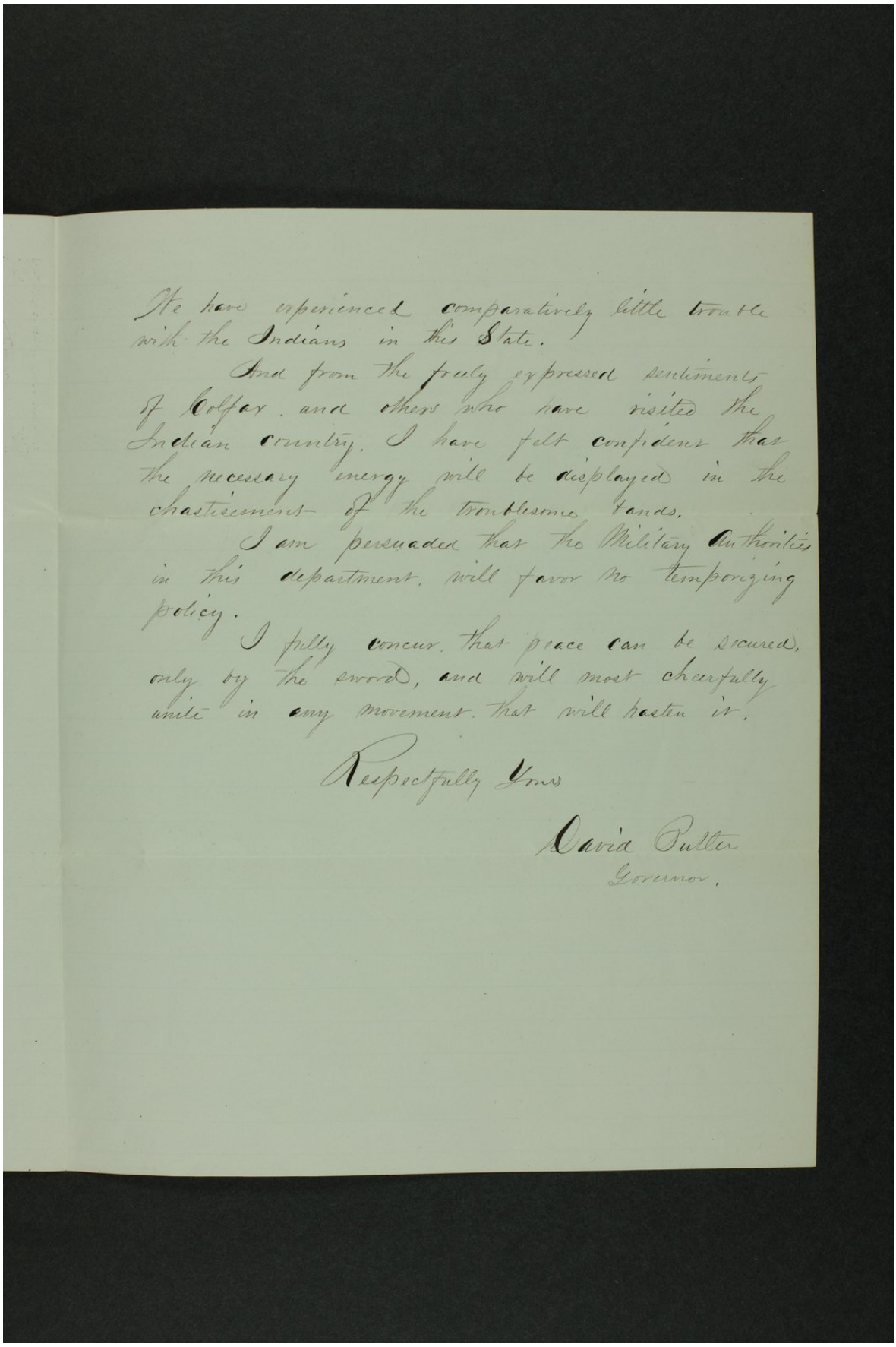
To His Excellency
S. J. Crawford
Governor of Kansas.

Sir:

The vigorous political campaign, which has so successfully resulted, has claimed a large share of my attention for the last 6 weeks. I have spent but a few hours at the capital. We have had every species of opposition possible, to meet, especially in remote parts of the State. Hence my apparent apathy upon the subject of your letter of the 8th ult.

I have felt less strongly to condemn the U. S. authorities, as the Gen'l. Com'dg the Dept. of the Platte has promptly granted nearly all that I have felt it necessary to ask.

My policy has been to encourage the organization of the frontiersmen into companies and to furnish them with needful arms and ammunition. Preparing them for self-defence.



We have experienced comparatively little trouble with the Indians in this State.

And from the freely expressed sentiments of Colfax and others who have visited the Indian country, I have felt confidence that the necessary energy will be displayed in the chastisement of the troublesome bands.

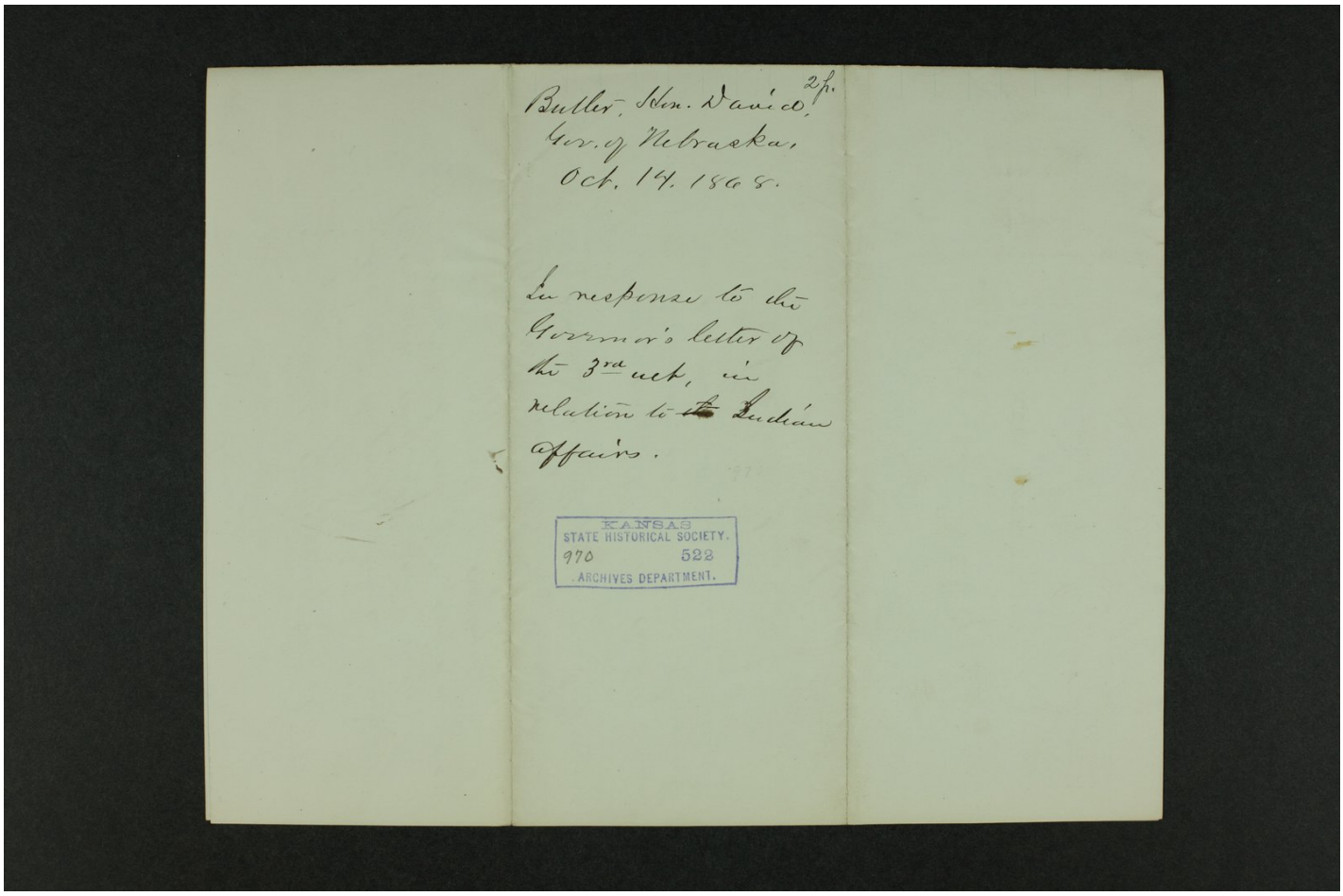
I am persuaded that the Military Authorities in this department will favor no temporizing policy.

I fully concur that peace can be secured only by the sword, and will most cheerfully unite in any movement that will hasten it.

Respectfully Yours

David Butler
Governor.

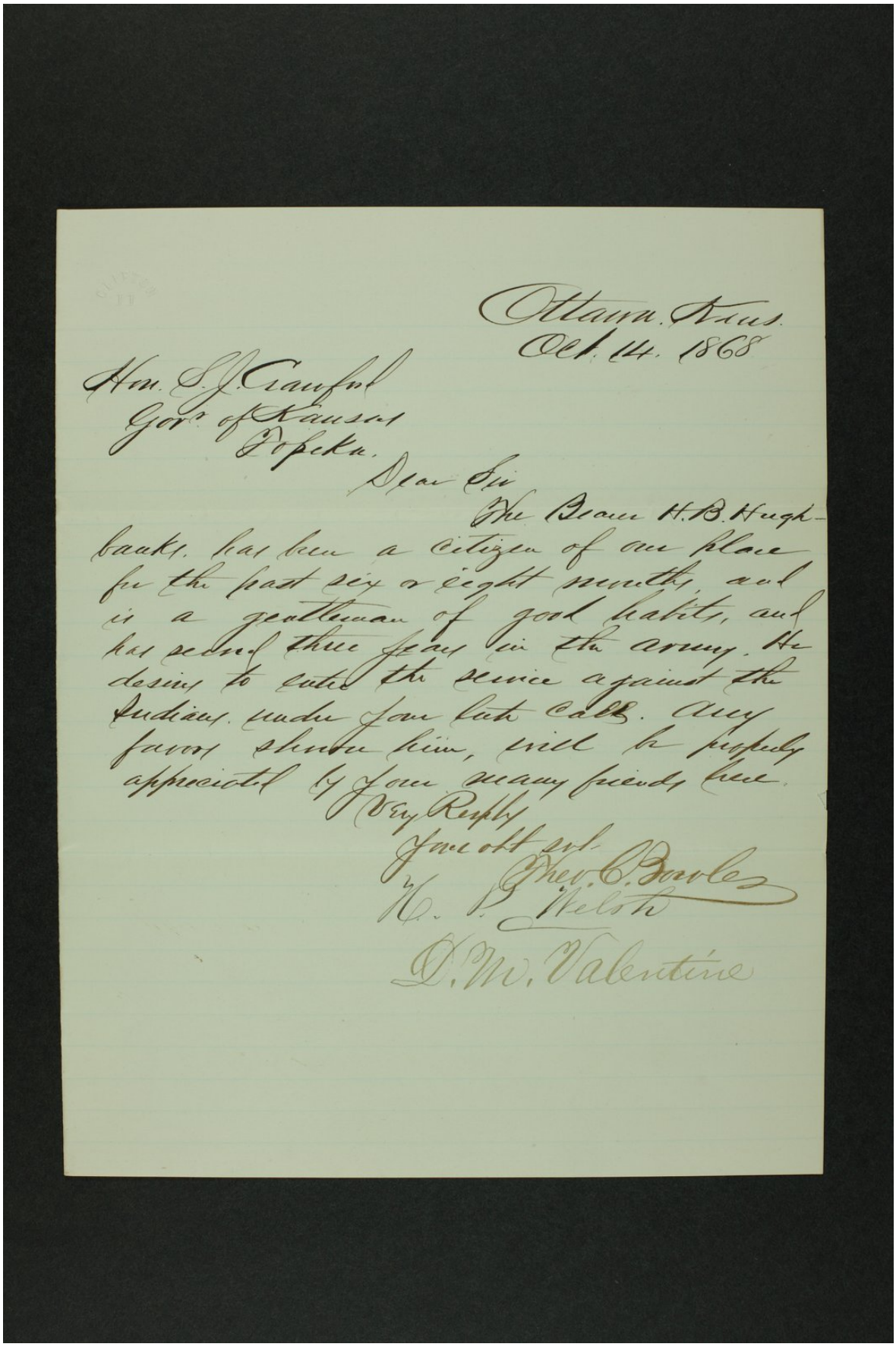
Governor Crawford Indian correspondence



Butler, Hon. David, 2 p.
Gov. of Nebraska.
Oct. 14. 1868.

In response to the
Governor's letter of
the 3rd inst, in
relation to the Indian
affairs.

KANSAS
STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.
970 522
ARCHIVES DEPARTMENT.



Ottawa. Kans.
Oct. 14. 1868

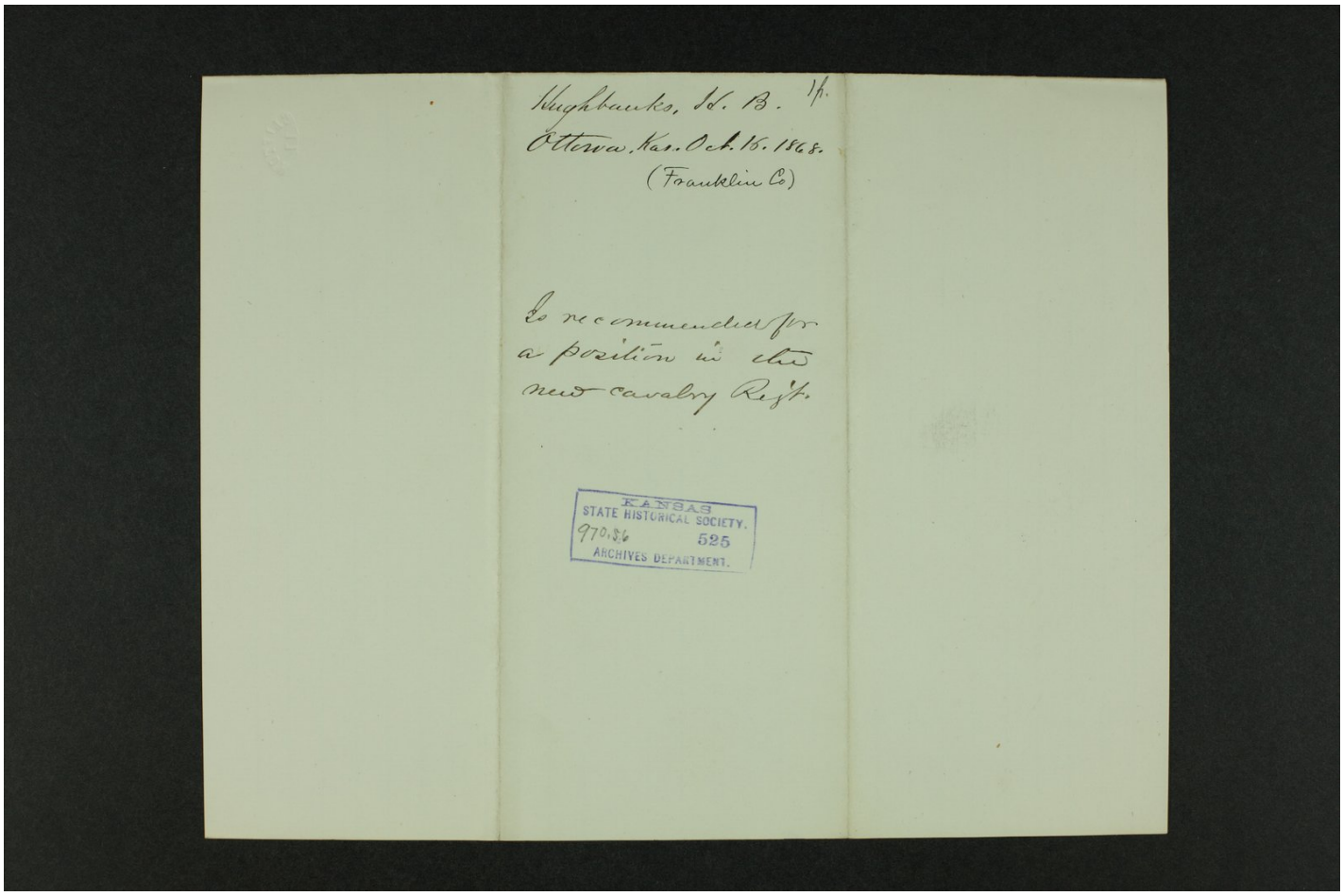
Hon. S. J. Crawford
Gov. of Kansas
Topeka.

Dear Sir

The Bearer H. B. Hughbanks, has been a citizen of our place for the last six or eight months, and is a gentleman of good habits, and has served three years in the army. He desiring to enter the service against the Indians under your last call. Any favors shown him, will be properly appreciated by your many friends here.

Very Respy
Your obt svt.
Rev. C. Bowles
H. P. Welch
D. W. Valentine

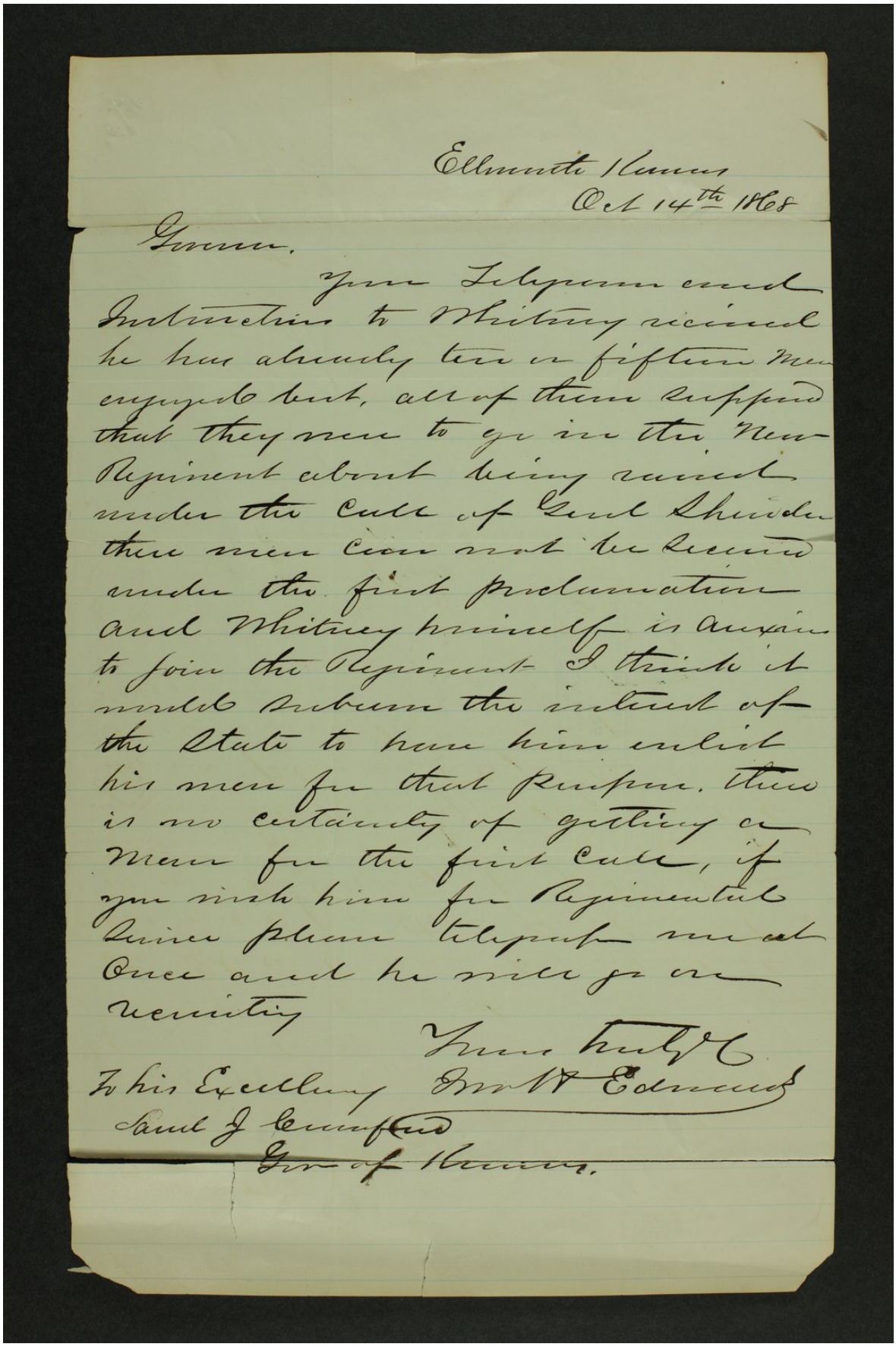
Governor Crawford Indian correspondence



Hughbanks, W. B. 1st.
Ottawa, Kas. Oct. 15. 1868.
(Franklin Co)

Is recommended for
a position in the
new cavalry Regt.

KANSAS
STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.
970.86 525
ARCHIVES DEPARTMENT.



Ellsworth Kansas
Oct 14th 1868

Genn.

Your Telegram and Instruction to Whitney received he has already ten or fifteen men enrolled but, all of them suppose that they were to go in the New Regiment about being raised under the call of Gen Sheridan these men can not be secured under the first proclamation and Whitney himself is anxious to join the Regiment I think it would subserve the interest of the State to have him enlist his men for that purpose. there is no certainty of getting as many men for the first call, if you wish him for Regimental Duties please telegraph me at Once and he will go on recruiting

Yours truly
Wm W Edmunds

To his Excellency
Saml J Crawford
Gov of Kansas.