

# Kansas Memory



## Boston Corbett correspondence

### Section 7, Pages 181 - 210

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.

Date: 1866-1888

Callnumber: Boston Corbett Coll. #318, Box 1

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 307433

Item Identifier: 307433

[www.kansasmemory.org/item/307433](http://www.kansasmemory.org/item/307433)

# Kansas Memory



## Boston Corbett correspondence

Concordia Jan 19<sup>th</sup>/40  
Dear Bro Corbit  
I have commenced  
meetings at Wolf  
Creek with good  
prospects come as  
soon as you can  
Yours fraternally  
James Phillips

# Kansas Memory



## Boston Corbett correspondence



# Kansas Memory



## Boston Corbett correspondence

No. 1502 French St.  
Phila July 26<sup>th</sup> 1860

Dear Bro. Corbett.

I saw Bro. A. R. Johnson not long since and was inquiring about you and he informed me that you were in Kansas & had a home there and I told him I meant to write you a letter for some information in regard to Govt. land I had strong notions of going there myself as I failed in business here and am almost disheartened its a poor place here for a poor man. Now Bro. Corbett I wish you would write me a letter & tell me how you like the country & also if there is any Govt land near you I could get if I come out in the spring. I have a brother at

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## Boston Corbett correspondence

Sioux, Nemaha Co., Kansas he went out last spring & likes it very much there but there no God, land near him, how far are you from Sioux?

I saw you at the Tent which was at 30<sup>th</sup> & Ridge st or but which did not prosper as the foundation was not built on a rock of the right kind, I left them for I found its members not of the right stamp, welfare & happiness. Mr Johnson left them too they are still trying but accomplish but little. I was in the brick business when you were here at 31<sup>st</sup> & Ridge st but am now Conductor on the St. Louis & San Fran. Cars & have to work on Sunday which I don't like have been on about two months. have to work every other Sunday its the worst business I ever followed in my life.

I am trying to live a Christian and want above all things to be a true child of Jesus & get home to heaven at last.

I hope this will find you well & enjoying life. This has been a very mild winter here more like Spring than winter.

Please answer as soon as convenient & accept our best wishes for your welfare & happiness.

Yours Respectfully  
C. A. Fabrick  
No. 1502 French St.  
Phila. Pa.

# Kansas Memory



## Boston Corbett correspondence

Cawker City 2-12-1880  
Dear Brothers Corbett  
We are holding a protracted meeting here and by the request of the Brethren I have again written to exhort you to come to us. There is now no doubt a day after to do much good in the Master's good cause. If you can come up immediately we will pay your fare on the cars if you will come  
Yours affecly H. Fowler

# Kansas Memory



## Boston Corbett correspondence

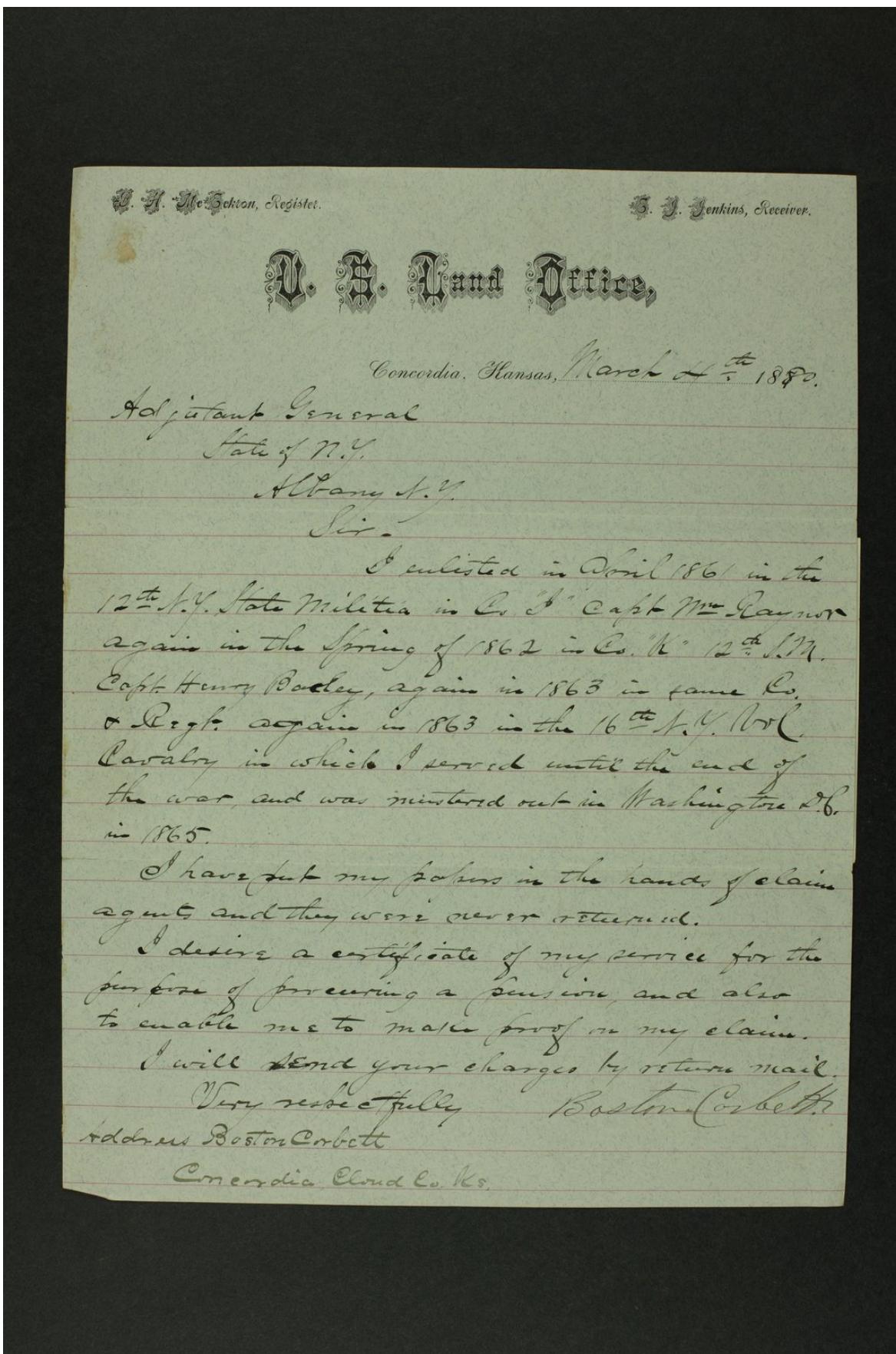


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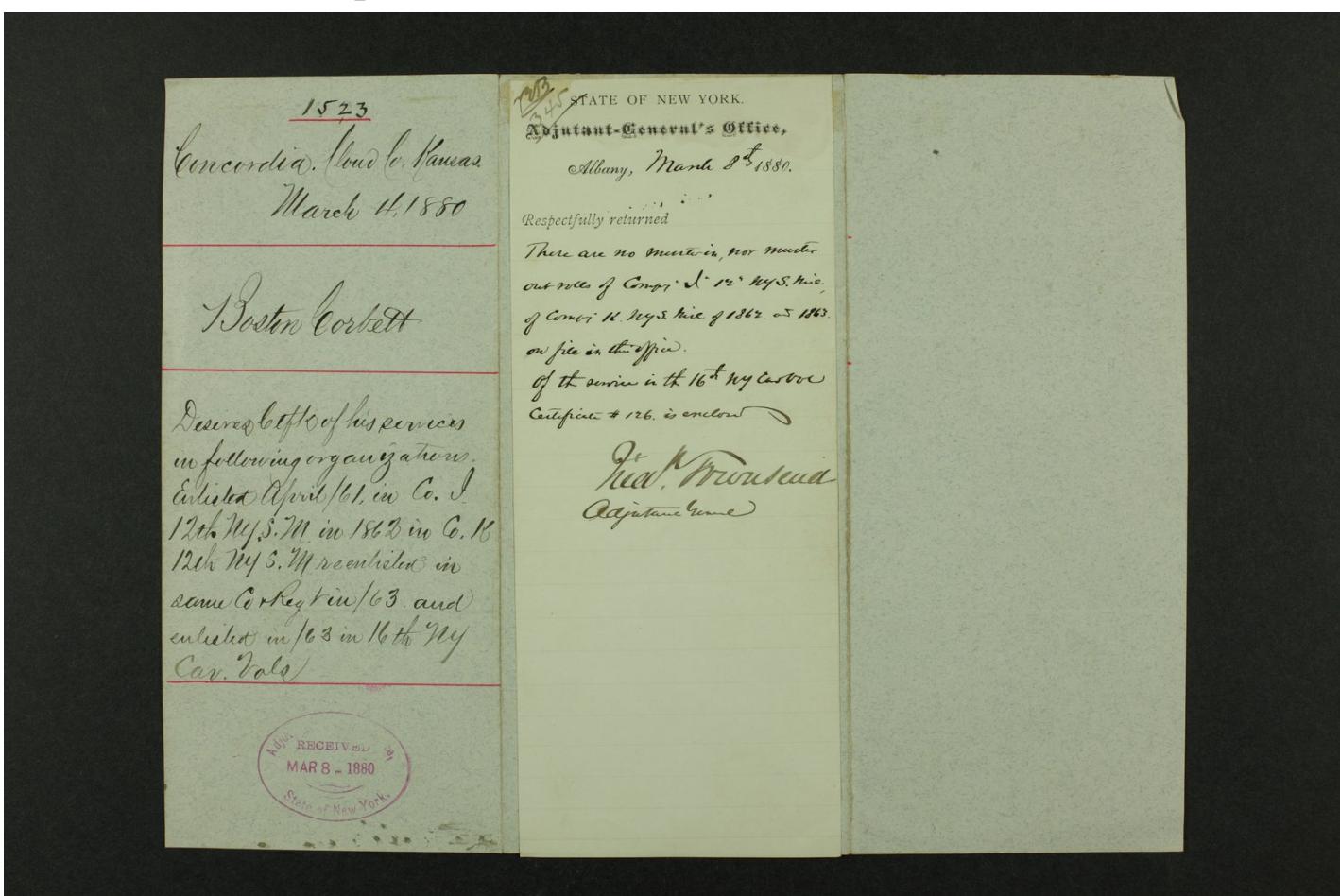
## Boston Corbett correspondence



# Kansas Memory



## Boston Corbett correspondence

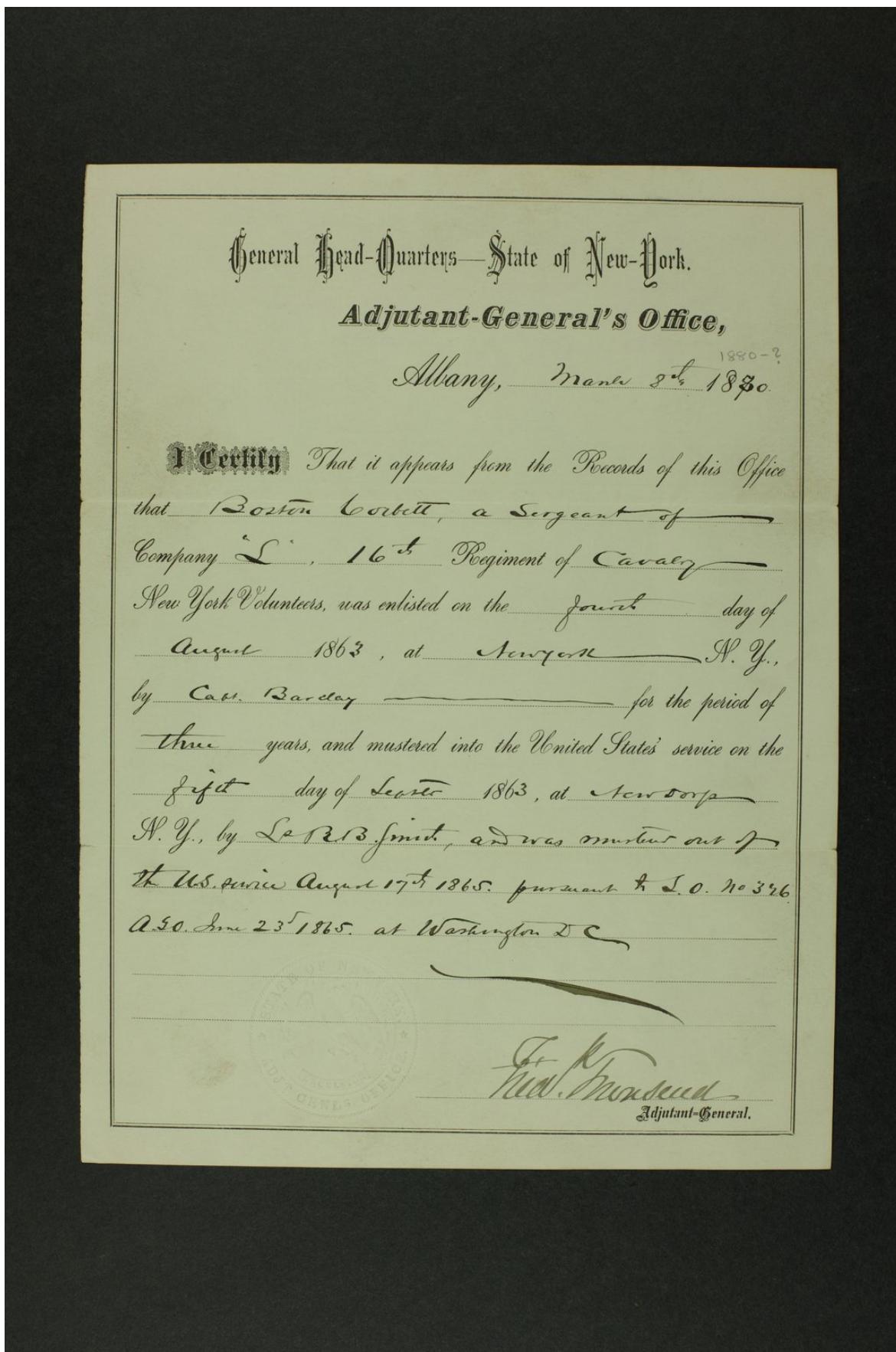


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## Boston Corbett correspondence



# Kansas Memory



## Boston Corbett correspondence

Mon 15<sup>th</sup>/80

Jewell City Kans  
Rev Boston Corbett Sir I am in  
Kansas Lecturing on Temperance  
and finding that you are living in Cloud  
County and would like to see you  
have you leisure so that you could  
come to Jewell City and come to J.S. Foster's  
two miles south of Jewell, if you want you  
can refer to C. W. & J. Concordia Dist. Whp. and  
A. Coffey 8 miles south of Concordia, if you  
can come when you are here I will make  
it to my pleasure of the few days of your time  
and send to Mr. H. Pease Jewell City Kans

# Kansas Memory



## Boston Corbett correspondence



# Kansas Memory



## Boston Corbett correspondence

Glo N.Y. March 31<sup>st</sup> 1880  
Dear brother Corbett I take  
my pen in hand to let  
you know that we are  
all well at present and  
we received your kind  
and welcome letter and  
was very glad to  
hear from you brother  
you must excuse us for  
not writing sooner  
for we have got an  
other son and his name  
is Charles Henry  
~~He~~ Charles has had an  
other son and named it  
Thompson after me  
and I have named  
mine after Brother  
Charles

# Kansas Memory



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## Boston Corbett correspondence

Brother my father lyes  
very low and we don't  
expect him to live from  
an hour to a month the  
doctors have no hopes of  
him getting up that  
his soul may be saved  
that is my last desire  
Brother no shake of the  
keeping of my family  
after Brother & me why  
to tell you that I  
have sold it all I  
feel that I am a sinner  
in the sight of God  
pray for me that I  
may be saved and  
reconciled a sonne my  
wife is gone back  
to the children  
all send their salutes  
to yo dear brother I must

Tell you that  
Brother Frank Pate is  
dead and buried at  
Sister Mary is still  
the same old Falger at  
the Cross

no man at  
present from your cabin  
Brother Thomas Ashton

Wait soon

# Kansas Memory



## Boston Corbett correspondence

Spring Hill Kas  
April 18<sup>th</sup> 1880

Dear Bro. in Christ, I again  
would drop you a few lines  
concerning you & what mem-  
bers of the Methodist, & P. B. M.  
are scattered promiscuously  
through your section of the  
Country - Will you please write  
to me and answer the follow-  
ing questions to wit:

1<sup>st</sup> How many members of the  
Church live in your country?  
2<sup>d</sup> Do they desir<sup>ing</sup> preaching  
until the Annual Conference  
in Sept next  
3<sup>d</sup> Are you serving them as  
pastor?  
4<sup>d</sup> Then is a young minister

# Kansas Memory



## Boston Corbett correspondence

Stopping with me who is  
from Illinois - he is wishing  
work a small work until Confer-  
thim he wants to find and  
take a regular appointment -  
He appears like a very nice  
Young man - And I should be  
extremely glad if we could so  
arrange as to secure his lame  
and have him to become a  
Member of our Annual Conference  
5. What do you think about  
the matter?  
6. Do you think a Young man  
could get means sufficient to  
enable him to get his clothing?  
Please answer by return mail -  
Be careful to answer my ques-  
tions in full or

I remain Yours for  
Jesus sake  
S. C. Fortney

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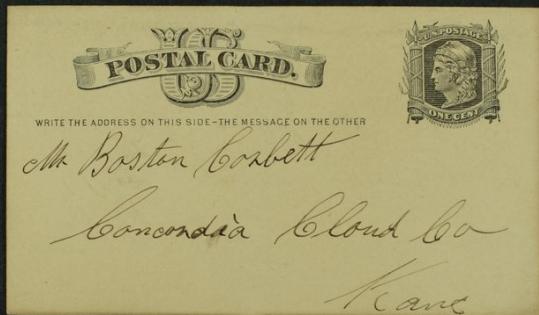
## Boston Corbett correspondence

May 26<sup>th</sup> 1850 Brother Corbett  
We was looking for you last Sunday  
according to appointment but from  
some cause we did not see him here  
I felt uneasy about you I drift  
a fine to here from ~~you~~ it will be  
leave me very much and all the rest  
A. J. Bishop Jamestown Kans

# Kansas Memory



## Boston Corbett correspondence

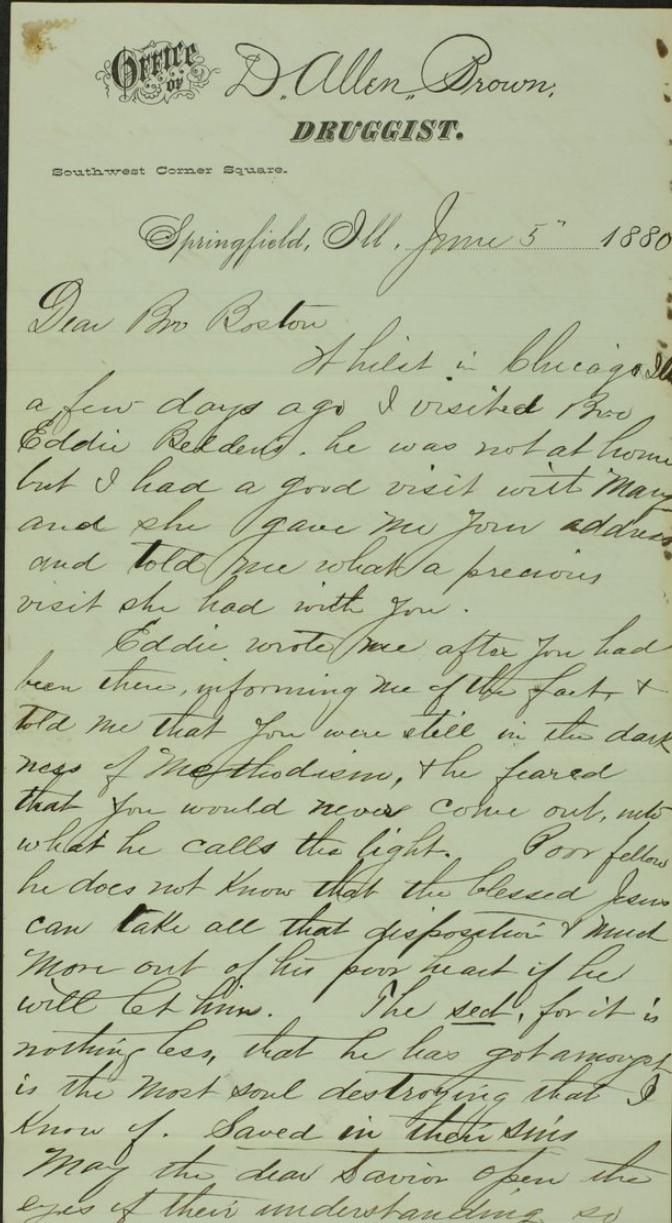


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## Boston Corbett correspondence



# Kansas Memory



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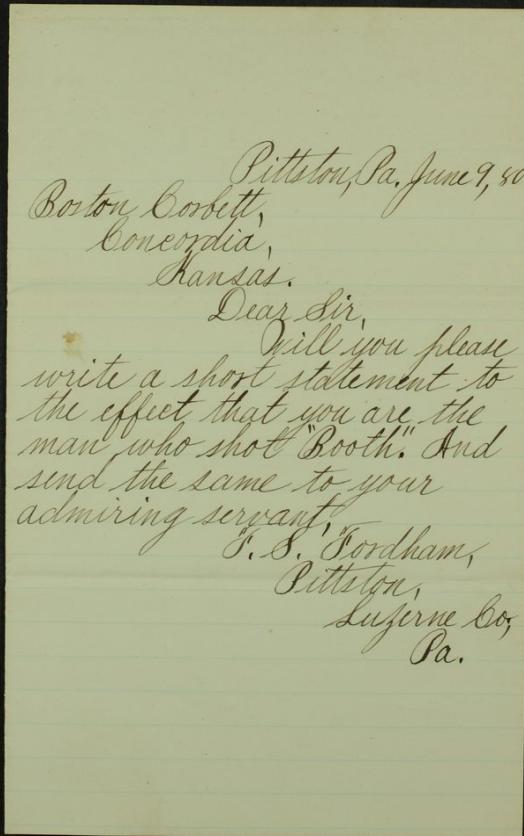
## Boston Corbett correspondence

that they may see the King in  
his beauty of Holiness & be  
transformed ~~into~~ <sup>in</sup> the same image  
& kept uns polluted from the  
world & the Devil & free from  
the old flesh with all its sin  
& lusts. Oh I wish I could  
get close to you that we could  
Shout in one voice, with all our  
migh "Glory & Honor & Power be  
unto the Lamb for ever" "for he hath  
redeemed us and washed us  
in his own Blood" Blessed be  
our God for ever & ever.  
How dear Brother do write me at  
once and tell me all your circum-  
stances & prospects when you are.  
I know that Jesus will keep  
you soul safe & sweetly saved,  
Direct to Thomas N. Bentley  
Springfield Ills  
P.S. I am in the drug business for  
a living waiting to be clothed  
upon & be with Jesus for ever.

# Kansas Memory



## Boston Corbett correspondence

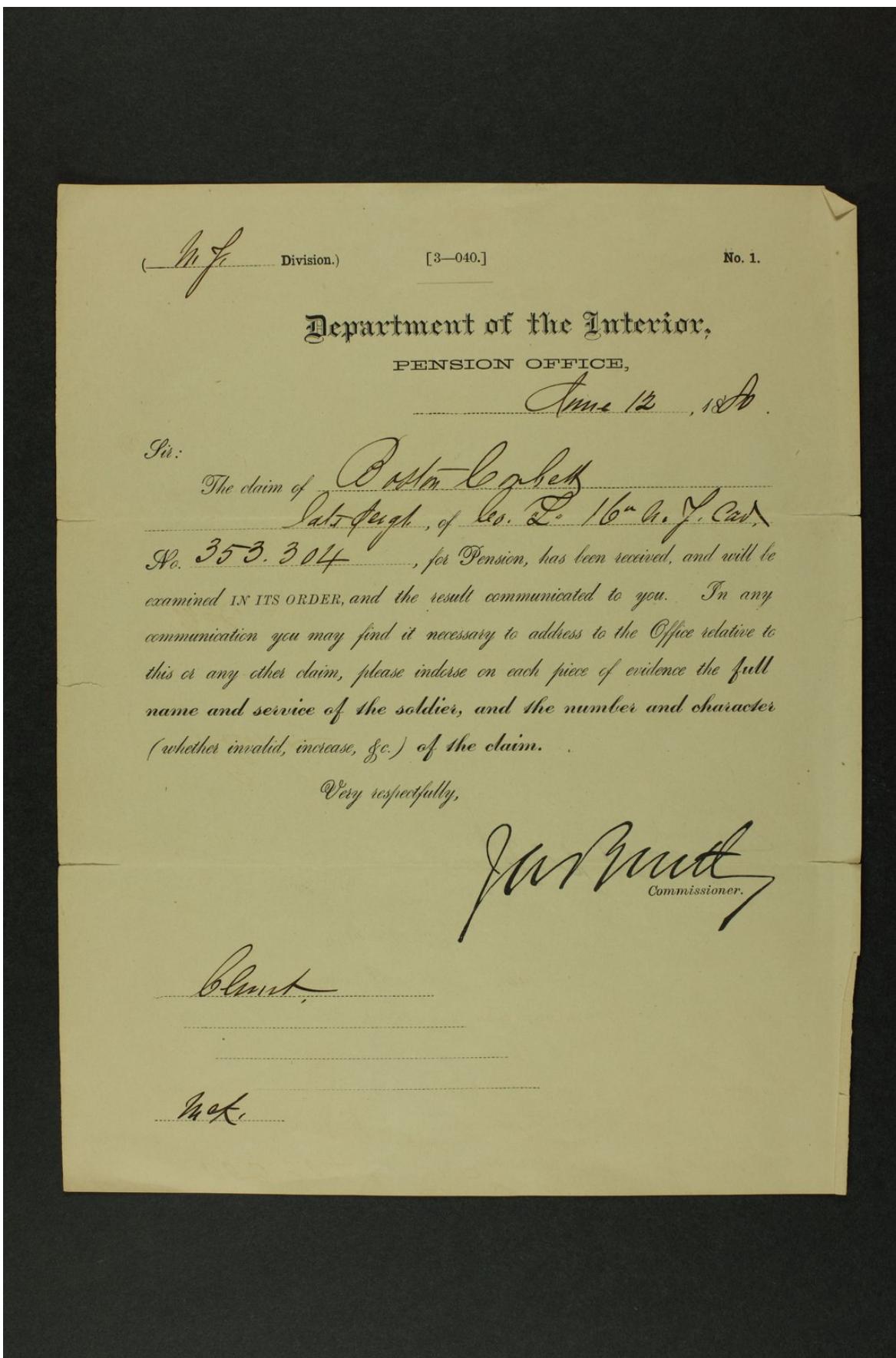


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## Boston Corbett correspondence



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## Boston Corbett correspondence

Delphos Kansas June 23/65  
Boston Corbett  
Dear Cardia My Dr Sir Yours rec'd  
& rejoiced to know you will be at our  
Celebration July 3<sup>rd</sup> I will publish your  
Card to me & a notice also in our paper  
giving a little of your history - killing of  
Booth & reaching to your fellow Com-  
rade business in Indianapolis &c  
which will be the means of bringing  
many out - don't possibly fail to  
be present - will add your name in  
our published programme for an  
address which we shall expect from  
you giving somewhat of your ex-  
perience &c - which will greatly in-  
terest our people - will correct the  
programme this week & add your  
name & say in this weeks

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## Boston Corbett correspondence

paper you will be here - I'll  
send you roster & last weeks  
& also this weeks paper - the ~~several~~  
items of which I write. When you  
come - come to my house & make  
it your home - ~~I~~ <sup>will</sup> live so  
rods east of the main part of town  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  story white house - white picket  
fence in front - inquire for me  
at the Post office as I am the  
R.M.

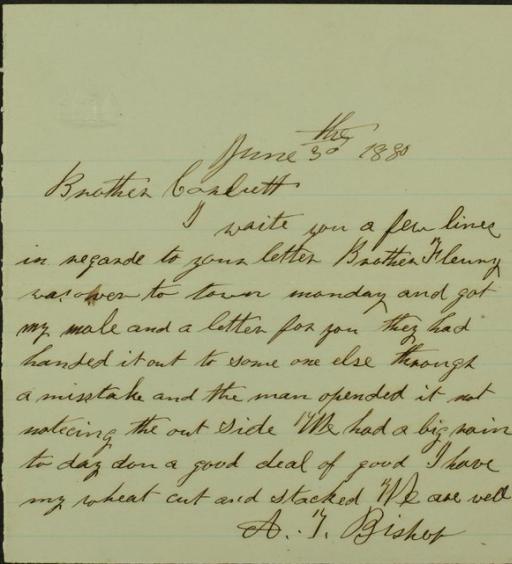
Very truly yours

Geo W. Strickler

# Kansas Memory



## Boston Corbett correspondence



# Kansas Memory



## Boston Corbett correspondence

Delphos Kansas July 8. 1880

Rev Boston Corbett  
My Dr Brother

Enclosed please find  
M-O- for \$5.00 which we give you  
for your expenses with us & your address  
on the 3<sup>rd</sup>. Please let me know if it  
reaches you safely.

For the information of the many inquir-  
ers I wish to put in our paper where  
you live & if you have a family please  
reply as to family & the township.

Quite a number came too late to hear you  
speak of which they much regretted.  
Every body was remarkably well pleased  
with your address same same Democrat.

Hoping to hear from you & any time  
you ever come this way stop & see us.  
I am very truly &c Geo W. Strickler  
Your friend

# Kansas Memory



## Boston Corbett correspondence

Clyde Kan  
July 23 1880.  
Dear Bro Corbett  
The Camp Meeting  
at Ionia in Juell County  
will begin July 28 next  
Thursday and continue  
one week. The meeting  
will be held on Bro.  
Hoag's farm 8 miles  
west of Juell City.  
Be sure to come.  
The Camp Meeting at  
Minneapolis will be  
held Aug 10. Provided  
permitting  
Your Bro in Christ  
J. A. Lockwood

# Kansas Memory



## Boston Corbett correspondence



# Kansas Memory



## Boston Corbett correspondence

Gloucester Mass Sch 28<sup>th</sup> in  
1880

Dear brother Corbett I  
take this present opportunity  
to write you these few lines  
to let you know that we  
received your kind and  
welcome letter and was very  
glad to hear from you  
but was very sorry to hear  
that your health has been  
so poor this summer thank  
God we are all well at  
present but the children  
we have had them all  
vaccinated the small pox  
has been raging in  
Camden and Centerville  
and many people has died  
Dear brother if I had  
known as much as I know  
now you would never went

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## Boston Corbett correspondence

to Kansas for I would of had a blacksmith made of you by this time brother if you are dissatisfied why come back & and as long as I have a home you shall have one to I have a spare room left yet and as long as I have a loaf you shall have half of it God bless you brother I am afraid it will be to cold for you out there this winter and if you get sick you will have no body to take care of you come back and Rebecca said she will take care of you brother I am sorry you went away for if you had stayed here we would kind of been on the way yet brother I am doing well I have plenty of work and am making a good living the two girls are working in the mill brother the week after father was buried I was taking very sick with the malarial fever and the chronic diarrhoea I layed five weeks and I had to shut my shop up while I was sick but the Lord has brought me around alright again I hired a man for 3 weeks and now I have a boy brother the eight street has rebuilt the church up an other story

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## Boston Corbett correspondence

mother and Walter is  
still keeping house but  
both of their health has  
been poorly since father  
died & harley's are all  
well and are still on  
the way he is sistend  
superintendent of the sabbath  
school  
this is all the pictular at  
present we all send our  
love to you and hope when  
these few lines reaches you  
may find you in good  
health no more at  
present from your  
brother and sister  
T. Ashton  
write soon