

## **Boston Corbett correspondence**

### **Section 13, Pages 361 - 390**

Letters received by Thomas P. "Boston" Corbett, known by most as the man who killed John Wilkes Booth following President Lincoln's assassination. Corbett moved to Kansas in 1878 and lived in a dugout near Concordia, Kansas. In 1887, Corbett was given the position of assistant doorkeeper for the Kansas House of Representatives in Topeka. However, when he brandished his pistol during a session of the legislative that same year, he was arrested and sent to the Topeka Asylum for the Insane.

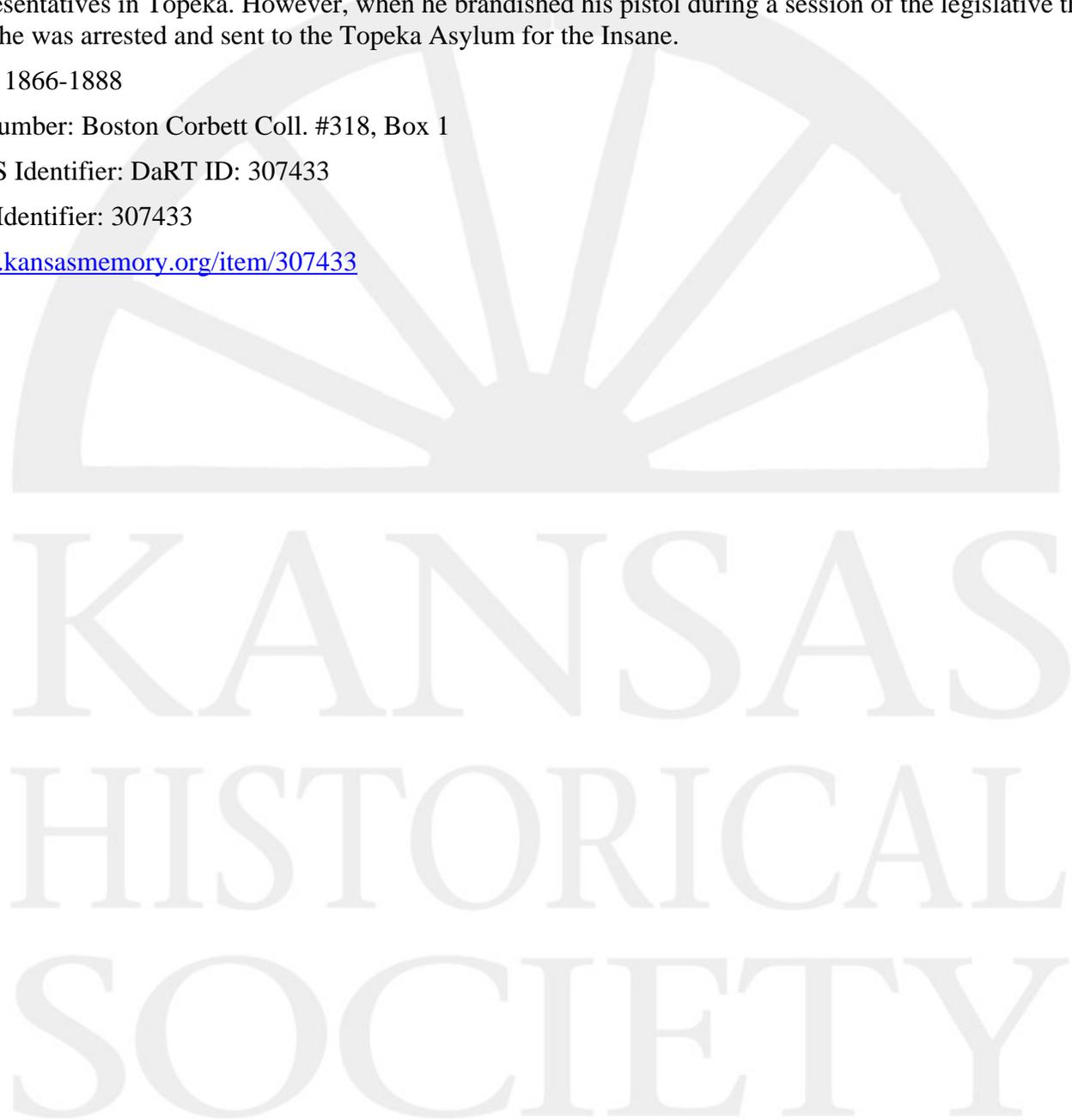
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KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY



LAW OFFICE  
—OF—  
BEECH & ELLISON.

S. R. BEECH.  
WM. C. ELLISON.

Maryville, Mo., July 10<sup>th</sup> 1883

P. M. at Concordia  
Kansas,

Dear Sir:

The S. W. Loma and N. W. Missouri, Vet. Assn., are desirous to know the address of Sergt. Corbett, (the man who killed J. Wilkes Booth,) We have heard that he got his mail at your office, We wish to correspond with him, & secure his services for our Reunion to be held here Sept. 25, 84.

If you know his initials & address, it would be great favor to us if you inform us.

Yours &c  
S. R. Beech,  
Post,

## Boston Corbett correspondence

1883  
Concordia July 14<sup>th</sup>

Rev Boston Corbett  
Concordia Kan  
Dear Br

I embrace this opportunity to write a few lines to you I am in verry good heath at presant and hope this will find you well and enjoying much of the divine presance and laboring effectually in the Masters cause. We will have a quart by meeting at the schoolhouse or at the new church commencing the 25<sup>th</sup> day of August 1883 and would like to have your presune

and council if you  
can make it convenient  
try to come up and worship  
with us yours in Christ  
E. C. Harvey



LAW OFFICE

—OF—

BEECH & ELLISON.

S. R. BEECH.  
WM. C. ELLISON.

Maryville, Mo., July 16, 1883

Supt. Boston Corbett,  
Concordia Mass.  
Comrade;

Dear Sir: We hold the  
South Western Iowa, and North  
Western Mo. Veteran Assn.  
at this city, commencing Sept.  
25-1883, to last three days.

The second day (Sept. 26<sup>th</sup>) we  
have two speeches from Generals,  
the Street parade, Sham battles,  
drills, Dress parade &c. and we  
want to secure your attendance,  
say you were to land here on  
the 25<sup>th</sup> then on the 26<sup>th</sup> after  
the speeches, we would wish  
to introduce you to audience for  
short speech. They are determ-  
ined to make this the biggest  
meeting ever held by the Assn.  
and to do so, we must raise



about \$5000, here we are in  
a measure poor, but if you  
will attend, <sup>and so declare</sup>, that  
we may insert it in our ad-  
vertisement, we will pay all  
your reasonable expenses, from  
home, until you arrive back  
at home, We expect an en-  
joyable occasion, <sup>and</sup> 20 000  
people in attendance,

Please ans, as soon as  
convenient <sup>and</sup> try to accom-  
odate us.

Yours fraternally &c  
S. R. Beech  
Pres. of assn

(Copy of answer) Center Township (land Co)  
Kansas July 1883

Mr S. R. Beech. Sir  
Your invitation for a Long ride,  
and a Short Speech; is received,  
Both are respectfully declined by  
Boston Corbett.

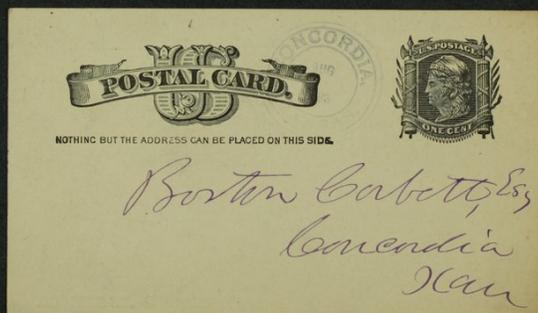
DEPT. OF WISCONSIN

17th Nov 1883

Buckingham & Marshall, }  
Dealers in }  
BOOTS & SHOES. } Concordia, Kas. May 23<sup>d</sup> 83

Dear Sir: Can you give  
me a short synopsis of your  
address for the Commission  
neatly? If you have time,  
drop around & see me.

Respectfully,  
H. BUCKINGHAM & MARSHALL.



## Boston Corbett correspondence

1886  
Belleville Kans. Aug 30<sup>th</sup>  
Mr Corbet:  
Concordia Kans  
sir. I see by the Concordia  
Paper you have lectured  
at Con Cordia on the  
Andersonville Prison.  
Could you come to  
Belville 1st Monday  
night in Oct. to give  
us a Lecture on some  
subject. at what Price  
would you come & give  
us a Lecture in Maj  
Hall. Let me know by  
return mail.  
& Obliss.  
O Powell  
Proprietor of Powells Hall  
Belleville Kans -

Clyde Kansas.

Aug 28<sup>th</sup> 83.

Mr Boston Corbett.

Concordia Kan.

Dr Sir.

How soon and on what terms would  
you deliver a lecture in Clyde? The  
lecture to be for the benefit of the  
Presbyterian Church. I think you would  
get a good house. Please let me  
know at your earliest convenience  
so I can talk with our church members.  
We would do all advertising.

Very Resp-

Dr. E. M. Blackly.

Clyde  
Kansas.

## Boston Corbett correspondence

Sept 1, 1883  
J. McCombs  
Care  
Fayette Mo  
Fayette Sep 1 1883  
Boston  
Dear Sir Dear Fellow Soldier  
I saw your address in the  
blade some months ago and  
I intended to write to  
you before this I suppose  
that you remember Dr. J. C.  
of John Childs of the 10th  
Cavalry Company of Camp  
Diana at all brother soldier  
I would like a letter  
from you and all the class

## Boston Corbett correspondence

that you can send me about  
the sold out state I mean  
Kansas and about the land  
there how does land sell there  
and what are the prices of good  
improved land and also of  
wild land is there any home  
stead land to be had now  
tel me all about it and  
how about the good work  
for the Master how does  
it prosper do you have  
good prayer meetings and  
church meetings that is  
the news that I like to  
hear write soon to  
Fayette Fayette Co Iowa  
your brother in Christ  
John McComb

Glyde, Ks.  
Sept 8<sup>th</sup> 83.

Mr Boston Corbett

Concordia Ks.  
Dear Sir.

I wrote you not long ago  
asking if you could give us a  
lecture on the "Captivity of Booth"  
I have rec'd no reply, will you  
remin the letter? The lecture is  
to be given in the interest of the  
Presbyterian Church. Please let  
me hear from you. Resp

E. M. Blachly.  
Glyde,  
Ks.

## Boston Corbett correspondence

Center Township  
Cloud County  
Kansas  
October 11, 1883  
Mr J W Walker  
Dear Sir  
Your Article in the  
Weekly Witness about  
Japan Clover, made  
me feel anxious to  
get some of the seed  
thinking it would be  
good for my sheep,  
I am living on a  
Homestead claim of  
only eight acres,  
and I have a small  
flock of sheep (less than  
two hundred) but  
when I put up hay, I  
had to haul a days  
cutting (by mowing machine)  
from a neighbours place

## Boston Corbett correspondence

a Mile South of me,  
And another days cutting  
from a Mile North of me,  
besides what I could  
cut on my own place.  
It occurs to me that  
if I can get that Clover  
started right good it  
may save some hauling  
in the future.  
If you can send me some  
by Mail I will willingly  
pay the expense and give  
you your own price for  
the feed and your trouble.  
I passed through your  
State in 1864. A Prisoner  
of War on my way to  
Andersonville, I noticed  
the neat appearance of  
the houses and the thrift  
looks of the farms, and  
the general appearance of the

## Boston Corbett correspondence

of the towns we passed  
through, better than some  
other parts of the country  
we travelled over.  
At one of the towns a Colored  
Woman offered pie for sale  
at One Dollar each (Confederate  
Money) And some of our  
poor boys bought some,  
but a Guard at the door  
of the Boy Car we were in  
stopped the sale of the pie  
And then bought all the  
pie the Woman had in her  
Basket, And after the  
Rail Road train had started  
he sold the pie to the boys  
in Blue, for a dollar and  
a half each (I thought he was  
mean)  
Boston Corbett

## Boston Corbett correspondence

Write to  
J. W. Walker, Please direct to  
Franklin, Mo. Boston Corbett  
Concordia,  
Cloud County,  
Kansas.  
My dear friend: - If you will write  
to me in care of -  
J. W. Walker



Please send Stamps for return answer.

Office of

ROUX & CO.,

Attorneys and Solicitors of U. S. Claims,

WASHINGTON, D. C., October 20, 1883.

Dear Sir:

From records now in our possession we find that you are clearly entitled to a higher rate of pension, which you should apply for immediately in order to have the increase date back as far as possible.

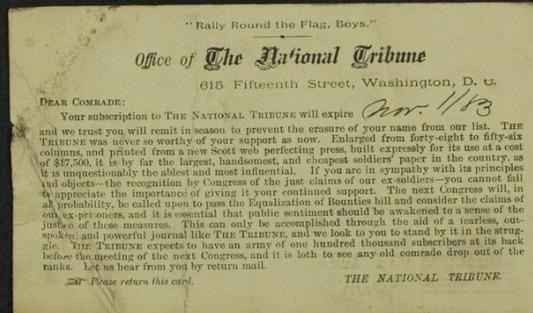
We will charge you nothing unless we get you an increase, and then our fee will be only \$5.00, just half the charge of any attorney in the country for the same services.

We do this at a very small profit, and mainly to aid you, and hope you will encourage us in this effort to get every man his due.

Please fill out the enclosed "Declaration," sign it, have witnessed and executed, and return it to us. We will then give your claim prompt attention.

Yours very truly,  
Roux & Co.

## Boston Corbett correspondence





## Boston Corbett correspondence

"First pure, then peaceable."

"GUIDE TO HOLINESS,"  
EDITORS: { Mrs. Dr. W. C. PALMER,  
Rev. GEO. HUGHES.

PALMER & HUGHES,  
PUBLISHERS & BOOKSELLERS,  
62 & 64 BIBLE HOUSE.

New York, Nov 16 1883

Dear Bro  
Your kind favor with 502 for set of Bre.  
Wm Taylor's Works came duly to hand, for which please accept our thanks.  
We shall mail the above now  
+ "Wall Roll" with "Almanac" shortly  
the latter two are not yet received  
from binder.

Fraternally yours,  
PALMER & HUGHES,  
Per L



## Boston Corbett correspondence

No. 143 Office of County Treasurer, Cloud County, Kansas.  
 \$ 16<sup>10</sup> Concordia, Nov 22 188 3  
 Received of Boston Corbett Receiver Township,  
 the sum of Fifteen & 10/100 Dollars,  
 being full payment of Taxes for the year 1883, on the following described property:

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY.	Sec.	Town.	Range.	KIND OF TAX.	REAL		PERSONAL.	
					Dollars.	Cents.	Dollars.	Cents.
				General. - - -			7	71
				Sch'l Dist. No.			7	34
				" " Bonds,			1	46
				Road Tax. - - -				
				Total. - - -			16	51
				Rebate. - - -				41
				Penalties. - - -				
				Advertising. - - -				
VALUATION.					Amount Paid.		16	10
Real, \$					Personal Property, \$ <u>367</u>			

*E. D. Dineen*  
 County Treasurer, Cloud County, Kansas.

PRINTED AT THE RATE OF TAX ON OTHER SIDE. HAMILTON, WOODRUFF & CO., PRINTERS, TOPEKA, KANS.

## Boston Corbett correspondence

Rate of Tax Levied for Cloud County, Kansas, on Each One Hundred Dollars, for the Year 1883.

State Tax	8.43
County Tax	25
C. B. & T. P. R. R.	25
Funding Bonds	10
Poor Farm Bonds	.02

TOWNSHIP TAX.

TOWNSHIPS.			TOWNSHIPS.			
	Int.	Gen. Total.		Int.	Gen. Total.	
Elk	95	40	1.35	Aroria	50	50
Lawrence	55	20	75	Surr	90	25
Shiley	25	50	75	Oakland	10	40
Buffalo	30	30	50	Meredith	50	50
Grant	50	50	50	Lyon	20	30
Summit	20	30	50	Solomon	25	15
Ation	40	40	50	Clyde	10	80
Center	50	50	50	Concordia	30	30
Lincoln	30	10	Jamesdown	30	50	
Nelson	55	55	Commissioners salary on railroad property	075	075	
Shirley	50	50				
Colfax	25	25				

SCHOOL DISTRICT TAX.

DISTRICT NO.			DISTRICT NO.		
	Dist. Tax.	Bond Total.		Dist. Tax.	Bond Total.
	Mills	Mills		Mills	Mills
1	9	9	32	15	15
2	11	3	14	12	12
3	15	15	54	225	3
4	12	4	35	10	30
5	10	10	86	15	15
6	12	3	16	15	15
7	20	20	28	10	10
8	12	12	50	9	7
9	10	9	15	125	6
10	75	75	61	15	8
11	5	1	6	10	6
12	18	8	21	13	13
13	10	3	13	6	16
14	9	9	65	12	14
15	10	10	66	15	2
16	10	10	67	30	13
17	105	105	68	175	20
18	15	15	69	20	20
19	115	115	70	8	10
20	18	18	71	18	18
21	10	10	72	16	16
22	11	11	73	14	5
23	10	10	74	13	8
24	20	20	75	20	8
25	15	15	76	15	15
26	125	125	77	17	17
27	14	14	78	17	3
28	15	15	79	20	4
29	15	15	80	14	14
30	15	15	81	20	4
31	125	75	82	15	14
32	18	9	83	20	2
33	9	10	84	10	2
34	12	2	14	35	20
35	15	4	19	86	20
36	125	125	87	11	9
37	125	125	88	15	15
38	15	1	16	39	7
39	135	25	155	91	3
40	20	3	15	92	3
41	12	3	15	92	2
42	9	3	9	93	1
43	125	2	145	94	1
44	125	175	95	14	3
45	12	12	96	15	19
46	125	73	97	125	125
47	20	5	98	6	6
48	20	20	99	15	13
49	125	8	205	5	5
50	125	125	205	16	18
51	15	3	18	15	15

## Boston Corbett correspondence

Gaylord, Kans.  
Nov. 26<sup>th</sup> 1883

Mr Corbett  
Dear Sir

Quite a number of the leading citizens of Gaylord have expressed a desire to hear your lecture on the capture of Booth. Could you visit our city and entertain an audience with a lecture?

If so I will take all possible pains to make the matter as remunerative as possible. Let me know at once. State when you can come, what the admittance will be and all will be

satisfactorily arranged.  
You will be a guest at  
my house while here.  
Hoping to hear from you  
soon.  
I remain etc  
J. W. Shrader

## Boston Corbett correspondence

New York City. Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> 83

Dear brother Corbett

I just now, rocked  
your little friend Bessie  
to sleep with your favorite  
melody, "Wonderful words  
of life," and I know of no  
more pleasant task just  
now than to write to you,  
which we often intended  
to do; you will see from  
the above that neither I  
nor Susie have forgotten  
you, for that hymn is  
often on our tongues  
and we could never sing  
it without thinking of  
the one who taught it to  
us or rather me, for I think  
Susie knew it before.  
We often and often wonder

How are you made Corbett.  
Bessie



## Boston Corbett correspondence

how you are getting along and think how nice it would be if you could be here, and pay us a visit often, for although this is a great city with a great multitude of people, we have so far not found any friends in which we could give off our old friends in Kansas, you among the foremost. Well how are you making it? How is your stock doing this winter? Billy, I suppose, is still the locomotor of his master. Are you not yet satisfied with stockraising and come to the conclusion to roll out and come east to live. I hope the three will not be too far distant, when we shall want you again among our calling friends. We are getting along about as well as I expected. I am not making a fortune in business just now, but think it will come after a while. I am attending the Lectures in the Pharmaccintial College and work in the Chemical Laboratory 3 days a week till end of Fabr., this all costs money and takes time, but I am learning what I needed yet in my business as Druggist, for I think that this is my business and cannot give it up for any thing else, a body may not always a great fortune at it but it is a pleasant business, and always did afford me a good living, and of course, will do so all the better, if I am distant it better. I am not wasting time, you may be sure, I only regret it goes so fast.

## Boston Corbett correspondence

We are all enjoying very good health  
Benny is a little delicate but  
without the saltair will help him  
as he is gaining every day. It is  
hard for his body to keep pace with  
his mind. Although there are many  
many churches here, we have not  
found a home yet, we have heard  
a variety of sermons, all very  
good. I think the Lord will find us  
the right place yet, and we endeavor  
not to forget him. Now dear  
brother Corbett I shall close and you  
must not let us wait too  
long for an answer. As this will  
probably be the last before the  
days, I wish you a pleasant  
time, and much prosperity  
during the coming year, may the  
Lord bless you with his choicest  
blessing shall be the prayer of  
Your friend and brother  
Lucius W. Haddad, Jr. - To Corbett

New York Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> 1883

Dear Brothers

Here we

are in your old town! Don't you wish  
you were here too? I do. We are living on  
East 10<sup>th</sup> Street not far from the Ferry  
between Avenue B. & C. I guess you have  
been right here often. I like the city very  
much. I have seen Central Park. The only  
thing that didn't suit me there was  
that the ladies wore the blouses and  
the poor Outicks had none. I have  
been in the Sunday Institute that is  
in some towns. I for the most  
part. I have not been to any  
real good spiritual meetings since  
I came. Can't you tell me where