

From R.C. Ewing to George R. Smith

[page 1]

Lx. [Lexington]

June 18th

D[ea]r sir--

I reached here before the chill returned, after a [MS. illegible][.] I am now very well & will cross the river in a few days to resume my duties in the [MS. illegible].

I find the feeling among our friends up this way, just as it has been all the time on the Slavery question--strong & all-absorbing. I apprehend it will be felt in the nomination on next Monday. Your reported opinion in relation to Kansas is doing you a deal of damage in Saline, Lafayette & Jackson. Those who control matters here, say they are afraid of the effect of compromising any thing on the Slavery question & with this feeling I apprehend the three counties mentioned will oppose your nomination. I learn that your position in reference to this question has been fully discussed

[page 2]

& that the leading influences of the three counties are against you. I advise you of this state of things for your information. What will be the issue I cannot tell--only hope that it may be for the good of the country & the American party.

Very truly yours &c

R.C. Ewing

[P.S.] You had as well try to oppose an avalanche, as the influence of this Kansas excitement[.] You will, of course make no use of this letter as will be prejudicial to my own interest & position in this section of Mo.