

[unknown] to Hiram Hill

The author of this letter, possibly C. A. Wright, wrote to Hiram Hill from Lawrence, Kansas Territory. He discussed continuing speculation efforts in Lawrence, but particular ones were becoming rife with politics. Also mentioned is the recent completion of the Free State Hotel, which would help ease the recent emigration rush. The author described events surrounding the shooting of Sheriff Samuel Jones "by an unknown hand". The shooting followed the issuing of arrest warrants for George Deitzler, Gaius Jenkins, and others, for their failure to assist with the arrest of S. N. Wood, who was charged with aiding the rescue of a free state man from prison the past November.

Date: April 30, 1856

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Lawrence Kansas April 30 1856

Mr. Hill

Dear Sir

Yours of March 28 has been long
unanswered from press of business not from want of
inclination. The matter at the mouth of the river are
not yet ready for operation, one thing after another day
defers the assignment of land to individuals. Some of
the funds I was designing to invest there have been turned
into other channels but I am still waiting to invest some
there. I have been over the lands and consider them
waterable and as of property selected a good investment at
what they will probably be sold for.

Lawrence & vicinity is surveyed and sectioned.
I fear we shall have trouble about our West Lawrence
property. Mallory & Gates make no concealment of their
intention to repudiate their bargain. Say that Coates has
not fulfilled his agreement, to survey last summer
just on \$100,000 improvements. Mr Coates is now in
Kansas City but has not been up here yet. He has
never answered my letter questioning the justice of his
charges of \$50. It is the impression here that the
land will come into market some time this summer.
That however is doubtful. The Map of which you
speak is now in Boston to be lithographed, Published
by John P. Jewett & Co and can be obtained of them as
at Springfield when published.

[unknown] to Hiram Hill

My Church is getting on well, basement nearly
done. If it were not for the excitement, got up
just now to influence the Commission, by arresting
our men, every thing would go on well. As it is
many of our best men have to run occasionally,
Warrants are out for Deitzler Clark Jenkins & others for
declining to assist Sheriff Jones to arrest S. A. Wood
on Sunday when Sara Wood was not in town.
Sheriff Jones was shot one night last week by some
unknown hand. A reward of \$500 is offered for the
detection of the assassin.

Mr. Nute gets a good claim. Ladd lost his and
has gone. I have bought the claim just West
of Deitzler and have gone into the farming operation
some. The rifles were taken at Lexington and are
held subject to Gov. Shannons orders. The breeches are here
however so that the guns are as true good for nothing
unless for spy glasses, they can see through them.

The Hotel is finished and the furniture is being
put in. Mrs. Hall is overrun as usual. The rush of
immigration is great. Mr. Simpson went East some
after you did and has just returned with money
for another church.