

From John Brown to Orson Day

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Browns Station, Kansas Territory
14th Decem[.] 1855

Orson Day Esqr[.]
White Hall
N.Y[.]
Dear Sir[.]

I have just returned from the Kansas War (about which you have no doubt learned by the newspapers;) & find your Letter of the 19th Nov. As I intend to send you shortly a paper published here giving you a more full account of the invasion than I can consistently afford the time to give; I will only say at this time that the Territory is now entirely in the power of the Free State men; & notwithstanding this result has been secured by means of some bravery, & tact; with a good deal of trickery on the one side; & of cowardice, folly, & drunkenness on the other yet so it is; & I believe the Missourians will give up all further hope of making Kansas a Slave State.

Tomorrow the people of Kansas will decide whether to adopt or to reject the Free Constitution submitted to them; & I have no doubt of its adoption. Indeed I consider it no longer a question whether this is to be a Free or a Slave State. As I wrote you a few days since we have secured a good claim for you & shall be preposing to build on it for you as fast as we can. As we have access to no Saw Mill as yet for any lumber I think you & Mrs[.] Day had better leave the planning of a House to Mr[.] Thompson & myself; but still if you send us a plan in season we will conform to it so far as circumstances will allow of it. Could you be on the
over

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ground & understand all the circumstances in connection you would probably decide to do in many respects different from what you would if at White Hall.

I would be glad to get you to buy a Draft on New York at some good Bank in your vicinity for \$146.38 One Hundred & Forty Six Dollars & Thirty Eight Cents payable to the order of I[.]W[.] Carter Esqr[.]; & send it to him in a letter directed I[.]W[.] Carter Esqr[.] Agent[.] Mass. Arms Co.[.] Chicopee Falls, Mass; asking him to acknowledge the receipt as for me; & I will make the same all right with you[.] I want to remit him that amount in payment for Fire arms sent me by him; & without which we might have been placed in very awkward circumstances.

I am more & more pl[e]ased with this country; & with the prospects of my friends here; & think I may recommend it to you in good faith. Please write me on receipt of this whether you can accommodate me about the draft for Mr. Carter or not; so that I may know as soon as

may be. Land Warrants will be as good as Gold in payment for Land as soon as the Lands are in readiness for market; & you will be safe in improveing on a Claim while you keep a Warrant ready to pay for it with[.] The health of my Family out here is improveing. The most of them are in fine health. In great haste[.]

Your Friend
John Brown