

Kansas Memory



Isaac Goodnow correspondence

Section 107, Pages 3181 - 3210

This series of the Isaac Tichenor Goodnow collection includes sent and received correspondence of Isaac T. Goodnow (1814-1894) and also the correspondence of his brother, William E. Goodnow (1807-1876). This correspondence includes early courtship letters between Isaac and his future wife, Ellen Denison, as well as letters between William and his future wife, Harriet Paddleford. There are also several letters written by their brother, Jotham Goodnow. The correspondence is arranged in chronological order. Box 6 includes undated letters arranged by the first letter of the correspondent's last name. Isaac Goodnow moved to Kansas in 1855 and established the town of Manhattan and Bluemont Central College. He died on March 20, 1894.

Date: 1826-1940

Callnumber: Isaac T. Goodnow Coll. #357, Box 1-6

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 307637

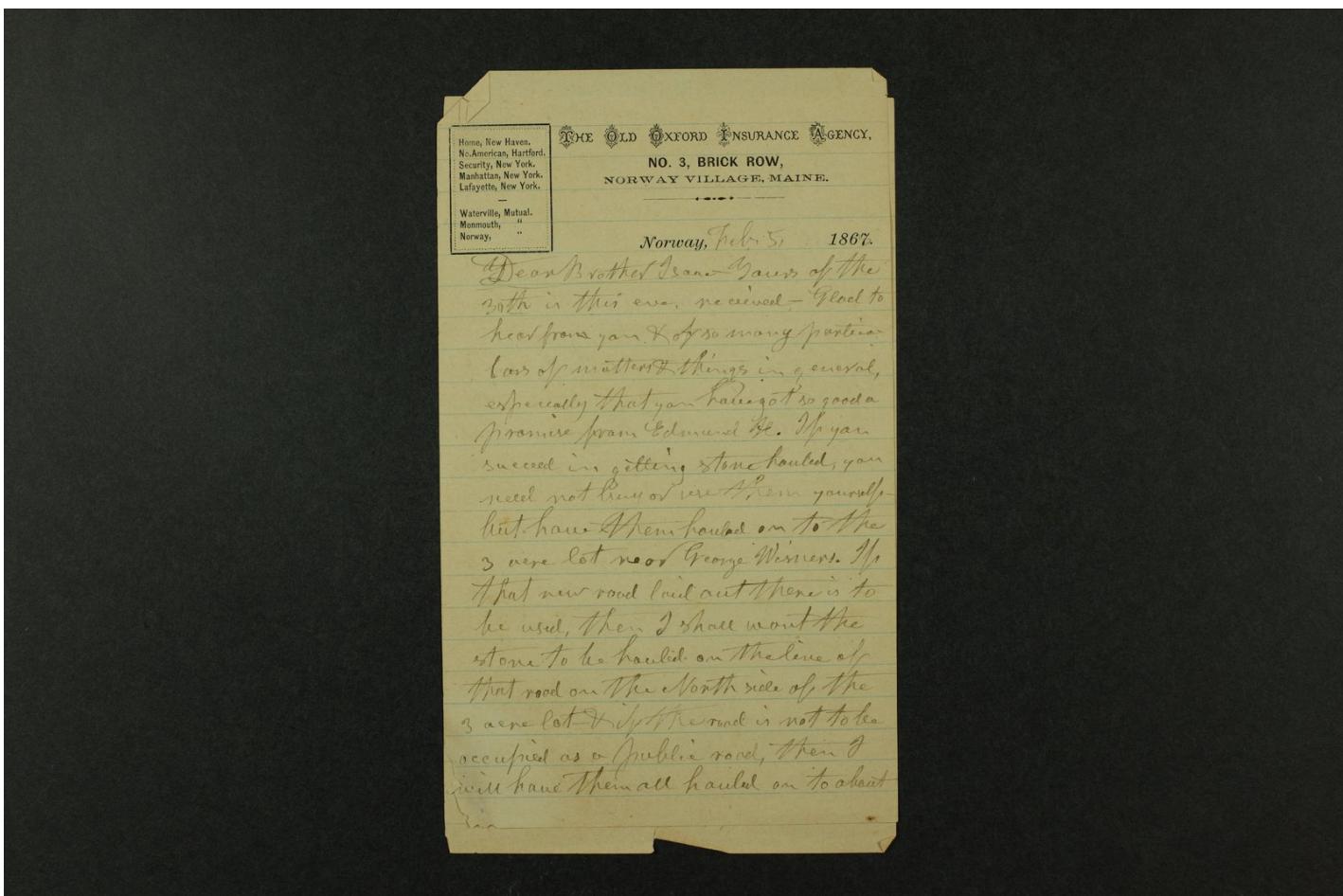
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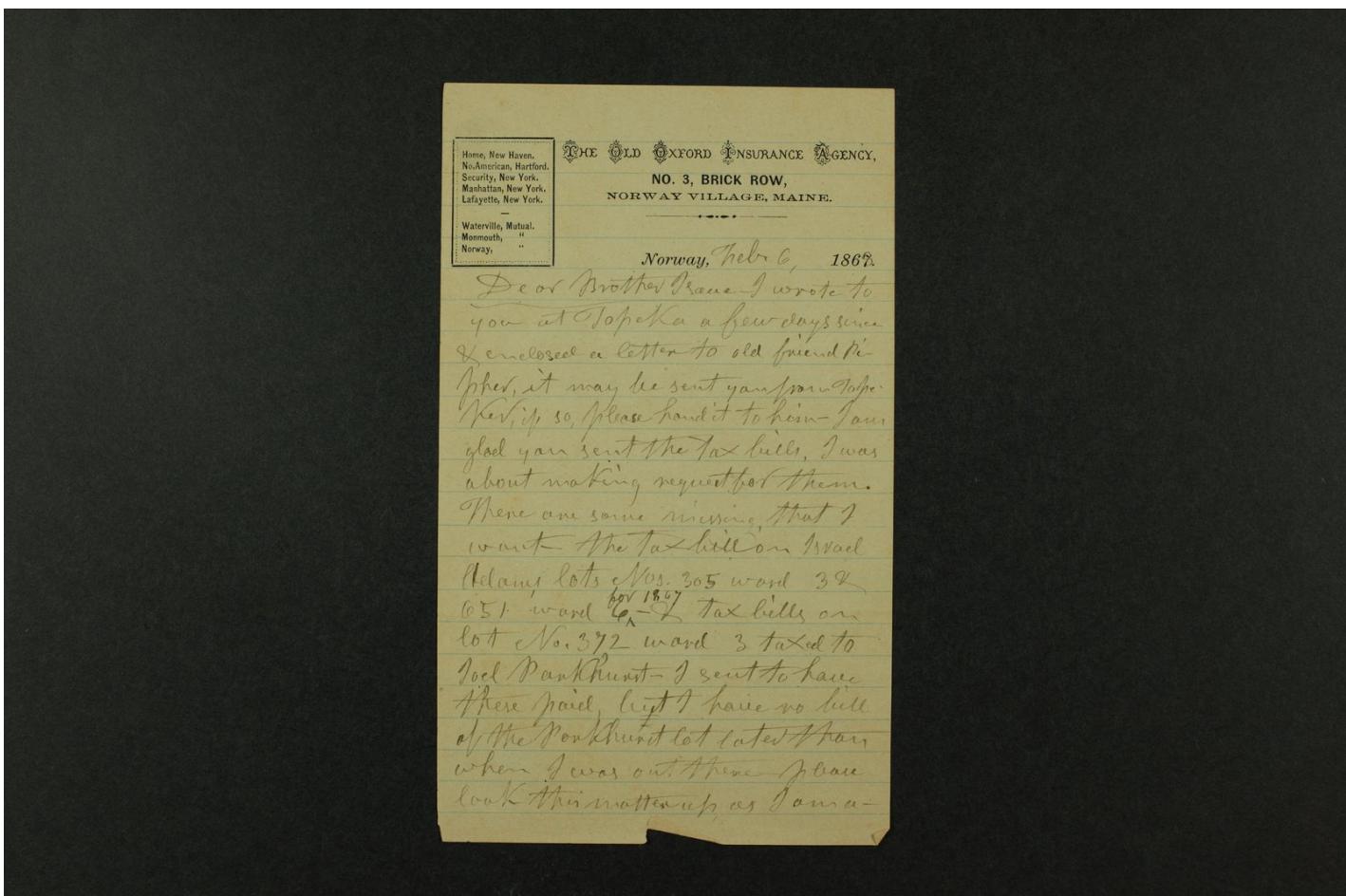
The centre of the lot on that side say 2 rods South of Wesley wall, as I intend, the Lord willing, to have a building & improvements there before this year ends what think you of that? —
If my poor leg gets round and ready to come me comfortably without crutches, I am bound to be in Ks! Then my main desire centre & there I am bound to go — only 2 brothers of us left you well known & our other family kindred mostly there & not a soul of most kindred here to come for or leave! Well, more anon ab this sort! —
Yes, if I have the fortune to get that stone from E. N. G. & Hall improve it well you may be sure! Do encourage him with such a prospect of having a good old true friend as a neighbor again!

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Israel it has been sold I now
own the lot as per your last
statement & I want it freed
from taxes you did not
tell me what you knew
or thought about the land
that Solomon Ross laid upon
up at Lake Sibley what
do you know about it?
Who occupies my College buildings?
Does Prof. Mudge live on your
premises now?

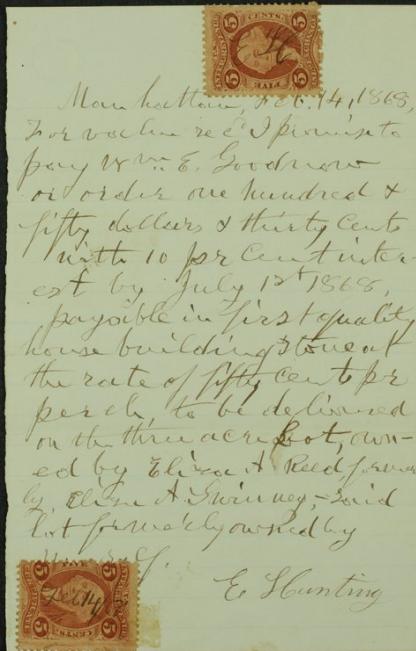
In answering my many in-
quiries be. Pay yourself all night
on Postage &c & keep money enough
so not to have me in debt to you on
that score. Love to all.

As ever in haste, affly.
Wm G. Woolworth

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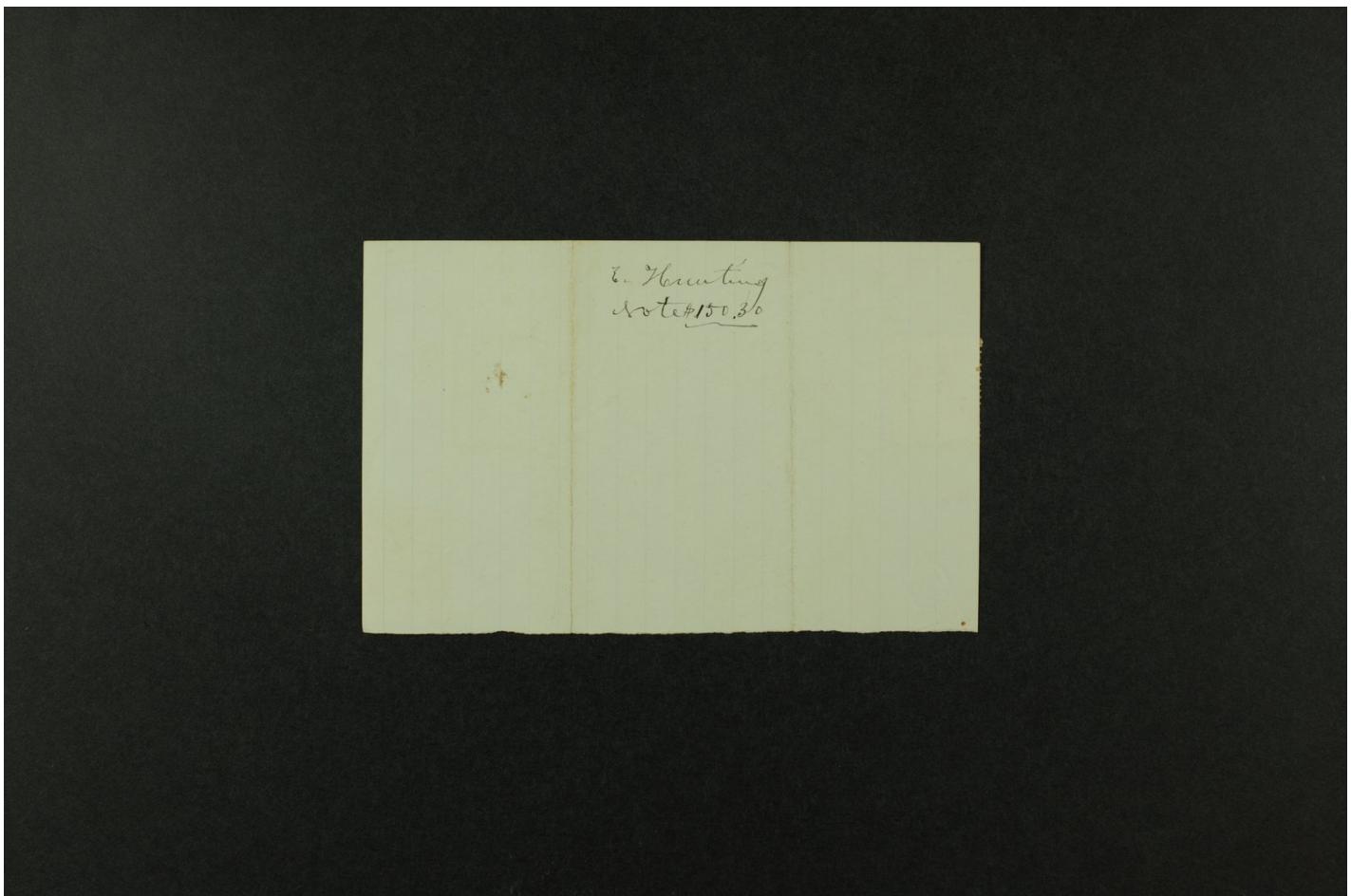
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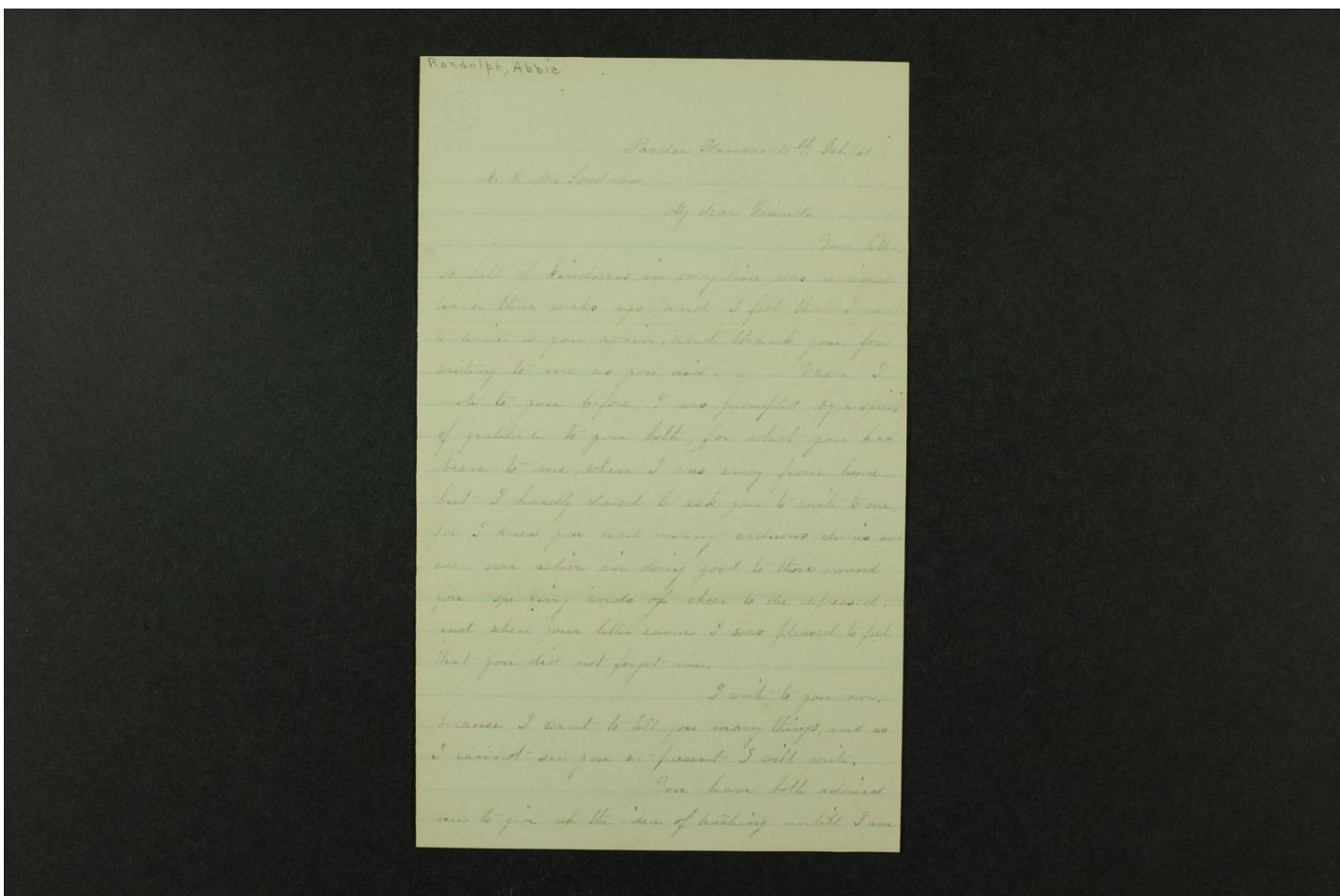
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stronger. When I wrote to you before, my mother was improving, and I was quite hopeful for the future restoration of good health, during the present winter. I have suffered sometimes from illness, and almost constantly from "low spirits," caused by physical trials. But lately, as I look out into the bright sunshine, I feel that God has been very good to me, in giving me so many dear friends faithful and dependent as I am, and my weakness has gathered friends around me.

When I was ill last summer over bright morning I was sitting in the large armchair too weak to sit up without being support to no one excepted of us, we humble followed by pillars. I felt a spirit of rejoicing and could not, because I would not see why I sweet suffer as I did, when only a few yards from me, out in the sunshine, among the flowers my wishes with some friends, were enjoying life. My physician came in, and I remonstrated here, that this was an ambition of my life, I could then I could say to you all I wished to, but it see the sunshine and happiness of other lives is impossible to make any person say all I but I was determined to sit in the shadows. For what to.

I received one by asking, she had arranged so nicely those flowers by my bedside? and asked me if I was not glad to see them. Then I had not failed by each lesson of suffering, and I do know that God's care is over me and, I love him more for his chastening, of an order that I may be entirely good, I must still suffer. I sometimes feel that I can bear anything for Christ's sake.

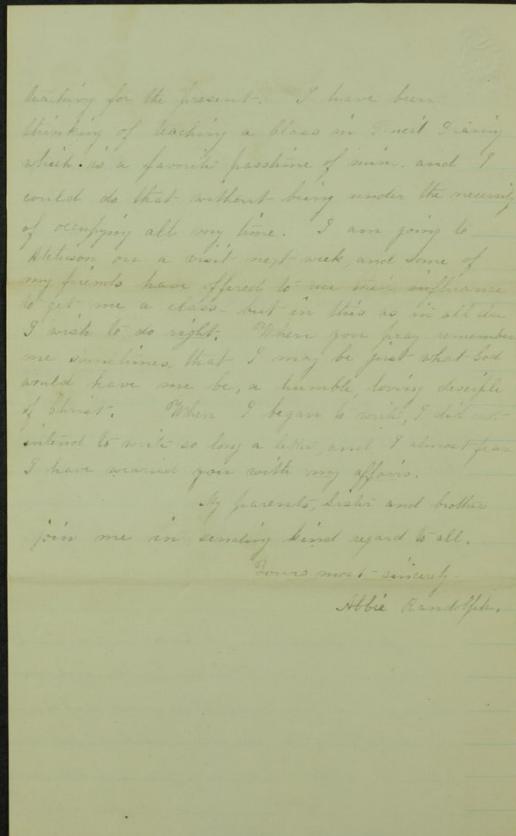
The Methodists are having very interesting meetings in Shuter, the services are held in the new school building. I rejoice over these too weak to sit up without being support to no one excepted of us, we humble followed by pillars. I felt a spirit of rejoicing and could not, because I would not see why I follow in the pathway of righteousness.

How many times I have wished I could come into your pleasant little parlor and spend an hour where you were alone, and wished to make any person say all I wished to. I have given up the idea.

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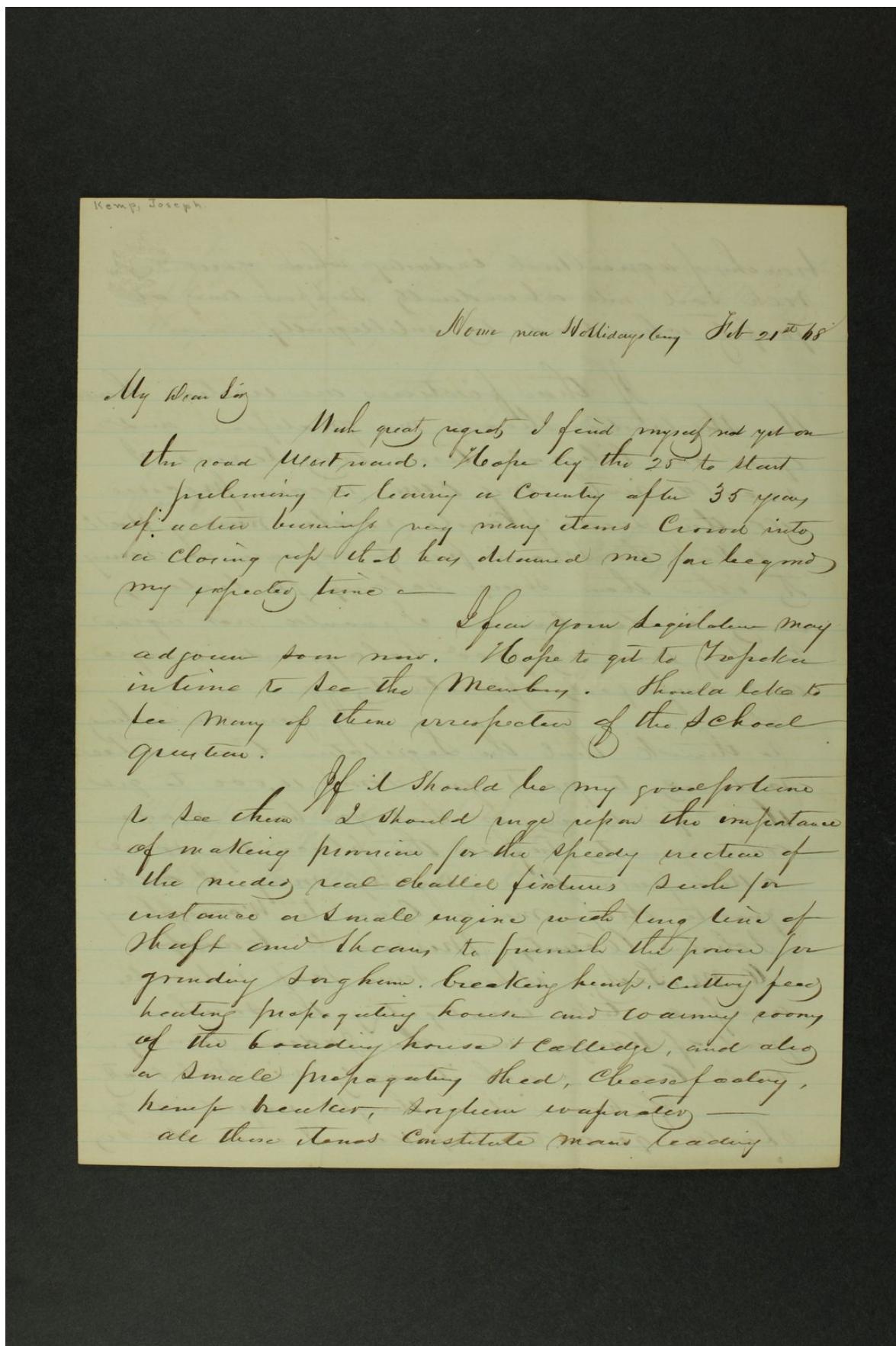


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branches of agricultural industry which your rich soil will abundantly support and all profit when conducted intelligently —

If those fixtures are erected should the two trustees think me qualified and give me liberal time and terms I would, in my own means procure all the seeds, plants, tools, necessary stock and keep the school free of expense in money to other than some salary for teaching and instruction — I would not agree to stay even at good salary, under meager and imperfect appointment.

If you are inclined I think that the Legislature cannot be induced to grant you some 10,000 to get these fixtures, or that you have made arrangements to fulfill the place by some other person than myself may I ask you to drop me a line to Warrington Johnson County Missouri to leave off C.M. Lect. I have some time to locate and feel like investigating the southern part of Kansas near the Indian Territory and can reach it easily via Fort Scott.

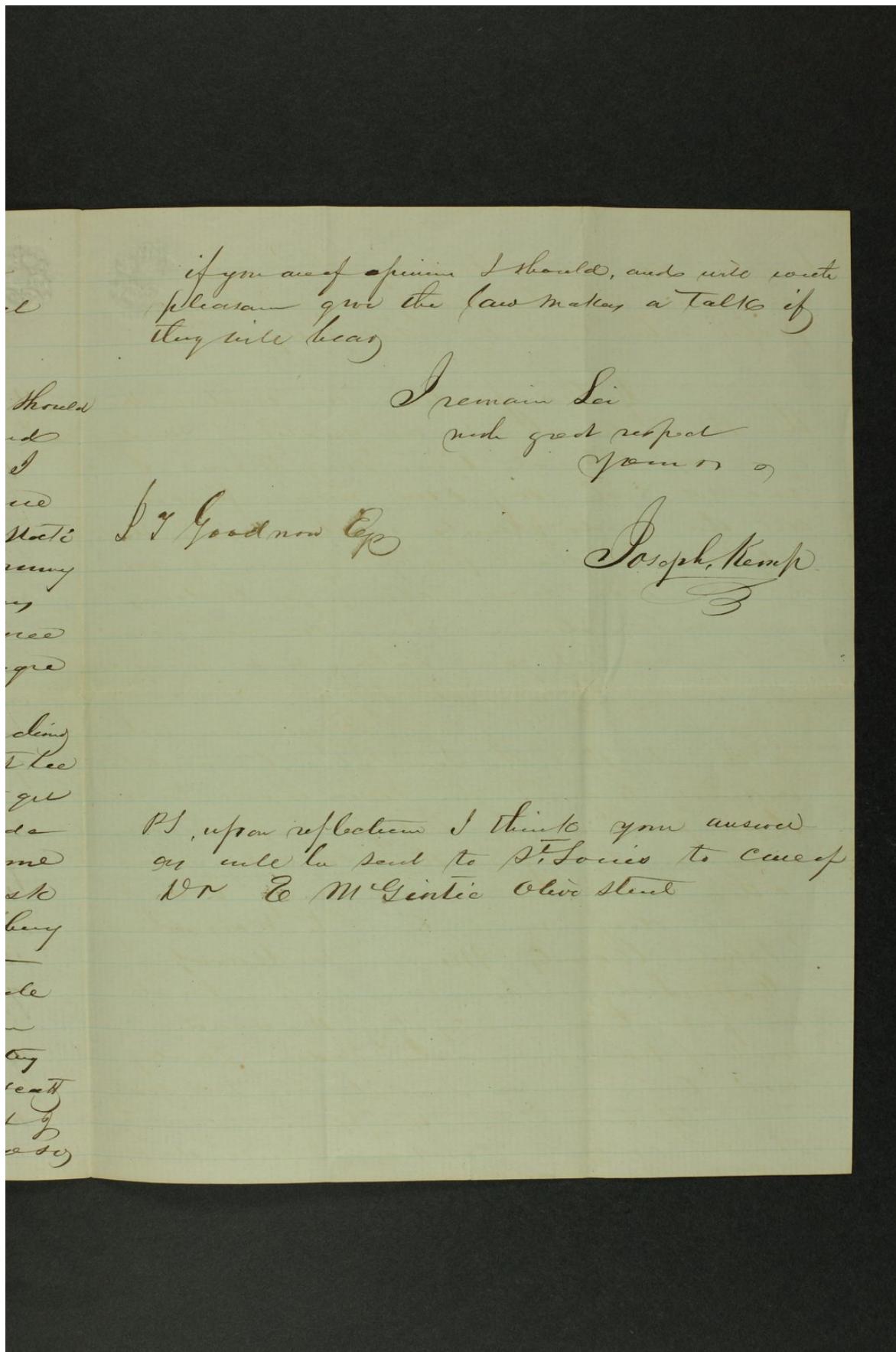
If however it is thought important you should go on to Topeka I will do so.

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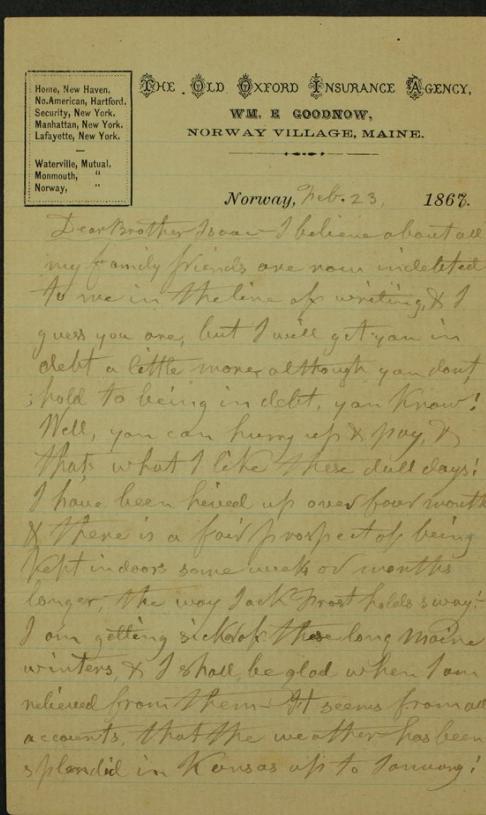
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Folks getting in grain, & doing all
most any thing else as far as comfort
is concerned! I have noticed but little
very cold weather coming off in Kan-
sas, but Minnesota & Wisconsin let off.
The palm, they having it down to
49 & 51 below zero! awful! Some-
thing must have cracked in those lo-
calities! We have had the mercury
down to 26 below 0 in this village
& cold in the Eastern parts of the
State. Old Jack has taken hold of
Harriet powerful hard, but she
has lived through his hard gripes,
& will, I guess, live through
I guess 15 years, & make her as
good an alibi again as you did once.
I'll take you up next fall! What
say you? done you?

As to my poor self, I do not gain much
this cold weather - the cold affects my
poor limb very quick & easily, so that

I have to keep in snug warm
quarters - I cannot yet step alone
upon my broken limb, but can go
easily with crutches. I am now
wearing those Indian Moccasins that
my beloved brother G.S. F. gave me
one day, & they are just the nicest
articles for my feet that I ever wore!
They do one big heap good! I hope I
will do as much for him sometime.
Horatio has now gone to Prayer meeting,
& I have my Praying & singing time
at home - glad I can. How is reli-
gious matters now in Midway? I see Temperance is having a good share
of attention - I hope the cause will
prosper highly.

Tues. 25 - Yours of 17th was received
last night - glad of it, much obliged -
this pays some of the debt! "Well done
good & faithful" - brother! You have
made out quite well with Edmund - hope
he will be the monk all right. -

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I don't recollect what the difference was between us on that small note; however, if she will give me a deed of land enough to go together with the 3 acre lot even with George Wissens' last line I will call it even any way. —

I will take that lot, & gain take the pay out of rent that becomes due after the first day of March & pay the \$25, & you may make the price as you propose to Mrs. Beech. Tell Ellen that if she can get under that Rhubarb Root, that she will probably find a lot of bones, & I guess, not any flesh now!! —

If you want some big Grapes, the first dead animal that you have at hand, bury it where you want your vine a foot or more below the dirt that is under the vine & when the new roots get down to the bones there will be a stretching time! —

If that Rhubarb is multiplying new buds, you can take them up

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* and put them in new places
give Solomon some when he is
ready.

If Mills, Smith & Fieldings won't
pay that money now they must
pay interest till paid.*

Sorrey Solomon has lost his farm
perhaps it will be all for the best.-

I have written Frederick Merril
at Junction City to call on you
& get all the Trunks, & Truss fix-
ings that I left with you in
one of the Trunks or boxes & bring
to me if he has room for them in
his trunk or valise. & to let you know
in time so that you can get them
ready. The owner wants them here
now. Mr. Merril calls upon you
show him round the College & give
him what news you can to bring to
me on his return. I boarded with his
mother at Paris.

* They will take out my in my account.

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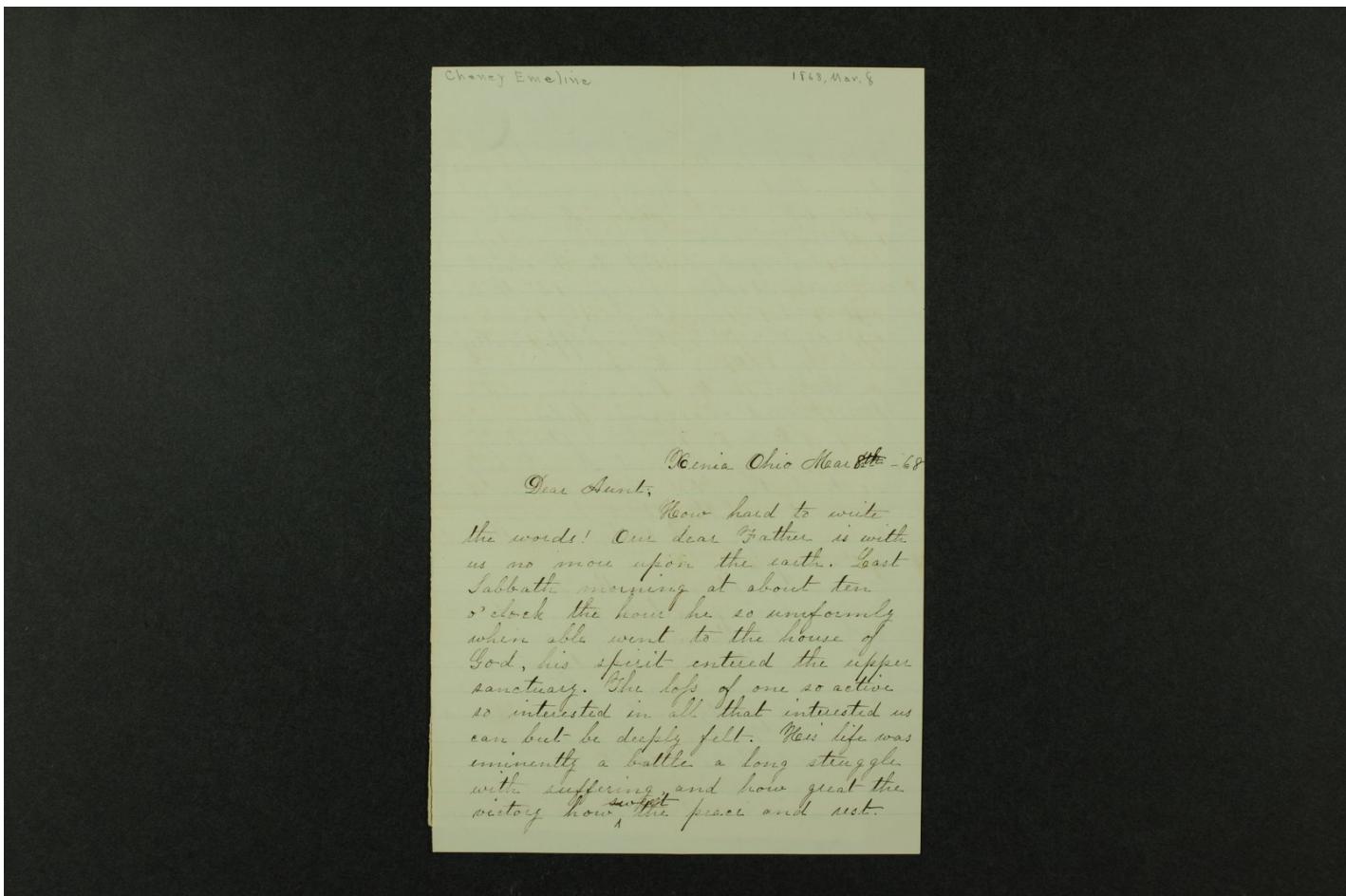
Isaac Goodnow correspondence

Tell Solomon to write me as soon as convenient -
Can a nice music Teacher have
a permanent situation at the College
supporting the family, build a nice home
X settle permanent on Blue Mtn? -
about mid time, so farewell -
as ever,
Mrs E. Goodnow,

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He was confined to his bed nearly four weeks. He said weeks before he died that he thought his work was done; that no physician could get him up, and he did not desire it; and when he could no longer speak, and his eyes seemed to be closed on all around him, he opened them very wide a bright smile came over his face, and with a happy satisfied look he left us to commune, as we believe, with his Savior, and those loved ones gone before.

O may he be kept from murmuring! Blessed Savior help us to be thankful that we have had so good a father that he was spared to us so long, that he gained such a triumph.

Wednesday afternoon the funeral sermon was preached from Acts 11th 24th ver. 1st clause.

John was with us several days and Denison remains until April.

Mother is pretty well but weak and languid. We are very sad and lonely now. Please write to us soon.

Your niece
Emeline Chung.

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Council Grove
March 11. 1858.
Hon. J. J. Goodnow
Dear Friend ^{Yours}

of the 29. ult. is just received.
Your request for permission to fence
in a $\frac{1}{2}$ acre of my land is granted.
We are glad to hear from you and yours
when that new front is finished we shall
want to visit you. We have been visiting
at Burlingame the last week and should
like much to find time to visit
Manhattan. Thanks for the paper and
the "light". Its performance is worthy
of the man, the party, and his superior A.D.

While we were absent a homicide
was committed in town. A german
Whiskey seller shot a duck Shoemaker.
The quarrel was serious in its nature, and many
think the eight man was killed the night
before, there was a big horde race. So in postscript

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We have bought a cabinet Organ
for 17000. and some nice Chromos.
Songs Reading Magdalena and the Little Crooked
Red Riding Hood, and others.
Come and see us.
Regards to Mrs. Goodnow
Mrs. Mr. sends love
Yours as ever
W.A. McCollom

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Isaac Goodnow correspondence

Anthony, W.A.
Fotrock College.
Yellow Springs, O.
March 11, 1863.
Prof Isaac. Goodnow,
Dear Friend,
Your letter
enclosing tax bill was duly
received, and should have
been answered sooner but
all my spare time for the
last three or four weeks
has been occupied in the
preparation for a lecture
in Spectrum analysis which
^{I am} happy to say is now over
with. Enclosed please
find B.C. order for amount of
tax bills, and accept my
thanks for attending to that
matter for me.
I did not go to Iowa,
though I held the matter un-
der consideration for a

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long time. I made a visit to all events I should have to the college and found had to work for too or the building not at all calculated those years under the great- culated for the purpose for est disadvantages which it was designed. The higher salary was a scarcely a roomiest of a great temptation, the prospect comfortable size for a recitation room, no place where for apparatus and books an analytical laboratory could be a greater one, but I possibly be located. The build could see no opportunity ing had been erected upon the for greater usefulness than here, and I do feel plan of an architect whose main idea was outside the greatest sympathy with the principles and aims of Oberlin. I like its un- sectarian character, I like its two courses of study, and the opportunity for election. I like above all the perfect harmony which exists between students and faculty; and thus far I have no reason to believe I have not wise-

They spoke of additions, but I wanted to see some indication ^{that} the additions would be planned and erected at least with the advice of men who know what is needed to believe. I have not wise-

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by chosen.

The friends of the college
are now working for
an additional endow-
ment of one hundred thous-
and, and it is more
than probable that salaries
will be raised next year.

The trustees have given all
I have asked in the way of
apparatus. I obtained a
fine Spectroscope this winter
from Duboscq of Paris. It shows
Fraunhofer's lines of the thousand
and has all the appliances for
accurate measurements.

A Microscope worth some five
or six hundred dollars, a
gift of one of the friends of
the college came this winter
also. My wife sends regards
Very truly yours, Isaac Goodnow.

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Elm Grove Mass Feb 2 1868

Bro Isaac. I have left Whiting
& taken rooms at my wife's father's
in Colrain to have time to look up
a home Albert is with me
Mother come back to Whitingham
Feb 23 & staid with us until we
moved the 27th of March
She is quite well for one of her
age. She come without money having
left all her funds with Amy ^{to} ~~she said~~ Strand
to have her take a room somewhere
& let me set her up a stone job
wood &c but she prefered not to.
I do not know much about her
calculations. She has some \$100
in money at interest ^{I think with him} & I shall
pay her \$50 per year. I told her
that I would write to Isaac and
ask him to ~~send~~ ^{I think with him} her \$25 & that
she might depend on having \$75
every year hereafter if you would send

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I shall acknowledge only \$50 per annum myself unless in case of long sickness &c —
I don't know where she is to have a home. That is what she needs. If you wish to write to her direct to Sedawya to care of D. Wheeler. It would do her good to have a kind letter from you at this time. You should have credit for what you do so if you should send her any money always direct to her. I left her with sufficient for the present so she will not have to send to Templeton & shall see her again before long. Now I want it understood that I make the above request expressly by her request. She claims to be a promise on your part to give her something.

So her serious mother is strongly in ~~the~~ childhood & I think it is time enough for me to pay her more than the \$50 when she uses up what she has got & needs it. We must be patient & bear her singularities with equanimity. I hardly know yet what I want to do & where to go. The last 4 years have been very busy ones up to this date. If you can spare time & think enough of this unworthy subscriber to write I should be glad to hear from you often.

Yours truly

S. H. Whitney

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Isaac Goodnow correspondence

Elm Grove Mass 20th April 1868

Dear Bro William

Yours of the 24 March was duly recd
I had heard of your misfortune
& was glad to hear that you were
getting out again. You were right
in supposing that arrangements for
the support of your mother were made
between Isaac & myself. I have much
more than fulfilled the agreement
on my part & Isaac has been honorable
on his part & the old lady is all right
as to funds having some \$200 in cash
besides her regular annuity. What I
clued to was only her situation
in needing care & sympathy on
the last rays of her life. Emeline
& Mary Ann we trust are safely stored
with the good Saviour. Ann is nearly
blind & very feeble & scarcely able to
exist without care from others & so that
in the changes of the eventful & changing
uncertain life your mother is left

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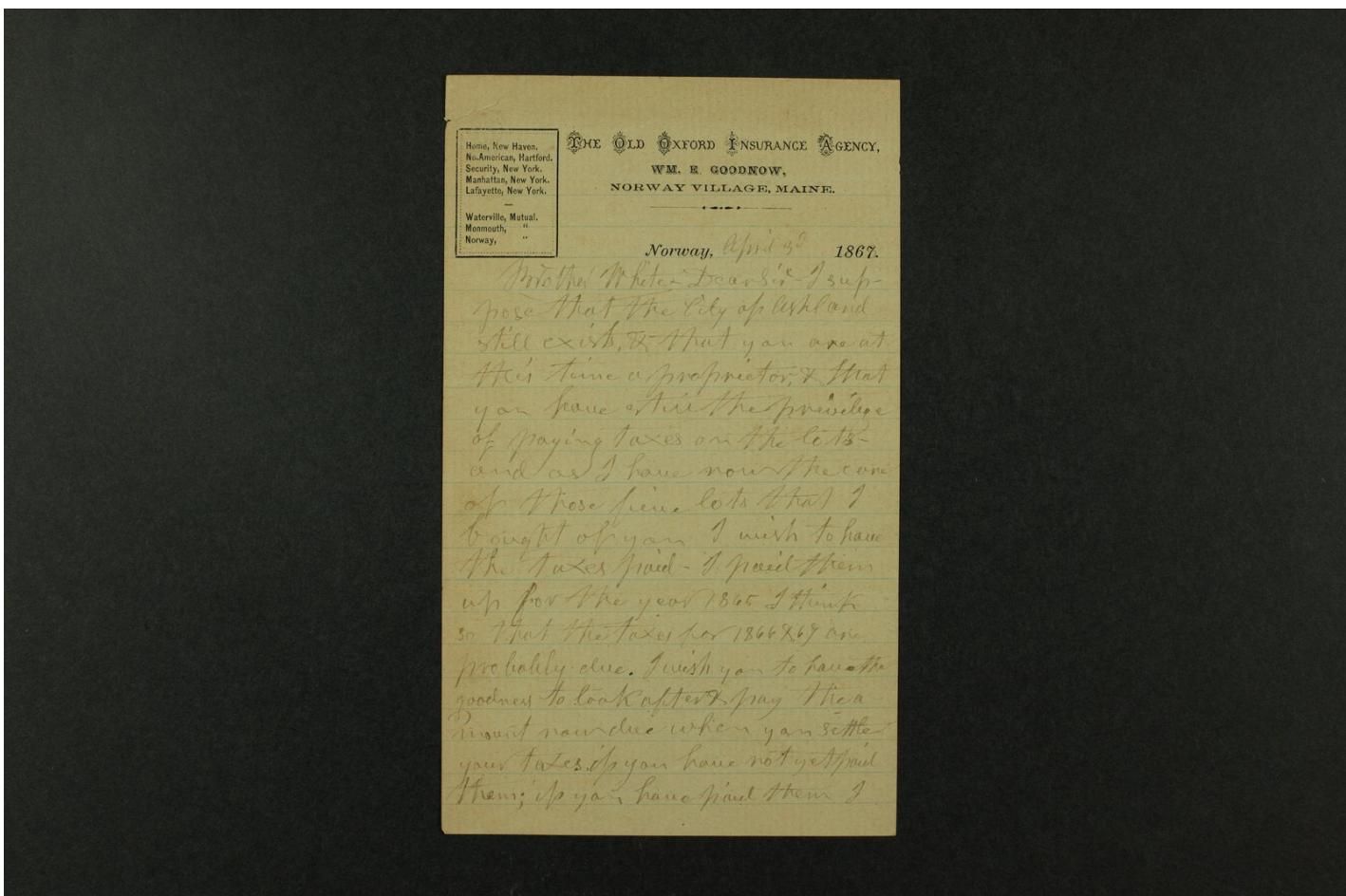
Not without the means of support
but without some sympathy & care
of children I did not write to find
fault but to let you know the real
state of the case

My Father made ample provision for
her support in my family. I felt as
I that was the right & proper way
to Step mother & her children
wished to have that arrangement altered
by her & their earnest & persistent
request I was released from all
legal obligations in her behalf by
paying an annuity. Since then she has
most of the time
lived near me & I have looked after
& cared for her as well as I could
under the circumstances. Albert is with
me & altho anxious to go for himself
& do as other young men do is unable
to do so on account of his epilepsy &
probably will be dependent on me as long
as I live & by the blessing of God I hope
to leave him if he should ever give me
ample means of support. I have promised
Step mother £5 monthly over & above what
she has heretofore received L H Whitney

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will instruct my brother to see
to the payment as he ^{has} a County
order I believe that can be passed
in. The lots are taxed to Elizabeth
Swinnery, & are numbered as follows:
acres No. 3 Block 74

"	3	"	72
"	5	"	81
"	11	"	51
"	8	"	8

Off trouble you are at I will
make right -

Very truly yours
Wm. C. Goodnow