

# Kansas Memory



## Isaac Goodnow correspondence

### Section 84, Pages 2491 - 2520

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

Date: 1826-1940

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

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 307637

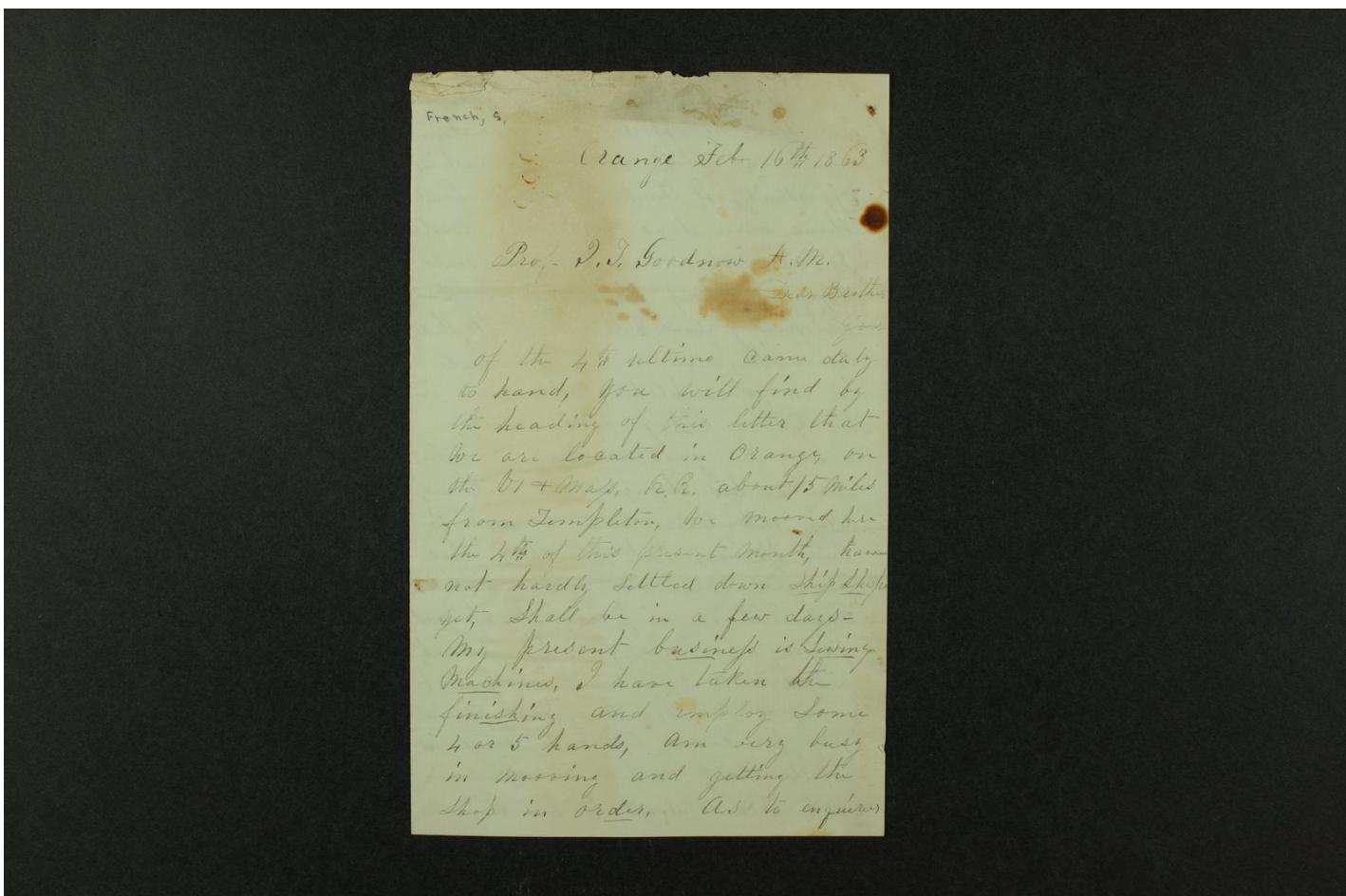
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# Kansas Memory



## Isaac Goodnow correspondence



# Kansas Memory



## Isaac Goodnow correspondence

in relation to Harvey & Bragdon  
I've had no opportunity to ascertain  
the price, will do so the earliest  
opportunity, I think you will find  
them very dear here now, according  
to my late's variation you could  
buy as cheap in Leavenworth —  
or nearly so — when he left there,  
as with us — Mr Hale  
is in Empleton at work in  
the Chair Shop this winter,  
when he goes to Kansas I don't  
know, his daughter is with us.  
My intentions were to go to K.  
this Spring, but the War has  
changed my calculations somewhat  
and I have a prospect of good and  
wholly or business. I do wish  
you would come out at present.

Enclosed find \$7 in  
pay for taxes, Mr Leland is  
in the Army a few miles above  
N.C. I will send to his wife

and collect the bills if  
possible, and forward accordingly.  
Am glad to hear of your  
and Manhattan's prosperity, hope  
the fondest desires may be  
realized as to its prosperity,  
all in usual health, Frank  
is hobbling about on crutches,  
Sends love — write

Yours etc  
D. French

My Dear Brother

We are not often  
favoured with a letter from your  
own dear self, when we do get one  
I prize it highly even if it is brief.  
you would write me one good  
family letter telling particulars  
connected with yourselves and family.  
etc etc. I shall see you next the  
present year we would be happy  
to see you. Mother is in Guilford

# Kansas Memory



## Isaac Goodnow correspondence

I expect at cousins Testinus.  
have not heard from Whitingham  
for some time, all as usual think.  
We hear from Bro. Parkersin  
occasionally, how do you think he is  
getting along? Bro J. I. has left  
this world of trouble the past year  
we hope he is better off. do you know  
any thing about his affairs. Did he  
leave any thing. We lost heavily by  
him. but there is no use regretting.  
it is gone and cannot be helped.  
I hope his children will be cared for.

Bro W<sup>m</sup> E. Goodnow has sent me  
his photograph (it is a good one)  
Wish you would do the same.  
If I cannot see you once in two or three  
years I want your picture.

Please write three times a  
year to me, if you cannot afford  
to any oftenner.

Yours most affectionate  
Sister Anna

# Kansas Memory



KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

## Isaac Goodnow correspondence

from Sam Houston Emotion City, Mo. Feb 19, 1863

Prof. I. D. Goodnow,

Dr. Sw. (Confidential)

Yours of the 16<sup>th</sup> inst came to hand  
last night & I reply at once.

I am glad to know that the A. C. has  
been located so that our western delegation  
have presented this question to a successful  
termination. It is ~~the~~ creditable to them  
& beneficial to the West & the whole State.

But I very much fear that the legisla-  
ture will leave their work just half done.  
This will prove fatal to us. At least it will  
nearly cancel the value of the gift of Congress.  
Unless the Legislature places the State of Kansas  
on an equal footing with the other States, now in  
the field selecting land, how are we to secure the  
best lands? Let me give you a few facts, ~~as~~  
in reference to the practical workings of Land Se-  
lection under the provisions of the Act of Congress  
approved July 2<sup>d</sup>, 1862.

1<sup>st</sup> The Land script issued by Secretary  
of the Interior can be located any time after the  
1<sup>st</sup> of January 1863! While our lands for this  
State cannot be located till after July 2<sup>d</sup>  
1863. owing to the Land Script of other  
States & months to administer! I was told that

# Kansas Memory



KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

## Isaac Goodnow correspondence

The Governors of some of the States, have already selected agents, some of whom are now ready to select this land.

If no, & I have no doubt of the fact, the Scrip will take the best land, as Congress has by express provision fixed the fee at the same rate now paid for locating Land Warrants. The States, as States, can not locate this land but no much the worse for us, for it will put a portion of the Scrip at once into the hands of large Capitalists, who will locate it soon to get <sup>in order</sup> good land. Besides the States can't do it & no doubt will locate in the name of some person & when done the title will be transferred to the State.

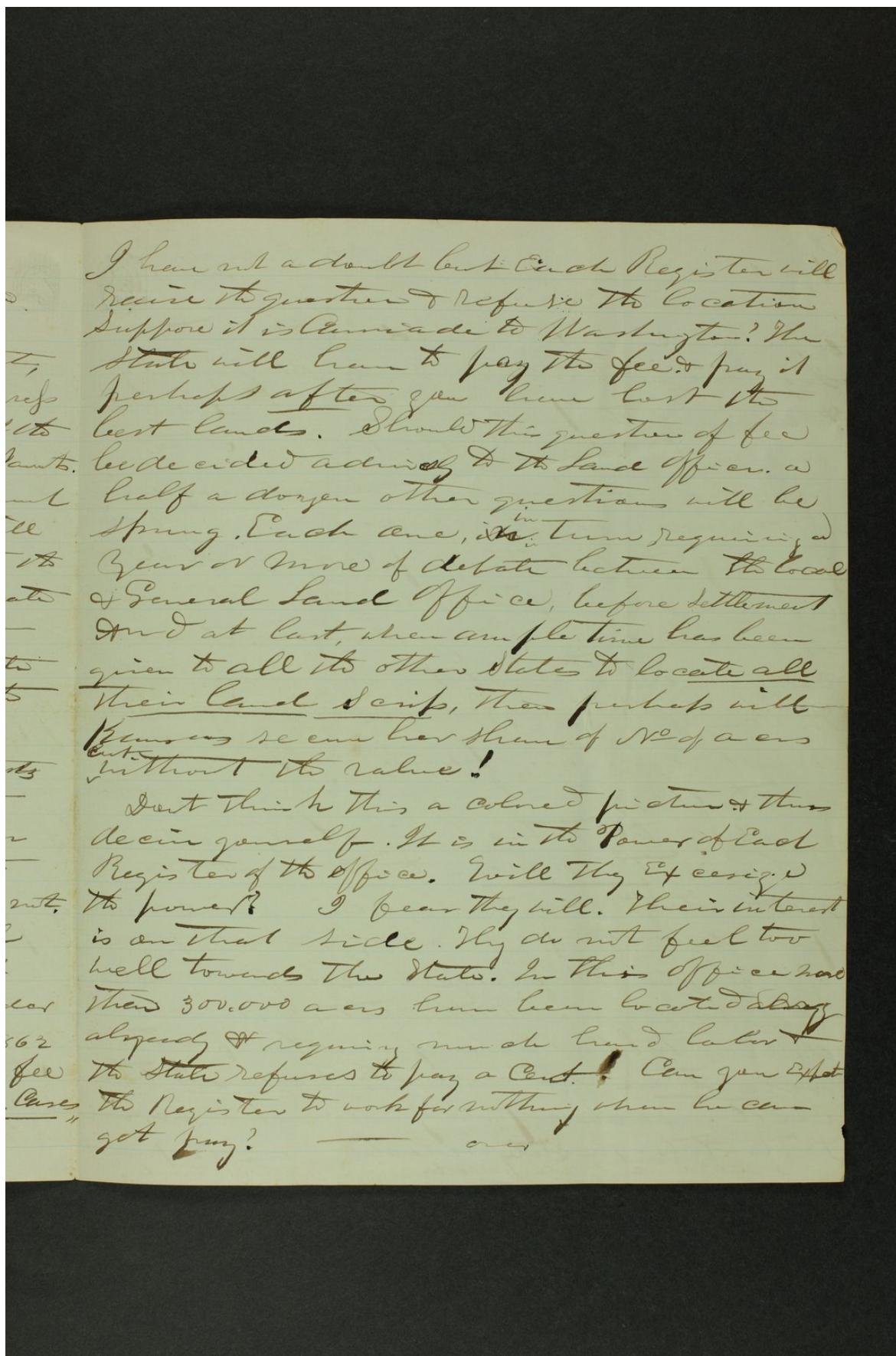
Now for the State of Kansas. She appoints an Agent or Commissioner, he comes to the several Land Offices, without a dollar in money to pay fees & wishes to select the best lands, will he get them? I think not. & for the reason, that the Land Officers feel that under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved May 31<sup>st</sup> 1862, as well as under the provisions & spirit of the Act of July 2<sup>d</sup> 1862 they are fairly & justly entitled to a fee as therein provided, in all "Donation Cases," & the location of the land Scrip.

# Kansas Memory



KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

## Isaac Goodnow correspondence



# Kansas Memory



KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

## Isaac Goodnow correspondence

I am very much obliged to you for the kind offer of being one of the selecting Commissioners, but if the means, so necessary to the end is with held by the State Legislature, I shall feel it my duty to decline the position. The lands selected should be the very best in the State.  
These cannot be secured without a cooperation of the local land offices allowing free access to all their plats, field notes, descriptive lists & other powers of information & the careful examination <sup>on the land</sup> of each tract selected by the Commissioners. Beside all this we must have the hearty cooperation of the Registers to secure an early settlement of the titles to each tract.  
This is the means to the best lands of the state as the legislature will not provide for the payment of even office fees after the College buildings land has been given to the state. I do not desire to be held responsible for the selection, without the means to the end. Such a policy is most suicidal to the state. The state selections are to prove evidence of the fact, against half made,

# Kansas Memory



KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

## Isaac Goodnow correspondence

I had made up my mind to not say a word more on the subject, but feeling a deep interest in the ~~other project~~ & seeing how the state has been fooled in, present selectors of land, by a parsimonious policy & knowing that these questions & difficulties will one by one rise in the way, I hoped that a different policy would prevail.

Yours

Most cheerfully would I aid the state to select the best land within her limits, but without the means to the end I can do nothing, but make a selection worth perhaps \$50,000 when it should be worth in 5 years \$500,000. I am not willing to do this, therefore you had better secure the services of some one who thinks he can do better.

It is not necessary & perhaps not politic to select the Commissioners till after the adjournment of the Legislature & you have ample time for reflection.

One Commissioner is far better than three, if he is allowed to see much about as he needs say one or two good men.

I regret the length of this letter, but I trust you will read it carefully & take notice of the facts suggested.

# Kansas Memory



KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

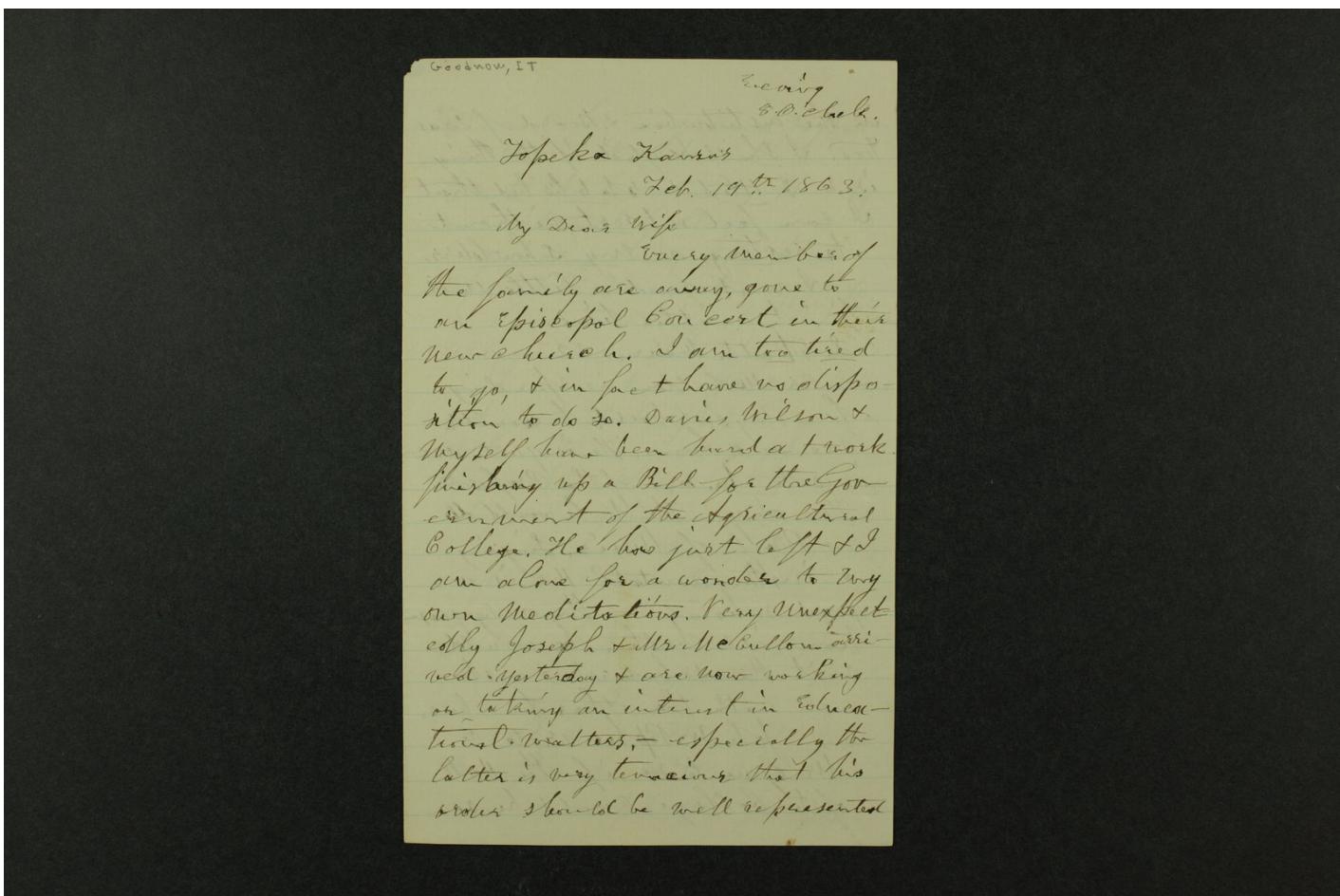
## Isaac Goodnow correspondence

Dear Mr Goodnow from I write to you to advise you of the dangers which now threaten us in making the most of the Grant of Land. I have not done it to hold the Legislature in ~~Leavenworth~~ terrorum. If a sense of Justice & State interest will not cause them to do right I do not wish to hold over them a stick. And I do not for I am, as you know and the Recd of the Officer have nothing to do with the selection of the lands till the time comes to appraise them, though I may have to do a considerable labor it will be more as <sup>now with the field</sup> Clerical duty. Then as Officer ~~will~~ place places on an equal footing with N York & Rhode Island & the State & you will get the best lands in it. This can be done by a simple resolution authorizing the Treasurer of State to pay the respective Land Officers <sup>as cash or with</sup> the land is located the same fee as is allowed for locating the other lands located <sup>with</sup> & Or if I am in trouble about the debt I owe for the ~~officers~~ <sup>and</sup> letters from Co. H. Haskell and do not know where to get the money I will a deed as soon as you <sup>as</sup> I have <sup>and</sup> come to understand S. D. Houston

# Kansas Memory



## Isaac Goodnow correspondence



# Kansas Memory



KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

## Isaac Goodnow correspondence

in the institution & Board of Trustees. I shall be glad if the thing is so settled & established that I can feel at rest, without its resting on my shoulders.

I must send a little & will finish another time.

So batch more. 22.

Br. McCallum is spending a few days, & boards here with me in a house. He is quite anxious to be one of the Professors. How do you think he would do as Prof. of Music, Singing & instrumental? He is a good scholar & the only question is whether he would suit the scholars! & work well with the other teachers.

John W. Phipps wrote to Mr. Gore to see if the Hall of the College could be se-

ured for a grand supper on the 4<sup>th</sup> of March to celebrate the location of the Agricultural College.

If any thing of the kind should be done, it ought to be done according to Methodist usages — no dancing!

It occurs to me that a Methodist festival might be got up with a good supper, provided by all the ladies around, a large a quarter at the door. I have this pay for the supper. This would keep out the rabble, who go simply to socialize without contributing anything. The charge may be 50 cents if thought best.

I think I will write to John W. Phipps about it. You can name it to Br. Harford. The proceeds

# Kansas Memory



## Isaac Goodnow correspondence

should go to Dr. Harford, towards his Ministerial support or as a donation. Have someone talk with John about it, if it should suit Dr. H. Dr. Davidson may be known to advise on the subject. He might be the one to talk with John. He also as P. Elder might be here with Dr. Harford in the process. I shall come home soon as every way consistent but don't expect me till I come.

P.S. I have just returned from a sermon by Dr. Brooks on the Care of God for his children. — good sermon. The going is very bad.

Written immediately after the Social. Love to all. I think I will get the Cotton seed. Tell Miss Davis about the School & exbibition. Kisses for me. I have no time to write her now. You must write & take great pains to make the letters plain.

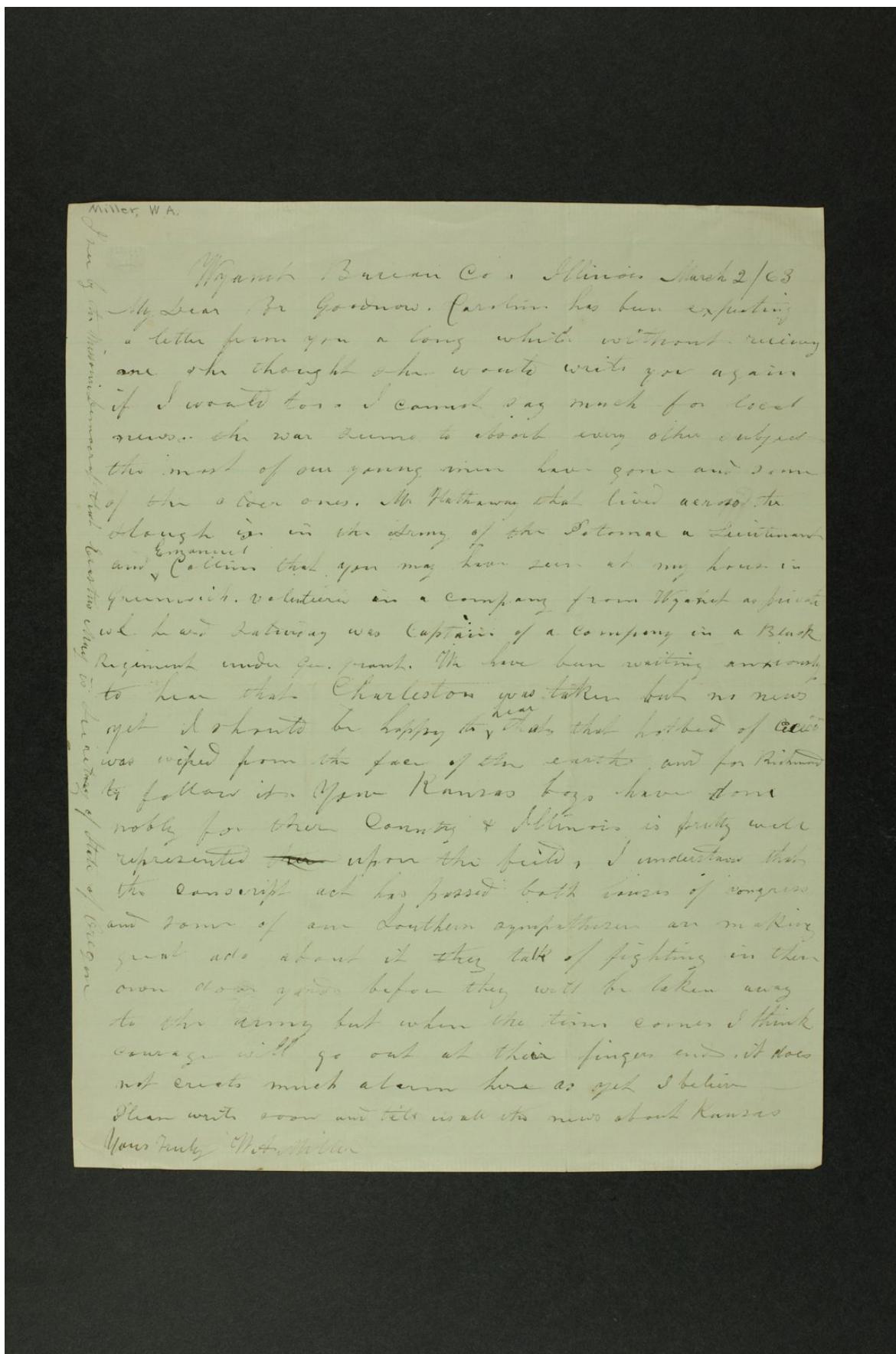
Yours affectionately, I.G.

# Kansas Memory



KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

## Isaac Goodnow correspondence



# Kansas Memory



KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

## Isaac Goodnow correspondence

Dear Brother Goodnow

Albert has been writing to you and has offered me a space to write too. We all want to hear from you and family very much. I hope you have not forgotten us now that you have so many new cares. How is Mrs. Goodnow's health now? Does she enjoy the west as well as her old England home. I wish I could step in sometime and spend an evening with you. Do you think of going East this summer if you do I hope you will come this way. I expect if you should go to East Greenwich again you would find a great change & quite many have died since we left there.

Mrs. Shantz made us a visit last fall. She looked very much as she did when she left C. Greenwich. She inquired about you - she would like to see you very much.

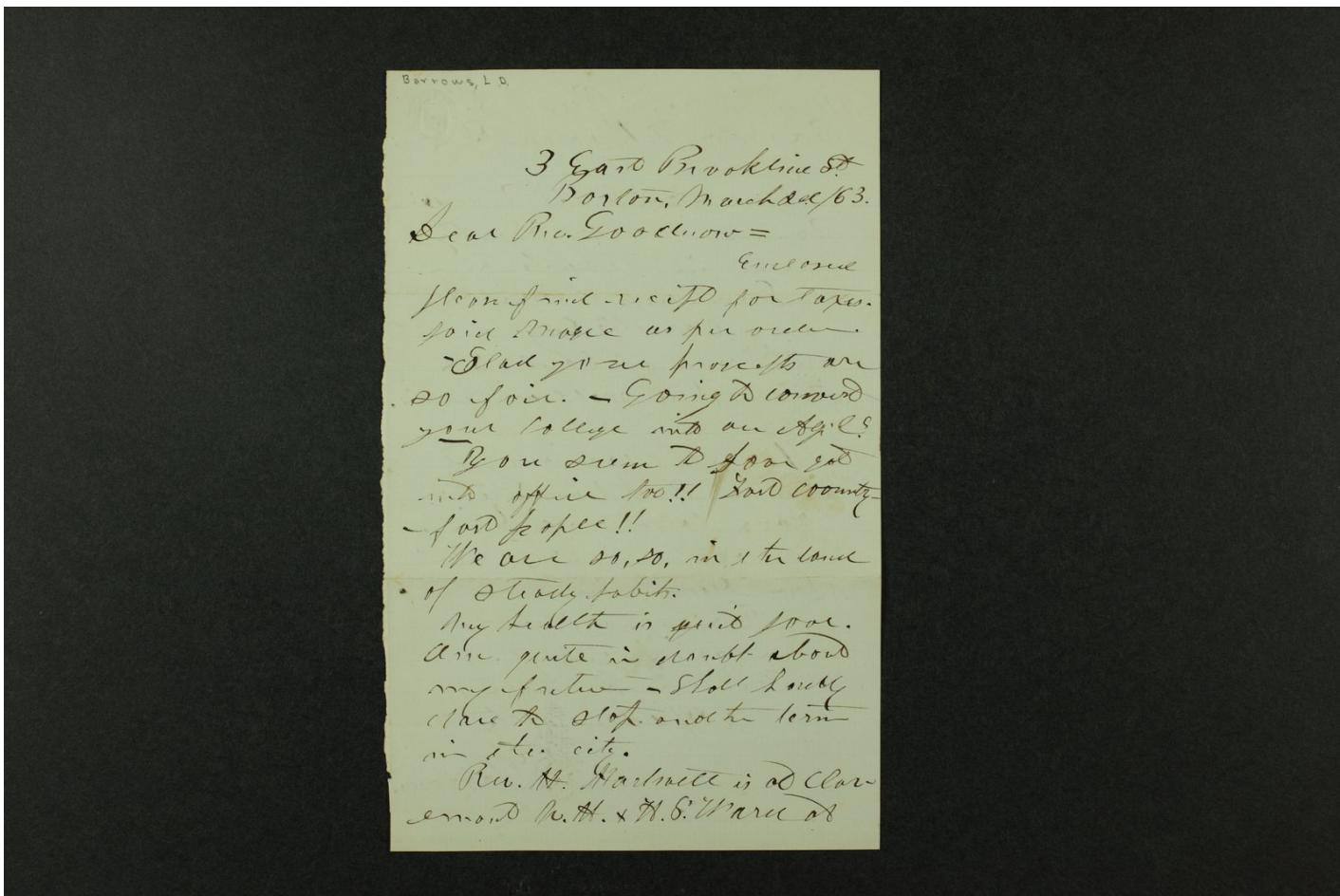
She said her father had married a young woman Rufus is Post Master at Henniker they have a very pleasant home. Sarah lives near them. They hear Mr. Stratton is doing well in California. Sarah's husband is in the Army. Oliver Holland is a very acceptable preacher. They have one child.

We often have letters from Mr and Mrs. Hall. They do not like their home in California as well as East Greenwich. We have had a probation meeting here this winter. Several have joined the church among the number was our friend who has changed very much since you saw her. She thinks a gradual at first and will be like her former self again. The ladder light on all around me. See you next summer. Your friend Mary Whittle.

# Kansas Memory



## Isaac Goodnow correspondence



# Kansas Memory



## Isaac Goodnow correspondence

Monson Mifflin & Rev. J. S.  
Barrows, of Weston, Pa.

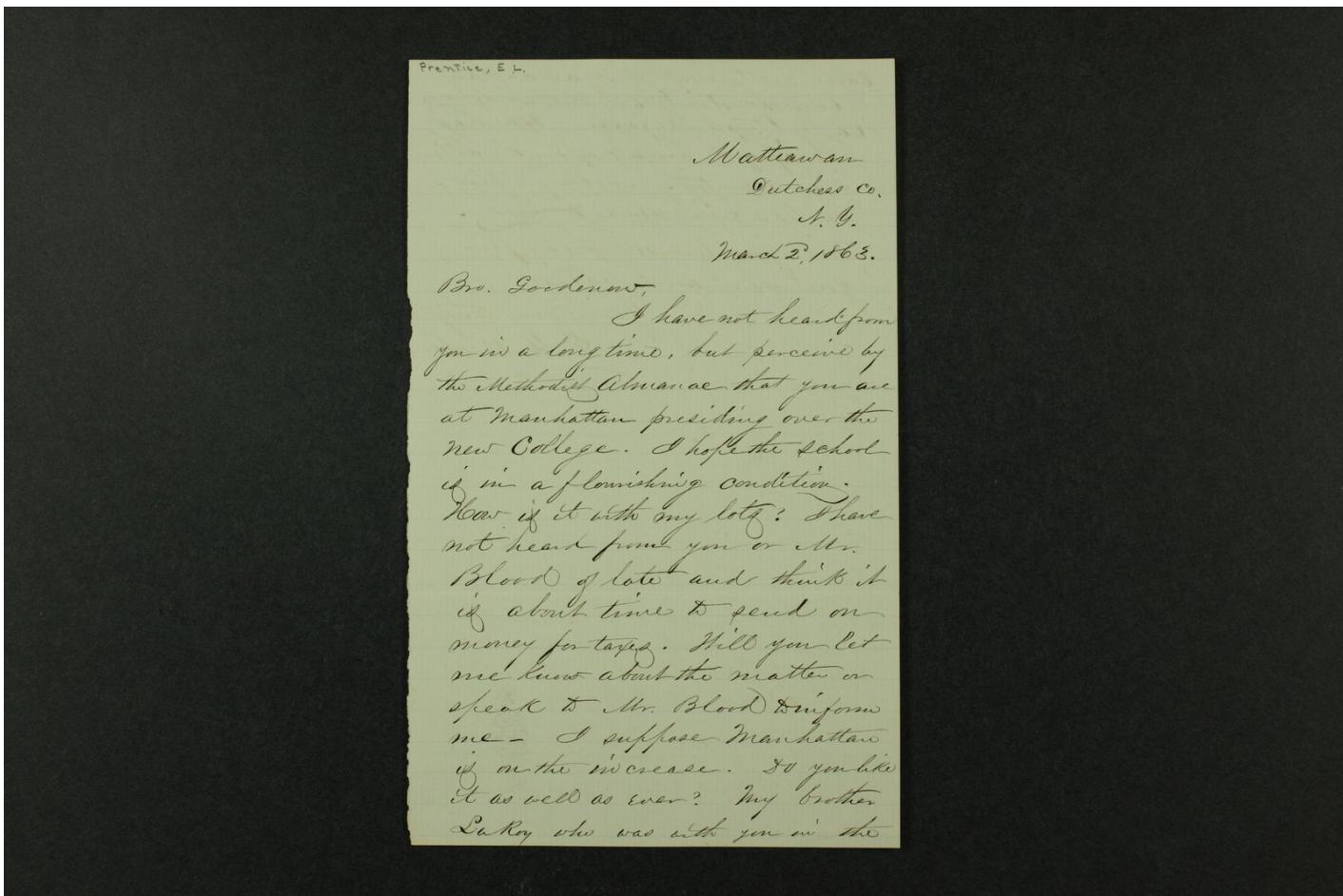
The Town & Holbrook's Progressive  
Review is now mostly  
used in schools here.  
Greenleaf Arith. &  
Cornell Geog. &  
with many of Collier's &  
Titus, as well as Warren.

We are closing up at  
Jennings & of Garanty.  
Have large congregation.  
More revival of late  
than before, sin & come here.  
Revival influence is  
more quite genuine.  
In much love,  
affectionately  
*L. D. Barrows.*

# Kansas Memory



## Isaac Goodnow correspondence



# Kansas Memory



## Isaac Goodnow correspondence

Early settler of Manhattan  
recently died at Pittsburgh  
Var of Typhoid fever. He has  
sacrificed himself upon the alter  
of his country. Noble fellow.  
He has gone home to rest.  
Will you let me hear from  
you soon and oblige

Yours very truly  
E. G. Bentel

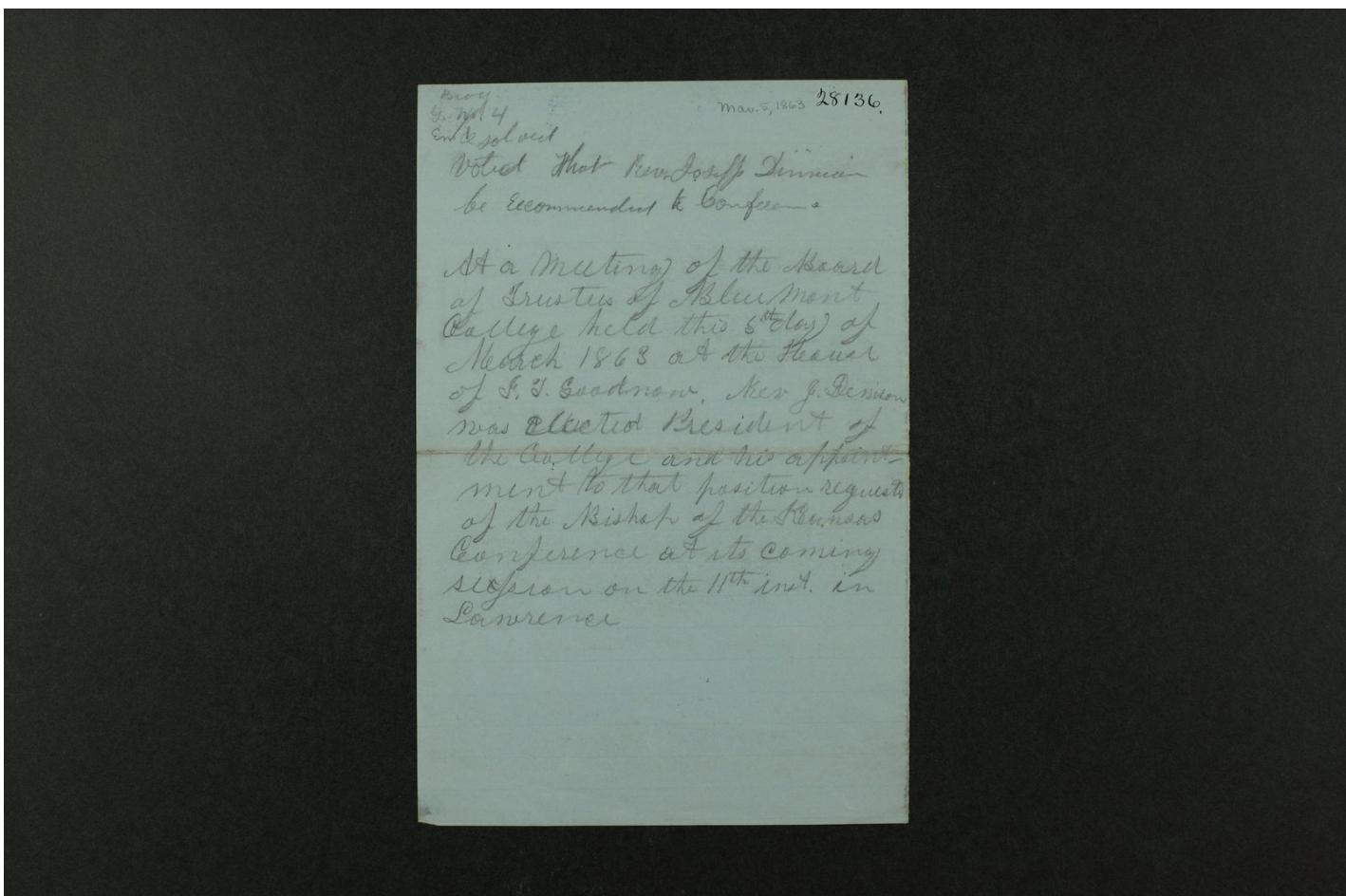
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801  
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1 1' 8  
—  
0' 8'  
1 9' 6  
9 4' 1  
5 1' 1  
—  
1 9' 1  
9 2' 1  
0' 6' 1  
9 9' 8 ~~ft~~  
—  
0' 5  
9 1' 4  
—  
5 8' 1  
1 0' - 8 ~~ft~~  
—  
0' 5' 1

# Kansas Memory



## Isaac Goodnow correspondence



# Kansas Memory



## Isaac Goodnow correspondence

[1863]

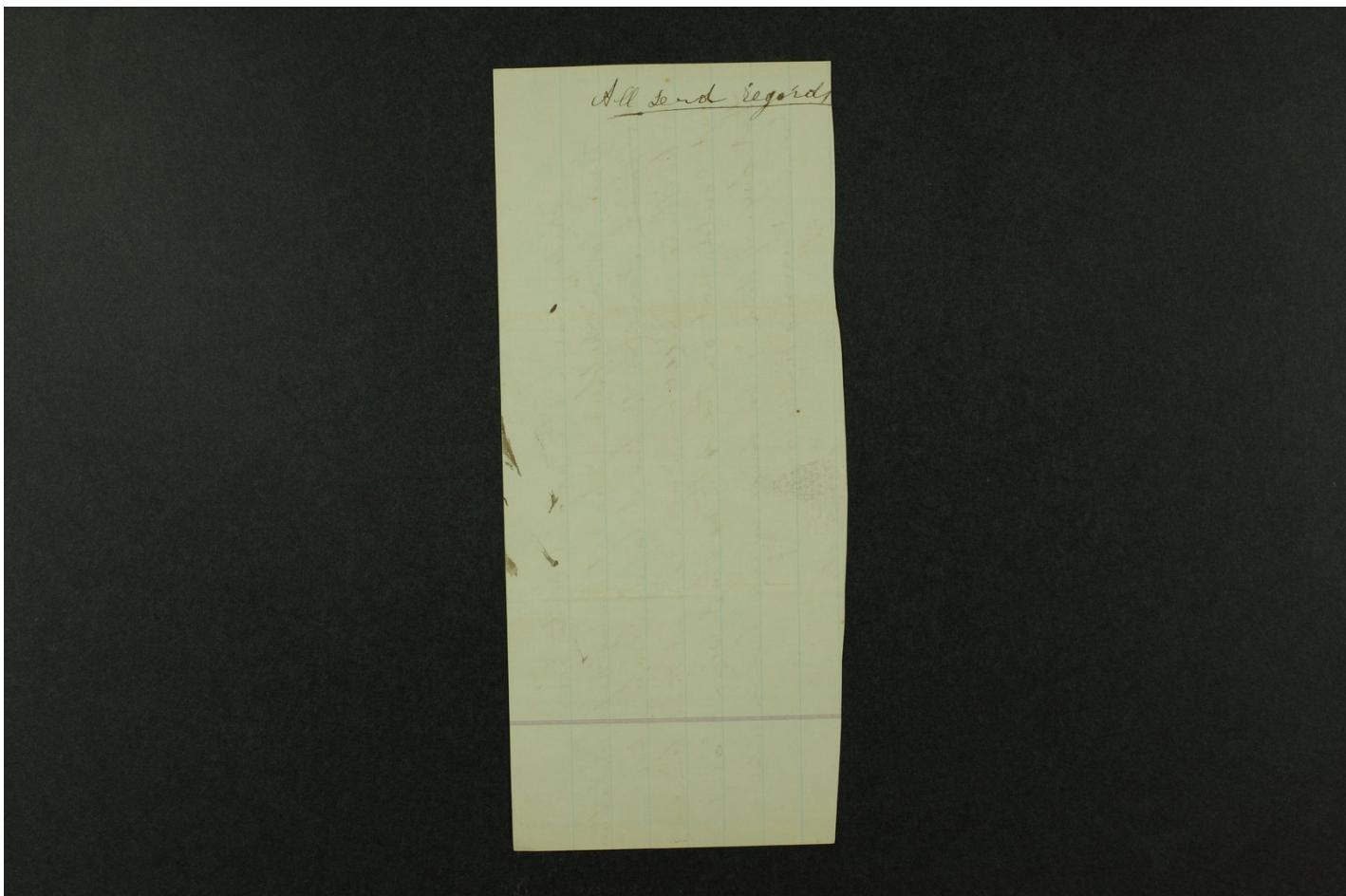
Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup> would be the best  
time for a Supper. The returning Representatives  
& I think Senator Barker I hope will be able  
to be there on such an occasion at that time  
but could not on the 4<sup>th</sup> as the Session closes  
that day. If there is no doing we can have an enter-  
taining evening ourselves.

Yours very truly,  
Isaac Goodnow.

# Kansas Memory



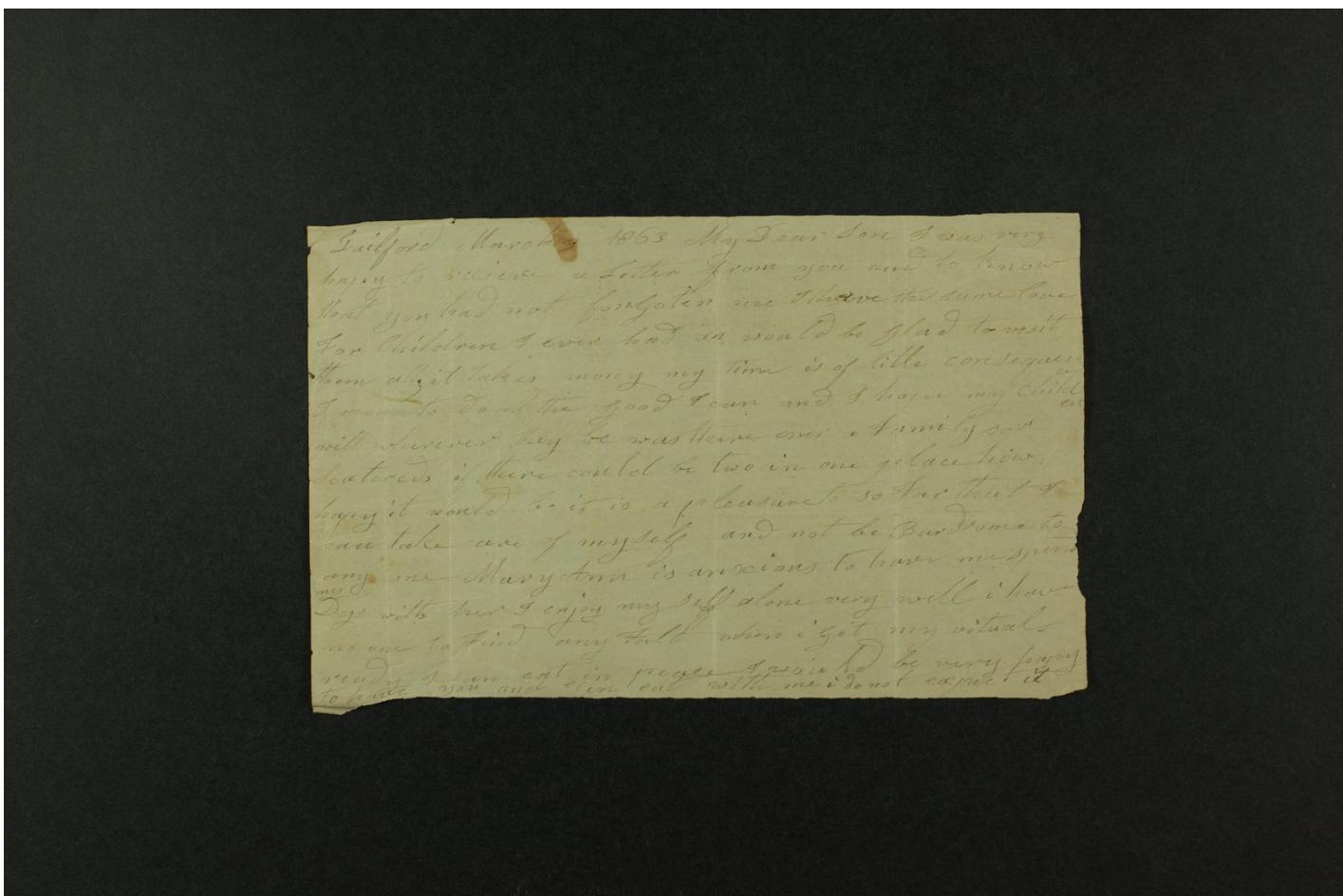
## Isaac Goodnow correspondence



# Kansas Memory



## Isaac Goodnow correspondence



# Kansas Memory



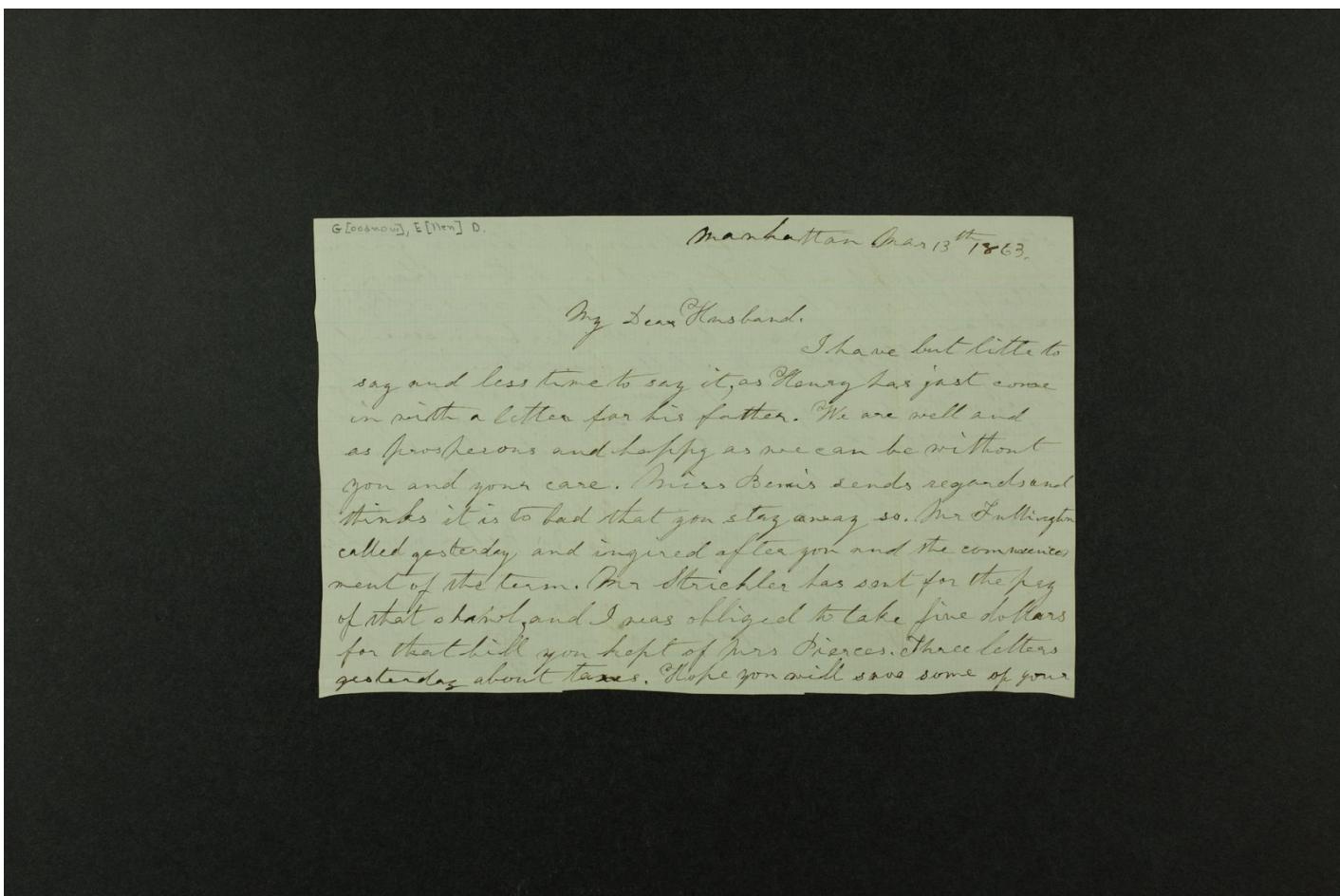
## Isaac Goodnow correspondence

I came from Whitingham last week made at Leymont  
they very much afflicted with Pickruff Lucy's very sick  
with the consumption, I do not think she will live 2  
months she looks like a corpse Albert has fits and  
there no roome for me i am thankfull i can take  
care of myself I have not been long I left I do them  
all the good i can and nowe it leaves me how  
what i have done I wish them well they leave trouble  
as much as they can bear Lyman's complaining his  
health & feelings if he would stop taking so much  
Medicine and more carefull of what he eat it <sup>would</sup> be  
better your Friends here and in Brattleboro send all  
Kind regards and Kind Love there son Robert is captain  
of Brattleboro company with soon Sibit Whitney F B Goodnow

# Kansas Memory



## Isaac Goodnow correspondence



Goodnow, E [new] D.

Manhattan Mar 13<sup>th</sup> 1863.

My Dear Husband.

I have but little to say and less time to say it, as Henry has just come in with a letter for his father. We are well and as prosperous and happy as we can be without you and your care. Miss Davis sends regards and thinks it is so bad that you stay away so. Mr. Ellington called yesterday and inquired after you and the commencement of the term. Mr. Strickler has sent for the pay of that school, and I was obliged to take five dollars for that bill you kept of Mrs. Pierces. Three letters yesterday about taxes. Hope you will save some of your

# Kansas Memory



## Isaac Goodnow correspondence

strength for you will find enough to do when you arrive  
home to Joseph and wife and say to them their  
little pet has not been sick one minute nor really  
exert since she has been here. She has begun several  
times and stopped with a little dissension. It is her by  
word if she is to look for employment. It is time for me to go  
home, without any apparent feeling. Have just as good  
a time as you can, without any anxiety about home.  
Give my love to Dr & Sister Dennis & Neddy, with  
all the best that can be done for it. Mr Gifford was yesterday  
evening with a load of goods. Thanks Dr Parker my come.  
The children had a good day here. Irving folks  
are managing Old man Goar like he in battle.

Yours affectionately C.D.G.

# Kansas Memory



## Isaac Goodnow correspondence

Dear Uncle  
Albion, Ma  
Mar. 21st 1863

My Dear Uncle

It has been a long time since I have heard a word from you - I wrote to you several weeks ago but have received no answer. I begin to think you didn't get my last -

I have frequent letters from grandmother & mother, Uncle William & Aunt Marriett - they are all enjoying pretty good health this winter & believe Grandmother talks of visiting Maine the next summer -

McNamee had a pretty long rest this winter, but I expect he'll have some time idle much longer, or at least any longer than till the mud gets dried up so the Artillery can ~~be~~ be moved -

# Kansas Memory



KANSAS  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

## Isaac Goodnow correspondence

Yesterday morning it commenced snowing & has snowed nearly ever since —

We have had several little snow storms this winter, but the snow never stays with us long, we have had a great deal of rain also, which has rendered the ground moist for drill a great deal of the time —

When the weather & ground is suitable we have two football & one drill per day

Since writing to you last I have received a commission making me 2d Lieutenant — So of course I fare better <sup>now</sup> & easier times than I used to —

What do you folks in Kansas think of the war, do you think it will even end? I suppose not, at any rate till certain parties have made all the money of it they think they can, for I believe the whole thing is one immense political speculation all the way through

from beginning to end — There are too many traitors on our side & there has been since the war broke out — I believe it would have been a capital idea to have made an example of a few of them by putting them through a sort of a tight rope performance — & perhaps it is not too late yet — It's a shame the way things are carried on — With a divided North against an undivided South our Army never will be successful — In the South they all hang together, they are bound to support the Administration no matter whether it accords with their views or not — They have but one object in view, that is to support the government of the Confederate States —

Now if the North would only say, we will be united, support Lincoln & his administration, no matter of ~~any~~ political views are slightly different from his — we can fix

# Kansas Memory



## Isaac Goodnow correspondence

that Toper the war is over - But was it  
with all our might to crush the rebellion  
& have that our sole object - give the se-  
cessionists such a sound thrashing that they never  
will want to secede again or, at least, never  
will dare attempt it - When this is done  
they can argue polities with some propriety -  
If the North would only  
be ~~not~~ unanimous about this, we would  
very soon see a change of affairs in our favor -  
But enough of this -  
How are times in Kansas? Now is the  
college flourishing  
Send to Aunt - Write soon  
I remain Your affec son  
Direct Lt Col Frank Goodwin  
Co G. 139th Regt. P.V.  
Washington D.C.  
March 63

# Kansas Memory



## Isaac Goodnow correspondence

Webb, Thomas  
I. S. Goodnow Boston March 22, 1855,  
Manhattan, Ks.  
Dear Sir. I wrote you at Washington on the 27th ult. relative to that most annoying of all taxes business with which I have been inflicted & afflicted, Manhattan tax. I have sought through you the information needed to aid me in deciding whether, after having paid assessments certified upon me year after year, I really own the property for which I have been taxed. This depends mainly, as I understand, upon the manner in which the City accounts have been kept. So that any looseness, from whatever cause, upon the part of the officials charged with the business, should not be their detriment, but to the injury of absent real estate owners. I have as yet rec'd no reply to the most important of my inquiries from you, nor directly or indirectly from the "City Marshal & Collector" Wm H. Brown, I suppose the next intelligence I shall receive will be that Sam on the delinquent tax list for a certain amount accruing from the backward help upon the part of your City official to give me the information which will enable me to act understandingly. It is unnecessary for me to trouble you with a repetition of the details sent in my last preceding letter, as reference can easily be had to it, if Mr Brown for yourself.

# Kansas Memory



## Isaac Goodnow correspondence

should leave occasion for them  
I must again beg to be advised  
what Lots Mr. Bowes means in his  
letter to you, dated Jan. 28/83, where  
he says, "On examining the books  
I find that those lots of Webb's  
were rightfully sold <sup>up to</sup> for taxes of  
1860." I also should like a little  
more light in regard to the state-  
ment — "Webb's name is not on  
the tax book for 1860." If not, there  
has been carelessness or knowl-  
edge about it; or the tax book is taken  
as a guide, or disregarded as such,  
in levying taxes, as whim, caprice,  
convenience or policy dictates. For  
in addition to what I declared in  
my former letter about the 1860  
tax bill, I was absolved for the  
same property in 1859, also in  
1861, a lot's receipts for all three  
of the years.

In accordance with your  
request I called on Jas. P. Magee  
and paid him the amount by me due  
to you \$21.70 for my Manhattan  
State, County & School Tax  
for 1862; I also added to this sum  
desired the amount requisite to  
make the sum of thirty dollars for  
which inclosed you will find Mr. Ma-  
gee's receipt for the \$21.70 and the  
name of Bowes written on the back.  
The above tax was paid in cash, so that  
this amount may be deducted from  
the amount owing you in full, officially  
from 20 and 30 cents for the time, I should add Webb.