

From D.R. Anthony to Dear Sister

[page 1]

Leavenworth Kansas

Sept 10th 1858

Dear Sister

Your letter of the 2nd Inst came to hand to day. You are my only regular correspondent, would like to have been home to visit with Dan & Sarah -- but it would pay just now, as this is my harvest time, and Ive made up my mind to gather the crops before the Storms come.

My business is better than heretofore. My first renewel (annual) premium was paid this month. I shall have \$10,000 risks this mo[nth,] 1 of \$200 prem[ium,] 1 of \$250, 1 of 350 prem[ium,] two 5,000 risks[,] 1 of \$150 prem[ium], + 1 of \$165, several smaller prem[ium]s of \$128, 140, 168, \$50, \$60, 36, 20, + down to \$2. Premium in Aug[.] \$2,444,00. Prem[ium]s so far this mo[nth] 1,700, will reach 2,500, I think.

You can say to all friends I am doing well -- very well & Kansas is my home -- give them no figures (except family). If our Land sales go off, I want to get hold of 1280 (8 quarters) acres -- providing I can get it for Land warrants -- shall have the funds to do so, and believe Lands are sure. I have arrangements for choice selections. The sales ought to be postponed for benefit of actual settlers, but if it comes off, Im in.

Sept 11th

I was interrupted last night and so will finish this morning. We are now having beautiful weather -- it had been cold & rainy. The nights are cold now. Have had some symptoms of the Fever -- but not enough to cause me to take Quinine

[page 2]

or any other medicine. Taking the filthy condition of our city into consideration[,] the people have been very healthy this summers. In grading the streets they have left whole Blocks or Squares without a place for the water to run off.

For the past week I have been boarding at a Hotel. Mr[.] Hamlin has been [MS. illegible] -- expect to go back again this or next week.

Have written Dan S. twice this past summer & spring and no reply -- shall let [him] write next time I reckon. Josh R.C. talked of coming out here and wrote me in regard to it -- what is he doing -- or intend[ing] to do[?] Have made up my mind to let the people have their way and if they dont want to trust Kansas they neednt[,] thats all.

Have heard nothing from Merritt since I wrote you before.

Our municipal election has passed off. Elected 3 Douglass Democrats[,] 2 old line Whigs + 14 Republicans to the different offices, all of them however ran on tickets headed Free State. No ticket was headed Republican, American, Whig or Democrat. All the Whiskey,

Ruffians, Irish Catholic + Douglas Democrats pulled together. We have a large population of ignorance here. They raised the cry of Free white state for white men. For once I am in favor of putting the word White in our Republican Platform

[page 3]

in Kansas to combat the ignorance and prejudice of the Irish -- it is throwing cake to our enemy - - but it will deprive them of their only rallying cry -- and in reality will make no difference in the end.

The great cry now is nigger nigger nigger. Still many who raise the cry that niggers in New York are better educated[,] more intelligent and industrious than they themselves are. I wish Fred Douglas[s] [CS?] Remond would come here and lecture[.] I think it would be perfectly safe and they would draw immensely.

I have already earned the reputation of being one of the most radical men in Kansas. My name was used by the opp[.] speakers as the embodiment of all that was horrible in the way of niggerdom. But after all in business I have the full confidence of the people.

The Hartford Fire Ins[.] Co[.] have appointed an agent here[,] a Mr[.] C.B. B[race?] -- think I can keep up my [row?]. I wish Father was here to assist me in soliciting Dwelling[,] Fire risks + Life risks[.] Think I will try and [MS. illegible] the Napoleon [of solicitors?] to come out.

I wish Father or Aaron would give me full list of amounts lost by each company in late fires in Rochester. I believe I wrote them that I lost \$1,000 for Charter Oak at St Joseph Mo[.] fire on the 16th August last.

[page 4]

The business I have keeps one man quite business -- particularly as I make full applications on every risk -- and copy and report same to company and do it all myself. I hope Mother will conclude to write. My time has been constantly occupied with my business -- so that I have not visited any one or attended to anything but business since my return west.

I dont think I shall come home this winter. Have written you mostly about myself -- as most everything else you already know. Havent had time to send deeds for you[,] Mary & Father to make yet.

Regards to all good Friends

Your Bro

D.R. Anthony