

Kansas Memory



Isaac Goodnow correspondence

Section 55, Pages 1621 - 1650

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

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Borrow this \$250, immediately
very urgent. We must have it.
Manhattan July 9 1859

the Case is
Higginbotham
will one of he
does not have
it soon.

Dear Bro Goodnow

Dear Sir I wrote you on
yesterday since informing that Woodman wanted
either ^(Woodman) \$300, 419 or 537, in Ward one. He
has been for repairing Church in a lot.
He also can pay Waring \$50 in a lot.
He wants one of the following in Ward 5
I will write the numbers in the order of
his preference. & the first number in
order that you have not sold place
reserves for Waring & send the num-
ber to me as you do the number for
Woodman - 1 2 (Waring) 4
Ward 5. Lot 140 63. (P.S.) * 376.

I wrote you about Dr. Robinson & Hollid.
Mysterious Men. Their stories do not
agree. Robinson says Hollid does owe
for the lots. About the 10th of May Rob-
inson wrote me a note stating that he
must pay Higginbotham \$220 by the
18th of the month or lose his house & all
that he had paid on it. He supposed
he was owing him & should have been
if Hollid owed us & as we had

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had no money & no way to get any & he Dr. Mott not lose his home. Mottell as President & myself as ~~Secretary~~, drew on Kolloch for \$220 in favor of Robinson. He endorsed it to Higginbotham. He sent it to Leavenworth & drew the money on it. A man after some 6 weeks the draft comes back protested for non-payment with \$27. costs, & Higginbotham now looks to Mottell & me & rather to me alone to pay it & that forthwith or he will institute a suit, & sue for damages as well as for the amount. Now is not all this vexation in the extreme & wrote before the draft went on to Kolloch telling him by no means to let the no draft be protested. I did not believe that he would let his name be dishonored. It comes back with the word that Kolloch is not good - or a draft on him is good for nothing. Kolloch did not condescend to reply to me. Dr. Mottell also said he wrote to him. I would like to know whether he got our letter. I wish you would call on R. & let him know how much trouble we are having either through him or Robinson's fault. Now we must have ~~immedi~~ ~~ate~~ relief from some quarter. I know not

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when it is to come unless you can borrow \$250. on my one year & then we must sell some lots & pay it. By the way could you take 20% to \$50 lots of the association & sell them for \$500. & give us say \$300 or \$400. & the College the balance. He would give you a large Commission. The College is certainly indebted to the state quite much & ought if possible to help them in a time of great need & distress. The Brunt & Burden of all this trouble & harassing comes on me. I ought not to bear it any more than my associates in office. I am bored, & damned, & sued, & perplexed almost to death. If it does not make me insane, I shall have to thank the Lord. My poor wife also is troubled very much. I am anxious & troubled by night & by day. I am kept awake at night. I could not bear such a burden one much longer for all Manhattan. I do not wonder that people's brains sometimes reel & they go to suicide or the mad house. The Lord preserve me from either. But Brother I must have relief about these debts. Just look at them & over

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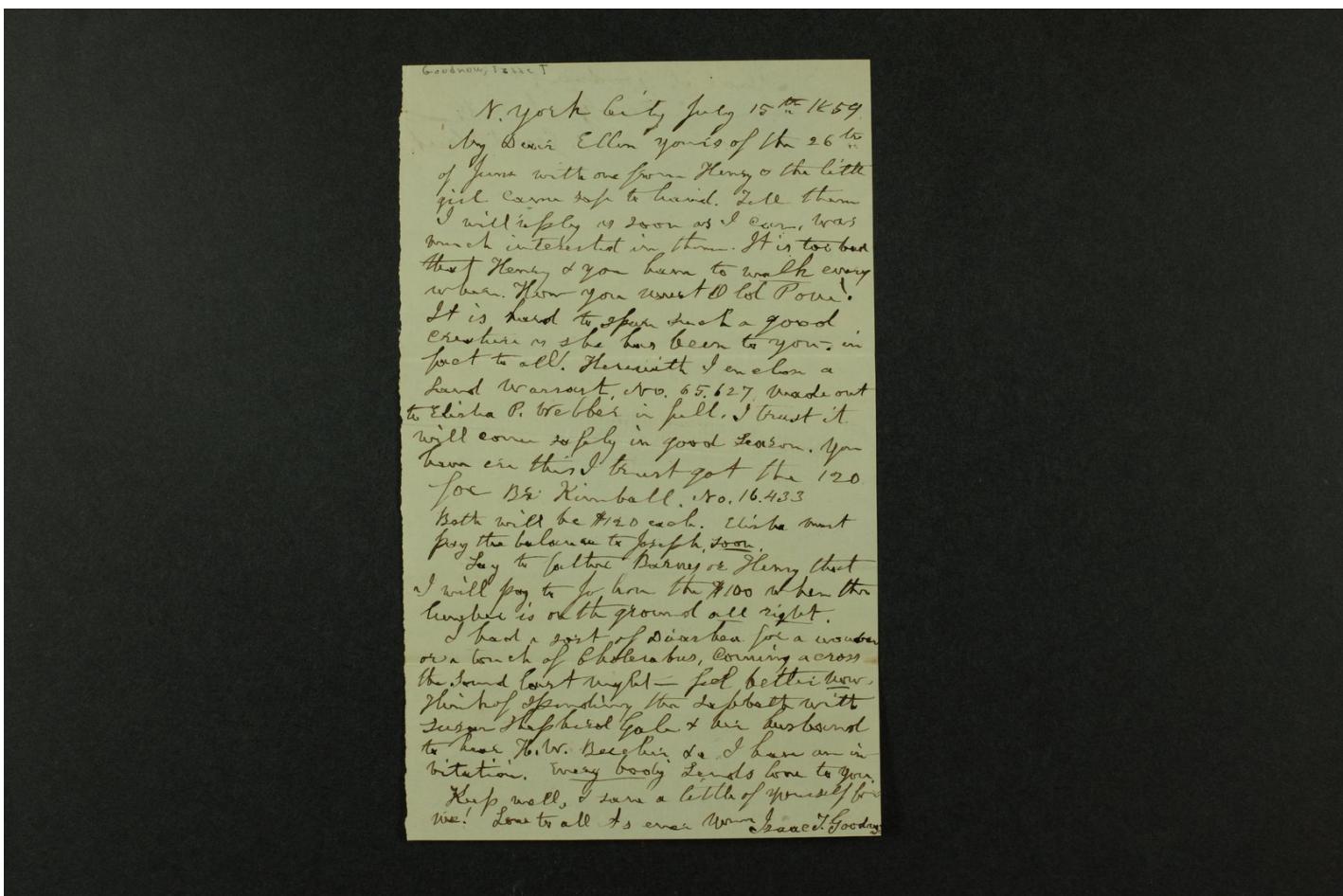
Due to Branscomb about \$350
to Haskell " 350
J.D. Stoneston " 200
Maj. Barnes " 60
Motley (he has been paid \$40) 80
(I borrowed \$40 a pg. Motley had left)
Must be met 50
Edmonds " 100
Others 11580.

Now we have due as all told
about \$1000. But when shall we
collect it? Then there is this debt
or obligation the worst of all.
De protested note!!! O dear,
What shall we do?
Do borrow for one year \$250.
On your own individual security
in no other way. He will make you
good if we have to sell lot at
\$20 per lot. But do consent to
take some 10 & 15 of our lots to
sell on a large commision C. E. Cook

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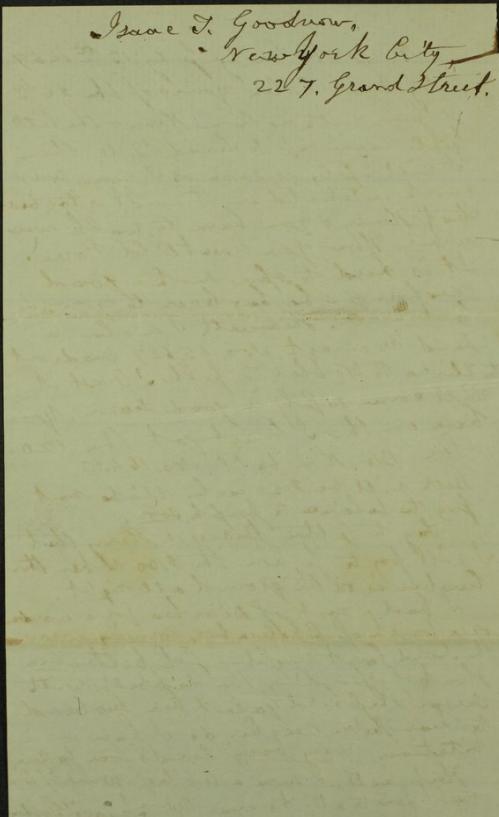
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Goodnow, 1822-23

New York City July 15th 1859.

Dear Dr. Garrison, Yours of the 16th ult. with a letter from Henry, my wife & one of the little girls I found in the office with 13 others on my arrival here this morning from Providence & C. T. I have bought a Land Warren & 160 Acre to day & have paid 92cts. per Acre.
~~for you to do what you please with it.~~ I hope to realize something on your lots before I come home.
On our th^{re}e, you & Dr. Martatt may set your hearts at rest - the college building is bound to go through & no mistake! if the Lord lets me live. I trust the worst is over, I can see through it! What does the report mean that Lewis' accuser dies of inconstancy? I have sent a 160 warrant filled out to "F. Wm. Morris" his agent to New Haven, 140 Stein ~~the house~~ & sent to Ellen for Kimball. Money is hard to be got.

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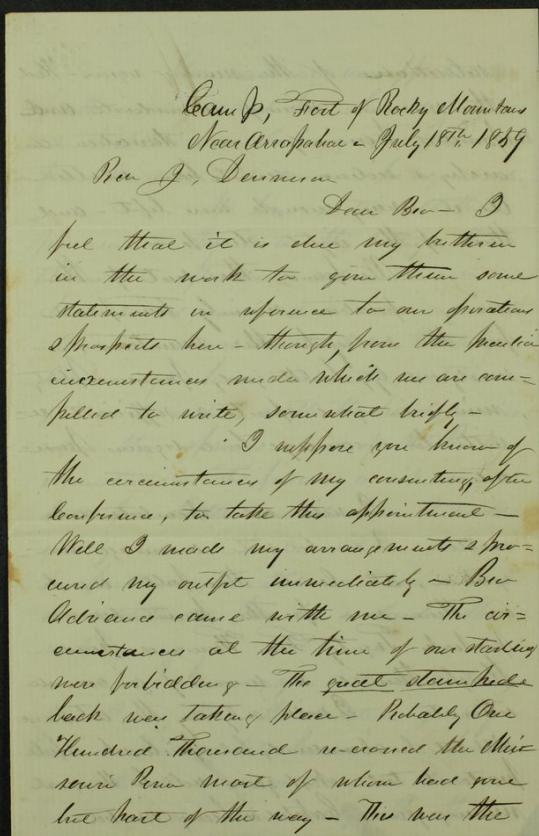
I am at Dr. Shaffer this evening writing for him. He is quite
anxious with the idea of getting George Law to anchor a
"Law Professorship"! I have hope in the case. I have been
trying to pull on the string of Professorships now I feel the
building is sure! I have much to tell when I get time.
you & Marshall ought to be posted up on hand to be bid in
for the College in case I get any body to invest by Aug 29th!
More anon. I send you with a \$20. for to meet
No. 69,627 for Mr. Anderson & it is paid out already for S. P. Webb,
who must pay you the balance due on it. Very truly Isaac V. Goodnow.
P.S. Reply at Boston.

140
25.41
10.00
<hr/>
175.75
160.00
<hr/>
33 5.75

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selection of the mining region - Had the insurance men & moderate and unprejudiced persons gone on - starvation - anxiety & violence must have resulted. As it was, enough were left - and thus of the right stamp -

We found the rest of the mining operations mainly transferred from the valley to the mountains - society orderly, healthy, good, spacious plenty, miners in great numbers & sufficient remuneration to encourage to a vigorous prosecution.

I will not speculate as to results - I would not encourage emigration, at least this fall - enough are there now for the mining season perhaps Twenty Five Thousand Persons - though there is no means of an accurate estimate - I will only say the enterprise will not be abandoned, but pushed to a full protracted test - next year will be the great mining year, Capital is being invited.

Our arrival was opportune - further delay would have been disastrous - the people were looking for Preachers from Conventions & anxious for organization. We have visited all the prominent points in the valley & the Mountains - Preaching - organizing parishes - local social exercises as occasion permits - Organized several societies & one recently, Laramie, 2 have commenced, kept & reinforced together with the bands miners upon the Spur & crevices of the Rocky Mountains - The press is active & but for little ours at home I would gladly remain in it - We are going on to further organizations - I have employed an additional Preacher & divided the work -

I know you will sympathize, when I say that the desolation of my home under my late government had much to do in reconciling me to a temporary exile from society - In there

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Plans & mountain subjects I have found
a peaceful pleasure in thinking of the
part - The labor of my dear sainted
one is my companion - You, I know,
will pardon my weakness when I say
that the tear still fills my eye at
I call up these recollections - You under-
stand - May God sustain & keep
us & our little one -

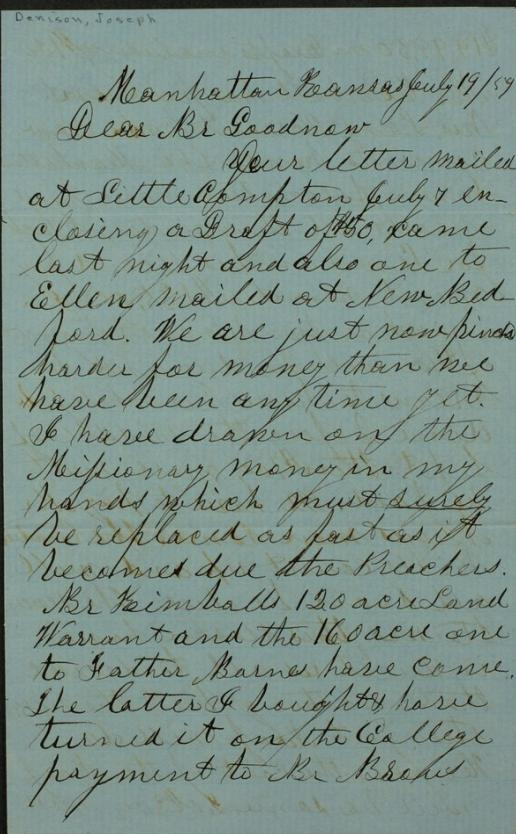
It is my purpose, the
Lord willing, to return just a few
days & spend a little season with my
children & prepare for my eastern
trip - Talking with me, as I now
intend, two of my daughters to at-
tend school -

Please write me at my home,
Glendale Iowa, so as to reach me by
the first of October - Direct via St. Joseph
Mo. Give me any information & my
postman in a garden tool appropriate made
for the coming year - Remindly in kindly
to Dr. Goodman & to the members of
your sect - Affectionately
Wm H. Goodnow

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\$19,985.00 in Drafts including \$100
Br Kimball has paid on
his Land Warrant has now
come to hand. The Manhattan
Turon Association have paid
nearly all their Notes. I expect
for Lewis on his second pay-
ment now due \$135.00. In
a week or two his next payment
of \$100 will be due and he
means to have his whole job
done before the middle of
Sept. then \$700 more must
be paid. We have to pay the
Brew men some of the Cumby
Bills count up and will
all soon be due. The severe
storms ~~this~~ season have
induced us all to decide
that nothing but the very
strongest Keaf will do.
The cost of the Keaf
will be some \$10,000 more

so that you will need to
calculate for \$5000 less extra
expense on the Keaf & Stone
work. The second floor ~~apart~~
are now being put on ~~the~~
it begins to show a la College.
I think on the whole Lewis
is doing his work thoroughly
& the Buildings will look
well. Wm. C. Goodnow left
a week ago last Monday & signed
a Bond to Groggins & thank for
him to pay \$140.00 by the 10th of
Sept. He gave me collateral
security in full but I have
some fears I shall not be
able to get all the pay on
the Notes he left. It seems you
have not yet got our letters
from N.Y. I went to Utchira
in June and got the title to
these College lots of Mr. Someray
& forwarded the numbers to you

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at 227 Grand St. N.Y. Lewis has
selected some of the lots since
& these numbers I sent you. I
sent also 1200 lots to you
& Willard Smith of my own
wishing he & you to sell them.
We have dedicated their Church
next Sabbath. Ours got an
early storm & injured
it to the amount of \$100 more
so that extra there must be pro-
vided for. I shall be here till
a week from next Wednesday
or about that time & then go to
Burlingame. I have fine
Camp Meetings & battles. The
heat is going on to such a degree
and we hope to get into it by
Sept. We are all still well.
If you meet you tell him by all
means to send up that money
on Elisha's note for the cabin bottom
Very truly yours
Joseph Denison

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Isaac Goodnow correspondence

Goodnow, I.T.
N. York City July 19th 1859.

Dear Mr. Denison. Recently I send a
160 Acre Land warrant, on Williams's ac-
count for John Kimball. Land warrant
is no 29202. & was issued to John Willards. I have written
in the warrant the name of Kimball which
can be filed out for any of the family. I am well
right sick. It is awful but I oppressive here
among the buck walls. I have made up my mind
to be out as quickly as possible. Shall return
to Boston soon. & then go up & see mother. Business
is not as good here as expected. How is Brown do-
ing? Tell me all about it. Love to all.
Very truly yours, I.D. Goodnow.

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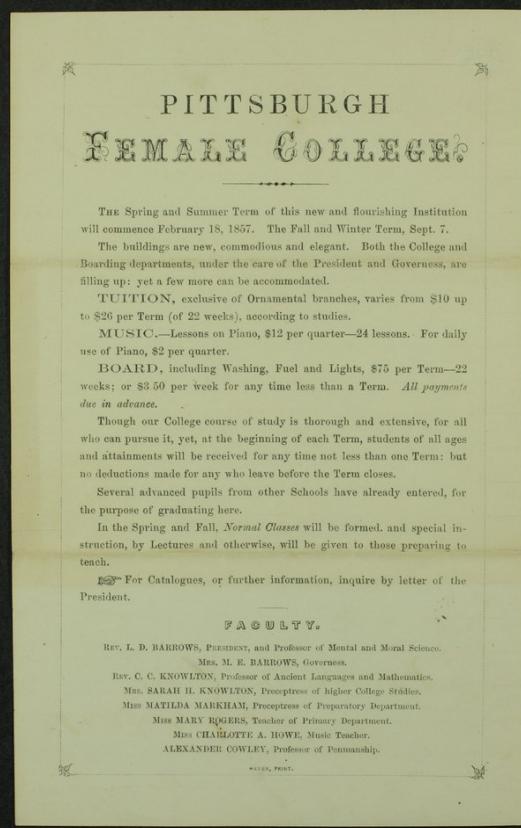


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Stanbariton Bridge
July 19. 1859.
Dear Bro. Goodnow:
Your farm
of the 16th inst. is recd, with
the note for 100.00, & returned
note for 15.00.
You did right in endor-
sing the draft. The
business was done in a
great while just as I
was leaving.
The security you are bring
with you. We shall be glad
to see you at our country
home. We shall be absent
mostly after July 24th
till Aug 18th 1st I shall
be at home mostly Sabbath
except Aug 14th.
Affly yours
L. B. Brown.

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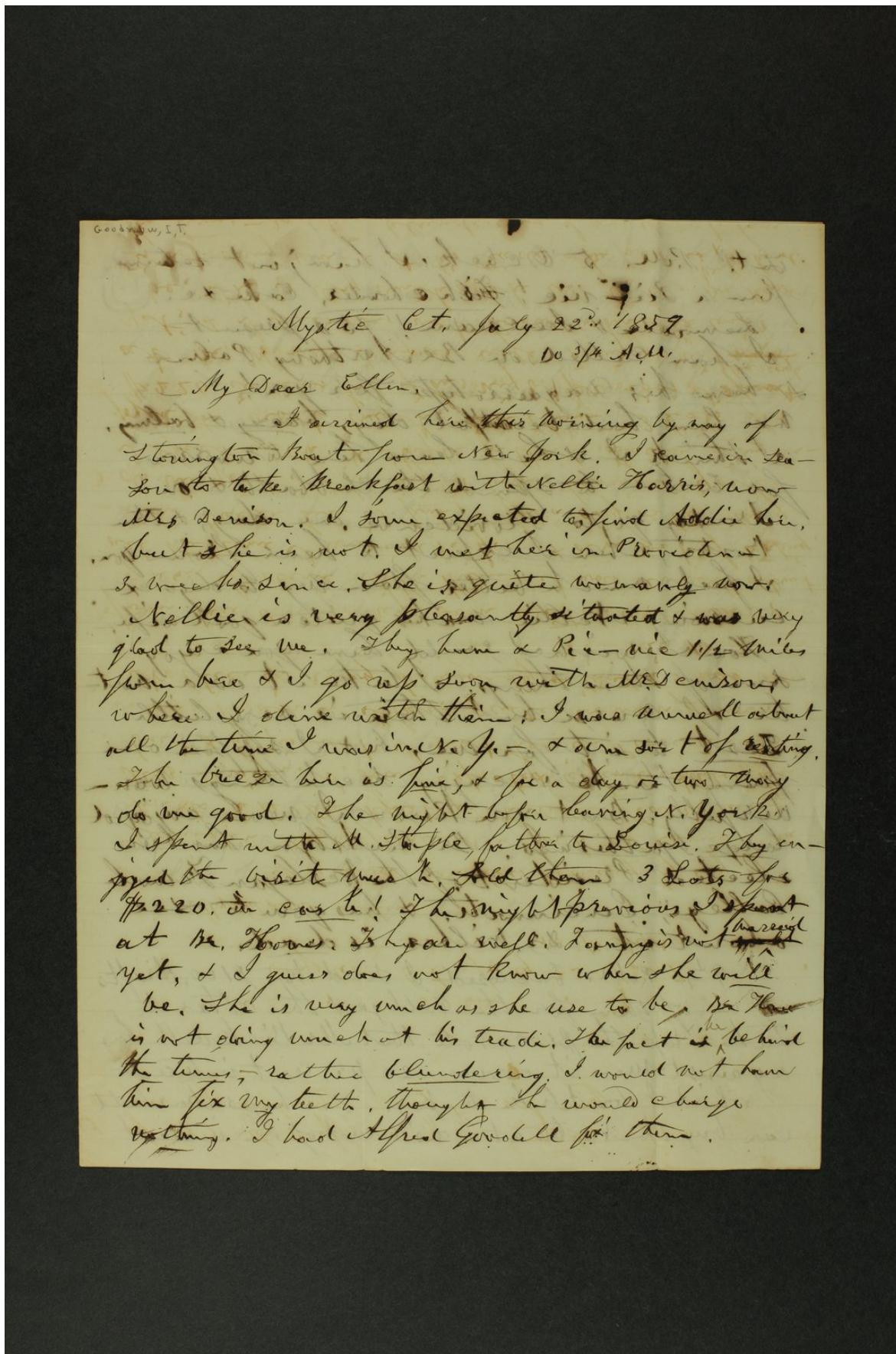


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Lat^{er} P.M. 5 O'clock. I have just returned
from a Picnic! Fish & Game, cake &c.
Lemonade & Ice-Cream! 150 present.
I have called on Dr Anthony Palmer
& have his Daguerrotype for you!
We have had a beautiful day, breezy & balmy.
I think I shall leave here tomorrow
for S-G to spend the Sabbath & on
Monday go to Providence one day, & then
Boston, where I expect to hear from you.
I feel much better than my two days ex-
cursion & the weather makes quite a good wife.
How I wish I could have you enjoy
some of these things. I take it as a mat-
ter of course but there is very little
~~to~~ to it for me, but I suppose our
friends think I enjoy such things won-
derfully. But you know I never enjoyed
large goings-on. Dr R. Allyn has been
elected President of the Wesleyan Fabens
College, Cincinnati & has gone to see
about it. Dr Wilber is dead.

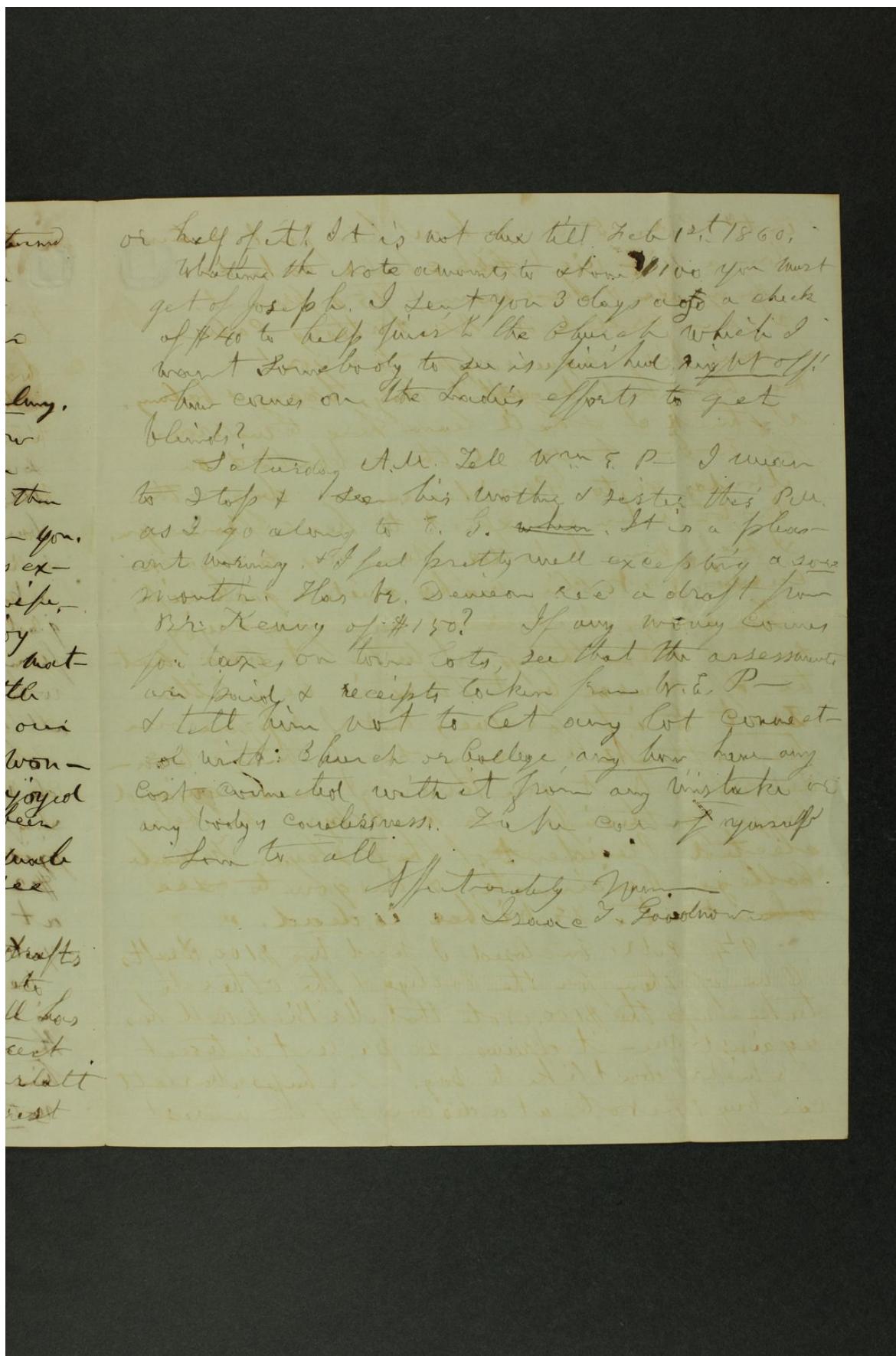
9th P.M. Enclosed I send two \$100. drafts
One of them for the College & the other to
take up the \$100. note that Mr Pickwick has
against me - it draws 20 per cent interest
which I don't like to pay. Perhaps Mr. Watt
can buy the note at a discount of the interest.

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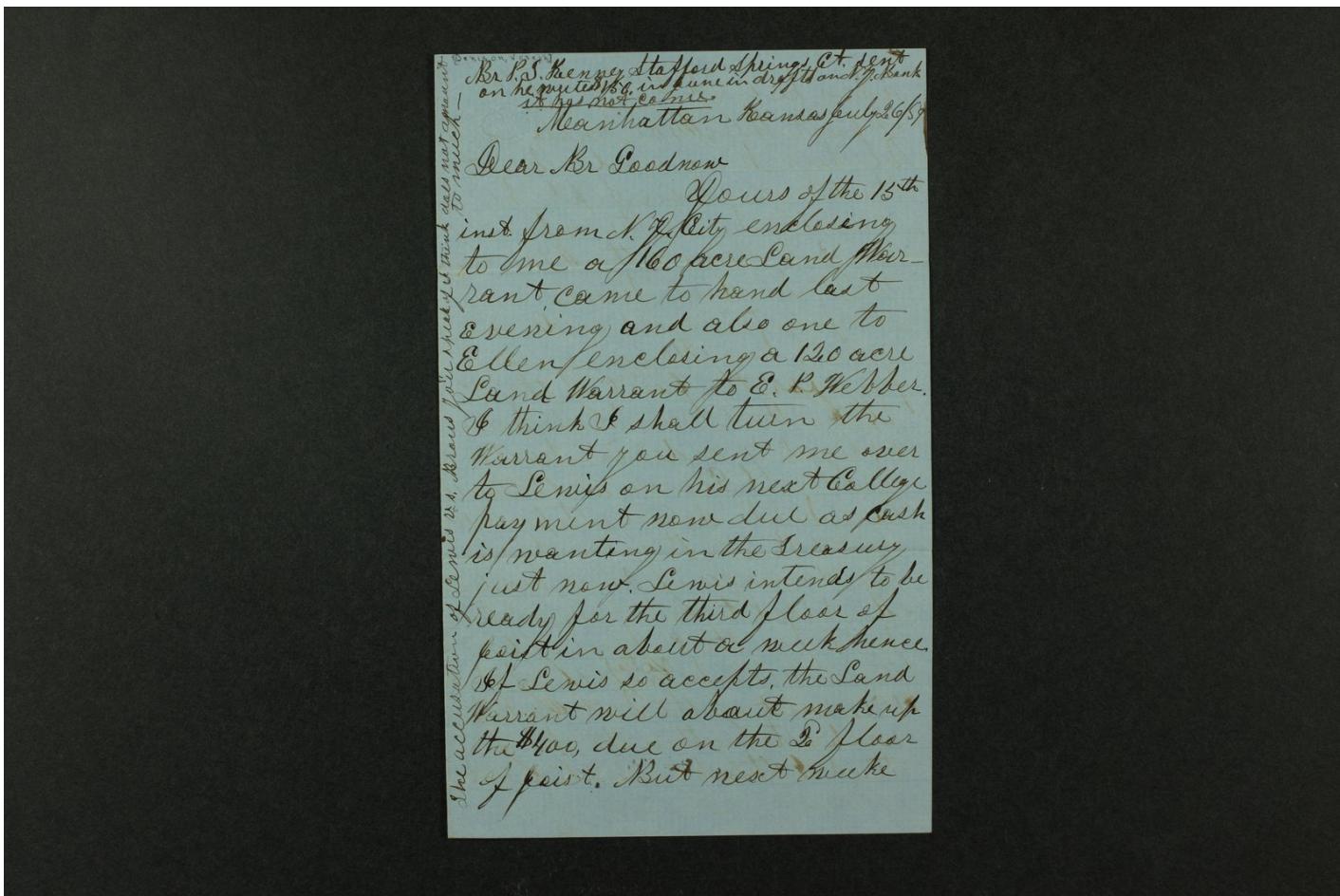
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when he is up to the 2^d floor
of joist then \$100, more will
be due him and about
the 1st week in Sept. he
means to have the whole of
his job done & then \$700, more
will be due him.
Before this week ends we
must have \$100, or more to
pay for the joist of the 2^d
floor that we have been
obliged to order in haste
from St. George as the mill
here broke down & stops 8 or 10
days & Lewis threatens to sue
for damages if he is hindered.
Added to what must be
paid for the 2^d floor of joist
there will be ~~extra~~ a bill of about
\$150, worth of the best Oak to
arch & strengthen the roof
that I think you did not
wall decide to have must be paid extra may
recharge your Bill of
Gumper then the lumber
for the Cupola will cost
not much less than \$50.
perhaps \$40. and all these must
be out if possible and paid
for in Sept. as they mean to
get the roof on in Oct.
The Bill for iron too comes
in a late time for roof now here
is no time to purchase it so you
will be obliged to pay for it
in Oct. & getting the last 1/2 inch
Pine lumber I suppose
they I think will shingle the
store house this week and
we may get it into it in Sept.
C. P. McVee has paid me \$30, on
his Land Warrant & wants us to
wait for some of it.
The Congregational Ch. was
dedicated last Sat. sermon
by Rev. Mr. Caudle of Lawrence
Our Church will be done in
two or three weeks. You will
need to raise from \$100 to \$200

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to repair the damage done by the
storm etc. that is of you can.
I will see Mr. Maillatt about
the land sale matter. I daught
that Land warrant of Keenly
Barney paid it to Brewster the
College account. Please charge
him \$160 as I paid him the \$175
Brewster the same. I will explain
the matter when you come. We are
very glad to hear of your success
if we can make the payments prompt
by all will be well. Dr. Peabody's
Family are very much afflicted
Mrs. L. has died very suddenly last
Saturday by a stroke of a poptaxy
having been unwell but a few
days. We are all in usual health
next week & start for Burlington
to begin three weeks.

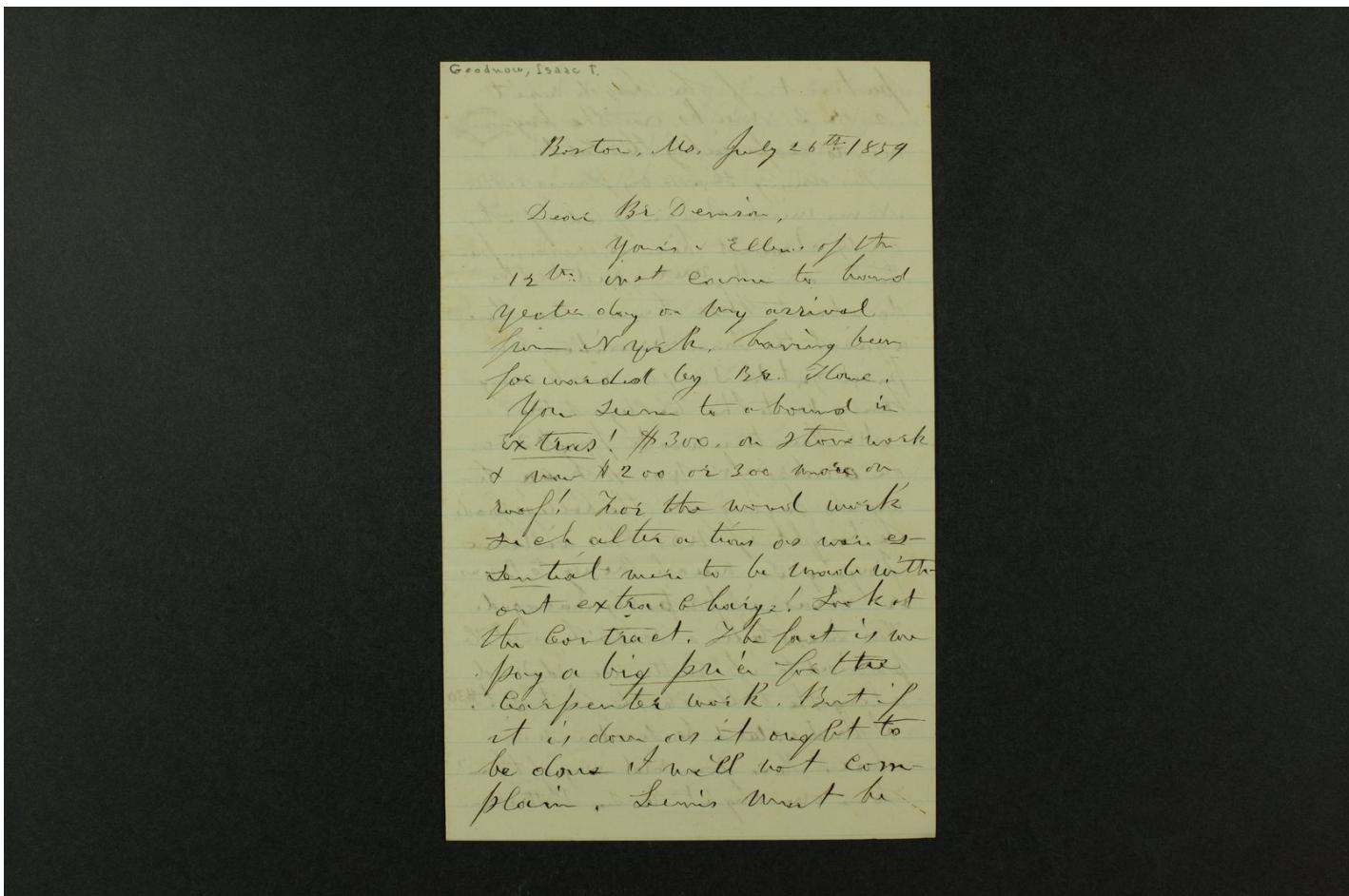
My dear Webster

I have just come down from having a
short rest. Joseph says he must be off
with this letter so I shall not have time
to say much, but would like to know
when we shall look for you home. Have
not seen any body to engage for a place
for that young lady. Iull now as though I
could get her any body in my family to buy
what I am offering. She will write soon. Bella

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patient if he has to wait
2 or 3 weeks on the pay-
ment especially the last.

This owing thence to my plans a little
news mind I am glad of it,
only I want him to excuse pa-
tience as all men had better
do about these times. Have thou (note)
against the Town Association been
paid yet? Do you work very
hard into the College store?

Mr Huntley was to pay \$200.
on orders for Wm K. Henn to
expenses paying for the College Goods
he bought of us. This will save
paying so much money to Burns
or Lewis, if properly managed.
Has Lewis taken a double harness? He
promised to, if Soett would send
along the collaris to the first set, \$30.

I understand he sent a record
box. Have you sold any of them?
Some one ought to see Patterson

& Bob Wilson & get a subscrip-
tion from them. If properly approach-
ed Wilson I think would give \$1.00
Will not Dr. Robinson be the man to do
this?

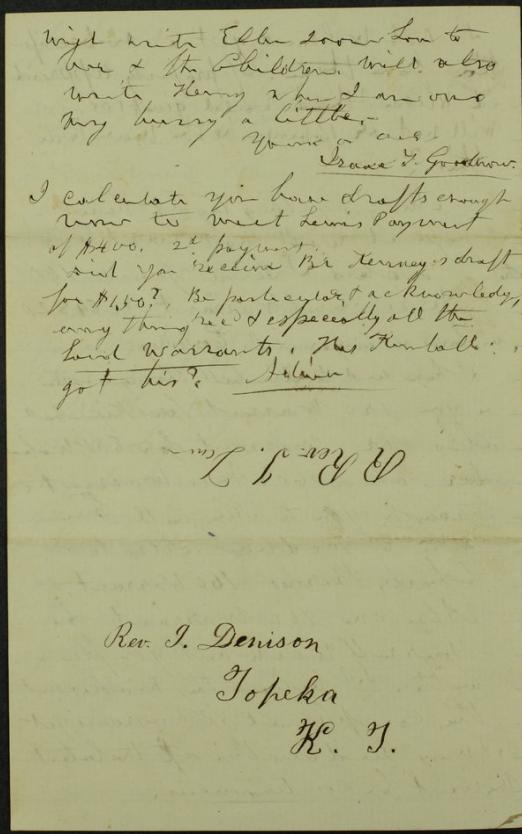
Money is getting big here.
I hope it will not last long.
Indeed I send you a 160
Acre Land Warrant No. 84.820
in favor of Benjamin B. Carney.

I have sent to Kimball through Ellen
a you 160 warrant for Kimball
also a warrant for E. P. Web-
ber, also 160 Acre warrant
through you to Kimball for
Wm E. Goodnow. Also to
Charles Barnes 160 Warrant.
Also one 160 Warrant for
yourself to do what you please
with. I believe this makes out
the complement of warrants, yet
I may send another at the latest
Warrant for contingencies.

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Goodnow, I.T.

Boston, Mass. July 26th 1854

Rev. C. E. Blood,
My Dear Brother,

Yours of the 7th & 14th inst.
I found awaiting me on my return to the City
after our absence of 4 weeks. See this I suppose
you have rec'd another \$100 draft through Mr Field, moun-
ting \$200 from this place, - also \$65 draft from R. W.
Bucklin, & another from him last week making out
his balance. I left with Ward Beeches Deacon,
the order on him for the \$100 with directions to
forward to you by draft as soon as he could
see Beeches. I saw Dr Badger in N. York but
so many were out of the City, & being sick myself
I concluded I had better get out of the City soon
as possible. Dr Copp disappointed me in not
taking two lots for \$200, hope to see him again
to day & see what can be done.

About Kullack I have already written. He is
now out of the city. I sympathize with you
in your embarrassments, but with the College pay ments
accumulating upon us, & your church business,
it leaves a small chance to do any thing for the
"M. S. Association". Money is tight here just
now. Very difficult to borrow. I trust Higins-

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There will soon be much sense & accommodation
to live! & at the present my lots are full!
If you will send along titles to the best
6 or 8 lots one Association owing in the
Town. — in Ward 2 — is best, I will try
I see what I can do for you.

The \$100. donation was from your friend
Field! Cowkin talks of buying
the whole balance of your lots! but
nothing is certain in this world.

I have selected for Woodburn, Lot
200 Ward 1, & for Warring 171
Ward 5. ⁱⁿ _{or} Warring's lot is worth \$75.
21

I.D. Goodnow
Tuesday P.M. 4 O'clock. I have just returned from
Dr. Copps & have succeeded in selling him 2
lots for \$100. On my way back I called
& got friend Field to give me one
of his drafts for \$100 & enclose the
same to you, hoping it will be accepta-
ble about this time.

Between this & Sept. 1st I must raise
some how for the College \$2000. I shall have
to be as user of one idea in the main, till
the College is safe.

If you wish to sell any lots at home
select such a number as will do & let me se-
lect from what I may not have sold.

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Wild Cat. July the 27th 1549.

Mr. Goodnow. Dear Sir.

I write you a few lines. wishing
to know if you can sell a few
Manhattan lots.

My Husband has given me three lots
to do as I wish with.

He has had to pay out so much money
the last year. that I can't ask or at
least I don't feel like pressing him for
what I really need. And as he has been
so kind as to give me those lots. I feel
as though I ought to try and sell them
for money to fix my house.

And knowing of no one that has so good
a chance as you. And also knowing
what a good hand you are at the
business. I thought I would send the
numbers of those lots with the prices
that my Husband put upon them when
he gave them me. And have you make
whatever changes you may think best.
As he is not here to instruct me in what
I am doing. And I know very little about
such business. You will please fix the prices.

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Lot 316 - word. 2. corner lot \$100.
233 " 2 " 100
166 " 3 " \$ 75
\$ 2.75.

I could wish you to sell all or part
of these lots. And will be very greatful
to you indeed if you can.
I will allow you five or eight percent
or what you may think right.
I know you will if you can.

I saw your wife at church
last Sabbath she was well.

Brother Denison preached.

I suppose you get all the news.

Health is good, every thing looks well.
we have had a sufficient amount of
rain for our crops.

I have not seen Mr. Houston for four weeks.
he is at Wyandott as I suppose you know.
I cant tell you much that they have
done, only they located the temporary
Capital at Topeka. Manhattan had no chance
at the Convention.