

United States versus William Beck for taking timber from Indian lands

These legal documents, dated 1860, relate to the case of the United States vs. William Beck for taking Indian property. Beck was accused of taking rails, boards, logs, clapboard shingles, and timber between April 1 and May of 1860 from land that belonged to the Miami tribe. During the mid-19th century, the Miami reserve was located in present day Miami and Linn counties. Heck was indicted during the May term of 1860 of the U. S. District Court, Kansas Territory, Third District. During the Kansas territorial period, the increase in settlers led to conflict with tribes that were promised permanent lands in Kansas following the Indian Removal Act of 1830.

Date: crime April 1, 1860; indictment May 1860

Callnumber: Kansas Territory Criminal Case Files, Box 4, Folder 56

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KANSAS
HISTORICAL
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United States of America
Territory of Kansas. Third Judicial District

United States
VS
William Beck

In the United States District
Court holden in and for the
third Judicial District of
the Territory of Kansas. For
the trial of Causes arising
under the Constitution and
Laws of the United States
May Term. A. D. 1860

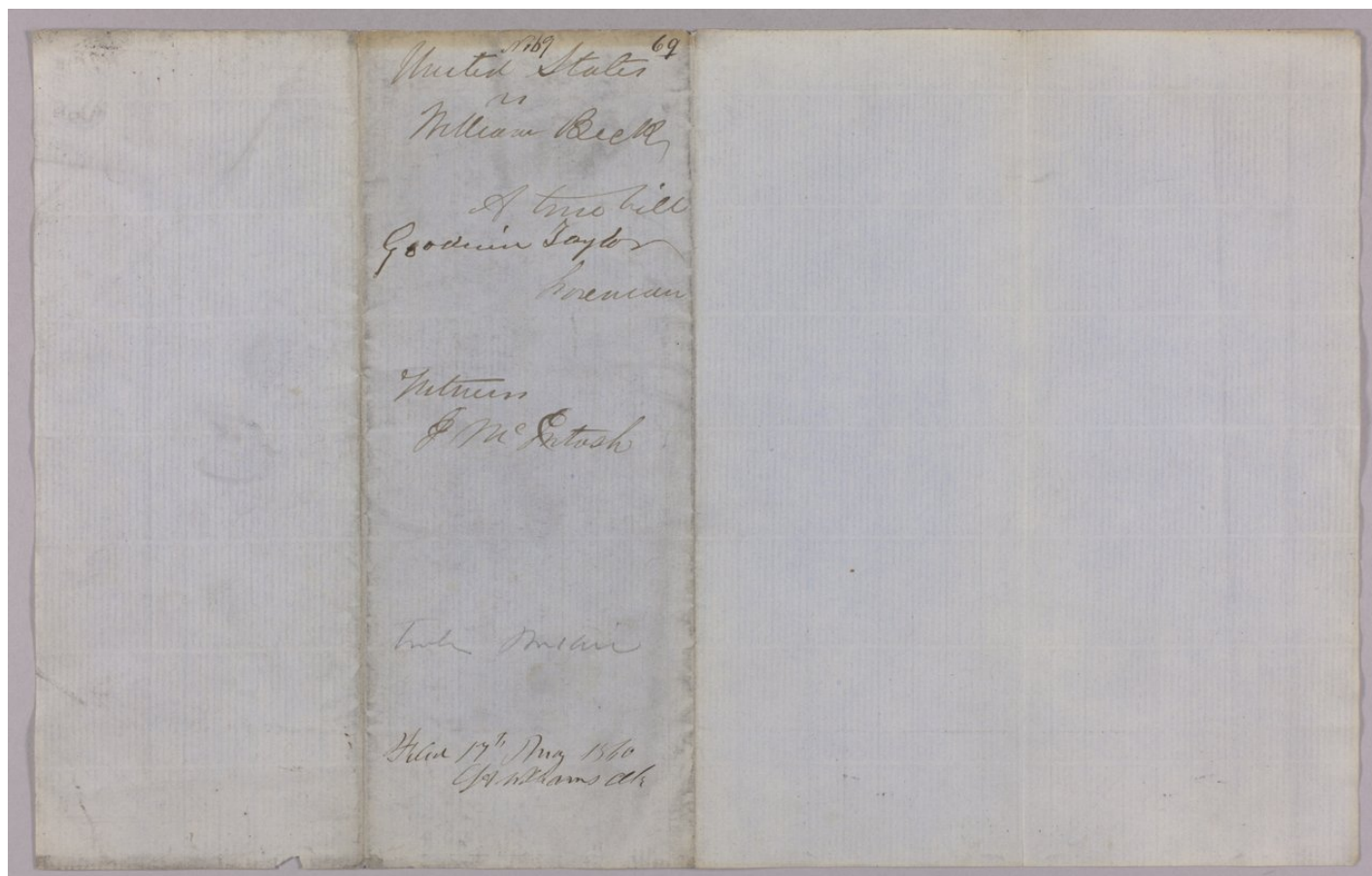
The Grand Jurors of the United States of
America - within and for the third Judicial
District - in the Territory of Kansas - duly and
legally Selected. Summoned. empanelled. Sworn
and Charged - to inquire in and for the body
of the District aforesaid. at the May Term
of the United States District Court - in the
year of our Lord - one thousand eight hundred
and Sixty - holden in and for the District aforesaid
on their Oaths do present - that William Beck
late of the District aforesaid - and on the first
day of April in the year of our Lord one
thousand eight hundred and Sixty and on divers
other days and times between the said first
day of April and on the day which this
indictment is found and presented by the
Grand Jurors aforesaid - at to wit - within
the jurisdiction of this Court and within
the third Judicial District aforesaid - of
the Territory of Kansas - did enter in and
upon the Land - Surveyed. Selected and set
apart for the Miami Tribe of Indians - by

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and under a treaty made by and between said
Miami Tribe of Indians and the United
States of America into which said land the said
William Beck had not the right of entry
said Miami Tribe of Indians being friendly
Indians and said lands aforesaid being Indian
Country and within the sole and exclusive
jurisdiction of the United States and then and
there did take and carry away with force
and arms several rails, boards, logs
clapboards and shingles and timber then
and there lying and being of great
value to wit, of the value of one
hundred dollars, said rails, boards,
logs, clapboards shingles and timber
being the property of the said Miami
Tribe of Indians contrary to the form of the
Act of Congress in such case made
and provided and against the peace
and dignity of the United States

Alonzo C. Davis
United States District Attorney
for the District of Kansas

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

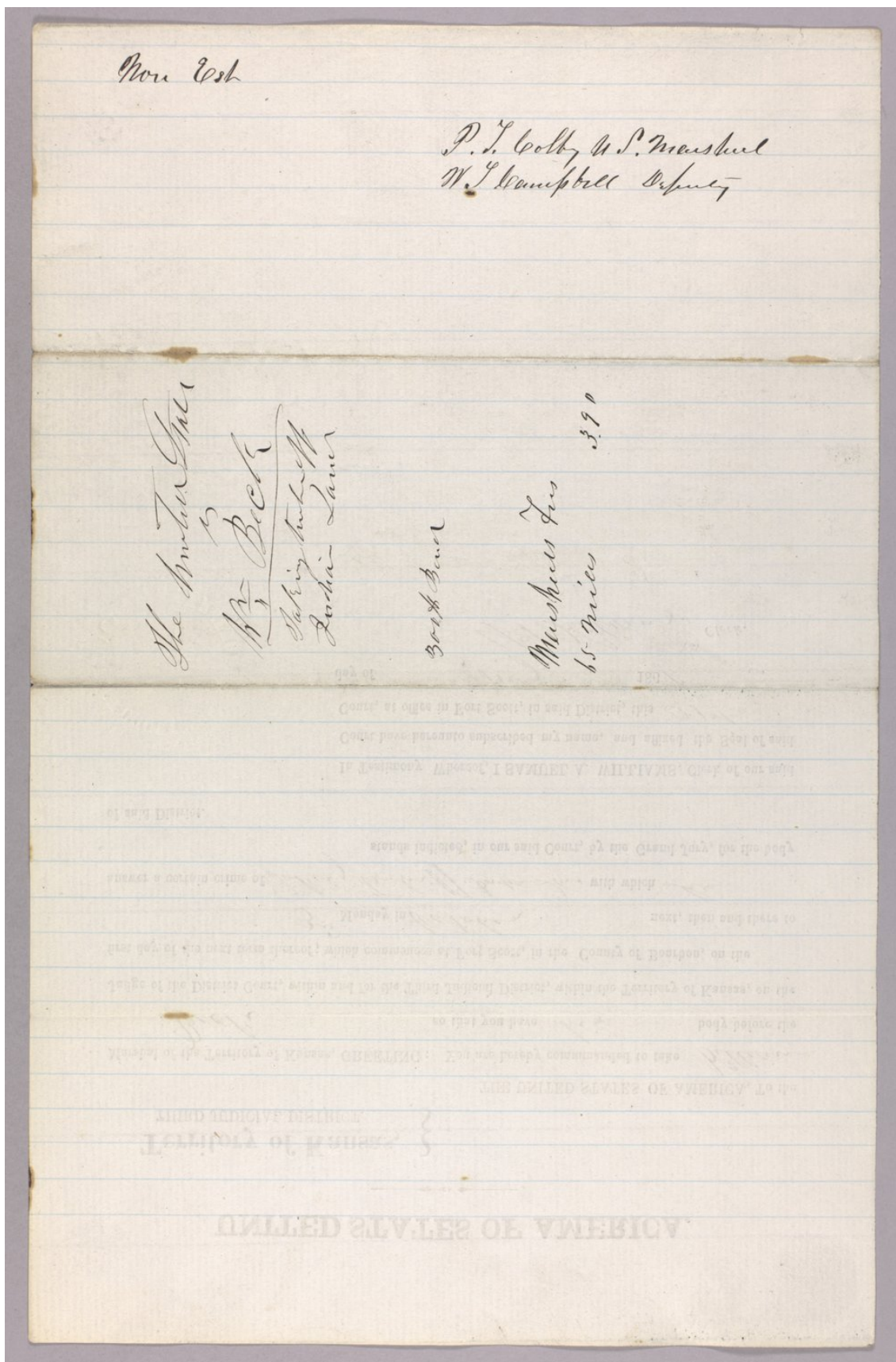
Territory of Kansas, }
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, To the
Marshal of the Territory of Kansas, GREETING: You are hereby commanded to take *William*
Beck so that you have *his* body before the
Judge of the District Court, within and for the Third Judicial District, within the Territory of Kansas, on the
first day of the next term thereof; which commences at Fort Scott, in the County of Bourbon, on the
3rd Monday in *October* next, then and there to
answer a certain crime of *taking timber off Indian lands* with which *he*
stands indicted, in our said Court, by the Grand Jury, for the body
of said District.

In Testimony Whereof, I SAMUEL A. WILLIAMS, Clerk of our said
Court have hereunto subscribed my name, and affixed the Seal of said
Court, at office in Fort Scott, in said District, this *21st*
day of *May* 186*6*
S. A. Williams Clerk.



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