

#### Governor Lorenzo Lewelling, Correspondence, Box 1

Section 22, Pages 631 - 660

These folders contain correspondence subject files with Governor Lewelling, twelfth governor of the State of Kansas, 1893-1895, and the first Populist governor of the state. Correspondence received includes general letters, official response letters and letters concerning State agencies and subject files. Some proclamations are also included. Subject files include applications, endorsements, and remonstrances relating to candidates for appointments to the Kansas State Normal School (Emporia) (present Emporia State University), the Kansas State Penitentiary (present Lansing Correctional Facility), judicial, & other positions; county organizational documents; and letters relating to counties, crime and criminals, justices of the peace, lands, military affairs, relief aid, Prohibition law, and other topics.

Creator: Lewelling, Lorenzo Dow, 1846-1900

Date: 1893-1895

Callnumber: Governor's Office, Governor Lewelling, Correspondence, Box 1

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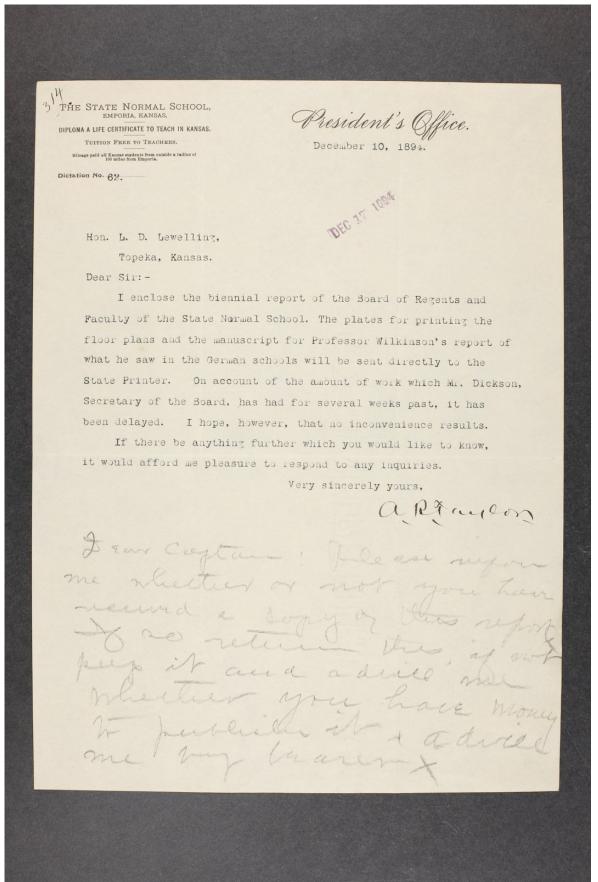
# KANSAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY



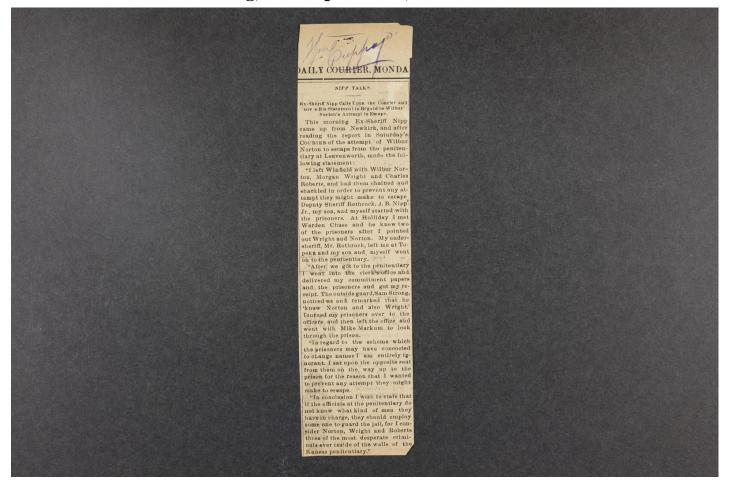
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THÉ STATE NORMAL SCHOOL, EMPORIA, KANSAS. President's Office. DIPLOMA A LIFE CERTIFICATE TO TEACH IN KANSAS. TUITION FREE TO TEACHERS. August 3, 1894. Mileage paid all Kansas students from outside a radius of 100 miles from Emperia. Hon. L. D. Lewelling, Garden City, Kansas. Dear Sir: . I regret that you are engaged for the evening of September 3. It is hardly possible for various reasons for us to change the date for our opening and we all join hazrtily in a request that you strive if possible to readjust your program for the first week in September so as to be with us at that time. There are so many reasons why you should be here, that I hope the change can be made. Be kind enough to write me by return mail whether there is any prospect of your coming and greatly oblige, O. R. Taylor ne Sincerely yours, Dictated.

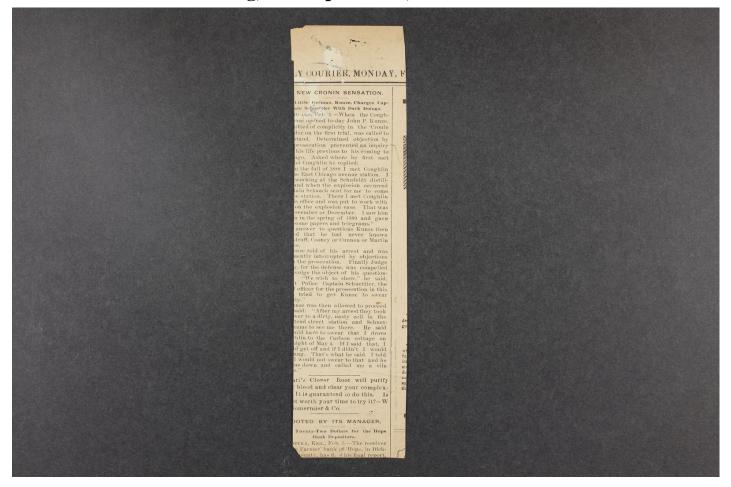






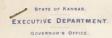








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Governor Lewelling being asked what further proceedings, is any, would be had relative to the investigation at the penitentiary replied: There will be no further proceedings, all this chatter about the penitentiary is the result of a conspiracy on the part of a few fellows who have been discharged and who have a grievance. They served notice on me last Spring that the Warden had to go, and that if he was not removed they would call to their aid their influential friends in the party and I would have to suffer the consequences. I told them I did not wish to shield the Warden in any wrong doing, but from a 1 that could be learned the administration of the prison seemed to be a striking success. I reminded them of the difficulties to be encountered in suddenly changing the entire working force of such administration and starting off toward success with nearly a hundred untried and inexperienced menand that it seemed to me the Warden deserved comendation rather than cersure, from general principles. However I expressed a willingness to give a hearing to all or any who felt agrieved, and charges were filed against the Warden near the close of the month of May. These charges were referred to the Board of Directors in accordance with section 5, chapter 152, Session Laws 1891, which reads as follows: " It shall be their duty (meaning the Board) to inquire into any improper conduct which may be alleged to have been committed by the Warden or any other officer of the penitentiary."

The complainants were notified that they should appear before the Board and give evidence, this they declined to do, alleging that the Board would not give an impartial hearing, and further demanded an investigation under Sec. 59-58 page 1895, General

Under this statute they no doubt hoped for a prolonged trial and witness fees for an extended period, but I did not feel justified in incurring an expenditure of \$1500, or \$2000 and especially objected because there was no appropriation with which to pay.

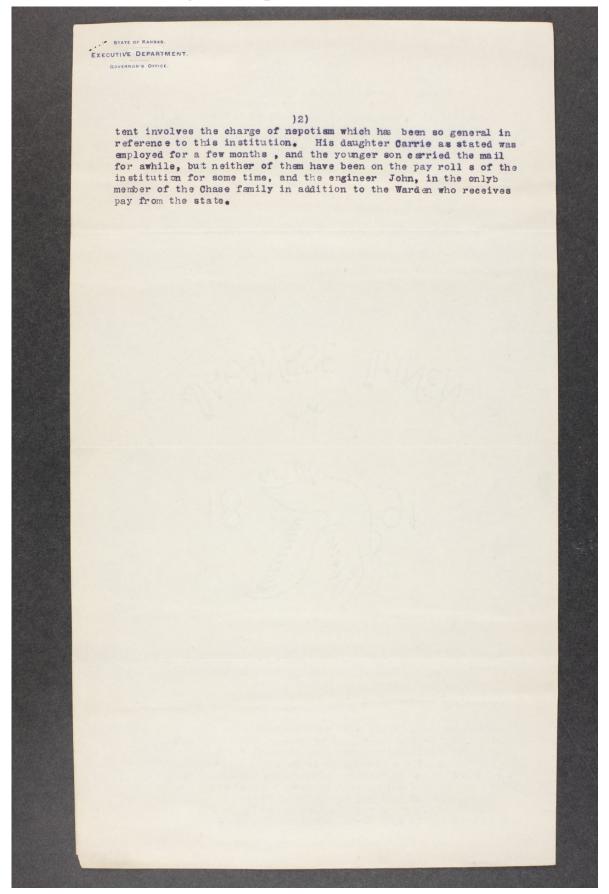
When the Board sat to hear the case, the complainants notwithstanding they had been regularly subpectated, refused to appear, a few witnesses for the defence were examined and the Warden aquitted when the charges ware analized, it is aparant that only two or three are of a serious nature, all the facts about the coal mines were easily obtained by inspection, and some time ago I sent an expert to make an examination and now have his report on file. The testimony taken, fully excorates the Warden in every instance. Example The only charges of importance were numbers one two and three of those brought by the chief clerk.

The first of these charged that the Warden had taken money from the appropriation for boarding purposes and invested it in hogs — the charge itself does not state except by an ingenious inference that the Warden receivedxmanney any pecuniary advantage from this transaction. The Warden admitted having make the purchase of hogs, and the testimony showed that the state had netted thereby a profit of \$495.32.

The second charge of the chief clerk was: that the Warden had settled a claim against the Armour Packing Co, collecting a rebate on the purchase price of ten thousand pounds of beacon. The clerk claimed that no settlement was recorded, and the inference was that the Warden had received the money. The amount invloved in this transaction was twenty-five dollars. In this case the board discovered that the chief clerk had himself omitted to make the preper entry upon the books to show that this amount was due from the Armour Packing Co. The books of said company did show the proper credit and the money had simply not been collected. The amount was collected on June 9th 1894.

The third charge was that the Warden's daughter Carrie drew pay from the institution as as sistant keeper, contrary to the rule of the institution. To this the Warden admitted that his daughter had been employed as cashier and assistant in the office, and he also showed from the records that it had been the custom of his predesessors to employ some one in this capacity. This to some ex-







#### Governor Lorenzo Lewelling, Correspondence, Box 1

To His Excellency Gov. L. D. Lewelling,

Topeka, Kansas.

Sir:--

According to your instruction I visited the coal mine at the State
Penitentiary at Lansing Kansas, and made a thorough examination of the
same, and have the honor to make the following report, viz:-

I found the mine in good condition with a few exceptions; first, the main shaft is needing some repairs, although not unsafe, but when the repairs which are now in progress are made, the shaft will be in excellent order and perfectly safe; said repairs consist of new guiders from top to bottom of shaft and tearing out the old lumber that separated the air way from the main shaft and wherever there is a bulge, the shaft or decayed place in the shaft, new lumber is being put in. Safety catches are on the premises and I would recommend that they be placed on the cage also. While the law of Kasas demands that safety catches be used on all cages, my experience and observation convinces me that they are noy always reliable.

The drainage of the mine is not in the best possible condition.

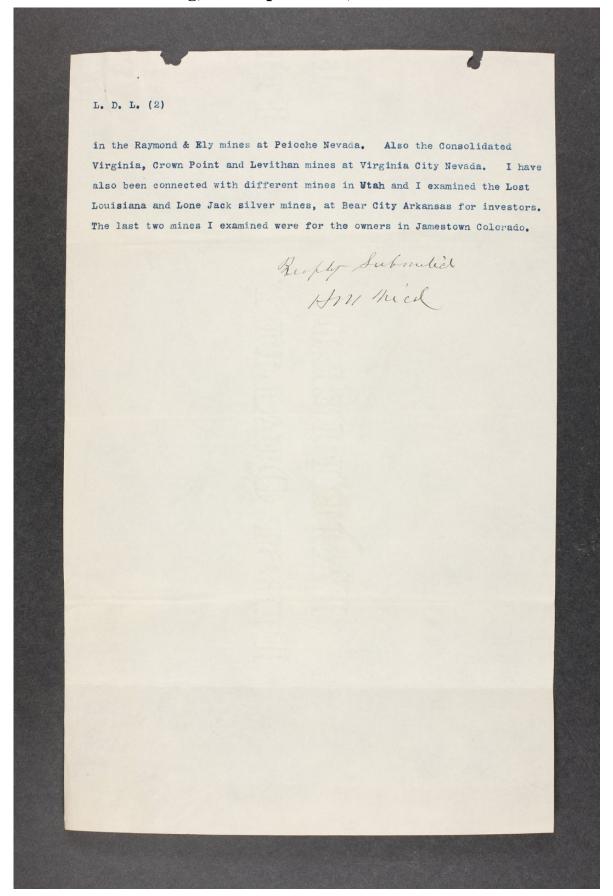
It needs new pipes from pump tp sump in air shaft, or some other means be provided to drain the mine; there is water only in a small portion of the mine.

The west return air way needs cutting up and timbered from face at drift #4\_about 200 feet, as the water is dripping through the roof and is liable to cave in and fill air way, which would result in very pour air in mine, if nothing worse, as it is very essential that all the air ways be kept in good andition. There are other places in the air way that I could not describe without a plate that the slate on roof is loose and needs to be cut down, as it is liable to fall.

I find that the doors in a number of the drifts that have been placed there to keep the air from passing through that drift, are not air tight and the spaces around the facing should be plastered up.

You suggested that in order to show my ability to report intelligently upon the safety of this mine, that I mention in this report my experience; hence, I will state that I have had experience as a miner in Wyoming and Excelsior coal mines at Rock Springs Wyoming; also have worked

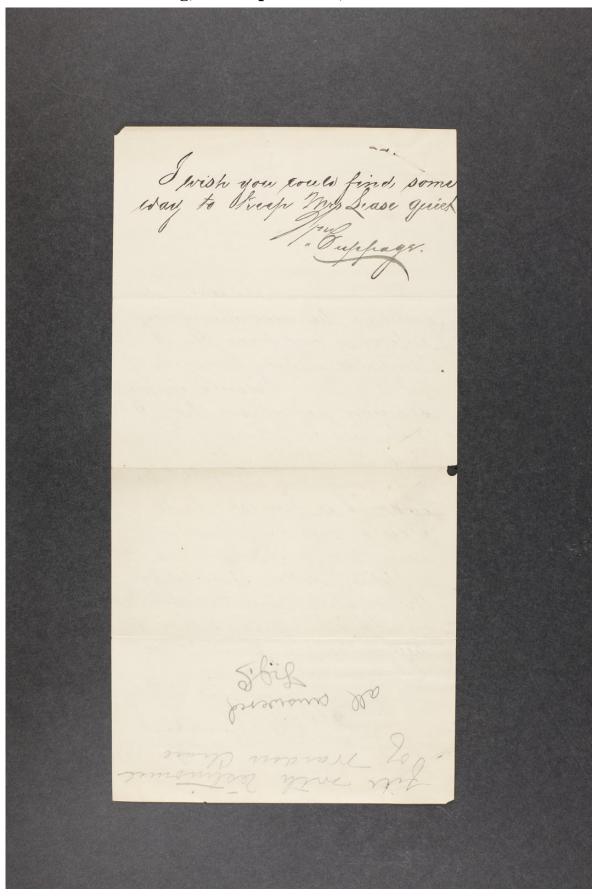




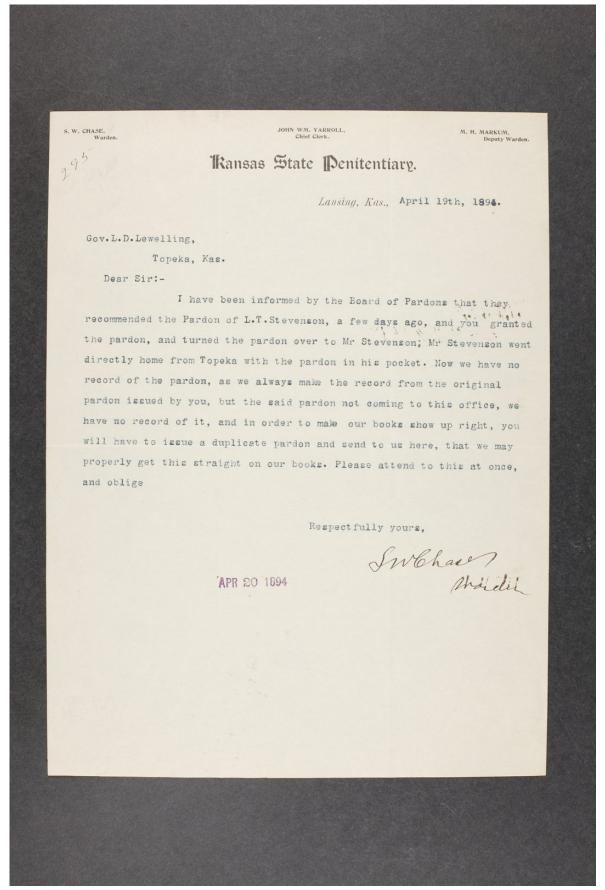


The New St. James
Winfield, Kas., Jebry 6 1894
My dear Sir  The explanation  given in the accompanying  interview and from the  Windield Daily Courier of
the 5th inst. Swould in my service reflect on the integrity of Warden Chase, Nort S.O.W. Sahase has been
and he is honest and evould not be a parti to any such prooked tess. This maker should be
thoroughly investigated as our late Sheriff is open to sustricion by those who know him has
Nourofvers truly

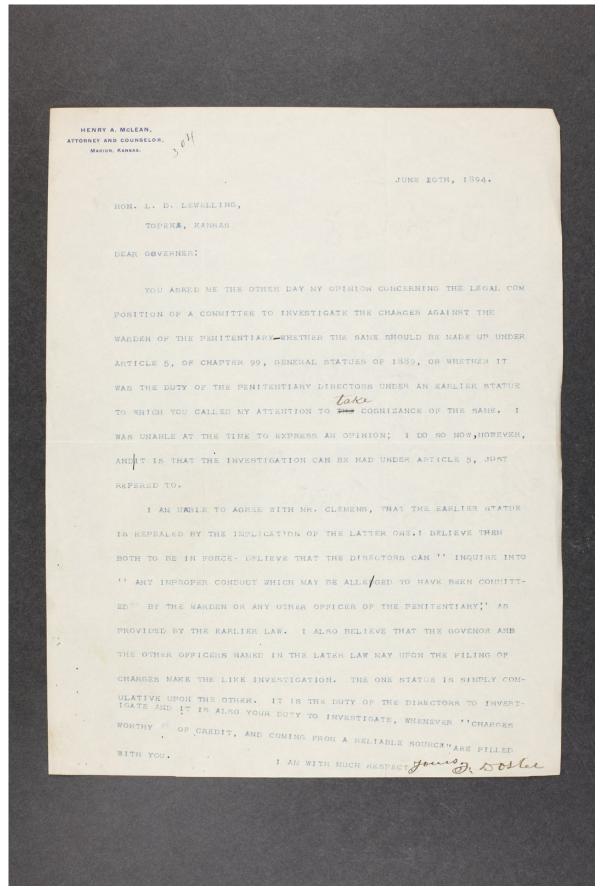




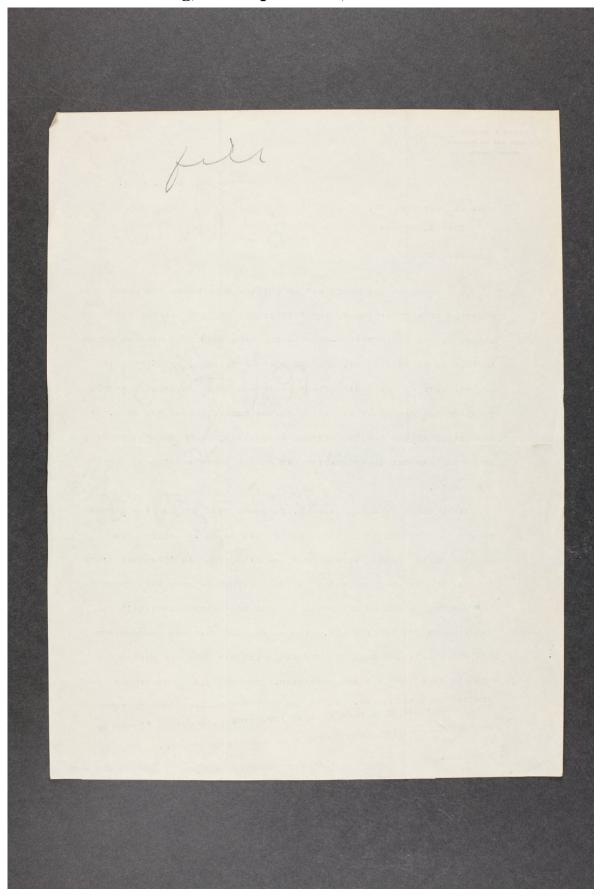














#### Governor Lorenzo Lewelling, Correspondence, Box 1

S. W. CHASE,
JOHN WM. YARROLL,
Chief Clerk,
M. H. MARKUM,
Deputy Warden.

#### Ransas State Penitentiary.

Lansing, Kas., June 20th, 1894.

Gov. L. D. Lewelling,

Topeka, Kas.

Dear Governor:- I mailed you this morning a copy of the "Leavenworth Times" of this date, with my reply to Yarroll, Bunn, & Co. Hope you will read it and will let me know what you think about it. I see by the "Capital" that there is talk of the Anti-Lewelling force organizing and nominating a ticket. Now I don't believe there is a word of that true. As far as Leavenworth County is concerned, every one seem to be well satisfied with the ticket, and I dont hear any kicking on the Suffrage Amendment. Frank O'Donald says that A.P.A. resolution, that with it he can get five hundred votes; if that is the case, that will over-balance all objection to the Suffrage Amendment. As for that "gang's" injuring me in this County, or yourself either, it will not amount to anything, for they havetalked until no one believes anything they say. In fact the more they talk now, the better it will be for all of us. If there is anything wanting let me know and I will come up. Keep an eye on the State Central Committee, there are some things a little peculiar about that and I think needs watching.

Intehase As ever yours,



