

Thomas Ewing, Jr., to Thomas Ewing, Sr.

As with the January 17 letter to his brother, Ewing, Jr., stressed the significance of Robinson's appointment as Commissioner of Indian Affairs in this letter to his father in Lancaster, Ohio. Ewing expressed high regard for Robinson's abilities and believed he had wide support, from virtually every "republican of note in Kansas save Jim: Lane."

Creator: Ewing, Thomas, 1829-1896

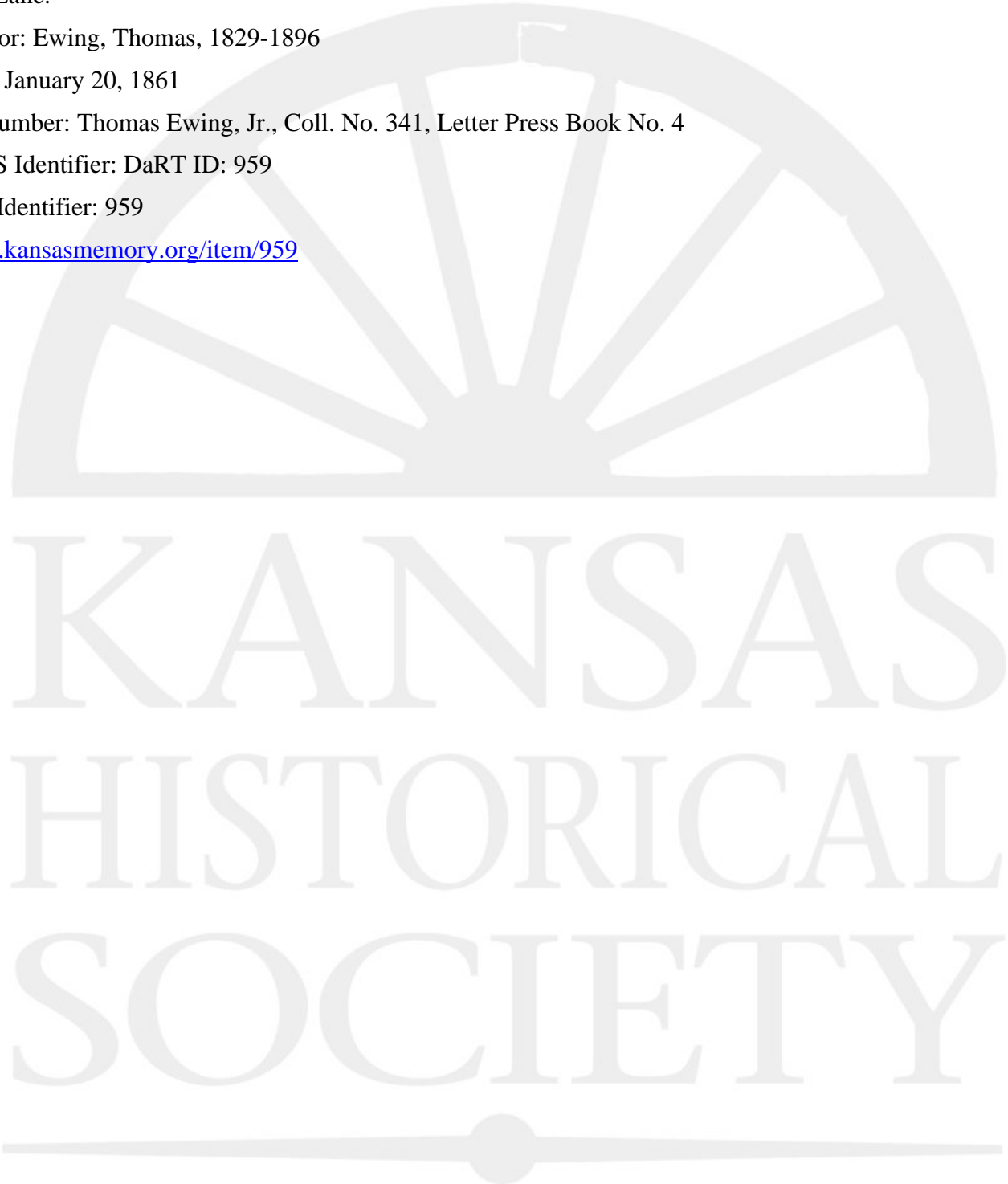
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Thomas Ewing, Jr., to Thomas Ewing, Sr.

289

Hallenworth, Kansas,

Jan'y 20th 1861.

Dear Father.

The apple butter and
two barrels of dried apples, sent
us by your orders from ^{Latonia, Mo.} Chancey,
after a very slow trip, reached Latonia
(the present rail road terminus, 14
miles north of this) about two weeks
ago. I had them wagoned from there,
with other goods, and found them
of most excellent quality. The apple
butter has become the great staple
at our board, and is about the
best I ever ate. I at once acknowledged
the receipt of the articles to Charley Smith.

We have had no mail
here for a week, because of the H & S & I
rail road being blocked up at various
places and for great distances.

Thomas Ewing, Jr., to Thomas Ewing, Sr.

290

by drifted snow. I dispatched
on the 15/18 inst a draft drawn
by me on Henry Carpenter to Martin
& Co in payment of interest due
you from Carpenter. The draft was
made in pursuance of written
authority left with me by Car-
penter for the purpose: and I have
no doubt will be paid by him
in New York at sight.

I shall probably go
to New York in the course of the next two or
three weeks, (by way of Lancaster, of course)
and go thence to Washington. My move-
ments may be accelerated & retarded some-
what by the early passage of the Hancy
bill. Part of my purpose in going
East will be to aid Governor Robinson
in his application for the app't.
of Comr. of Ind. Affairs - of course
I know better than to go by Springfield
or apply to the President elect, now

Thomas Ewing, Jr., to Thomas Ewing, Sr.

102

If Robinson were appointed before our State Legislature meets, I would go to the Senate without a caucus: for he is supporting my pretensions, and the place of Com^r of Ind affairs is influential ~~over~~ in matters of great interest to frontiersmen - & is supposed to be a place of influence in questions of appointment of agents, sub-agents, & Clerks. He has abundant talent for the position - in fact I think he could fill creditably a higher executive office - and his locality is favorable to his appointment. He will be supported by Stanton & myself ^{& others} & not opposed by any republican of note in Kansas save Levi Lane. His appointment would go far to secure Lane's defeat - an argument which can be used in his favor effectually with influential Republicans - but which I must use carefully.

Thomas Ewing, Jr., to Thomas Ewing, Sr.

29

if at all, as I shall have to occupy a position of armed neutrality between Lane & Stanton.

I am anxiously looking for a promised letter from you on the condition of the Country. I have all along had great faith that a pacific settlement will be effected - for a terrible civil war seems to be the inevitable consequence of an adherence to the status quo - and I have been certain that, after strategy became exhausted, and a war of sections stared them in the face, there would be enough of both extremes to secure public peace even at some sacrifice of party dogmas.

If you feel willing, and have occasion, I would be glad to have you say a good word for Robinson.

All well. Our coal auger is down 220 feet, & is now in black slate intermixed with coal: we expect to strike a seam of coal very soon.

Yrs Thomas Ewing Jr