

Kansas Memory



Isaac Goodnow correspondence

Section 74, Pages 2191 - 2220

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 Memory



Isaac Goodnow correspondence

wished me to wait for him.
Should not the great works
of the Kingdom indicate that it is
his will I should occupy some
other portion of the field, and
the way should be opened for
me to labor in Kansas, after
I get through my studies here
I will most gladly enter the
work in that new and growing
country. I am praying earnestly
that the Lord may direct me to
the right spot, and place me just
where he wants me to labor, and
I have faith that he will do.
I cannot see my way clear, at present,
to give an affirmative answer
to your proposition; if I could
& would not hesitate a moment,
We are having a little excitement
in the Dist. just at present. Some
of our boys have not shown themselves
to be just what they should be and

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

Guthrie
Feb. 8 1851

I. Goodnow Esq.

Dear sir It is now more than a year since I heard from my friends in Kansas We hear gloomy stories of famine from your State but I hope none of you (My acquaintances I mean) are among the sufferers

I ought to have written long since about that City Lot The last I heard from you was that there was about one Dollar of tax against it which I promptly sent but never learned whether it reached you or not Now what I want to know is whether you got that money what amount of tax is now accumulated What will be necessary for me to do to secure that lot in my own name Since it is mine I am both able and willing to pay what ever tax may be necessary to secure it

Enclosed you will find a stamp to pay the postage on your return letter which I hope you will be so kind as to send immediately

Yours truly
William M. Gleason

Give my best wishes to Mr. Goodnow and all my friends Tell me how you get along Tell Mr. Denison that I would give a letter from him very highly

Kansas is at last a state of the union but I wish you had waited till that infernal old villain of ours had been out of the white house

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

various of
our national affairs I now
gives & Rev. Denison I would like
to know if you are willing to lay down Northern
to compromise with traitors
It may interest you to know something of the
present feelings of that great party in Pa that
so gloriously routed the slaveocracy in the fall
I have just got a letter from a friend of mine
in the state legislature at Harrisburg — a liberty
loving man — and he believe there is enough of
cowardice in this great Republican party of the north
to get on its knees and eat another goze of
Southern dirt to save the Union and from what
I see around me I think there is danger of another
humiliating compromise For my own part
I would see the star of the Republic go down in
blood before I would see another inch of Slave Gov.
added to this Union I have read Webster & Clay
on the advantages of Union but I have also read
the Bible on human rights and duties
We have now the power to shut that accursed
institution up to its present limits and if we don't
not Hell gapes for us If we compromise on
such terms as to make the North guilty of Slavery
then look out for the thunders of Almighty
vengeance upon the whole nation
I am so much afraid of compromise just
now that I wish the traitors would take possession
of Washington City and prevent the inauguration
of Lincoln for I believe that would bring out
the true men of the North and Lincoln would then
be carried to the Capitol over just as many acres of
dead men as might oppose them and ~~the~~ criminal
compromise would then be out of the question

Kansas Memory



Isaac Goodnow correspondence

Wm. H. Cole - 1820 - Feb 17. 1861
My dear husband

Yours of the 3^d was received
the 15th day last to you was dated the 2^d which I
presume you have received; I am glad to hear
of your comfortable health, and I am happy to
inform you that I am unusually well.

This is a rainy and rather cold day, but,
if I have an opportunity to ride, I shall attend
meeting. We have been having some extreme
cold weather; but I have got along very com-
fortably, having a plenty of good wood, and
all in and buck stove, together with all the
necessary comforts of life you know.

I have much peace I do have to live,
and praise the Lord, for view of all his good-
ness, and mercy to me all the way along
my earthly pilgrimage! I feel as tho' I
should trust Him more, and trust His ways
and by his grace assisting me, I am deter-
mined to praise Him as long as I live.

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

of Blank, Wall, dear husband, & have been to meeting all day; Mr. Robert & his very kindly carried me down, and brought me back; and I have enjoyed the day very much.

I like our preachers; and I think you will.

I believe I wrote you, that there was a female prayer meeting established here weekly; and last evening and yesterday was well filled; the fullest meeting we have ever had. which greatly encourages me; and I cannot but believe God is about to provide us again.

Elias Bemis is very feeble; he has the appearance of being in the last stage of consumption. There are some children sick in this Village with Cankers and Rash; otherwise it is healthy here.

There are many inquiries about you. people begin to ask me if you ever intend to come home, or in other words, if I ever expect you will come home! And to the above inquiries I can only say I hardly know what reply to make. Some action upon the subject, and send an at any rate, I had much rather not be inquired of upon the subject.

Mondy 15th Dear Willy. I last evening intended to have finished this sheet this morning in time to have mailed it; but, I happened to get delayed, and shall I tell you how?

Willy, I guess I will. When I awoke this morning, the sun shining brightly into my room, recalled the fact, that it was half past 4 o'clock. But, I reckon you will say "that's no news, for it is a trick of his to get up." but, I do have to sleep; and when I can, I will.

To day is very pleasant and the days are running finely, and it appears we are having plenty of snow with rain; and without dreadful terrors, and sufferings, you are living in Kansas! How can you want to stay there?

and what are your thoughts for? I do wish you would be a little more specific upon the subject; for it is beyond my comprehension what it is that keeps you there!

I do wish the people here would take some contributions; they might, and might give of upon the subject. To; I have said all I dare say upon the subject.

Kansas Memory



Isaac Goodnow correspondence

Samsan call'd in last week to hear from you. He mentioned what you wrote to him about me desiring that "Mortgage" said it was very strange to him, that you should not have written him, or Hale, instead of waiting to Andrews, and I think so too, but perhaps you know best. Samsen said he would not give two hundred dollars for all of Kansas, but, I think you had better write him, and Hale, upon the subject.

I am glad to hear that Isaac and Ellen have got home. Please give my regards to them; and ask Brothers, if he found a letter from me directed to him in N.Y.

How is Mrs. Tree and family? tell her I still remember her with a deep interest.

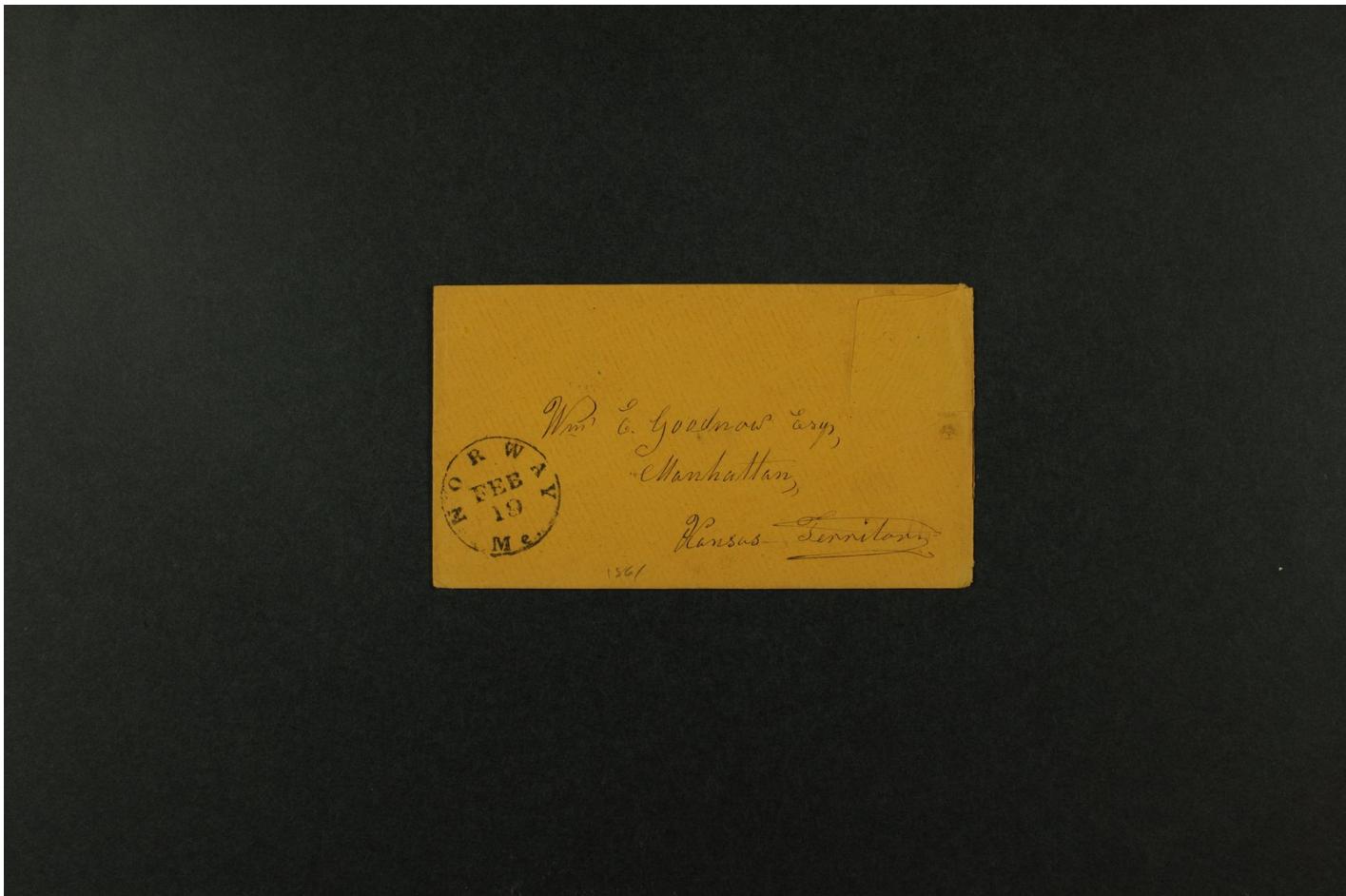
Do you know anything about Mrs. Hayes? and what about Moses Bartlett?

I can't think of any news to write you, I hope to hear from you this week. Do take care of your health; and save your life if you can. I think you had better write for the Democrat. I send it to you weekly. Yrs W. Goodnow

Kansas Memory



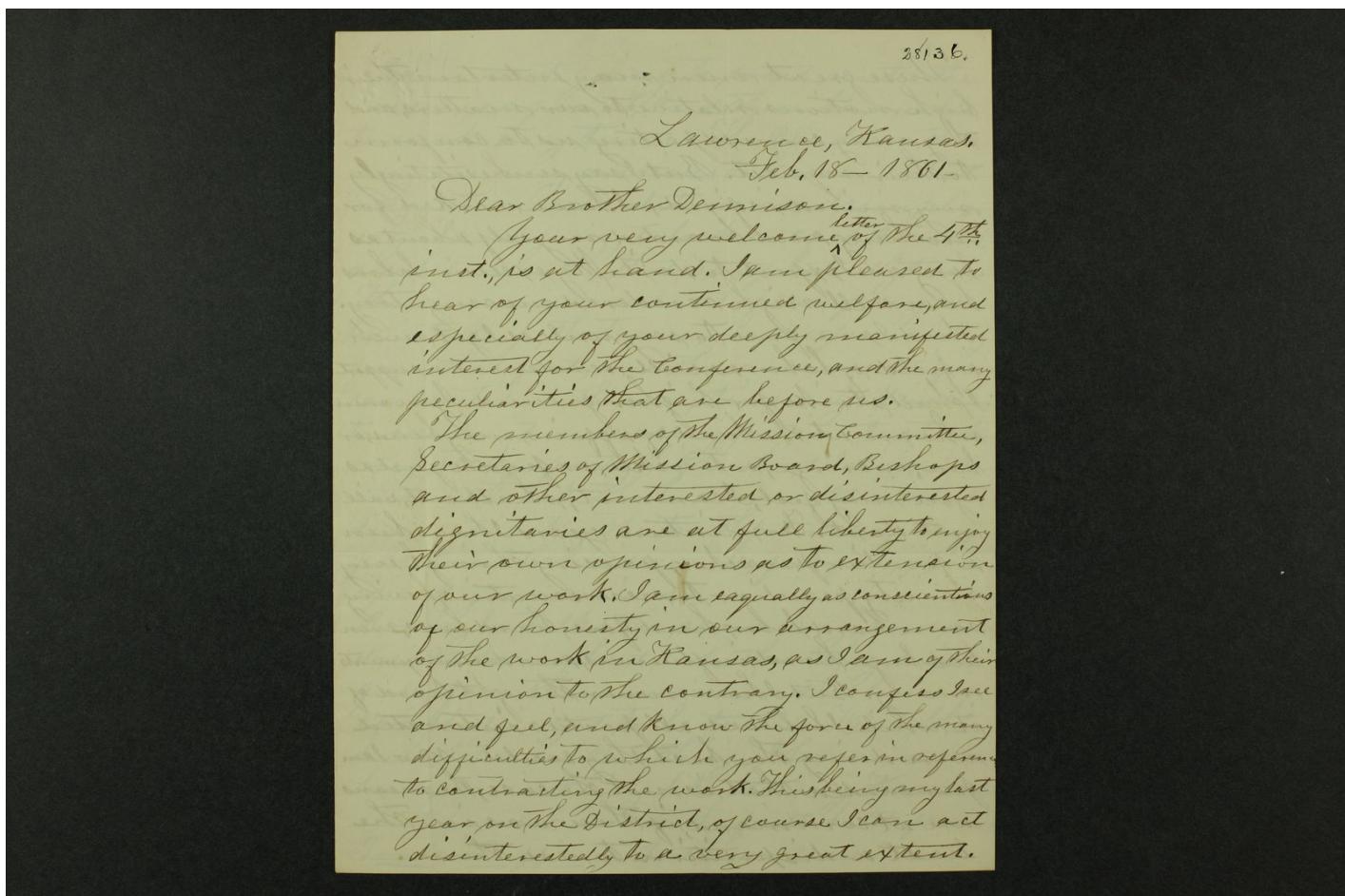
Isaac Goodnow correspondence



Kansas Memory



Isaac Goodnow correspondence



Kansas Memory



Isaac Goodnow correspondence

These great men may entertain their high notions relative to our matters, and they may come expecting us to conform to their request. But I say unhesitatingly my mind is fixed, - I have worked for nothing and hoarded myself about as long as I expect to do it. My excessive labors have well nigh rendered me nugatory. And I am free to say, unless I get such a field of labor as will render me a support I shall strike for higher ground. You men who are at the head of affairs, may bend, or bow, or cringe, or truckle, or fumble just as you may feel, I can not, shall not, will not do it. For nineteen years I have been a frontier preacher, passing through every variety peculiar to new countries, having some hard labor, hard fare, hard beds, even bed-bugs, hard influences, and discouragements many. But I have never thought hard of it while I believed all parties interested were doing the best they could. Now I am persuaded that is not the case; the means are at command, if there was in the least a disposition to use them.

I am not going to wait until the crisis is upon us, and then be unable to make any turn. The P. Co. down this way are very anxious to know what my future calculations are. I simply say - "I am going to look out for L. B. Dennis, a while now." That is emphatically true. The immense amount of company we have to keep, the tremendous expens arising from that fact, and the numerous contingencies connected with our itineracy, all combine to render it necessary for me to stick my stakes pretty high. And I do not intend to take them down. Now, what do you think of the truthfulness of my position? Consider well, feel free, and speak your mind.

Bro. Taylor talks the same way, and so does Dr. Davis, but whether they will fully face the music in the hour of conflict, is yet to be tested. We ought to be united in this thing. I have never had an inkling like leaving Kansas, until now, since the first battle from Border Ruffians. But as well as I may

Kansas Memory



Isaac Goodnow correspondence

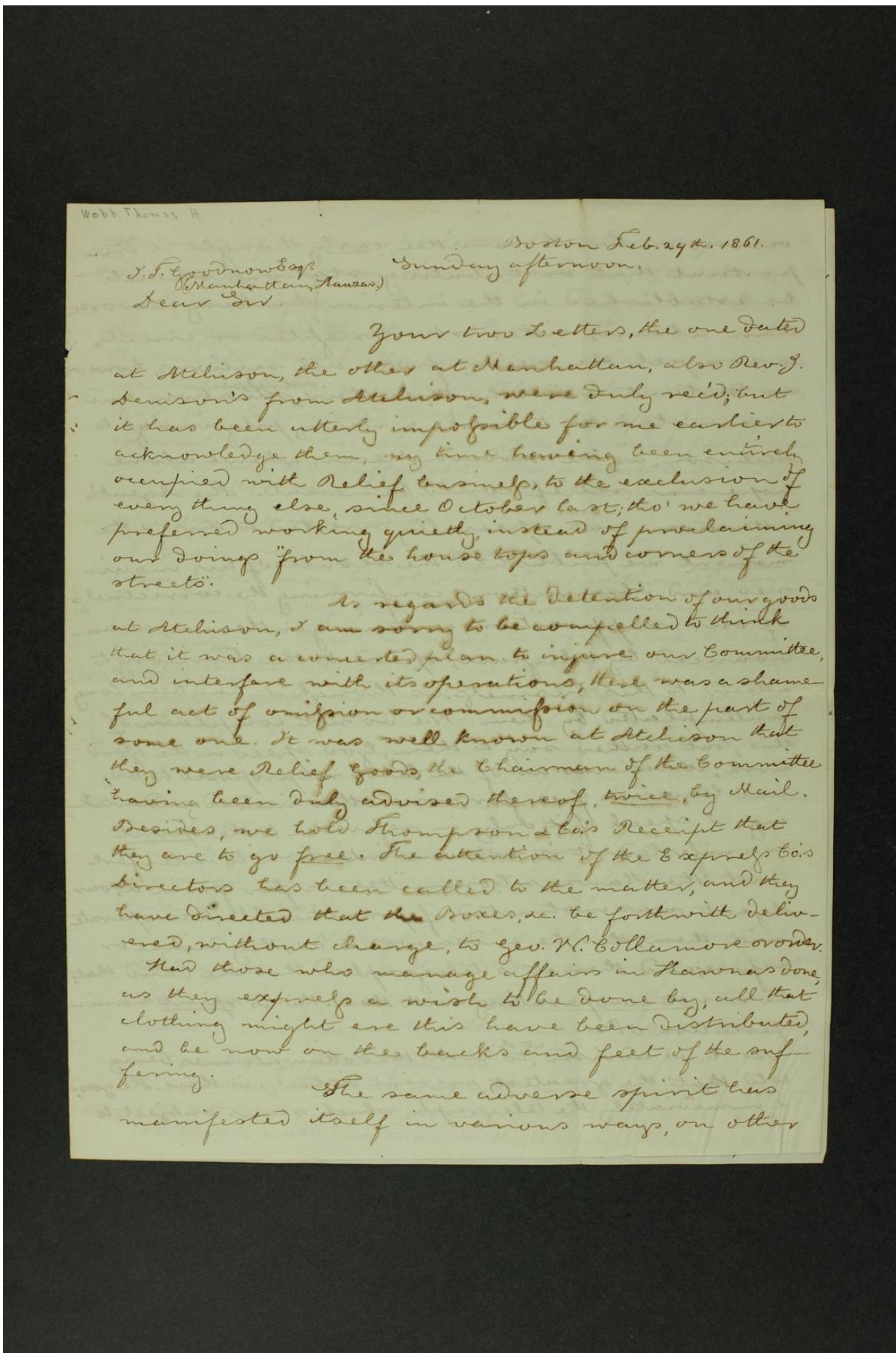
love Kansas, and as much as my
interests may be identified with hers,
I can not, nor will not submit to
~~the oppressor's power~~, in the shape of a
contemptable selfish Secretary, whom
introduce his resolutions, or a debased
Slavery propagandist, holding the
elevated position of a Bishop. Mark
that. But as remarked in your letter
I wish we were together for a few
hours just to have a good talk. We will
embrace the first opportunity as soon
as we get to Atchison. Let us so fully
understand each other, that we may
fully act in concert, in every thing
right. I speak thus plain and candidly
to you, believing I know where your best
sympathies lie. This I say, from the
force of the circumstances upon us.
I hope you will be equally frank.
I almost feel as if wife and ^{self} would come
see you even before conference, if you could
be at home. Write soon. This leaves us in
pretty good health - Praise the Lord.
Yours in the Gospel - L. B. Dennis.

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Isaac Goodnow correspondence



Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

occasions. Our Committee early thought it important that distributing stations should be established in the interior, thinking it worse than absurd, either shortsighted or cruel, to compel the needy from all sections, however distant, and whatever their ^{distributive} situation and circumstances, to make a weary pilgrimage to Atchison, as the modern Mecca, whence alone hope and relief could emanate. The Agent's attention was specially directed to this; & the moment we published the results of his inquiries and observations, confirming the correctness of our supposition, certain gentlemen, as announced by telegram, speed to the Territory to attend to this business; as though it had been long contemplated by them. We do not complain of this, but rather say to them, God speed in the good work; it relieves us of the labor we proposed to do, and leaves us free for some other needed undertaking. I speak of it only in reference to the spirit manifested. It is not our intention to interfere with the Shawnee Committee; so far from it, our Agent was instructed, if practicable, to co-operate with them; this he endeavors to do; they decline or refuse; and then it is telegraphed thence that, he is not co-operating with them, this is spirit manifestation etc.

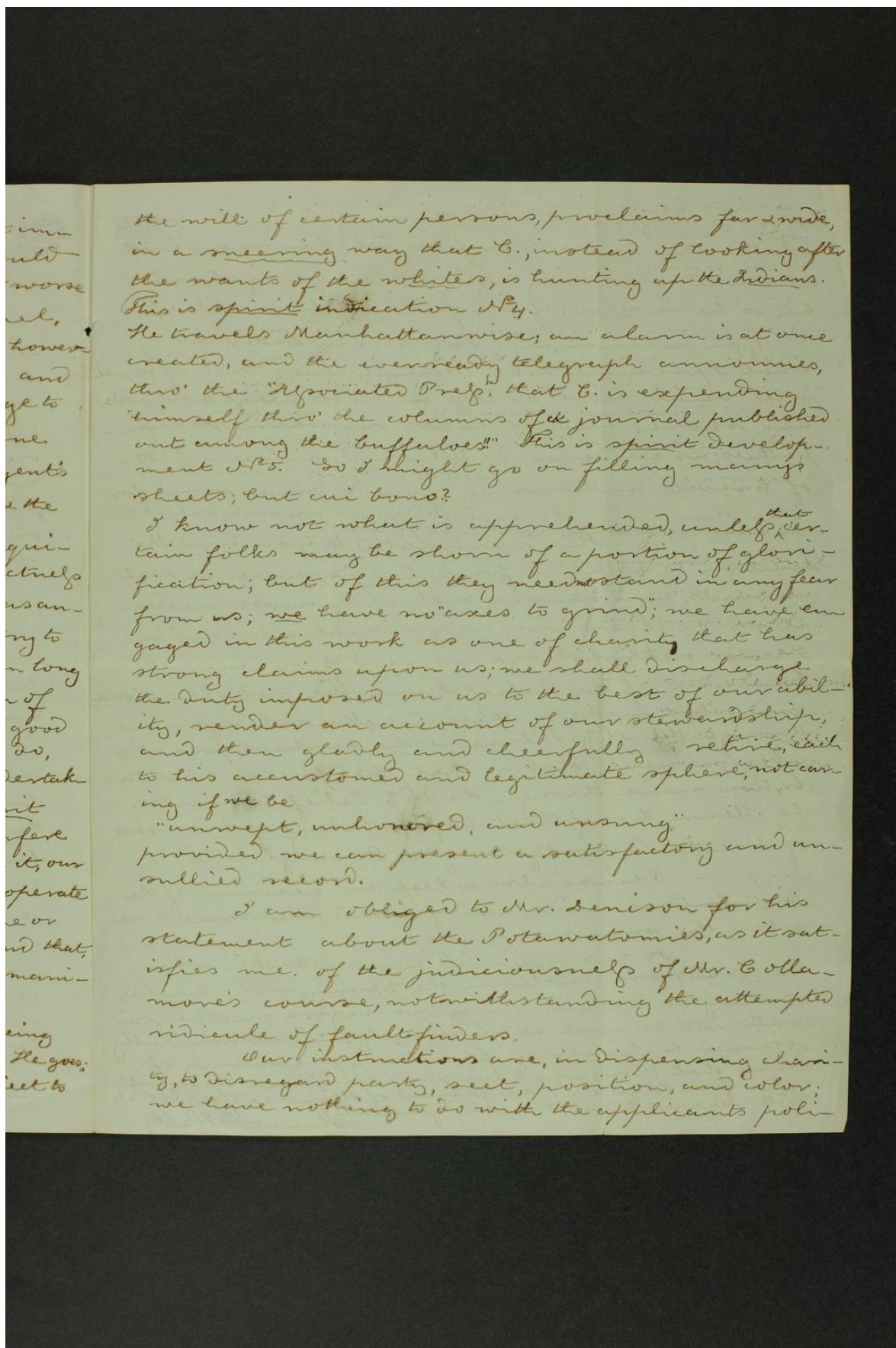
Mr. C. is advised ^{at d.} to visit the Pottawatomies, being told that the greatest present distress is there. He goes immediately to the telegraph, which seems subject to

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Isaac Goodnow correspondence



Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

ties nor religion; it is nothing to us, in this case, whether he be bond or free; whether red, black, or white; our only essential inquiry should be, is he in need; if so, furnish him relief.

You mention, in your second letter, two, of what I presume to be extreme, cases. Such of course will occur more or less in most neighborhoods, and should and do enlist our warmest sympathies; as evidence of which I inclose a Letter of Credit authorizing you to draw on me for One Hundred Dollars. Whenever you draw, duly advise me by mail, of the amount, and in whose favor. This is entrusted to you and Mr. Denison to expend for relief purposes, in such amounts, and among such of the most needy at Mt. or elsewhere, as you think advisable. Please acknowledge as recd from me, as Treasurer of the Relief Fund, the whole amount, and also make a special acknowledgement, through the N.Y. Tribune, at the earliest practicable moment, stating that \$126.29 are a contribution made through the N.Y. Relief Committee by Henry Longstreet Esq: in behalf of the citizens of Freeland, Montgomery Co., Pennsylvania.

Please also to keep an account of the distributions made, and forward the same to me, when the sum is expended.

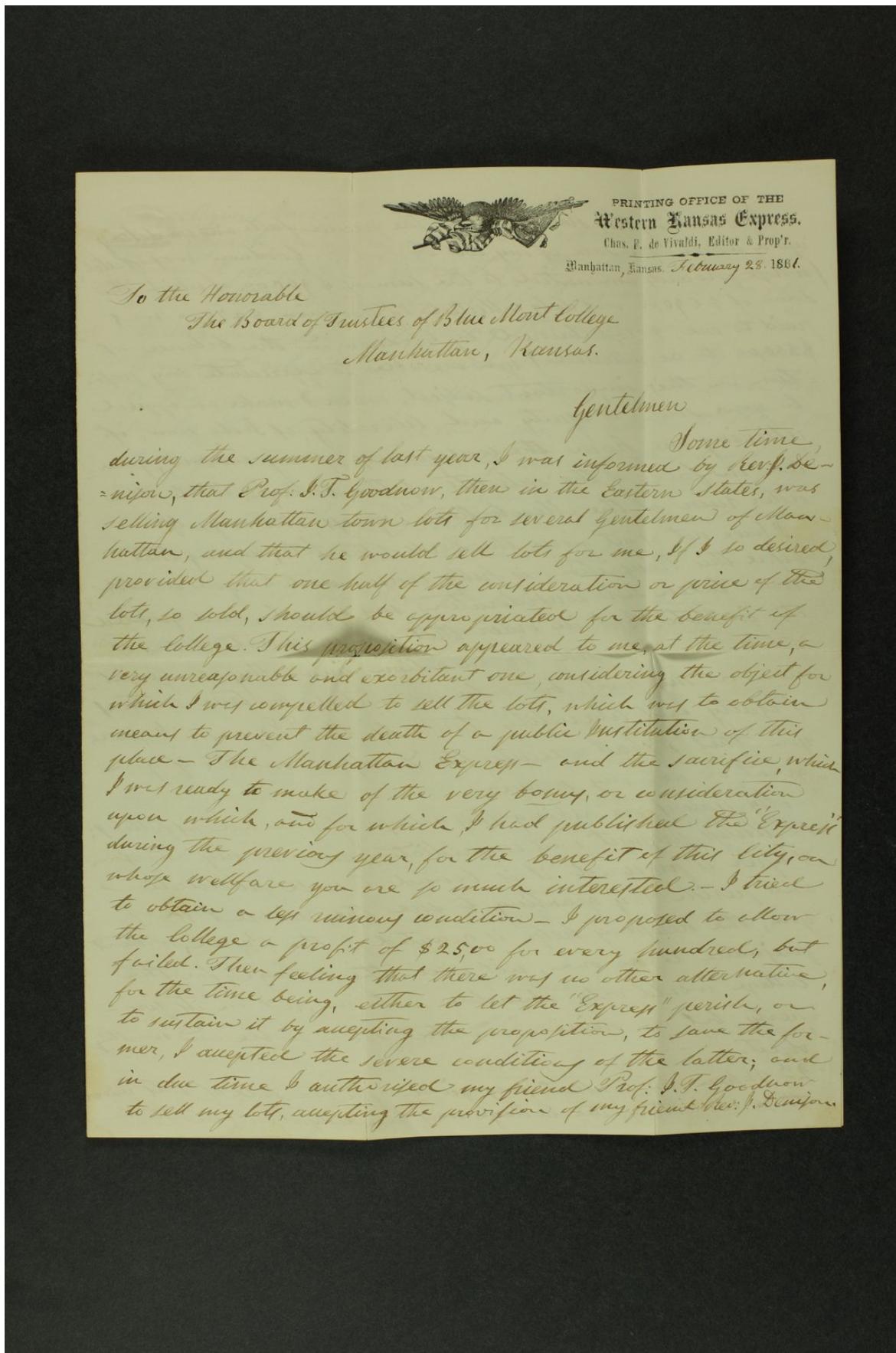
It has occurred to me whether when the roads are settled in the Spring, such supplies as may be needed for your region and beyond could not be most expeditiously and economically obtained by hauling from Iowa, presuming of course that those who have an abundance there will be as free to give as the farmers of Illinois & elsewhere. With regards to all, I remain yours truly Thomas H. Webb

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Isaac Goodnow correspondence



Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

After having thus stated to you the precise facts and conditions upon which the sale of my lots by Prof. I.T. Goodnow was effected, whose proceeds amounted to the sum of \$940.00, of which the sum of \$690.00 was duly collected by Goodnow, \$475.00 was paid to me, \$215.00 retained by Goodnow, and the balance of \$250.00 to be collected, you are able to appreciate my position on this important subject, when I make an appeal to your sense of equity and liberality, as I do now, of relieving me from the consequences of my conduct, granted in favor of the interests of the College, and to the utter ruin of the Manhattan "Express," and myself.

I have not as yet given the Deeds of the lots, hoping that before this transaction is fully consummated, you would have taken into consideration my appeal, and granted it in to. But in order that you may act, not as if you were compelled by an action unworthy of a gentleman on my part, but only prompted by true motives of equity and liberality towards the "Express" I assure you that I shall execute the Deeds, no matter if you grant or not my prayer.

My reasons for asking this release of you are as follows:
1st Unless prompt and immediate justice to my and your Paper is procured it is bound to cease publication and perish. By granting to me the release ask of you, the necessary help is granted to the paper, without prejudice to no one, not even the College, for the College would only abandon a claim, not on its property, but on mine - and that for a noble and worthy object.-

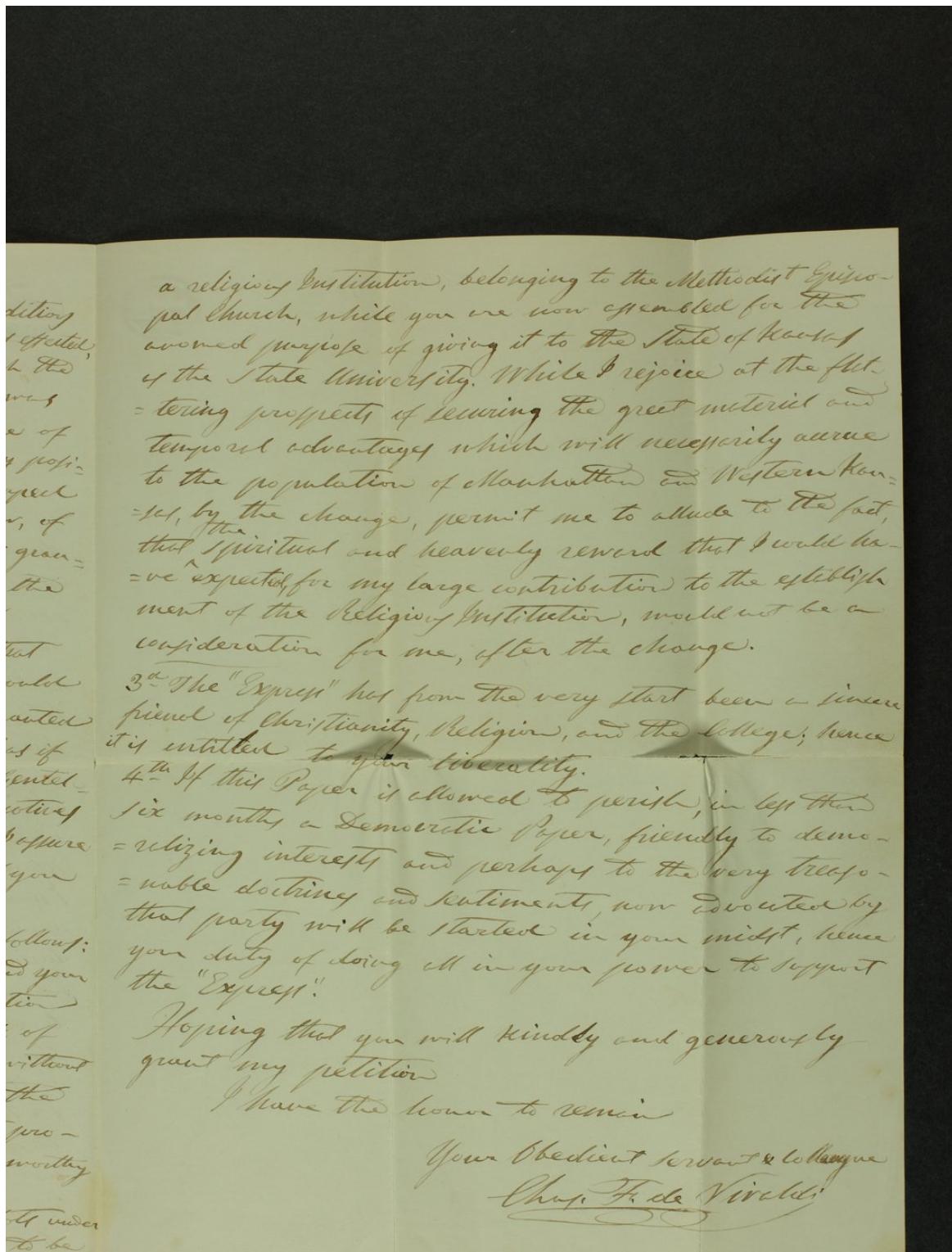
2^d When my consent was given for the sale of lots under these conditions, the College was generally believed to be

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

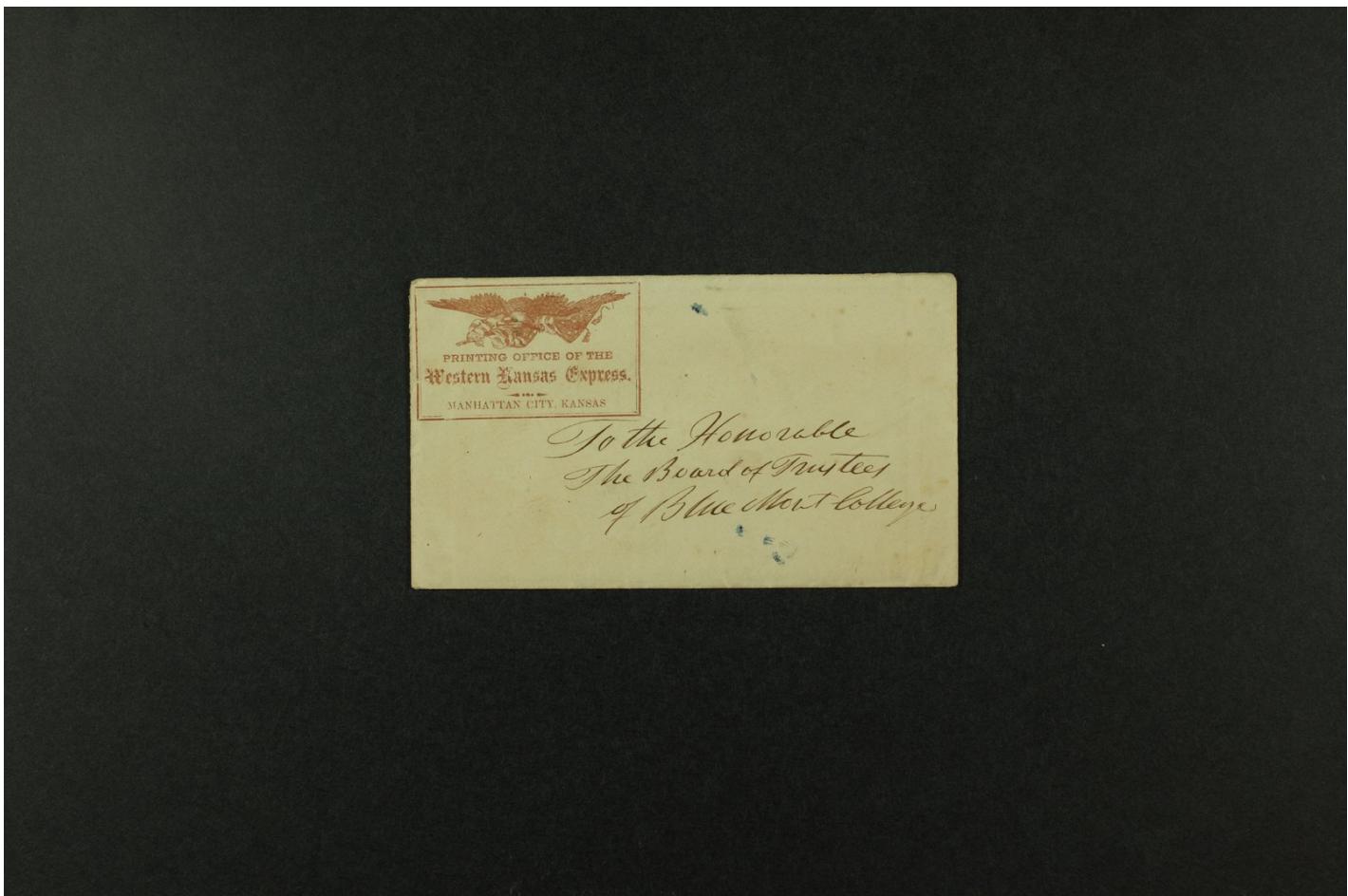
Isaac Goodnow correspondence



Kansas Memory



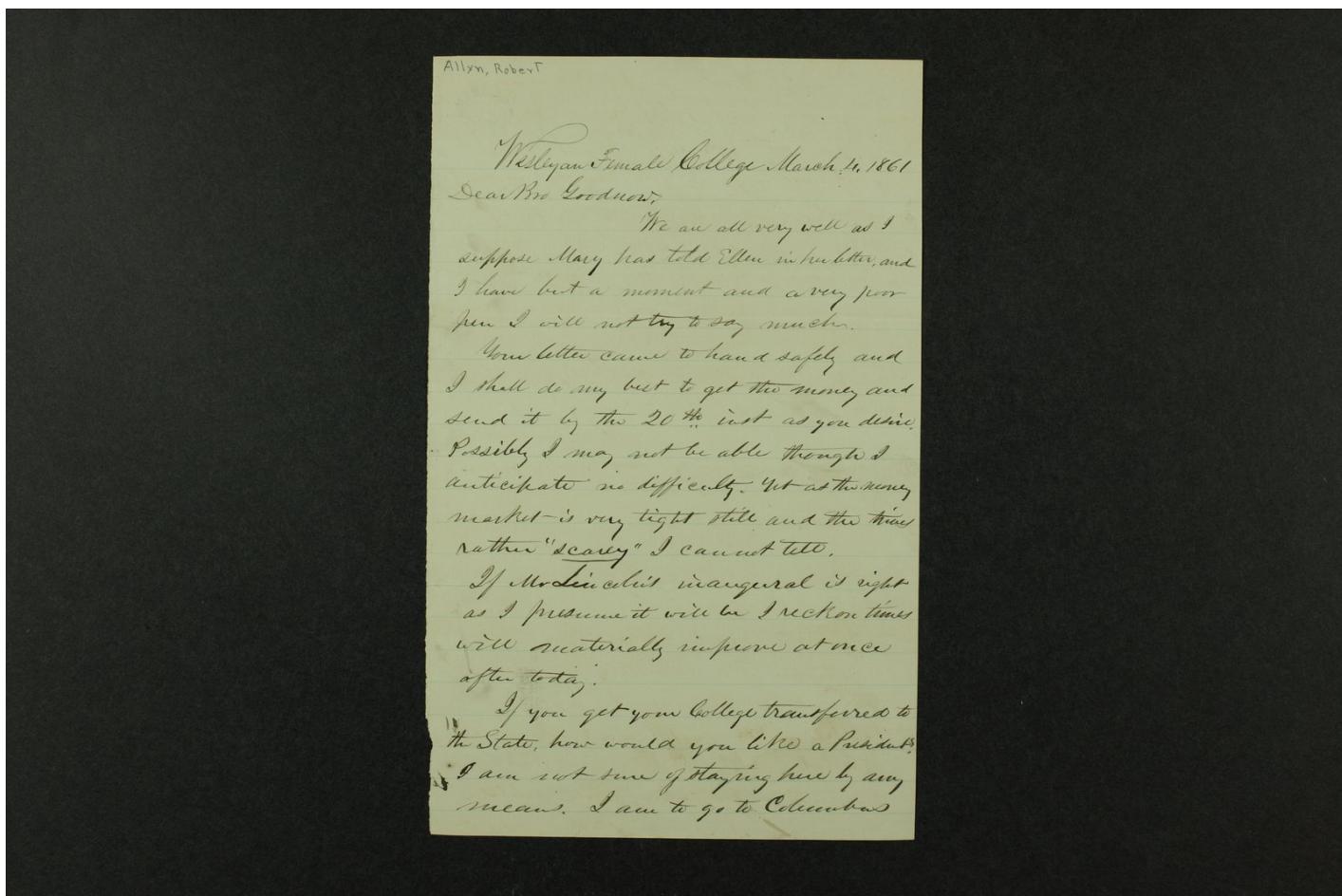
Isaac Goodnow correspondence



Kansas Memory



Isaac Goodnow correspondence



Kansas Memory



Isaac Goodnow correspondence

this afternoon to look after a bill
for the sale of a Cemetery, for our College.
If I get it through all may go well
but if not - we can't have our
old Concern loaded as it has been
from the beginning with debts.

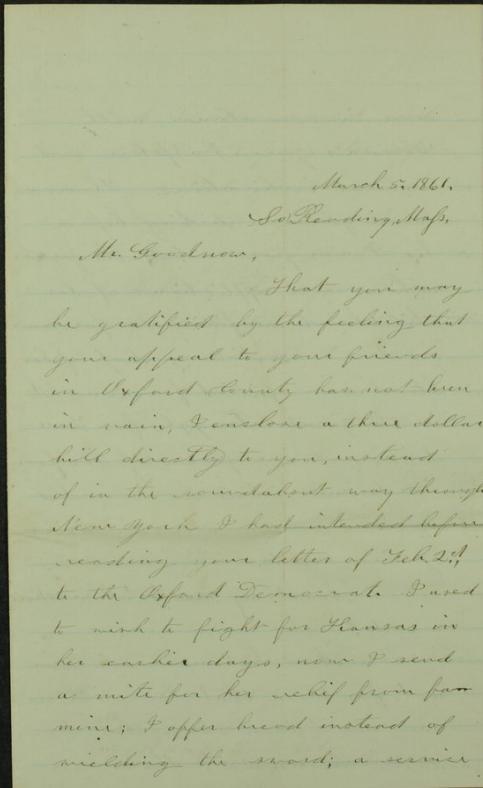
Good bye and success to
your new State. If the last secede
Love to all -

Yours very
Robert M. W.

Kansas Memory



Isaac Goodnow correspondence

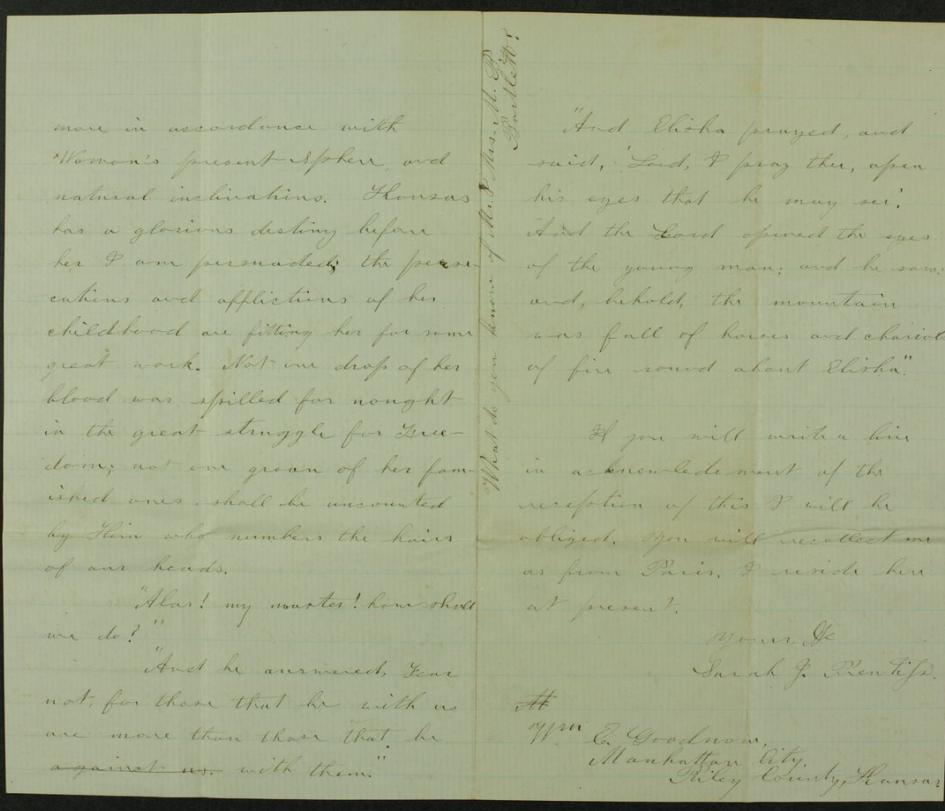


Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Isaac Goodnow correspondence



Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

28136.

Boston, March 9. 1861.

Dear Bro. Denison,

Yrs of the 25th acknowl.
edging the receipt of \$100 additional
to \$277.03 previously acknowledged
has come to hand. I have sent
hence the above on Feb 26th, \$100,
on March 4th, \$100, & on March 6th
\$100. And now I send another
\$100. Please acknowledge as
it comes.

Yrs. truly.

E.O. Haven

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

28136.

Office of Kansas Relief Committee.
Atchison, Kansas, March 9 1861.

<p>TERRITORIAL COMMITTEE:</p> <p>S. C. POMEROY, Atchison, W. W. GUTHRIE, Brown County, J. L. McDOWELL, Leavenworth, Rev. C. REYNOLDS, Lawrence, Rev. L. BODWELL, Topeka, Dr. S. AYERS, Linn County, F. N. BLAKE, Junction City, C. B. LINES, Wabaunsee, F. P. BAKER, Centralia, Rev. WM. BISHOP, Salina, Judge A. SPAULDING, Jefferson County, J. C. BURNETT, Bourbon County, J. C. LAMBDIN, Butler County, GEORGE M. RUSSELL, Wyandott.</p>	<p>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:</p> <p>S. C. POMEROY, Chairman, J. L. McDOWELL, Rev. C. REYNOLDS, Rev. L. BODWELL, F. P. BAKER,</p> <p>Corresponding Secretary, <u>S. C. POMEROY.</u></p> <p>Treasurer, Mayor G. H. FAIRCHILD.</p> <p>Shipping Agent, W. F. M. ARNY, Mendota, Illinois.</p>
---	--

All Consignments of Goods and Produce should be directed to S. C. POMEROY, Atchison, Kansas, marked "Kansas Relief" in order to secure the reduction of Freights.

Mr Joseph Denison
Dear Sir:

We are now trying
to reach you by Steamboat as the
land carriage is too expensive. Our
boat is now loading to go up as far
as possible. She has a very light
draught - only two feet - will not
carry over 30 tons besides fuel.

I shall try to meet your
wants as far as possible. Keep
in good heart & we will come
through all right yet. Dio vult.

Yours very truly,

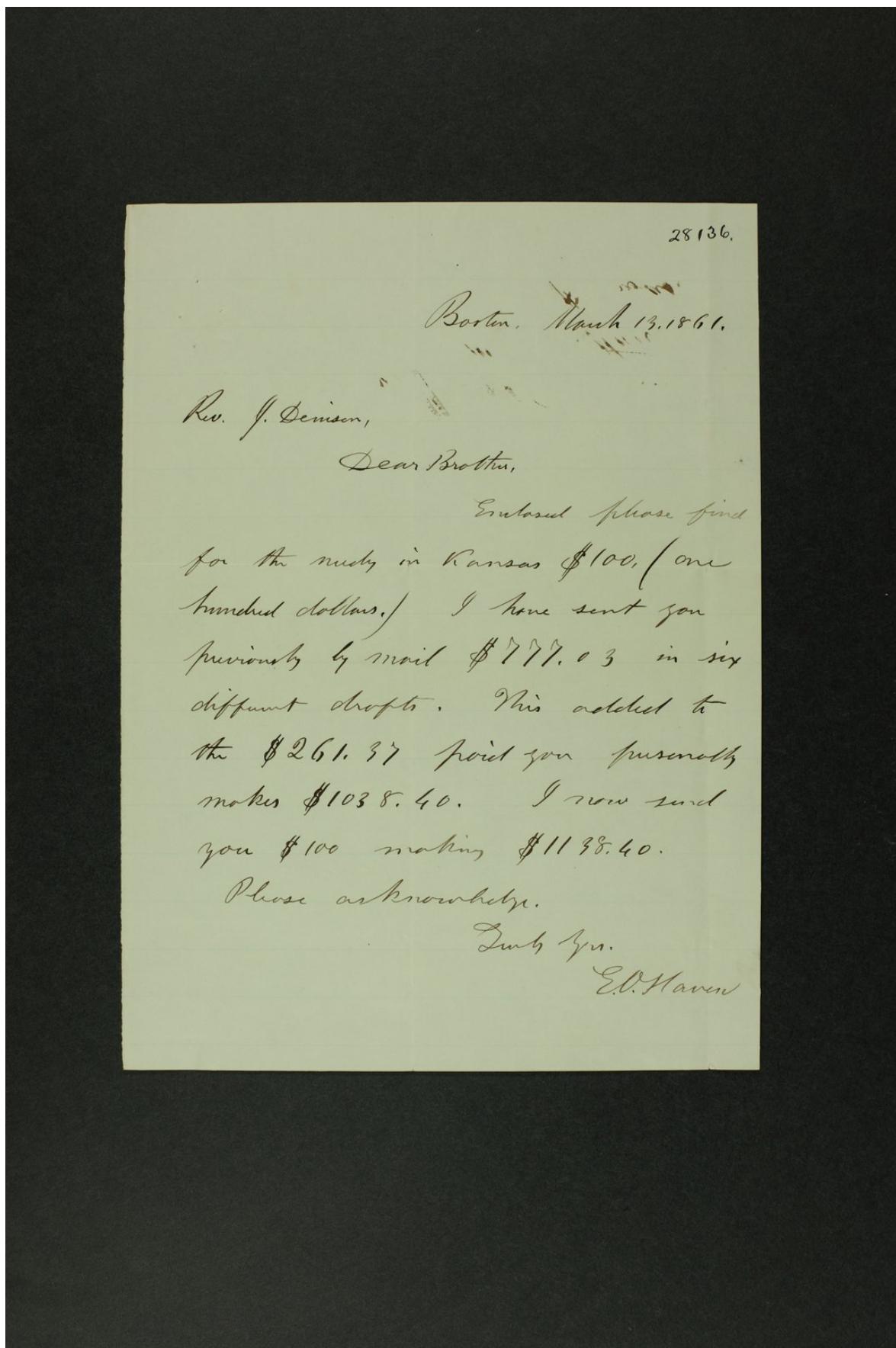
S. C. P. Pomroy
for Grays

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

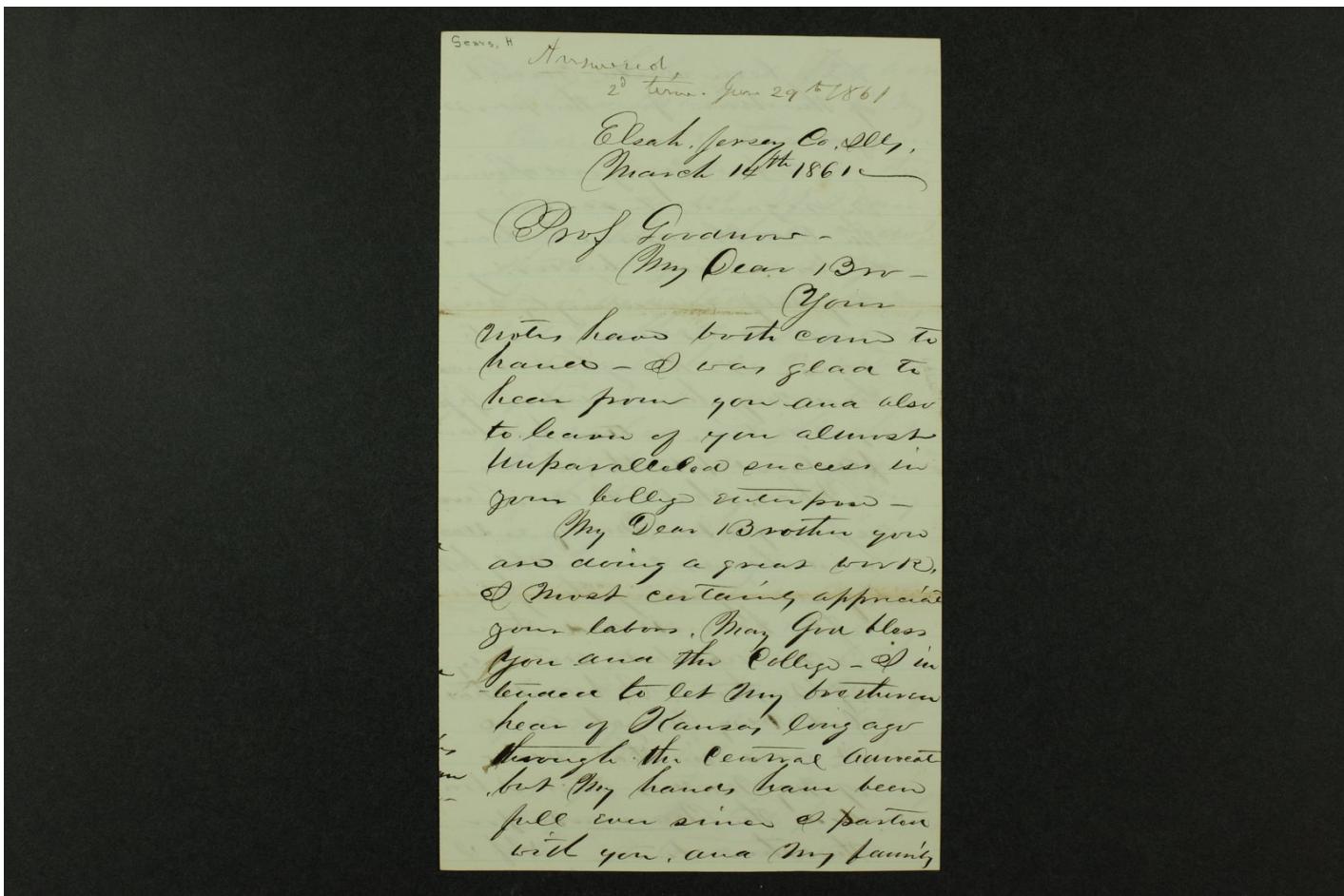
Isaac Goodnow correspondence



Kansas Memory



Isaac Goodnow correspondence



Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

has been sick much
of the time for the past
year -

Now my good friend
is engaged to securing
the One Hundred Dollars
I have been pestering
myself exceedingly since
your notes arrived to
raise it. Thought I almost
had my sum upon fifty
or in a time or two, but have
failed up to this time -

What shall I do. Busi-
ness is flat - Money is scarce
and there is no earthly hope
of doing any thing till
after harvest and there
is no absolute certainty
if it then, I want that
lot very much and
it was in that view
of my matters that I tra-
ded the warrants for
the other two - If I

lay hold of a ~~Pro~~ a few
Dolla ~~M~~ans ⁱⁿ my
trades will that answer
your purpose for the
lot or not? If I can
not what shall I do?
Shall I give up your
bond and take back my
note? Shall I pay inter-
est and have an extension
of time? I want to do
just what is right, but
the unprecedented pres-
sure of the times forbids my
doing as I promised
when I saw you - In
the mean while I hope
you will fill out my
deed for the other lots
and send me, And if
you require I will take
back my note and give
up your bond according
to your verbal promise
then I traded, I do

Kansas Memory



Isaac Goodnow correspondence

Not wish to do so how
ever as I want to make
my arguments good -
In regard to the
taxes on the lots, who
pays them for 1860 - In
My state it is the legal
duty of the seller to pay
all taxes for that year -
is it so in Kansas - if
so I hope you will
not let the lots sell -
If according to the laws
of your state I am held
accountable I will do
My duty -
Dr Catts is an entire
bankrupt - poor man.
His wife died - his son
died, and he is a dead man
to the world morally and financially -
Give my respects
to Dr. Denison family
Prof. Worcester & Mr. Sears -

*On New York & His wife died in 1860
and he is a dead man to the world morally and financially*

Kansas Memory



Isaac Goodnow correspondence

Bowery March 14 1861.
My dear husband,
Yours of the 10th rec'd.
This morning; & it ought to have been mine
last week; but as I have nothing, and thinking
that you might have started for home
& did not write you yesterday as usual; but
& mailed you the same as this morning;
which I do every morning; do you receive
them all? Do you like the "Express"? I think
Reid had better take a few lessons in the
art of printing! What a looking glass!!
sometimes I have a whole one, and sometimes
a half of one; and sometimes, none
at all; just as it happens.

Well, I am happy to inform
you that my health is better; tho' I have
not been able to go out for about 3 weeks,
having taken a severe cold, which settled
upon my lungs; in connection with some
hoarseness and a good deal of fever; and

Kansas Memory



KANSAS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

most useless; which is always an accompaniment with everything else in connection with me you know well, on the whole I have had a very sick time; and when I write you last which was Monday evg, I could not write but a few moments at a time; still I did not let you know how sick I was, fearing it might give you some anxiety; which could not alleviate my care at all. O, I have seen lonely days, and lonely nights; to which I seem doomed as to any domestic society assistance, or sympathy! but God has been with me, and when I look back upon my past life, and realize in how many, and various ways; and under how many and various circumstances He has been my all sufficient Father, and friend, my shield and my exceeding great reward; why I feel no fear if I had a thousand terrors I could not sufficiently praise Him; and I feel no tho' I could go forward rejoicing in His goodness, and trust Him more, and trust Him even for in every affliction, I can sing of His mercy;

Wm Whitney is buried to day; he died suddenly at last, in a fit, poor man; what a sufferer he has been for many years!

You recollect Elias Remond, he died last week, of consumption. He died to Isaac Remond, and who will be next? doubtless we shall soon know, I think I can truly say; I feel more, and more the importunity of living every day, as though it might be my last.

I am glad to know that your health is comparatively good; but I am sorry you have to suffer so much with your old complaint; still I think it may go along your days, by saving you from a consumption perhaps. but we cannot tell why these things are so. God only knows but one thing is a settled point, the seeds of death are sown within us; and we must go down to our Mother Earth. Oh how many have already gone that we have known and loved! This season of the year reminds me of the past, my Father died the 19th of March