

Kansas Memory



Correspondence of George Huron concerning Boston Corbett

Section 4, Pages 91 - 120

Correspondence of George A. Huron who was appointed guardian of Boston Corbett after he was committed to an insane asylum in Topeka, Kansas. Corbett is known as the man who killed John Wilkes Booth following President Lincoln's assassination. Corbett escaped from the asylum in May 1888. This correspondence relates to Huron's guardianship of Corbett and matters of his estate following his disappearance and presumed death.

Date: 1887-1913

Callnumber: Boston Corbett Coll. #318, Box 2

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 307434

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I remember all a Bant being
Taking to the Sylum at Topeka
Kansas on the 16 day of February 1884
or a Bant that time
and i was at the time of my being
sent to the Sylum i was assistant
Sergeant or Park keeper in the State
Legislature and i was faithfully discharging
my duties at the time i was
Placed in the Sylum at Topeka
and there for i dont believe that i
was treated all together right and therefore
fore i shall defend my self aginst
all such places as the Sylum i
think i have got a miff i would
rather gaze all the Persian and Euro things
els that i have got than to go to the
Sylum a gone
But if you can tell me how i can
get my Persian and Citizenship
back so i can prove my Persian my
self as i use to i will do it
i will help you all i can
rite to me and tell me what you
want me to do except going back to
kansas that i will not do

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3 Mr Doctor B J Eastman
the Superintendent of the Sylum
at Topeka is a perfect
gentle man and he will
certainly recommend me to you
i no that he was a good man and
he was good to all of his Patients as
well as he was to me he could not help
me being sent to the Sylum
out of course i would have died but
for the kind treatment that i
received from Mr Doctor Eastman
and i shall never forget it
the reason that i run away was
i new that Kansas had it in for
me and that was my only
shame i think it was about the
25 or 26 of may in 1888 as near
as i can tell and i have never called
my self Boston Corbett since i have
always went by the name of John
or James i was afraid that i
would be taking back to the Sylum at Topeka
and left there to die you can see in my hands
i think that he will tell you that i am not
crazy but a good honest man and truly
Mr Boston Corbett

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July the 27 1900
Enid Okla

Mr George A Huron
of Sapulpa Kansas

I received your letter of the
24 and was glad to hear from
you, And would say
that i would be glad
to get your assistance in
getting my release from
the asylum as you have been
appointed my guardian by
the Probate Judge of Co. You
can do more for me than any
one that i know of and as i have been
sick most all the time since
i left the asylum and have no
money at all i will be compelled
to get help from someone to
secure my release from the
asylum

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2 I am Satisfied that Mr
John Eastman will help
you in every way that he
can as he is a friend of
mine and as i think a good
man. As Mr Dr Wm Gamith
will help you all he can as
i have been doing some business
for his Company for some
time and i would judge that
he would help you in the
matter and that would release
you from all responsibility
in case that i ever become
involved in a case in the future
no one can tell what a case
the future but i want
every thing cleared up in
every way before than is
any business mixed up with
with my property and
then i will have no one to blame

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3 But i am in great
Hopes that nothing will
Happen in a year that
would cause me to have to go
to the asylum i am out
now and restored to my right
mind
and i would rather not have
any guardian at all and by me
being released from the asylum
also releases my guardian from
all responsibility

Yours Mr Boston Corbett
Enide C. W.
You can direct my
Letters to Mr Boston Corbett
Please after

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4
I am Stck in Gang Letter
a getting a letter from Mr
J H Brown of 257 Eighth
Avenue New York City
I Had a friend in New York
City by the name of Mr
P H Brown he is a Good
Honest man and a friend of
mine I have wrote to him
to day I have a great many
friends back there in that
Country and in other Countries
which I would be pleased to hear
from but since I left the Asylum
I have never wrote to any of my
friends because I did not want
any of my friends to no that
I had been in the Asylum
and I shall never tell that until I
have to it is not very good news
to write to any one

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1 Corbett Boston
August the 18 1900
Enid Q.S.
Mr G A Huron Attorney
at Law
of Topeka Kansas
Dear friend and faithfull
Comrade i received your
kind and welcome letter and
will now try to answer
it
you seem to think in your
letter that i will have to stand
a Examination as i first did
when i first got my
Pension now i want to say
that it has been a long time
since i was first examined
and i Being Broken down sickly
since and Being invalid temprily
at times and from the loss of
memory and the sickness

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I that i han had it mood
Bee all most impossibel for
me to under take to say
the same mounds and to tell
a bout where my disabilitis
was at the time of my first
Examination which i saye is
on record at the Pension Office
at Washington or at least i t
aught to Be there on record
as i han had so much sickness
in the last 8 years and all
Being caused by Explen during
the war that it seames as
though it mood Be But a
small matter to han my
Pension Started a game
and further more my Pension
Should Bee increased to the
very hiest dollar that it
ould Bee raised to for if i Should
take sick a game and
Become go and febel in mind

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3 it mood Be nothing but
rite that i should han the
very Best of care and attencion
instead of Being throwed in
the asylum to stand my
Chances with a handfull
of crazy men

now if i thought i would get
a Gang and keep my self
fisically and mently un
till some where near the
time of my death that i
mite follow my other
Comrads that has Part a
way from this Earth to a
happy home in heaven
Without Being thrown in
to the asylum to finish
out my last days on Earth
i never mood Better a

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a⁴ Barr the Persian But
my 50 acres of Land in
Clarendon County Kansas i have
allways thought that i would
some day sell it and use the
money to help me to live
i thought that maby
time would go a way
with the Guareeniship and
the insanity charge that
Topeka Kansas had a gainst
me in the year of 1884
i have allways thought that
i might wear it out and
come free
and as i have become a guarented
With Dr. Wm Gannett and
Believe him to be a friend
of men and as he seems as
though he wants to help
me to get a Gang and live
i have Acnolige my

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Write came to him as
Being Mr Boston Corbett
and i hope and Pray that
him or you your self
or some one will do me
some Good in the matter
if it is in your Power
to do so as a Brother
Comred

You no your self that i
dont need any Guarden if he
was not a Land to give me my
maney as he mood letest it
there fore Please see Mr
In M Cariitt and se if the
Paffers that i sent him dont
Kinder cut a nother figure
in the case and if it das
Please write to me and tell
me what your ide is

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6 a Bant transferring the
Business fromn hear as they
will get me han full control
of my Business regardless
to the Guardene hear
But if you think it best
to han that Dunn name
of Corse as you ar my Brtha
Lammed and my friend in
Eury may i will Leane it
to you
i think that i can dispose
of my Drapery hear that
i han into the name of John
in a very short time
and then i dont care han
soon any thing is Dunn
i will be ready to be identified
or Examined in any way and
in my nite name Boston Corbett

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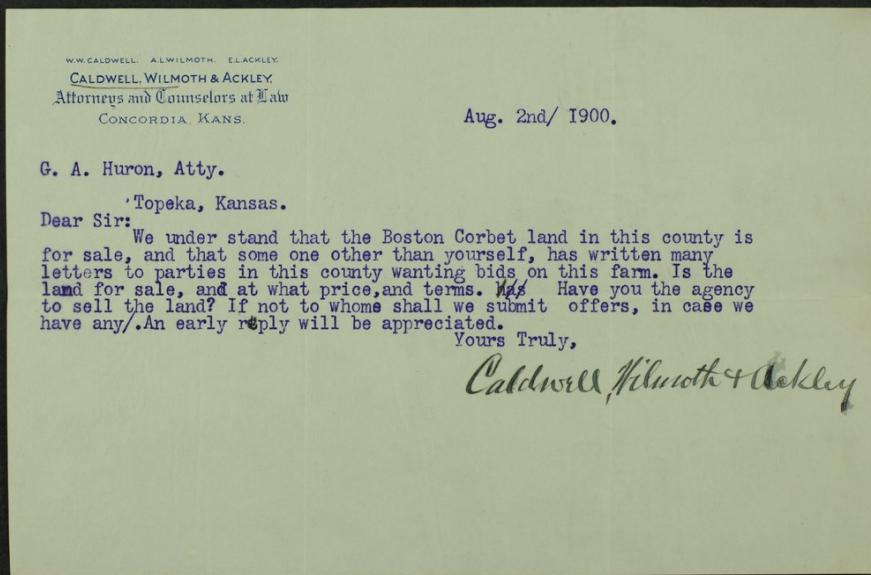
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I am a good and kind Brother
Gambel Please write to me and
tell me what is best for
me to do as you no what
is best and I don't
me being feeble both
physically and mentally
I certainly need some
help to no what is
best for me to do
So Please write to me
and tell me the best
thing for me to do
from your Brother Gambel
Boston Corbett
I am getting so nervous that I don't
hardly write at all

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Correspondence of George Huron concerning Boston Corbett



W.W.CALDWELL, A.L.WILMOTH, E.LACKLEY.
CALDWELL, WILMOTH & ACKLEY.
Attorneys and Counselors at Law
CONCORDIA, KANS.

Aug. 2nd/ 1900.

G. A. Huron, Atty.

Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

We under stand that the Boston Corbet land in this county is for sale, and that some one other than yourself, has written many letters to parties in this county wanting bids on this farm. Is the land for sale, and at what price, and terms. ~~Has~~ Have you the agency to sell the land? If not to whom shall we submit offers, in case we have any/. An early reply will be appreciated.

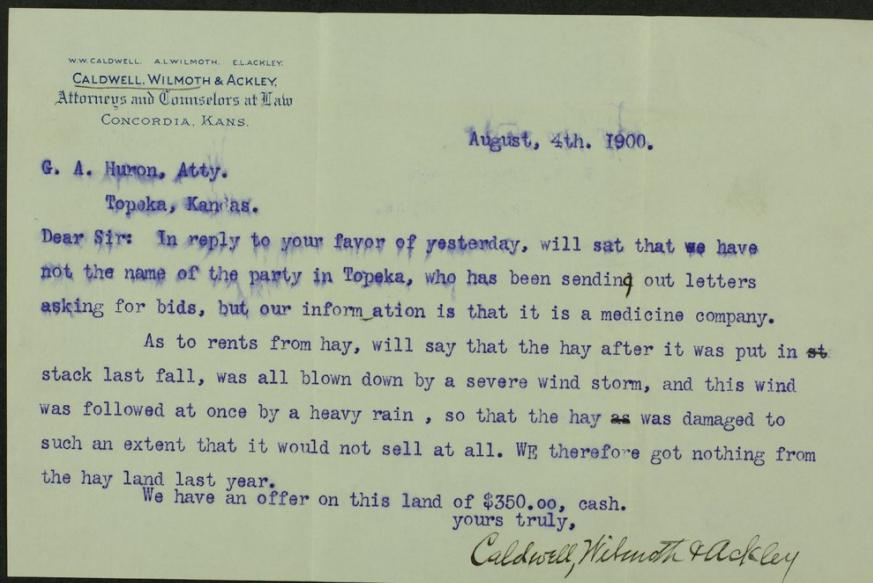
Yours Truly,

Caldwell, Wilmoth & Ackley

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W.W.CALDWELL, A.L.WILMOTH, E.LACKLEY.
CALDWELL, WILMOTH & ACKLEY,
Attorneys and Counselors at Law
CONCORDIA, KANS.

Dec. 14, 1900.

G. A. Huron,
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

Herewith we make report on the Boston Corbett land, to wit: The west half of the northeast quarter of 12-7-3, Cloud county, Kansas. Total amount of corn raised 210 bushels. Rental share 70 bushels, which was sold at 30 cents per bushel, amounting to \$21.

Total hay, nine tons, one third- three tons, sold at \$3 per ton, amounting to \$9. Total rent collected \$30.

Herewith enclosed find tax receipt in full payment for the year 1900 in the sum of \$5, and also enclosed herewith our check for \$25, less our commission and expenses in said matter, \$5 in full settlement of rents for this year from said land. Kindly acknowledge receipt.

Dict. AL.W.

Yours very truly,

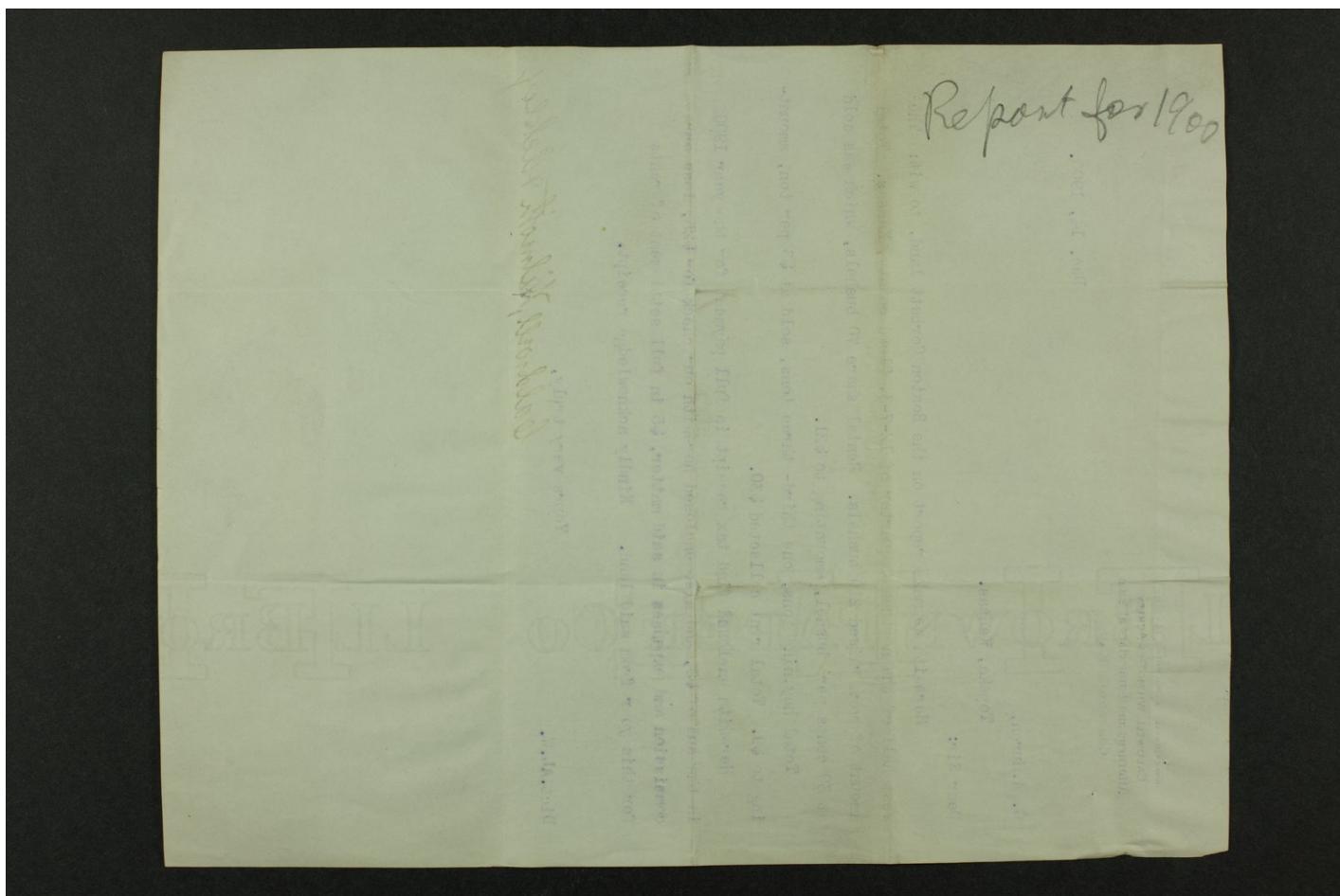
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W.W.CALDWELL, A.L.WILMOTH, E.LACKLEY.
CALDWELL, WILMOTH & ACKLEY.
Attorneys and Counselors at Law
CONCORDIA, KANS.

Dec. 17, 1900.

Geo. A. Huron, Attorney,
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 15th inst, regarding rent
hay for last year, will say: That we were under the impression that we
had reported to you heretofore that shortly after the hay was stacked, in
fact the next day, and before the stacks had settled, we had a severe
wind storm followed by a very heavy rain. The stacks were blown down
and scattered across the prairie, and the hay thoroughly soaked and damag-
ed to such an extent that it could not be sold or put on the market;
and further, there was such a small amount, probably less than two tons
last year that it would not have paid to have made an effort to put it
on the market for what it would bring, and it would not have paid the
expense of gathering the hay up.

Dict.A.L.W.

Yours very truly,

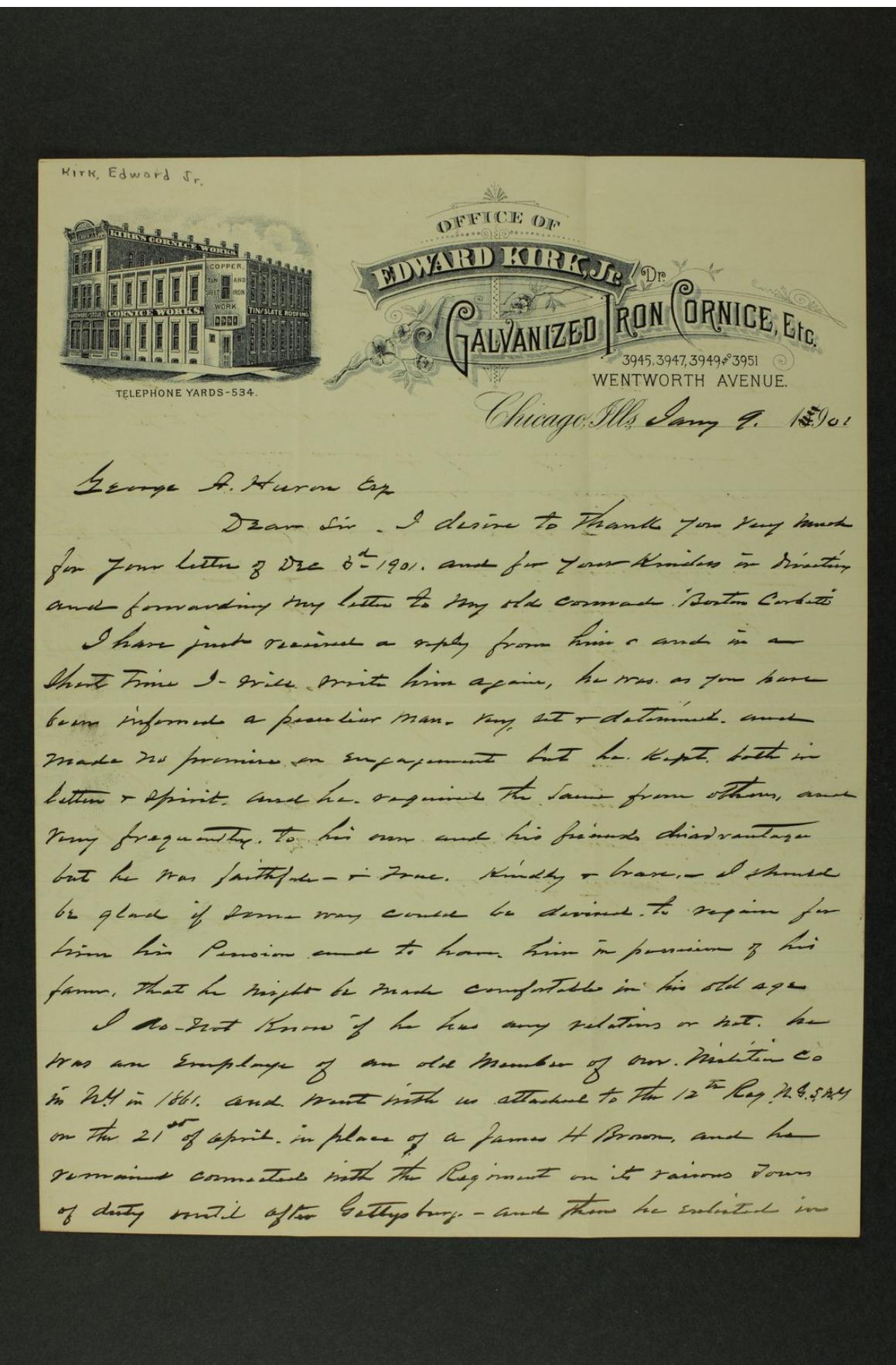
Caldwell Wilmot Ackley

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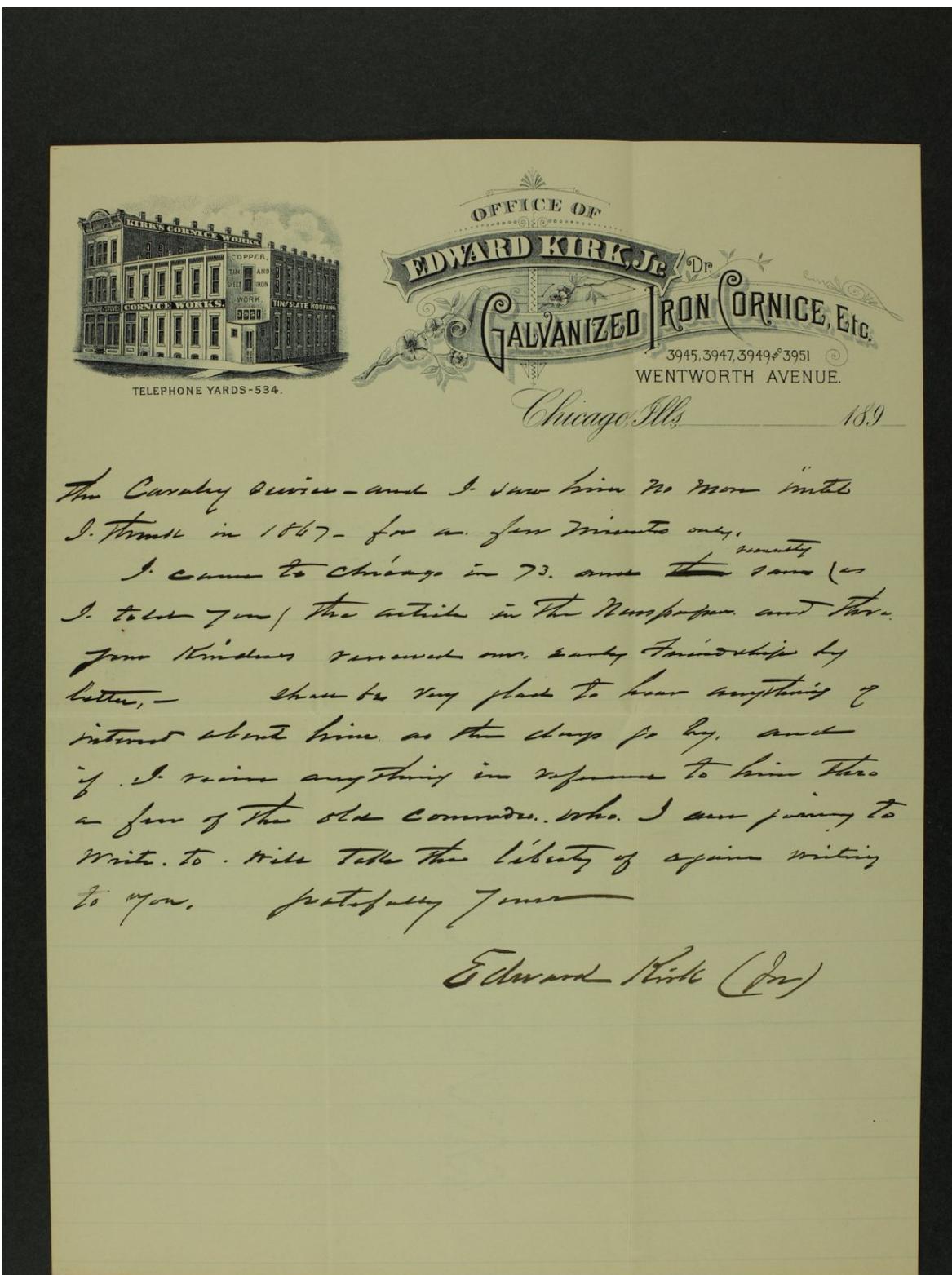


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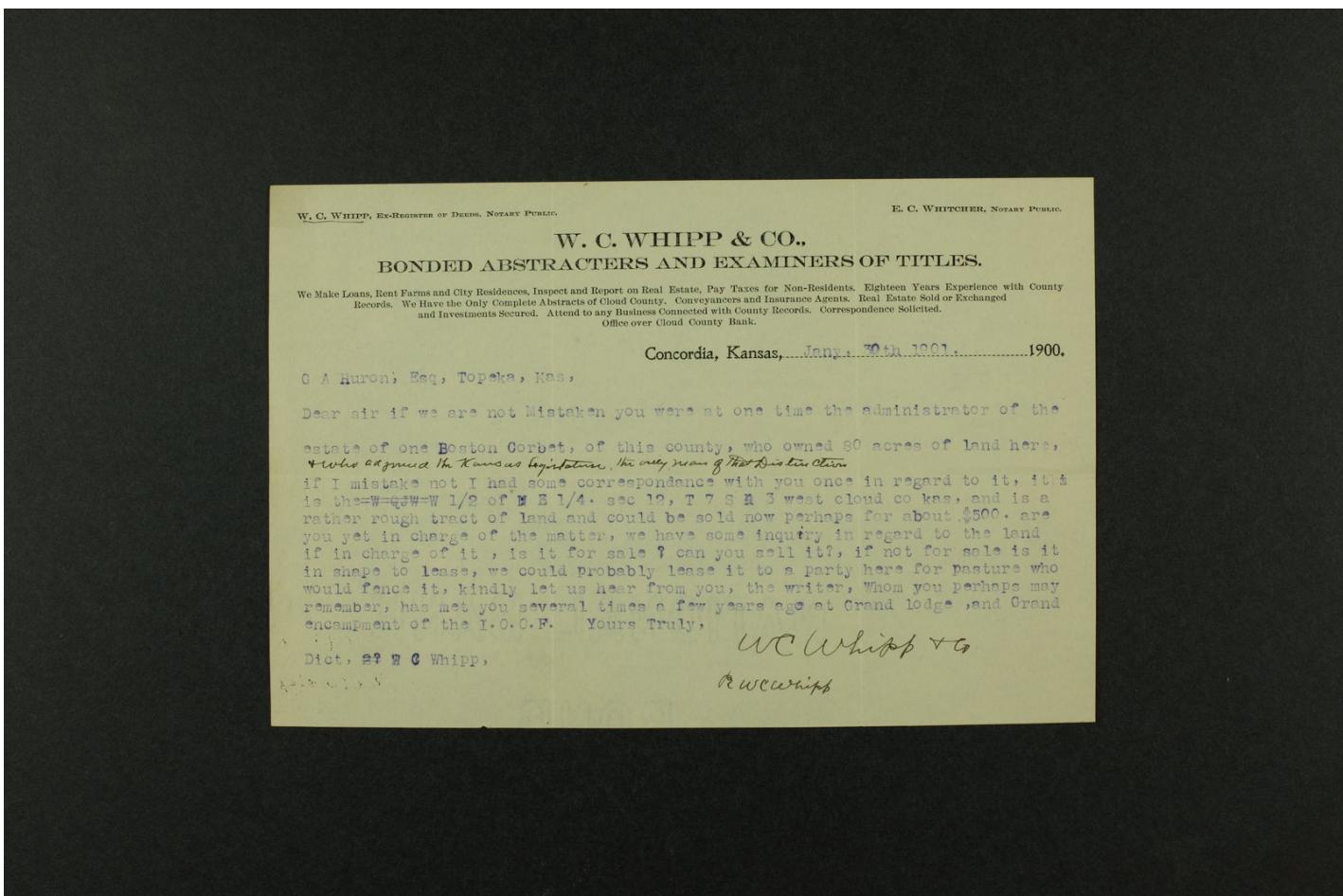


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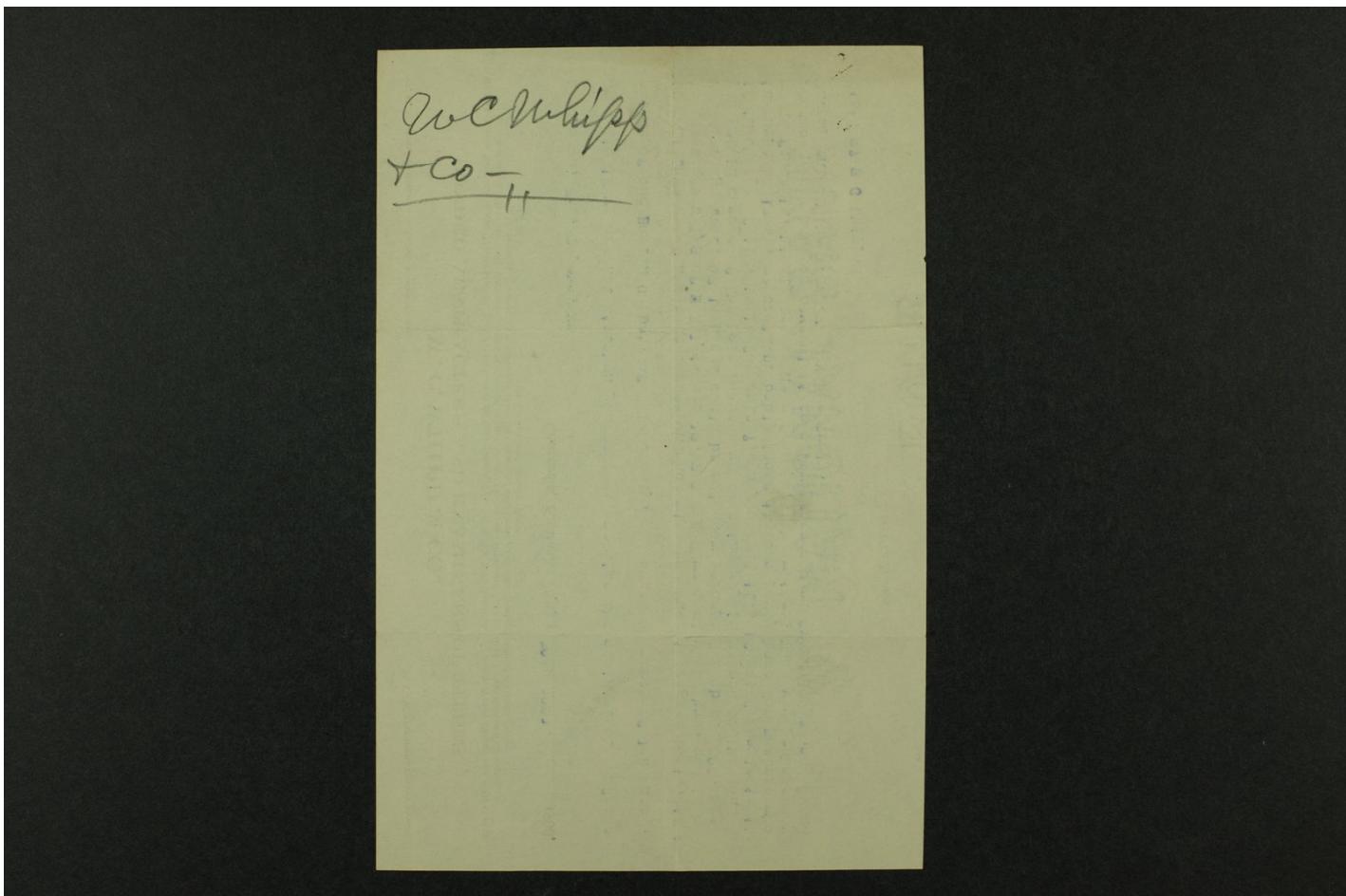
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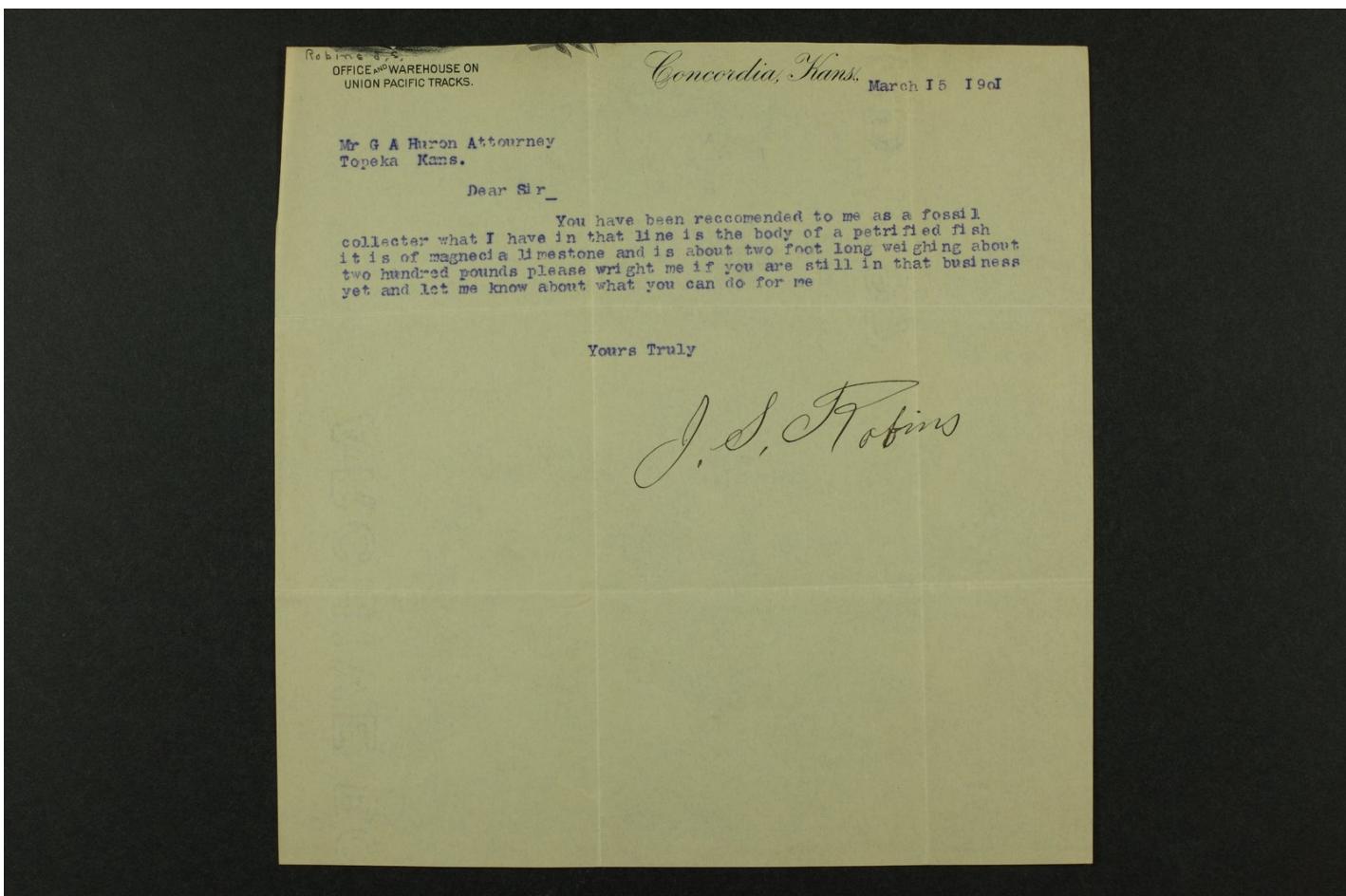
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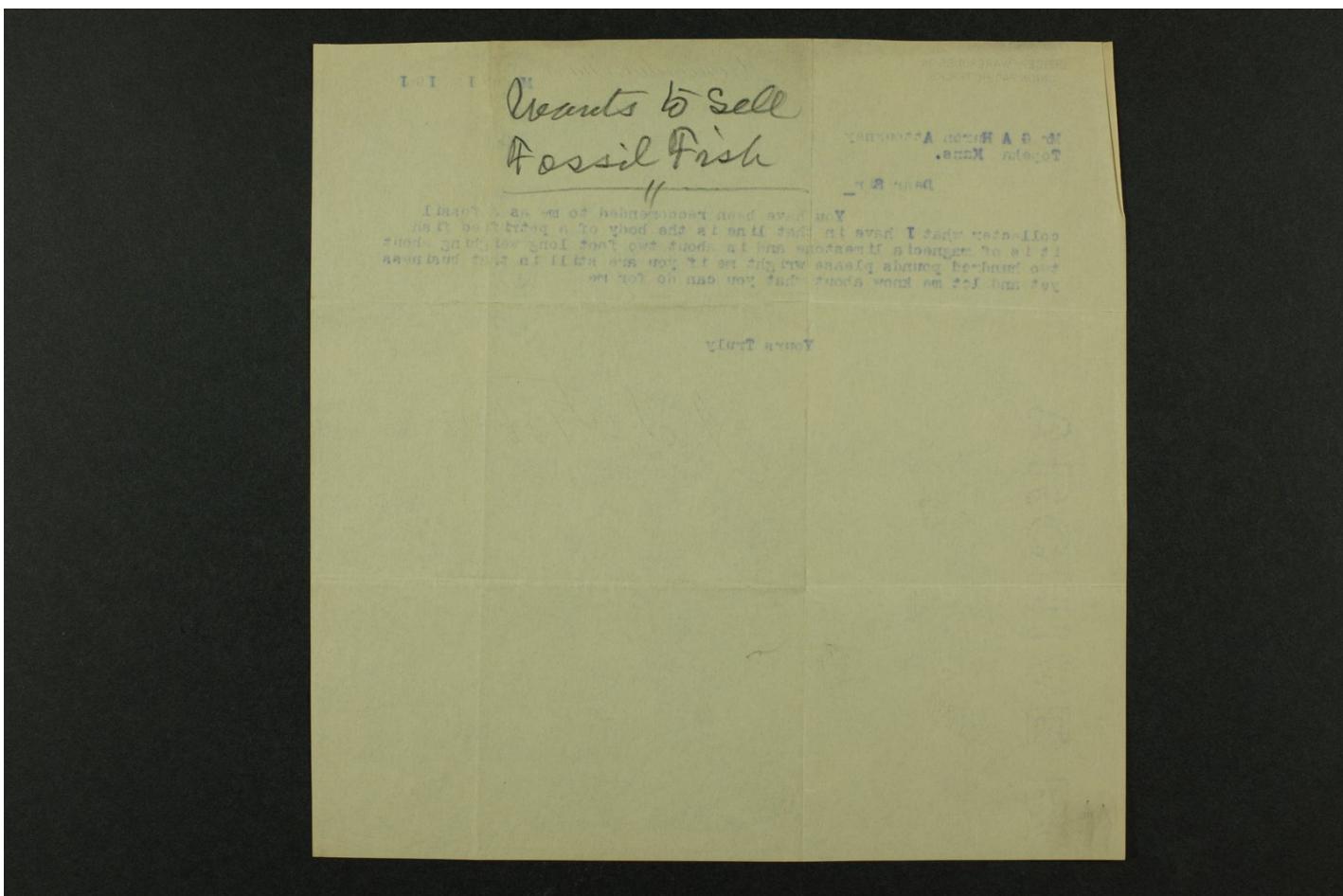


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W. W. CALDWELL, A. L. WILMOTH,
Caldwell & Wilmoth,
ATTORNEYS AT LAW.
CONCORDIA, KANSAS.

March, 25th. '01.

G.A. Huron, Atty.,
Topeksa, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

We have just had a talk with the party to whom we rented the Boston Corbett land for the present year, and he now wants to know if we could not enter into a lease for a term of years. He would like to hold it for five years, and says he will pay a cash rental for this land, of \$40.00 per year. We did not want to enter into a lease for such a long term until we had written you and got your consent. Please advise us what we may do in this matter. We would like to know what will buy this land if it is for sale.

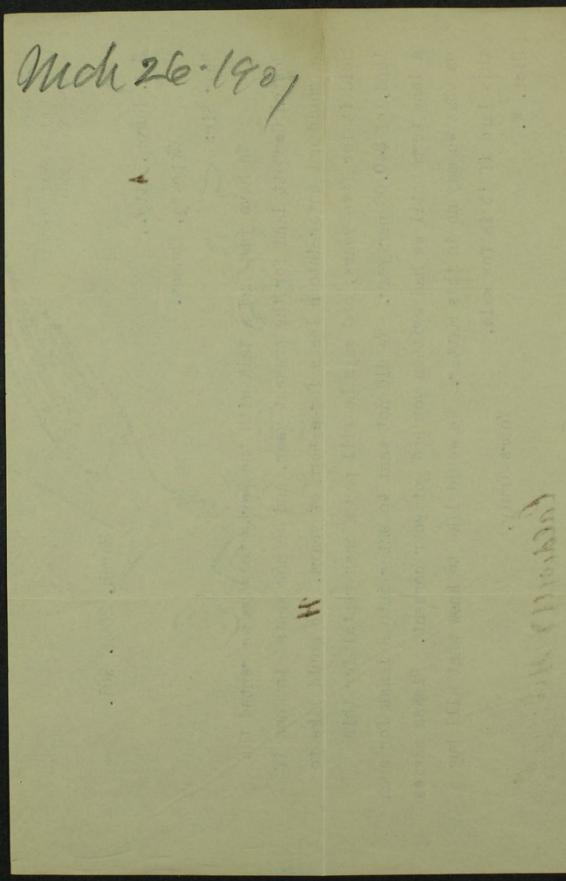
Yours Truly,
Dict. W.

Caldwell & Wilmoth

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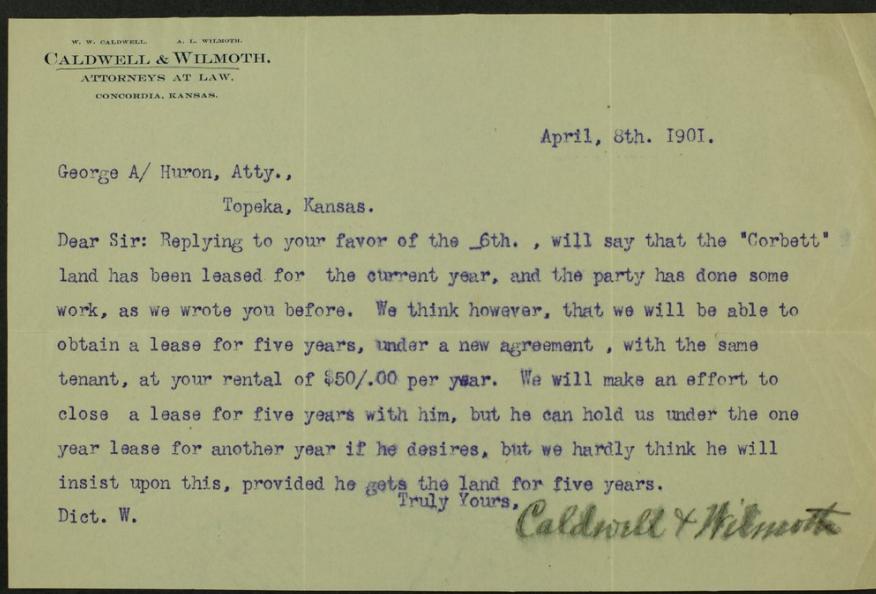
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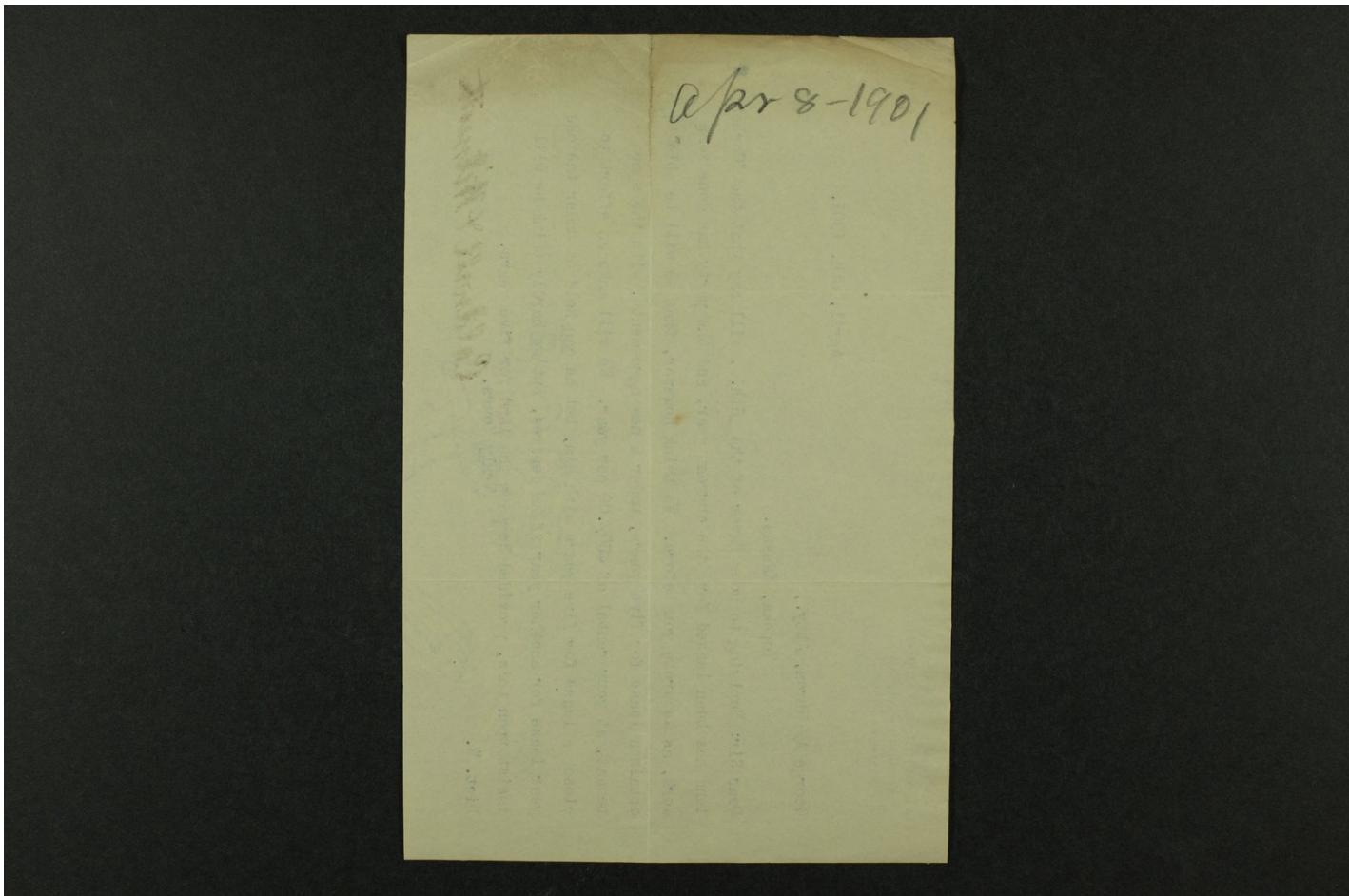
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W. W. CALDWELL. A. L. WILMOTH.
CALDWELL & WILMOTH,
ATTORNEYS AT LAW.
CONCORDIA, KANSAS.

May, II, 1901.

Hon. G.A. Huron,

Topeka, Kas.

Dear Sir:

We have succeeded in getting an offer for rental of the "Boston Corbett", ^{land} for a term of five years, to begin on March, 1st. 1902. This party has the place rented now, and says he would not want to have ~~the~~ the five year~~s~~ lease begin until next year, as he would not be able now to get the land fenced so the he could run cattle on the pasture.

The offer is \$50.00 a year payable on Dec. 1st. of each year evidenced by notes for said amount, with the privilege of removing any and all fences or other improvements placed thereon by the said party renting it; or to sell the same to the owner provided an agreement can be reached as to the value of such improvements at the end of the term for which said lease is drawn. If you still desire to lease said land, as you told the writer when last in your City, on the above terms, you can prepare the lease and papers and sent them here for execution, and we will give the matter our attention. The Tenant's name is F. W. Clawson, of Cloud County, Kansas. He owns a good 160 acre tract of land adjoining this land he wants to rent. [#] He is a good responsible party, and is considered honest.

Yours Truly,

Dict. W.

Caldwell & Wilmoth

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