

From "Neighbors and Friends" to Col. S.W. Eldridge

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Ruins of Lawrence

Sept. 1, 1863

To Col. S.W. Eldrige[,]

The Free State Hotel is again in ruins by the hands of Proslavery fiends--we your neighbors & friends appeal to you not to be discouraged but arouse yourself to action & rebuild the noble structure, as near as possible like it was--we will aid you to the utmost of our ability & firmly believe the friends of freedom throughout the land will aid you. We respectfully urge you to enlist those friends throughout the states & give them the opportunity of contributing. We know they will aid in the erection of such a monument to freedom.