

## **S.T. Learnard to Oscar Learnard**

S.T. Learnard, a farmer and occasional state legislator from Bakersfield, Vermont, wrote his "Kansas" son frequently and complained that replies from Kansas were far too scarce. In this letter, S.T. Learnard commented on suffering in the territory, presumably from drought, and his hope that the national election would eliminate "her troubles from one source." He complimented the "brave men and women" of Kansas for their "suffering and endurance in the Cause of Liberty," and expressed confidence that Abraham Lincoln, who did well in Bakersfield, would win New York.

Creator: Learnard, S. T.

Date: November 6, 1860

Callnumber: Oscar E. Learnard Coll. #415 Box 1 Folder 3

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KANSAS  
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Bakersfield Nov 6<sup>th</sup> 1860  
Dear Son

Yours of the 16<sup>th</sup> ult  
came to hand in due time  
& we are pleased to learn  
that you have not forgotten  
your old Father & Mother  
& have resolved to be  
more punctual in future  
in writing -

We regret to learn that  
the inhabitants of oppressed  
Kansas are destitute of the  
necessaries of life.

It does appear that you are  
sorely afflicted, yet I hope  
that this day will tell that  
our troubles from our home  
are at an end. & I hope that  
aid may be furnished  
to the suffering & needy & that

Providence will smile prop-  
erly upon you & that  
you will be yet prosperous &  
happy

I know of no State that  
deserves more, for no State  
has suffered more

If there ever was a people  
who deserved a monument  
to commemorate their their courage  
suffering & endurance in the cause  
of Liberty, it is those brave men  
& women who in the darkest  
hour stood firm & undaunted  
in the cause of freedom &  
in my opinion the Nation is  
indebted to those patriots for the  
extension of the principles of  
Liberty & Equality in Kansas Mo-  
& the great West.

The day is not far distant when  
a monument of the now Slave





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States will be entered among  
the few - the clank of chains  
or the Master lash will not be  
used to subjugate a fellow  
being to uphold tail on account  
of his color -

You wrote that you thought  
of coming to old St to  
winter, if you can arrange  
your business so as to leave it  
in safe hands I think it would  
be best for you to come &  
share the young cake for others.  
The last of Sept & most of Oct  
was cool & rainy, since it has  
been warm & pleasant. Today  
it commenced raining but  
has changed to snow, the ground  
is covered with a white mantle  
- winter is at hand -

I would again remind you  
in regard to those deeds  
Bakerfield gave 103 Mefferty

for Liberty - I assure you  
I am anxious to hear from  
New York. Yet I have  
strong faith that she will  
prove true to freedom  
& cast her vote for Lincoln  
Our so called Demos are  
boasting that they answer  
of 89 - We must wait  
patiently the event

All in usual health  
Yours as ever  
S.T. Learnard

1-8-40