

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

Section 71, Pages 2101 - 2130

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

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Isaac Goodnow correspondence

Goodnow, J. T.

Pittsburgh Nov-18th/60

My Dear Brother

Your letter written at Templeton came duly to hand. I was very glad to hear from you, was in hopes to have seen you before this time. I am about broke up; I think I shall get my affairs settled and staitened out this week. I don't know but I shall have to take my children to Lewis county, N. Y. - I do hope you will be here this week, for I want to see you very much.

I have gone through a hard trial. My dear wife was some 30 days dying. she was looking for death every day. she was very happy, and died in the triumph of faith. she chose her minister, selected the hymn to be sung at her funeral; and selected her barons, made all the arrangements for the children clothes as much as though she had been up and about. she was the poorest person I ever saw. her flesh was all gone. she was perfectly helpless for several weeks; I was consued with her some



four months, to the neglect of all
other business; I have met with a
great loss, and the poor children will
probably never find another mother
her equal. The world looks dreary
to me, the great attraction of my
life is gone, she was truly a superior
woman, but our loss is her gain.
I could bare it much better was it
not for my poor little children, it makes
my heart ache to look at them some
times, but the Lord has done all things
well, and I ought not to repine, but
it has seemed very hard, to be reconciled
I hope to have grace for all that is before
me, but I will say no more as I
expect to meet you soon - should
you not find me at 135 Grand St,
you will find Frank at the corner
of Wylie & High St, in Livingston
grocery store -

yours affectionately

J. J. Goodnow

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

Sab. Evening Nov 25 1860.
My dear Husband.

I received the 19. My last letter to you was dated
Oct 21. but I send you the answer at once
with a word from my pen, when I do not write.
I last Friday sent you and returned from
postland, leaving home at 3 o'clock in the
morning, and returned at 4 o'clock after noon.
Yesterday we had a tremendous rain storm.
to day it is clear, but cold. The ground seems
to be freezing up for winter.

Next Thursday is our annual thanks giving, do
you have any prisoners? and how are you getting
along there? It is dreadful to think of the deo
tation, and suffering of the people, and still
they are having more disturbances than
what will be the end of their calamities!
don't you think I am glad that I am where I
am? and don't you feel glad also? but still it
does seem as tho' the fates had you there or

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

rather, that you prefer staying there.
Well, if it is your choice to do so, you can do
as you please, and I can live alone as I have
done; but, it does not seem right for us to live
so, neither does it agree so in the eyes of the world.

Well, we have got a settled minister at
last, Mr. Willcox, and I like him very well.
He has taken part, in the Abolition House.
He has a wife and 2 little children.

I attended Church this morning; but I
prefer staying at home, and communing
with my own heart and soul, to going out
again to day. I have to pardon myself more
than I need to do, I feel it my duty to do so:

But Thursday evening (thanks giving) the
youngest meeting is here; I wish you could be
with us; but that cannot be. I shall have
some good mince pies - and so on, which you
could enjoy them with me! How do you fare
do you get enough to eat? or do you go hungry?

Was you with me, you would have all the com-
forts of life; and I hope you will not stay
in Peaslee to suffer for the want of them.

I have not received a line from Isaac
since I last wrote you; but I heard
yesterday, that he had got a circular sent
and had now changed his business to be
writing led for the sufferers in Kansas.
Do you believe he will leave the State this
Winter? I do not believe he wants to stay
in Kansas, or ever will much more if any.
I think it is very strange that he does not
come and see me!

Your letter to S Andrews has
arrived to this office; but I have not since
seen him. Dale follows me up, as snug as ever
to hear from you. When young has got this
health again.

Mrs Jane Hobbs, has recently
had one breast taken off, on account of a
Cancer growth - she is in Westland, good
Woman! and Mrs. Talbot Peaslee has a cancer
also, and has had an Operation.

O how thread-fell! how much reason I have
for thankfulness to God, that it is as well with
me as it is. My health is very good, for me.

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

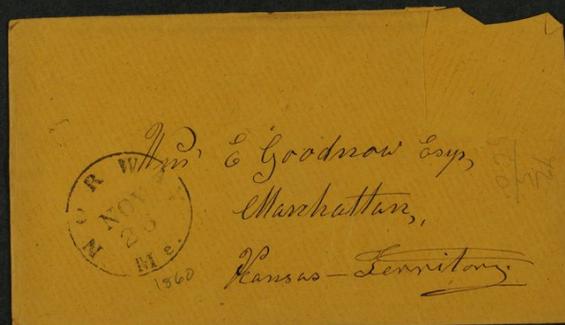
Mamma Beal is very comfortable now, she says you ought to come home for she thinks you have a duty to see as well as to others. She and Paddy both send their love to you.

Do you recollect Benjamin Richards Esq? he lived down in Osford with his father, 25 years of age. Well, one evening last week, he committed suicide by laying himself down on the railroad tracks, and the cars ran over him. it was occasioned by a love affair with a Miss Gess, a niece of Lees & wife. it is a dreadful blow to Mr Richards family, they are all almost distracted!

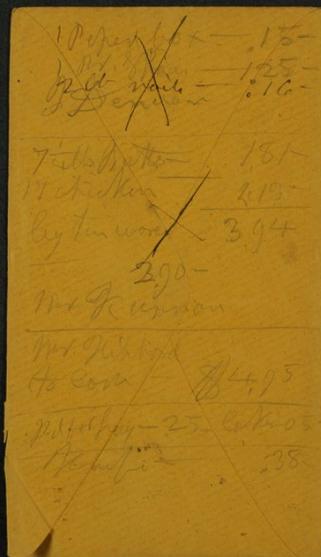
It is a general time of health here, but business is very dull, and has been through the fall. I make out to do enough to pay my expenses, and that is something you know, but I feel that I must soon give it up, for my head, and eyes are fast wearing out. Only think how long I have been in business! I have done it quite too long already. O how I do need rest from labor, care, and anxiety! Well, there is rest in Heaven for the people of God, and if I do not find it here, I hope I shall there.

Yours &c. Isaac Goodnow.

Isaac Goodnow correspondence



Isaac Goodnow correspondence



~~1000 - 1.15~~
~~1000 - 1.25~~
~~1000 - 1.70~~
7.15 - 1.51
1.15 - 2.15
3.94
3.90 -
Mr. K. K. K.
Mr. G. G. G.
to see - 4.95
P. H. H. - 25. 2.15
K. K. K. - 3.8

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

Mumont, Nov. 22, 1860—

Dear Brother— Yours of 12th is received & in re-
ply would say that I am sorry that the 2 acs
of land is a stick— It cannot be had of Currier—
he has been offered \$1000 by two men for
his place the same week that I bargained for
it— I done the best I could, & he would not do an
inch better— I have his bond, but gave none—
I have been getting the glass set in the east
& Currier is to work on the inside of his
house for the rent of the ell part— The stone
that Currier bat of me is the one you are
to have— I referred you to another for \$15 which
Marlett took of me— the ground is now free-
zing up & snow is making— all well. I have the
new cellar done for the new stone house the
kitchens & St. George houses are plastered & ready
till spring— I received a letter from Eliza with
yours— she is well— Yours in haste
Wm T

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

Nov 29th

I was regretting very much that I had neglected to write so as to have the letter go out yesterday as they did not go to the office this morning. Dr. Allen has just come in with a letter from Uncle Williams directed to you here. Now I put it in mine and add a word or two. We have just arisen from a very nice dinner, and they wished particularly that you had been in your place by my side. I assure you I did. I can't give up the idea of having a home of our own, and that soon.

Perhaps I did wrong in writing as I did to you about my impressions. I rather think I am not so great a burden after all. An extra pains has been taken to make me more at home. Love to yourself and all friends. Write me at any one and then at Kania and come and begett. Affectionately Ellen

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

Cincinnati Nov 20th 1860

My Dear Husband,

Yours from
Shelden and Os. I received two days since
and thought I would wait until I
could ^{tell} when I should leave here for Troy.
I have decided to go the middle of next
week, and shall stay one or two weeks.
Please direct your next letter there
and if you go to Washington please
tell how long you will be gone. If I can
get a place in Troy where I can run a
sewing machine, and make something
and take up my mind I should be glad.
I shall have to take some of that last
draft to carry me to Sand Xenia as I
have spent all the money I had. Have
used the 10 & 25 dollar drafts and all
the premium money and what Nancy

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

let me have. I received Boston paper
 to day with speech from Joseph and
 (did not see any thing from you)
 Tomorrow night we have a meeting
 and expect to hear from Dr. Davis
 on Holiday for Kansas. Mary wanted
 I should stay to thanksgiving. I should wish
 I could be with you or you could be here.
 Wonder where you will be? Hope you are
 leaving your labors to a close. You must
 write to Eliza & Maria and see that Grace
 William furnishes cloth or any thing that
 needs. They dont write me. What will this
 winter do if we dont go home this winter?
 Had we not better go in January? What
 will become of little One? Will Miss Bailey
 stay there if they close the school for a year?
 She wrote me to get some things for her if
 you did not. Hope you will be at Boston
 thanksgiving and I will think of you there
 for I know of no friends that I think any
 more of. Give a great deal of love to
 them both, and their children. All
 the rest of my good friends. Perhaps you wrote
 that Ben should had that money ready for
 you and should not expect to pay interest
 any longer than you left it for at first.
 Ben & Willard Lewis made us a call last week
 and visited Ben & Est. So Charlotte & Jane need
 Write me at Troy and tell me when to
 expect you. Much love to yourself from
 your affectionate wife. Ellen D. Goodnow

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

28130

Monday Eve Dec. 3 1860

Second Preliminary Meeting
in behalf of sufferers in Kansas

Met Seth B. Hunt 86 West 19th St

Conclusion 1st That the Meeting
be held on Wednesday Eve
of next week if possible
if not on Thursday Eve
at Precisely 7 o'clock

2d That if Mr Wm. H. Evans be
requested to draw the resolu-
tions - Gude Wattle & Mr
Denison are to see him

3d Dr. Speckers. Messrs Wattle
Denison Keyatt
Daniel Lord - J. H. Taylor
Wm. C. Noyes Henry Ward Beecher
James S. Brady & Green C. Brunsen
Mr Greely will see Mr Brady & Mr Brunsen

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

- 4 For permanent Treasurers
John Earl Williams Pres.
Metropolitan Bank
Francis A. Palmer Pres. of
the Broadway Bk. Alternate
- 5 Judge Wattle will see Mr
Kopen to endeavor to engage
Mr Beecher to speak
- 6 That Ministers of all Denom-
inations be earnestly requested
to take collection for this
subject in their Churches
and forward the same
to _____
which will be duly acknowl-
edged. - (Put this into the res-
olutions of Mr Esart)
- 7 Permanent Executive
Committee Wm. C. Bryant
John E. Williams, Wilson
D. Hunt, Sheddus Bryant, Charles
W. Elliott Secy

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

That these Gentlemen be a Com-
mittee to carry out the purposes
of this meeting (Put this into
Mr Sparks resolution)

Mr Warren will call at
10 clock tomorrow

That the committee of all names
mentioned be authorized to
to take care of the same for the
object in their hands

in fact will be the same
which - (Put this into
Sparks resolution)

Mr Warren will call at
10 clock tomorrow

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

5 Collection to be taken at 9 o'clock

Collectors to carry Names

C. J. Warren
Dr. Hart
Dr. Fairbank
J. K. Davis
Mrs. Demarest
Edgar Ketchum
Dr. A. S. Ball
Edward Gilbert

9 Subscription

Cards to be printed for the occasion

10 Call of the Meeting written by Mrs. Greely to be printed and sent to the Ministers in due season and other Gentlemen admitted to the platform

11 The General Call with the Names attached to be published in all the Daily Papers over

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

and the Editors specially requested
to call attention to it.

12 Adjourned to meet here
on Sat. Eve of this week
at 7 o'clock

Knatchansons - sing

10 List of the names of the
members of the Society
to be read at the meeting
on Sat. Eve of this week
at 7 o'clock

11 The names of the
members of the Society
to be read at the meeting
on Sat. Eve of this week
at 7 o'clock

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

28136.

Third Preliminary meeting
at Mr S. M. Heusto Sat.
Eve Dec 7
conclusion
1st That Peter Cooper call the
meeting to order and move
and put to vote that Wm.
C. Bryant be Chairman
Mr Davis will see Mr Cooper
Order of the Meeting
2^d Speakers - Kansas Gent
Messrs Hutchinson, Denison, Little, Gardner
Resolutions by Wm. M. Evarts
Daniel Lord, Dr S. M. Synop
Collection James S. Brady
Collectors to carry Books
C. J. Garrison, Edgar Betchum
Dr. Hearst, Dr. A. S. Ball
Mr Fairbanks, Edward Gilbert
S. M. Davis
Mr Demasset
Subscription cards to be printed for the
occasion.

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

2 Vice Presidents
Morris Kream Ketchum
No. 16. McCurdy

Secretaries (Charles W. Elliott) Edgar Ketchum
John E. Cleveland

John Earl Williams Treas.

6 Mr Warren will see
Wm C. Bryant
William S. Hunt
C. W. Elliott

Meet Mr Warren at 11
Wm C. Bryant at 6 P.M. precisely
at 107 West 14th St

4 Permanent Executive Com-
mitter with power to add
to their number
Wm C. Bryant John E.
Williams William S. Hunt
Shaddeus Keyatt Charles
W. Elliott

5 That a brief call be
published ^{in the paper} Monday &
Tuesday, & the call in full
on Wednesday morning

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

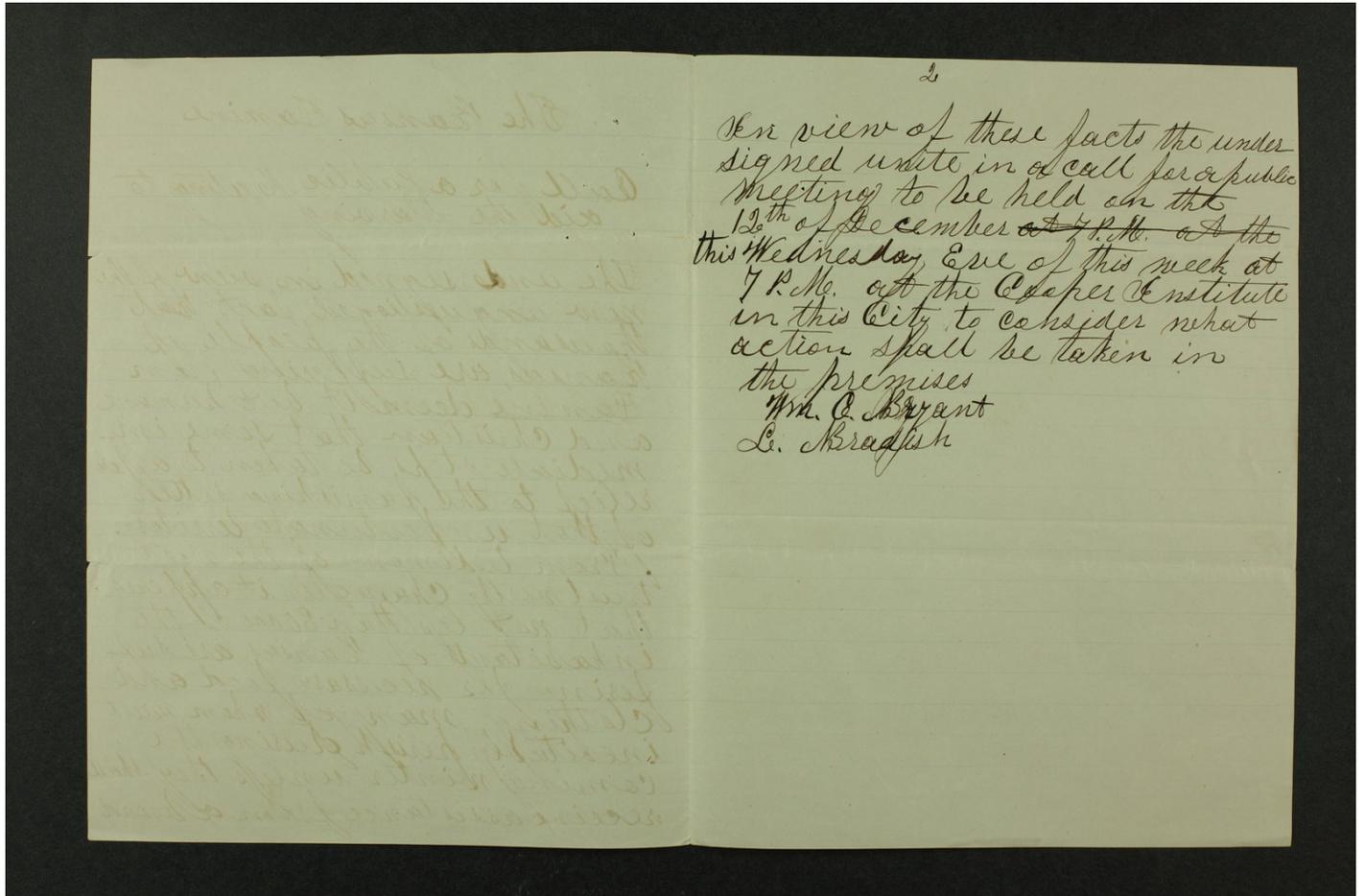
1
28136

The Kansas Famine

Call for a Public Meeting to
aid the Starving

The undersigned in view of the
now unquestioned fact that
thousands of the people of
Kansas, are suffering from
Famine deem it but humane
and Christian that some im-
mediate steps be taken to afford
relief to the famishing settlers
of that unfortunate territory.
From testimony of the most
trustworthy character it appears
that not less than 30000 of the
inhabitants of Kansas are suf-
fering for necessary food and
clothing many of whom must
inevitably perish during the
coming winter unless they shall
receive assistance from a broad

Isaac Goodnow correspondence



Isaac Goodnow correspondence

Ms. A. 9. 2. 60. 7
Dec 10 Black Harvey Dec 7 1860.
My dear husband,
No letter from you
last week, and I felt disappointed.
My last letter to you was dated Nov 26, and
I thought I should not write you again 'til I had
from you thinking you might have said so, I have
But I have finally concluded to do so a few lines.
The thought I send you wreathing with a
a word from my pen, when I do not write in full.
O what dreadful times you are having in Kansas,
and when will there be an end to the calamities of
that afflicted people!! God only knows; and then
to think of the connection in the political world;
in connection with the secession question!
I read the New York Tribune last evening with
my head and eyes and heart did ache; I suppose
you have all the news printed up on the subject.
so I will say no more about that.
This is a pleasant day; and a most time for the
hell to sing; and I must get ready to go to meeting.

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

12 Dec. Well, I have been down to meeting and returned; having an opportunity to ride both ways. I do not stop in the Sab. school this winter, as I am not particularly needed in a school; I am glad to get away. The school does not seem to me as it used to be, when you was superintendent, nor never has, nor never has been half so interesting. James Merrill is superintendent. I like our preacher very well, and I think you will. There is Isaac? he has not answered my last letter, and I have heard nothing from him since I wrote you last, but by your last I am desirous of getting him back to Kansas in a week.

How do you fare this winter? are you with others suffering for the comforts of life? I would send you five dollars in this letter if I knew it would safely reach you. I am at times enjoying the comforts I have; when I think of your condition, but I do try to be reconciled and I do daily, and heavily commit and leave you into the hands of Him who knows all about your better, and who is able to supply all our wants, and so on, all our sorrows.

30 Dec. Well, I have been to meeting for the second time to day, and just returned; have listened to a good Missionary Sermon, but I will be content above the heathen, and there is to be this week a series of meetings held in Paris upon the subject of Missions; in connection with the attendance of a number of Missionaries; now I should love to attend; probably should if you was here, but feeling so alone, I don't feel much heart to go any where, and so do so. I feel that I ought to do more for the cause of Missions; and I intend to.

What blessed providences we do have! and still I fear I do not properly appreciate them.

Well, time is swiftly passing, and the opportunities for getting, or doing good will soon be at an end with me. I wish I could live, and not just as I shall wish I had when I shall be called upon to render an account for my stewardship, at the great tribunal bar of God.

It is a low time with us here spiritually; and Christians appear willing to have it so, or at any rate upon any independent upon the subject.

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

is a general time of health here; few deaths
in town the year past, of late, a number of
marriages, of which, the papers inform you.

We have not snow enough to make good
skating, and comfortable, and pleasant weather,
I think, and climate grows more and
more desirable; and I am sure I do not
wish to exchange it for any other.

Mrs. Reed is getting smart for her,
she always sends her love. There are
many enquiries about you.

I sent your letter to Lewis, but he
does not come in to say a word to me about
it. I should think he would be ashamed of
of the course he has taken in respect
to me if nothing more.

When I commenced this letter, I thought
I would not write but a few lines, thinking
perhaps you might be on your way home;
but you see I have run on, till I have written
quite a letter after all, which I am apt to do
when I write you. I hope I shall hear from
you this week; do save your own life, if
I am true, and believe me as ever your
friend

Isaac Goodnow correspondence



Isaac Goodnow correspondence

Templeton Dec 8th 1860

Bro Goodnow

Your letter from Boston dated Tuesday came to hand Friday eve, you requested answers by return mail, I should have written on the receipt if you had not stated you should leave Boston Friday as late as I thought it useless - We went to W - the next Tuesday staid till Saturday, Saw Dr Newton Wednesday, he said Frank could be cured, worked over him a few minutes and relieved him some so that he could bear a part of his weight on his leg, but said it would take some time for him to get well, we went again Friday and could not see him on

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

account of the rush, called Sat
Morning, and saw him, he related
inconsiderably, said the disease was
one of the worst kind that could
afflict a person, as it was
seated on the bone it would take
time to absorb, and he thought
that the cure had commenced
and would go on till he was
healed, which he thought would
take 35 days, he wished us to
Bath his leg by pouring hot
water (as hot as he could bear
it) three times a day, and then
cold, and bat again, that is a
pitcher of hot, one of cold, and one
of hot, three times a day, and rub
the limb from the foot to the
body, upward and he would get
well - We left off all medicines
and have followed his directions
since, we flatter ourselves he is
a little better, his pain does not

not seem so severe as before
going to K - we are in hopes
that another week will show him
much better, if not we shall
have to resort to medicine again,
which we much dread - Dr N
thought it unnecessary to see
Frank again, Dr D seems to
be possessed of some strong
power, I saw one woman that was
quite deaf, go into the Dr's room
and come out hearing as well
as women ought to, that is she
could hear as low conversation
as I could - Now Frank's case
with ^{us} we shall see, we hope for
the best - Frank stood the journey
home better than down - we got
round with him much better than
I expected, but it was a hard
weeks work - Mr Steid with
Mr and Mrs Hull in Charleston
were very well cared for -

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

Have you seen Bee J—
yet— Write us after and
let us know where you keep
yourself— Our respects to
Ellen, and no small share
to yourself, — We regret we could
not see you while we were in
B— as we wanted to say some
things to you that would be
too much trouble to write—

Yours
S. French

Anna says she will
write next time—

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

Whittingham Dec 11th 1860

Dear Bro Goodnow — I have been anxious to comply with your request to inform you how matters stand but I have had no chance to talk with mother. But for as she spent her first week in visiting the people of her choice & when she come home she was in no frame of mind to be approached. She staid 1 Day & then left & I have not seen her again until yesterday when I asked her if you had written to her she said yes that I had taken you privately without her knowledge & contrived a plan. That I had got hold of all the property by just such private calculations & that if I expected her to sign off her rights I was mistaken. That she never told you she would. That she might never get a cent on Francis bond. &c &c. She had had good council & meant to follow it. I have borne enough from her but if called to years more of trial will endure it as well as I can. Indeed it has become second nature to bear her taunts & insults & they fall harmless so far as I am concerned. Your advice was good & thankfully received. I claim that I know full well how to treat all the little tattlers of the gnats & insects of society who

"Like to goese who on the green"

Peke out their necks in awkward spleen

"Ridiculous in rage to hiss not bite," pearty malice

or who

"Like slight peevish insects who with feeble wings

To show they live do flutter & do sting"



Isaac Goodnow correspondence

The fact is your mother is so fickle & so easily influenced by Henry Goodnow & wife & others that I had but little hope of a settlement. You have no proper sense of her changeableness & childishness. She says she has written to you & no doubt there is some plausible pretext to evade her agreement & make me responsible for her delinquency.

Then she utterly refuses to accept your security & she will not resign her rights of dower - Now she may in the course of a month be anxious to do it & the papers can remain as they are & the funds can be drawing interest & all made right hereafter. I doubt not that you if present could do it up.

You speak of Kansas. I should like to go & spend 1 summer in Kansas & judge for myself. If then I chose to remove there I doubt not my family would be willing. But as things are I must bide my time & leave all with that good Providence who has been to me much more forgiving & forbearing than I deserved.

Yours &c

S. Whitney

Dear Brother Isaac I wish you to write me what Mother wrote you, last it's singular how she manages, she appeared anxious awhile to go away but now wishes to make no arrangement, I am all out of patience with her, but shall have no words with her & try to move along & do right & think Mother's motives are wrong. I will write more

Ameline
then I hear from you.

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

BOSTON, Dec 12th 1860

 M. Nathan D. Chase Esq
Bought of D. P. DAVIS,
Wholesale and Retail Dealer in CLOCKS, of every description. Also, CLOCK MATERIALS.
No. 15 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON.

One Drop Circular Clock for "Blument College" Manhattan, Kansas,	18.00
--	-------

Recd of
D. P. Davis

We warrant the above Clock to perform
satisfactorily, so long as we receive for
all any original defect in the Manufacture.