

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

Section 180, Pages 5371 - 5400

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

Item Identifier: 307637

www.kansasmemory.org/item/307637

KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

but being about all the time
Alice was married last November
to Chas. J. Mason son of Wm. Mason
whom you will remember

The cotton industries of Fall
River have been prosperous
during the past year and the
outlook is very encouraging

The competition rapidly being
developed in the South will no
doubt soon affect our northern
manufactures.

We all wish to be remembered to
you and to Mrs. Goodnow and hope
you have recovered from your ill
turn before this

Very truly yours
Robert Henry

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

Isaac, Wm. F.
Santa Clara Cal.
Jan 10th 1890.
Hon. J. T. Goodnow.
Dear Bro
Gave of 1st ind
red. I enclose \$2.00. Postal
note. Thanks for your attention
to the Tax bill.
All in about our usual
health. Would be glad
to see you and sister soon.
Love to her. I rejoice in
the good fortune of the
Wesleyan University in
having \$10,000. added to its
endowment in one day.
I suppose you know about
Greenwich Seminary
getting \$45,000 from the
estate of a Mr. Olney.
Sincerely
Wm. F. Hyde

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

Dear Bro. Goodnow;

I herewith send you amount box as per receipt, \$6.30. Many thanks for your kindness, and a happy New Year to you.

We were all highly pleased with the article you wrote, describing your visit to Deer Island, and personally I thank you for your very kind notice of me, and our religious service. Mr. Winton received the papers all right, and all the officers enjoyed your company, and above all myself. It seemed like old times. You always was very kind to me, a green boy that I was, when I came under your instructions at Wilbraham. And you have fulfilled your promise to look after my lots at Manhattan, and keep me posted thereto. All send kind regards to you. Again many thanks, and believe me

Yours as ever,
J. M. Daxson.

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

Abbott, Josephine Mrs.
1890

Bristol Jan 13th

Mr Goodnow
Dear Sir

I received your
Postal and send the ~~box~~
as soon as possible what
is the value of that piece
of land. I know nothing about
it. They all advise me to sell
it. it there any chance to do
so. Sadie is off age now so
there would be some trouble
I wish you would let me
know what you think about
it. I am going to Worcester
next month to visit Lizzie
I feel an invitation to come

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

they have taken Mother Abbott
to Fred River to stay with the
Dr. she had a very bad
ill turn Rheumatism is now
very feeble I expect to hear
only a day she is dead she is
a good old soul. my health
is very much improved I
am glad to say. I am
all very well I let you
know about the land
please then I can decide
what to do in regard
to it

I am again sincerely

Mrs Josephine Abbott

Bristol R.I.

Ref 26

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

Richardson, F.T.

Box 279.
Lexington Jan 13th
1890

Dear Br Goodnow

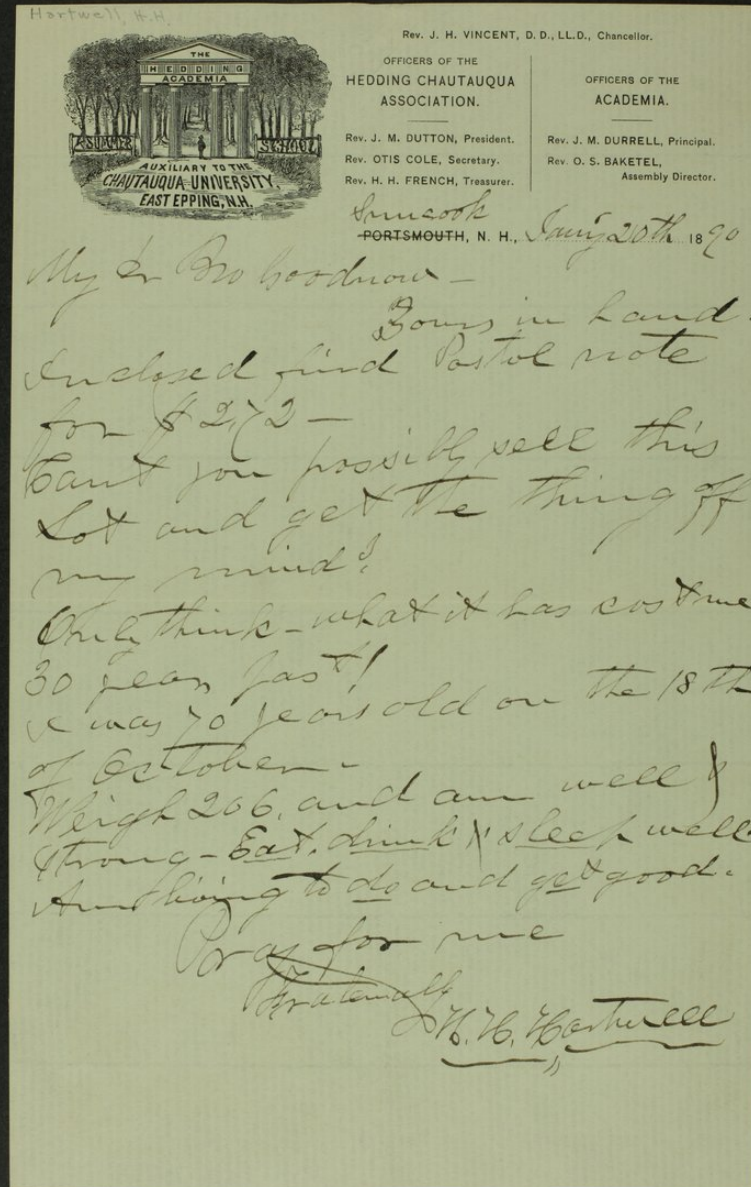
We could not secure
a draft on New York for so
small a sum - so sent post
office order. We have
sold our house, have
removed to Lexington
a beautiful residence town
about eleven miles from
Boston on the Lowell
road. We are enjoying it
very much. It was quite
a struggle to give up the home

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

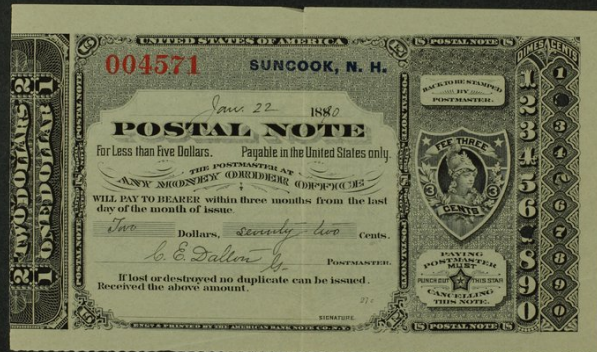
my husband planned so nicely
but the promise of God that
has so often in the past been
my comfort and strength
has come to my rescue now
"My grace is sufficient"; It
seemed best to dispose of the
house because it cost so much
to maintain it. We have
quite a comfortable income
left to us. It seems to me
not wise to pay taxes on
that land much longer if
it can be sold to any
advantage. Would you
be so kind as to ascertain
what the lot can be sold for,

Has the La Grippe reached
Kansas. Almost every family
here are more or less affected
by it. Did you know of the
terrible fire in Lynn,
and have you heard of Mrs
Harrison McCall's wife's
death. With much love to
Mrs Goodnow and yourself

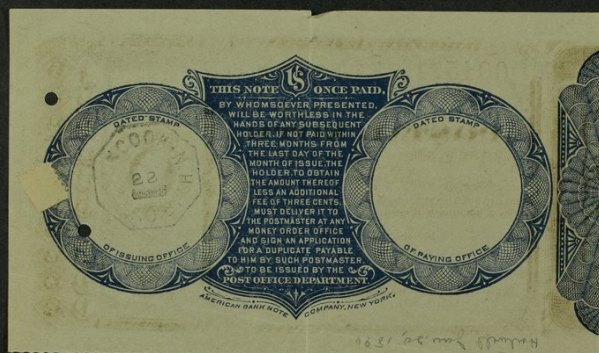
Yours sincerely
H. S. Richardson



Isaac Goodnow correspondence



Isaac Goodnow correspondence



Isaac Goodnow correspondence

Garrison, J.P.

Andover, Mass.

Jan. 20 1890.

Mr. J. T. Goodnow

Dear Sir

Inclosed I send
you a draft payable at First
National Bank N.Y. for \$99

I look in vain in your letter
for any indication that these lots
which are taxed more & more
are gaining in market value,
& still less that they are in any
demand by purchasers.

I suppose as soon as they can be
sold to advantage somebody who
has not been at a dollar's expense
for them will step in & pocket the
profit. Such are Western investments.

Truly yours J.P. Garrison

Woolsey, Harlow E

140 Braintree St.
Boston, Jan. 22, 1890.

My Dear Friend:

Your favor of Jan. 3
is at hand. I thank you for
looking out for the taxes and
enclose the money that you so
kindly advanced.

I am very sorry that you
were sick and am thankful
that you were improving when
you wrote. I trust you are
now restored to health.

It was a real pleasure to
see you here and looking so
well and strong last Summer.

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

and I hope that bye and bye you will have the inclination and opportunity to visit your friends in the East, again. He spent last evening and sends his love to you. Do not let me stampede take you to our need for the house when I was a boy, and but if, at so as I write I have in a case across some at my side tangible reminders to see them. of the friendly interest you took in me, a mere child - a collection to you, and a of minerals that you sent to me minute of the from your far off home. It was wishes for all more than thirty years ago, but were it sixty the remembrance of your kind and painstaking thoughtfulness would give me pleasure.

My poor Father is about the same as when you saw him.

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

to bye and bye. He spent last Sunday afternoon
 the inclination and evening at my house. He
 to visit your sends his love to you.
 East, again. Do not let the hunting for
 thoroughly. I stamps take any time that you
 our visits at our need for other purposes, please,
 as a boy, and but if at some time you run
 in a case across some I would like much
 visible reminders to see them.
 interest you took My wife joins me in sending
 child - a collection to you, and yours the comple-
 you sent to me ments of the season and good
 home. It was wishes for all time.
 years ago, but
 remembrance
 and painstaking
 could give me
 is about the
 as saw him.

Truly Yours,
 Arthur C. Woodward,
 4.4.9.

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

Hammond, Ind.
Sept 27, 1890

Dear Mr. Goodnow

Your letter of inquiry concerning lot was duly received. It is very difficult for us to decide. As we know so little about its real or prospective value at this distance. We feel like this. If the lot is increasing yearly in value, or if its increase is greater than the annual taxes - we should prefer to hold it. Until we need the money more than we need it just now. We need it now but not pressing. A good providence has hitherto given us a com-

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

fortable living. My wife
 thinks as I do. that we had
 better trust for a sale of it
 when the real pinch comes.
 Now after having expressed our
 views so fully and frankly,
 we shall trust much to
 your conscientious judg-
 ment and advice. We think
 that if we sell at all we
 ought to get the full amount
 of money its compend interest
 taxes. making us whole. I
 think that I have been about
 30 years -

Yours Truly
 C. Goodnow

I presume that of my \$100
 check on M.G. was received
 all right - C. G.

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

Dean, Mrs. J. A.

[Conn.]
 Mystic Jan. 28. 1890

Mr. Isaac Goodnow,
 Dear Sir

Yours of the 11th received.
 Many thanks for your kindness.
 My husband's books are at the Book
 Room in New York, they have
 taken them all, so I do not have
 anything more to do with them.
 You ask about my family, the girls
 are neither of them in good
 health. Addie the eldest is
 in New York, Stenographer and Type
 writer. Mary is teaching. I am
 having a bad cold.
 Hope that you and your family
 are well. Enclosed please find
 Post Office Order for \$2.46
 Truly Yrs. Mrs. J. A. Dean, Mystic, Conn.



Isaac Goodnow correspondence

Dr. Demison gave him some medicine & he is well again now.
Sunday afternoon
Denver, Colo Feb 16th, 1890.

Hon. I. T. Goodnow

My dear Uncle:--Yours and Aunt Ellen's kind letters were duly received, and I have to-day seen Col. Chivington, and he was very much pleased to hear from you and Mr. Pipher and is very grateful to you he wishes to be remembered kindly by you all and sent his kind regards to Father as well.

The enclosed account of Sand Creek is compiled from the Times and another newspaper, but there were so many corrections of names and dates that it is practically new matter.

Please have two copies sent here of what you print, one for Col C and one for the subscriber, and please have it read by copy, so that it will be as correct as this copy.

In the course of conversation to-day Col. C. said: (speaking of the few Kansas Pioneers left)

"I was at Kansas City when the advance guard of the Kansas civil government arrived. I was at Conant's store at Wyandotte doing my trading. I was missionary at Wyandotte when the steamer landed which brought Gov. Reeder of Pennsylvania and one or two other territorial officers for the Territory of Kansas. They had letters of introduction from parties in Philadelphia to Mr. Conant, and after the presentation of their letters of introduction, I was favored with an introduction to them, and they were informed by Mr. Conant that I was a missionary at Wyandotte and a resident of Kansas Territory. I said to Gov. Reeder, I suppose you have come Governor, for the purpose of giving us a "square deal," in the Territory in political matters, and he said "you know the principles of democracy that govern the administration of Franklin Pierce, President of the United States, from whom I received my appointment; I have come for the purpose of carrying on the territorial government according to those policies."

Afterwards, when Border-ruffian democracy proved too heavy a dose for the Governor, and when fleeing from his friends he came to my mission establishment, I took him over the Missouri river to Parkville, where he shipped incognito for the East, and never returned to his governorship." (-lauging) (laughing.)

They were terribly down on him, said he was an imposter, and all that kind of thing."

Shall see Col. C. again next Sunday afternoon, and hope to write from his dictation the history of Anthony Bewley.

We are all well, and glad to hear from you. Hope you are all comfortable.

I gave your letter to myself to Col. C. to read and he was pleased. Mr. Cramer says that it has been suggested by his friends to Col C. to apply for a pension, but he is too proud spirited to do so. It may be that he will write a book of his reminiscences. (He could sell 10,000 copies no doubt.)

your affectionate nephew
Henry L. Demison

Mary will write to Aunt Ellen Little Henry had a touch of influenza He read your drift, and is thankful to you; and asked me to say so

I thank you for your kindness to Col. C. & his wife & him.



Isaac Goodnow correspondence

Denver, Colo Feb 15th, 1890.

Hon. L. T. Goodnow

My dear Uncle:--Young and Aunt Ellen's kind letters were duly received, and I have to-day given Col. Chiverton, and he was very much pleased to hear from you and Mr. Fisher and is very grateful to you for the wishes to be remembered kindly by you all and sent his kind regards to Father as well.

The enclosed account of Sand Creek is compiled from the Times and another newspaper, but there were so many corrections of names and dates that it is practically new matter.

Please have two copies sent here of what you print, one for Col. C and one for the subscriber, and please have it read by copy, so that it will be as correct as this copy.

In the course of conversation to-day Col. C. (I speak- ing of the few Kansas pioneers left)

"I was at Kansas City when the advance guard of the Kansas civil government arrived. I was at Conant's store at Wyandotte doing my trading. I was missionary at Wyandotte when the steam- er landed which brought Gov. Leach of Pennsylvania and one or two other territorial officers for the Territory of Kansas. They had letters of introduction from parties in Philadelphia to Mr. Conant, and after the presentation of their letters of introduc- tion, I was favored with an introduction to them, and they were informed by Mr. Conant that I was a missionary at Wyandotte and a resident of Kansas Territory. I said to Gov. Leach, I sup- pose you have come Governor, for the purpose of giving us a "square deal," in the Territory in political matters, and he said you know the principles of democracy that govern the admi- nistration of Franklin Pierce, President of the United States, from whom I received my appointment; I have come for the pur- pose of carrying on the territorial government according to those policies."

Afterwards, when Governor Leach's mission proved too heavy a dose for the Governor, and when fleeing from his friends he came to my mission establishment, I took him over the Missouri river to Paperville, where he shipped incognito for the West, and never returned to his governorship." (Laurens) (Laurens). They were terrific down on him, said he was an impostor, and all that kind of thing."

Shall see Col. C. a day next Sunday afternoon, and hope to write from his location the history of Anthony Newley.

We are all well, and glad to hear from you and all comfortable.

I have your letter to myself to Col. C. to read and he was pleased. Mr. Grant says that it has been suggested by his friends to Col. C. to apply for a pension, but he is too proud spirited to do so. It may be that he will write a book of his reminiscences. (He could sell 10,000 copies no doubt.)

2582 1941

Isaac = look up in text



Isaac Goodnow correspondence

From the report of the Annual Meeting of the Colorado Pioneers, as published in the Denver Times of September 13th, 1883 and the Republican of Sept. 14th 1883.

"The Whites and the Reds.--What the Pioneers had to contend with in the early days."

"The Conflict upon the Plains," was the next toast in order, and to this Col. Chivington responded.

In introducing Col. Chivington, Chairman Bearce said: "We all remember the Indian wars of 1860-64 and '65, and with what joy we received the news that some of them at least had met the reward due to their treachery and cruelty."

The man who can tell you all about these wars,--who can tell you all you want to know of the Indians, and who can give you the true story of Sand Creek is here. I have the honor, gentlemen, to introduce Col. Chivington, one of Colorado's 'Pet Lambs.'

Col. Chivington then advanced amid a perfect thunder of cheers. Men threw up their hats, women waved their handkerchiefs, and every one huzzaed at the top of their voices.

He bowed and said:

"Fellow-Pioneers:--There are few who feel more pleasure at being here than I. I came fifteen hundred miles to be present at this gathering. The toast to which I am to respond is a remembrancer of the great Sand Creek fight---that affair of which so much has been said and written by men who know nothing about it. Therefore it is but justice to the Pioneers of Colorado, as well as myself, that I should give the true history of the Sand Creek fight.

After many requests I write this brief and hasty sketch of that famous or infamous battle. Famous when looked upon by those who know most about it; infamous when looked at by those who know least of it. Years have fled away; the smoke of battle has lifted, and Time the great revealer has placed the seal upon this and contemporary events. If anything can be justified by its effects, then the noble, daring, sacrificing, heroic men who left their lucrative employments and callings to brook the hardships, privation and dangers of a winter campaign on the plains against the marauding, thieving and murdering Cheyenne and Arapahoe Indians must stand justified. Pre-eminently so.

These men were not murderers of innocent, helpless women and children, as some silly people believe. What are the exact facts in the premises? On the 13th day of April, 1864, a herdsman of Irving, Jackman & Co., Government freighters, came into District headquarters, and reported that the Cheyennes and Arapahoes had driven off about 60 head of their work-oxen, and ten or twelve head of mules and horses from the winter camp on Kiowa, some 30 miles south of Denver. The District Commander sent orders to Captain Sanborn, in command of troops on the Platte below Denver, to send out a detachment to intercept the Indians where they would cross the river, and recover the stolen stock and return it to its owners, but be careful, if possible, to avoid a fight with the Indians. The troops were sent under command of Lieutenant Clark Dunn, a careful and prudent officer. The Indians were overtaken, as was expected, just as they were crossing the river. Lieutenant Dunn crossed over to the side where the Indians were, and engaged them in a parley or talk about the stolen stock. While this was going on, Dunn discovered that the Indians were

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

-2-

running off the stock. A blinding snow-storm was in progress, and Dunn told the chiefs that they must stop running the stock away, or he would be compelled to take it by force. This incensed the Indian chief so much that he gave a signal, and the Indians fired on the Lieutenant when in treaty under a flag of truce. Of course the troops rode to the rescue of their officers. The Indians outnumbered Dunn's forces four to one. Darkness had now set in. Hence the Indians escaped with their booty.

From this time on, all spring, summer and autumn, these Indians, joined by others, were raiding the Platte and Arkansas River routes of travel and the out-settlements and stockmen's herds, stealing horses, mules and cattle; robbing and burning houses and other buildings, attacking trains loaded with merchandise for Denver merchants and traders, killing the drivers and those in charge, carrying off what they could, and burning the wagons and remaining contents; murdering and mutilating whole families, men, women and children, in a manner too shocking to write or speak of. All these long months and in the midst of general alarm not only of those occupying the outposts, but the dwellers occupying the villages and men in the city of Denver feared for the worst. There were only troops in the District sufficient to escort and protect United States mails and garrison the posts and camps, and to send detachments in pursuit of raiding bands of Indians.

Late in the Summer Governor John Evans obtained authority from the War Office to raise a regiment of 100 days men to punish the Indians and to put a stop to their hostile operations in the territory. The horse equipments arrived under escort of the Elbert Guards. A militia Company was raised at Central City and BlackHawk, and commanded by Captain Tyler. The time of the men's enlistment was now two-thirds gone, what could be done must be done quickly.

The Third Colorado Cavalry under Colonel G. L. Shoup, left Denver, via the Cherry Creek Route for Fort Lyon, and camped in snow six feet deep two nights, so the writer was informed by Major J. Downing, who accompanied the command, and who was the Inspector of the troops and posts in the District. Col. Chivington, who remained at District head-quarters several days after the troops started, joined them in camp near Pueblo. On the night of Nov. 27th, the command camped on the Arkansas River, twelve miles above Fort Lyon, and the arrangement of the campaign may be judged of, when it is stated that on the morning of the 28th the command broke camp and marched into Fort Lyon before the garrison of that post was aware of its approach. Here the command rested till dark, when joined by two companies of the First cavalry of Colorado, under command of Major Scott J. Anthony it marched for the camp of the hostiles about forty miles distant. About midnight the guide reported himself lost, and said that Jim Beckwith on whom he had depended for the last part of the route was so blind from age and cold, that he was not willing to proceed further till day-light. Major Anthony had George Bent, a half-breed Cheyenne with his command, whose knowledge of the country was brought into requisition, and the command moved on as noiselessly as possible, until within eight or ten miles of the Indian camp, when George told Col. Chivington that any further advance would be likely to result in the Indian's taking flight and running away, saying: 'Wolfe he howle Injun doge he hear wolfe and doge howle too, Injun he hear doge and listen, hear something, and run off.' Col. C. told George that he had

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

-5-

not had an Injun to eat for some time, and if he fooled him and did not take him to the camp of the hostiles that he would have him, "George" for breakfast. The march was resumed, and nothing more was heard of "wolfe" and "dodge". At early dawn Col. Chivington and Shoup, who were one-half or three-fourths of a mile in advance of the command, had the Indian camp pointed out to them by George Bent, who was at once sent to the rear. The column was halted and two detachments were sent off to cut off the herds of ponies, which were on two opposite sides of the camp and probably each a mile out from camp. The officers in charge of these detachments were strictly charged not to permit any firing on the Indians unless they were first fired upon. The herd of ponies furthest from us took the alarm first and headed and ran for camp. In cutting them off the troops ran close into the tepee of the head chief, and were fired upon, and one soldier and his horse fell dead. This was the signal for a general fight which it had been hoped might be avoided by cutting off these mounts and then a talk and terms. The whole command was ordered to advance and support the detachments that were now under a heavy fire from the Indians who had formed a line just above the camp.

Col. Chivington found the Indians too strong for his command to drive, until he succeeded in getting two 12 pound brass howitzers to the front. The first shot from one of these broke the Indian lines, and a running fight ensued, lasting till it was so dark that an Indian could not be distinguished from a white man.

There were many incidents on the field that would well bear mentioning. I will recite one: While sitting on my horse glass in hand, about 2 o'clock p. m., I saw an officer fall from his horse. I galloped up and found he had been wounded with an arrow, and ordered two troopers near by to assist and protect him till the ambulance came to take him to the hospital tent. One of the soldiers speaking excitedly, said: "Look out, Colonel, the same squaw that shot the Major will shoot you, and before I could dismount and make my horse a breast-work an arrow came whizzing past and cut the rim of my left ear, so that it bled freely. At this one of the soldiers brought his carbine to an aim saying "If that squaw shows her head above the bank again I will shoot the top off it." His comrade expostulated with him, saying "I would not make a heathen of myself by killing a woman." At this instant another arrow flew through the air and pierced the arm of the highly civilized soldier about four inches below the shoulder joint. I had all my life had some doubts about instantaneous conversion, but here it was, as clear cut as ever was witnessed at an old-fashioned Methodist camp meeting. Before it was the officer who was shot, now it was himself. Before he would not shoot a woman, now he fairly shrieked "shoot the d--d h--h," and the order was obeyed and the squaw was shot, and I approved it. If the fools in the east and elsewhere who are still shouting themselves hoarse, could only have turned loose upon them for a little time a band of hostile Cheyennes and I could witness the scene, I would be more than compensated for all the mean things that they have been and are saying about me and the troops under my command at Sand Creek.

The number of Indians killed as nearly as I could estimate from the reports of the company and battalion commanders, was from 500 to 750. I am inclined to think the latter number

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

-4-

nearest correct. We captured a large number of ponies, mules and horses. From these I allowed the men of the command whose horses had died or given out on the march to choose another, and ordered the remainder of them to be turned over to Captain Randow Mullen, Assistant Quartermaster of Volunteers at Denver, which was done and Captain Mullen sold them at public auction and accounted for the proceeds in his returns to the Quartermaster's Department. We burned the tepees or tents, destroyed their provisions, turned over to the hospital the robes and blankets we took for the benefit of our sick and wounded, of whom we now had a large number.

"Was Sand Creek a massacre?" If it was, we had massacres almost without number during the late rebellion. That there may have been some excesses committed on the field no one will deny. Was there ever a battle fought in which no excesses were committed? We were on the ground, were 'wide-awake, and duly sober,' there was not ten minutes at a time for ten hours that we were not overlooking the whole scene of strife, and after nineteen years, less two and a half months, we say unhesitatingly that it was remarkably free from undue atrocities. I saw in a newspaper within a month, that General S. R. Curtis, Commanding the Department denied all responsibility for the whole affair. Here is his last word by telegraph to the District Commander: 'Pursue everywhere and punish the Cheyennes and Arapahoes, pay no attention to District lines. No presents must be made and no peace concluded without my order.'

It has been an open secret to the writer ever since the battle that the misrepresentation of this whole affair from the beginning was a combination consisting of one man who was disappointed of promotion, and some others who were aspirants for office, and wanted several connected with the campaign out of their way. I heard a Judge of Common Pleas in Ohio, a Friend, Quaker, and Colonel of an Ohio regiment, during the Rebellion, say only last week, when this subject was on the tapis, that he was expecting to be arrested pretty soon, and when asked why, he said 'I captured three rebel soldiers who had Fort Pillow blazoned on the front of their hats. I sent them to the rear under guard of two soldiers. The soldiers returned to camp, and I asked them what had become of the prisoners. They replied that they had tried to escape and they had shot them, and knew very well that they had shot them because of their boast that they had participated in the Fort Pillow affair, and did not arrest them because I thought they did about half right.' Take the report of the Committee on the conduct of the war in the matter of General Sherman's having ten thousand men slaughtered by the rebels only just to show Pemberton or some other rebel commander that he would fight. No man can afford to be tried by a Star-Chamber Court. But were not these Indians peaceable? Oh yes, peaceable!!! Well, a few hundred of them have been peaceable for almost 19 years and none of them have been so troublesome as they were before Sand Creek. What are the facts? How about that treaty that Governor John Evans did not make with them in the summer of 1864. He with Major Lore, Major Whitely, two of his Indian agents and the usual corps of attaches under escort went out on the Kiowa to treat. When he got ^{there} they had gone a day's march further out on the plains, and would meet him there; and so on day after day they moved out as he approached, until wearied out and suspicious of treachery he returned without succeeding in his mission of peace. He told them by message that he had presents for them,

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

-5-

but it was not peace and presents they wanted, but war and plunder.

What of the peaceableness of their attack on General Blunt's advance guard north of Fort Larned, which almost annihilated the advance before succor could reach them? What of the dove-like peace of their attack on the Government train on Walnut Creek east of Fort Larned, under the guise of friendship, till the drivers and attaches of the train were in their power, and by a signal struck down at once every man, only a boy of thirteen years barely escaping, and he with the loss of his scalp, taken to his ears, and he finally died.

That was a very friendly act these Indians did when they ^aran off the entire herd of stock at Fort Larned one Sunday morning after they drew their rations for the succeeding week. This herd consisted of all the cavalry and artillery horses, all the Quartermaster's animals and all the beef cattle belonging to the caravansary departments at the Post. What of the trains captured from Walnut Creek to Sand Creek on the Arkansas route and from the Little Blue to the Kiowa on the Platte route? Of supplies and wagons burned and carried off and of the men killed? What of the Hungate family? Alas, what of the stock, articles of merchandize, fine silk dresses, infant's and youth's apparel, the embroidered night-gowns and chemises. Aye, what of the scalps of white men, women and children, several of which they had not had time to dry and tan since taking? These, all these, and more were taken from the belts of dead warriors on the battle field of Sand Creek, and from their tepees which fell into our hands on the 29th of November, 1864. What of that Indian blanket that was captured fringed with white women's scalps? What says the sleeping dust of the two hundred and eight men, women and children, ranchers, emigrants, herders and soldiers, who lost their lives at the hands of these Indians. Peaceable! Now we are very peaceably disposed, but decline giving such testimonials of our peaceful proclivities, and I say here, as I said in my own town in the Quaker County of Clinton, State of Ohio, in a speech one night last week, "I stand by Sand Creek." I have heard that I was arrested, tried and cashiered. No, no, that was not the game. That would have given a fair opportunity to present both sides of the case. Just what my enemies and the enemies of Sand Creek and the enemies of the fair name of ^{the people of} Colorado did not want.

And now, while I am ^apeaceably inclined, I will stop talking on this subject.

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

-5-

but it was not peace and presents they wanted, but war and plunder.

What of the peaceableness of their attack on General Hunt's advance guard north of Fort Larned, which almost annihilated the advance before they could reach them? What of the dove-like peace of their attack on the Government train on Walnut Creek east of Fort Larned, under the guise of friendship, till the drivers and attaches of the train were in their power, and by a signal attack down at once every man, only a boy of fifteen years barely escaping, and he with the loss of his scalp, taken to his ears, and he finally died.

That was a very friendly act these Indians did when they run off the entire herd of stock at Fort Larned one Sunday morning after they drew their rations for the succeeding week. This herd consisted of all the cavalry and artillery horses, all the Quartermaster's animals and all the beef cattle belonging to the various departments at the Post. What of the trains captured from Walnut Creek to Sand Creek on the Arkansas route and from the Little River to the Kiowa on the Platte route? Of supplies and wagons burned and carried off and of the men killed? What of the Hungate family? Alas, what of the stock, articles of merchandise, fine silk dresses, infants and youth's apparel, the embroidered night-gowns and chemises. Alas, what of the scalps of white men, women and children, several of which they had not had time to dry and tan since taking? These, all these, and more were taken from the belts of dead warriors on the battle field of Sand Creek, and from their leggings which fell into our hands on the 29th of November, 1864. What of the Indian blanket that was captured fringed with white women's scalps? What says the sleeping dust of the two hundred and eighty men, women and children, ranchers, emigrants, herdsmen and soldiers, who lost their lives at the hands of these Indians. Peaceable? Now we are very peaceably disposed, but decline giving such testimonials of our peaceful propensities, and I say here, as I said in my own town in the Quaker County of Clinton, State of Ohio, in a speech one night last week, "I stand by Sand Creek." That was not the game. That would have given a fair opportunity to present both sides of the case. Just what my enemies and the enemies of Sand Creek and the enemies of the fair name of Colorado did not want.

And now, while I am peaceably inclined, I will stop talking on this subject.

25th 1871
Parkinson State

accompanied
J. L. Johnson letter
del. 16, 1870

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

From the "Daily Denver Times" October 8th, 1883.
Chivington's Story.

Some interesting Statements about Sand Creek.
He tells why he has been charged with murdering the Indians,
and says that Col. Tappan originated the slander: He
proposes to come to Colorado to live.

"Yes, I am aware that there has been a good deal of
idle talk and gossip about that Sand Creek affair," said Col.
Chivington, the day that he left for his home in Ohio," but
the facts are just exactly as I stated them in my speech at the
Pioneer's meeting.

I told the story just as it happened, and fortunately
there are plenty of men now living in Denver who can verify ever
statement I made. A good many things that have been said about
the action would be amusing to me if it were not for the
malice against me which prompted them. I was particularly
amused by an article which appeared in the Grand Army Number
of the "Denver News" purporting to have been written by a par-
ticipant in the action. It was full of misstatements, the most
important of which was that the battle took place on the Sand
Creek, about seven miles down the Platte. The location of my
Sand Creek is about 120 miles in an air line from Denver. No
man who really was in the action could have made such a mis-
take as that."

When the Indians left Fort Lyon by the orders of Major
Anthony, they went to Sand Creek, about 40 miles across the
country from the Fort, and as an evidence of their hostile in-
tention they immediately entrenched themselves. For five miles
along the bank of the Creek they had rifle pits and little re-
doubts, and when we had whipped them, they retreated to these
fortifications."

"It is said that you had a caucus of the officers before
starting, and that Major Wilder was allowed to resign because he
would not consent to the raid."

"There is not a word of truth in it. There was no caucus,
and Major Wilder was not in the service. He wanted to resign
because he was going to get married and settle down, and had
resigned at the time. The only men who knew where the Indians
were were two scouts whom I had sent out, one of whom is now the
Post Master at Boulder, Col. Shoup and myself. General Connor,
who had come from California, and had stopped at Salt Lake City
to keep the Mormons in check, was here, and just as we were
starting, said to me 'Colonel, I don't think you will be able to
catch those Indians!'

We bantered each other about the matter awhile, and then
said to him, pointing to Col. Shoup, who had started with his
regiment, 'There is the only officer who knows where they are
beside myself.' 'Where are they?' asked Connor, to which ques-
tion I declined to answer. 'Well, perhaps you will catch them,'
and we parted.

"On the way down I had to leave guards all along the
route to prevent the sending of information to the Indians,
and the result was that when we reached there my force was so
depleted that I was in doubt about the result. The fact that we
did not break their line until the fight had lasted nearly all
day, and would not have broken it then had it not been for the
artillery, is a sufficient proof that it was no massacre or un-
equal contest with the advantage on our side. There was no time

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

-2-

when we would not have received a surrender if it had been offered, but the fact was that no one surrendered except three squaws and a couple of children, and they were properly cared for as prisoners."

"What about White Antelope?"

"There has been a good deal of nonsense told about him. He was a brave fellow, but he met the ordinary fate of battle. He was killed at long range while encouraging his men. I could hear him from where I stood shouting his gibberish as he walked up and down his line. As to his being a friend of the white people, that is mere talk. He was like all Indians--- friendly just so long as it suited his purpose, and was as active as any of his race in carrying on the raids which threatened to reduce our people here to starvation by deterring the freight trains from attempting to cross the plains."

"Was your enterprise endorsed by Sec. Stanton?"

"Certainly. If he had not been persuaded by Governor Evans and other prominent men here that a necessity existed for some heavy blow to teach the Indians a lesson, he would not have authorized the raising of a hundred days regiment for the purpose."

"Did not the Congressional Committee make a report adverse to you?"

"Yes, but the investigation upon which that report was based, was a farce. No evidence on my side was admitted at all. Col. Tappan was the principal witness, and chairman of the commission, and engineered the entire affair and was careful to permit no evidence that did not further his desire to place me in a false light before the country and ruin me for life if possible, and he succeeded in so far that it has been a source of great annoyance to me, and has placed me in an exceedingly unenviable light in the community in which I have since lived. As an illustration of the methods of that investigation, Major Downing asked one of the witnesses if he had not said that he would swear to anything that would help him to get even with Col. Chivington. The question was entirely proper according to rules of evidence, as tending to show animosity on the part of the witness and as impeaching his credibility, and yet Col. Tappan ruled it out of order."

"Is it true that the sentiment against you here was so strong that you were compelled to go away?"

"No, sir; nobody ever accused me of cowardice. I was engaged in Government contracts for transportation and was necessarily absent from Denver much of the time. When I went to Ohio it was in response to a telegram informing me that my mother, who had been an invalid, for years, was at the point of death. Contrary to expectation, she lingered seven years, and I felt it to be my duty to remain and sustain one to whom I owed so much, in her declining years. Then, when I married my present wife, it was the understanding that we should come directly to Colorado, but she had an idea that the country was full of Indians and in a half civilized condition, and so the years drifted by and I became a permanent citizen of Ohio."

"To what do you attribute the persistent attacks that have been made upon you in connection with the Sand Creek affair?"

"To Col. Tappan, and nobody else. He was the Lieutenant Colonel of the Regiment when I was Major, and I was promoted over his head in response to a petition signed by nearly every officer in the regiment. He was naturally incensed at this,

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

-3-

and attributed it to my efforts, when the fact is that I had nothing whatever to do with it. He was disliked by the officers with good reason, and I was not. That was the only difference that ever came between us up to the time of my promotion, which I can assure was entirely unsolicited on my part. It was he alone that raised the storm of persecution about my head, that has misled so many people who are unacquainted with the facts. And through all these years, he has persistently misrepresented and lied about me. He told Judge Collier of Central, and Rev. John Cree, of Denver, that I had been sent to the Penitentiary, and when they questioned the truth of the story, he said that he had been at Columbus and had seen me among the prisoners. He is now in Chicago, and while I was in that city, ^{recently} he made the remark, that I did not dare to return to this City; that there were a thousand men here ready to shoot me on sight. When this was told to me, I said if that was the case, it would be a pity to deprive so many men of the pleasure of making a target of me, and that I should take the earliest opportunity of coming to Denver. I should have been here during the Grand Army encampment, but I was a candidate on the Republican Ticket, and the committee felt that it would not be right for me to go away, but I was determined to come, for it is a peculiarity of mine to accept any challenge personal to myself, and the statement of Col. Tappan that I did not dare return annoyed me, and I made up my mind that I would come here committee or no committee. It is perhaps, as well that I did not come to the encampment, for I am told that Tappan was here, and I am afraid that had we met I might have been tempted to forget myself."

"Is it true that you withdrew from the canvas on account of this Sand Creek, affair?"

"Yes, but partially. One end of our county is settled very largely by quakers, and when this story through the instrumentality of Tappan was brought out against me, it hurt me with them, for it seems as if they would prefer to vote for the incarnate fiend, rather than for a man who had in any way hurt their peculiar pets, the Indians. The other people of the County were very strongly in my favor, for I had but little opposition in the nominating convention, and I was strongly urged not to withdraw. I think I would have been elected, but I was so determined to come here,---and I knew that I could not get away for some time,---that I handed my resignation to the Committee and told them that they must accept it, for I was going to Colorado whether school kept or not."

"You are going back to take part in the election?"

"Yes. I will arrive at home on Monday night, and will go to work for our ticket next Tuesday."

"Yours must have been an eventful life, Colonel. Would you object to giving 'The Times' some of its leading incidents."

"Yes, I have passed through a good deal that might be interesting, but I am afraid that I can't gratify you now, as I leave for the east to-night, and to give a satisfactory story would take some little time and thought. At some other time, however, I will be pleased to furnish you with any items in my career that you may think worth publishing."

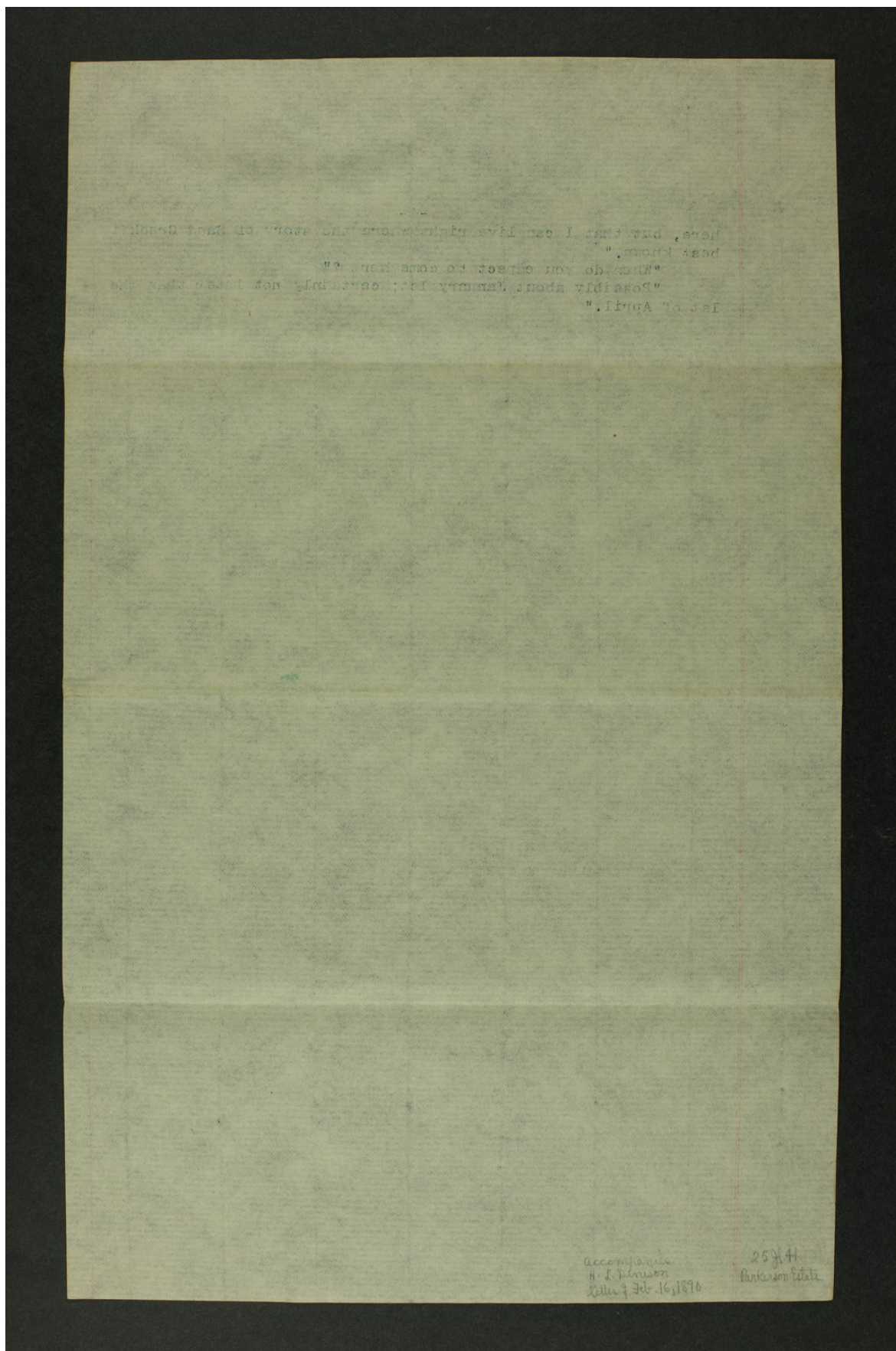
"Then you think of returning to Colorado?"

"Yes. I have always considered Colorado my home, and I have an additional incentive for coming here now in the lies that Col. Tappan has circulated about me. I propose to show these people that have sided with him, that I do not only dare to come

-4-
here, but that I can live right where the story of Sand Creek is
best known."

"When do you expect to come here?"

"Possibly about January 1st; certainly not later than the
1st of April."



Accompanied
H. L. Benson
Letter Feb. 16, 1870

25 H. L.
Benson letter