

From Sara Robinson to Charles S. Gleed

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"Oakridge."

Lawrence Kansas.

Jan'y 7th [18]/81.

Mr. C.S. Gleed

Dear Sir--

I thank you very much for the Santa Fe Trail & other papers you so kindly sent. I have been too much occupied to read them all as yet but find them very interesting. Your Tribune article is good, & full of information as well as interest. You have however unconsciously fallen into the error, so many others have done; who were not actually on the ground, in the early days,--connected John Brown's name with the safety of Lawrence. He really never had any thing to do with its defense in any way. He was very seldom in L--[.] His methods of warfare were not approved by the leaders at L-- and

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his feelings towards them were not of a cheerful nature.

I wish some one who knew all the incidents of the early struggle, even in & about Lawrence would take the pains to write them out. So much has been written that had not even the varnish of truth, but I dare say it would be a task no one [MS. illegible].

Thanking you again for your kindness, I am very truly

Your friend & [MS. illegible]

(Mrs.) Sara T.L. Robinson.

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14th of Sept. 1856

at time of Invasion of the 2800 when Gov. Geary came in & turned them back & then Brown came in alone on pony[.] There & thereabouts about a week, & defence one week after arrival. The 2800 or [part?] 3 or 400 appeared in sight of Lawrence Mass St. about dark. All people under [MS. illegible] as possible--about 300 men [*text stricken through*] Maj[.] Abbott took command and had

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planned defense[.] These men (citizens) [posted?] about. Judge Adams at Henry Street[.] Brown was [passing?] around from point to point[.] He talked saying: "I will take the liberty to give you some advice if you will listen[.] I have no command here but have had some [experience] & will take liberty to tell you how to act. If you act judiciously here you will easily defend yourself & make

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a [bold?] defense front, and you will succeed[.] When time comes for action you should shoot this way--[MS. illegible] shoot too high & Dont waste any ammunition." He talk in this way & told [MS. illegible] Osawatomie for instance[.] "Now he says they are near enough to make a

demonstration[.] You [MS. illegible] have rifles go out & begin to fire and

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make balls whistle about your ears." Boys abt[.] (30) went out & begun that demonstration[.] Brown then ordered those with guns on foot to go out[.] From time that begun [*text stricken through*] invaders began to melt[.]

Brown talked with Maj[.] Abbott early that day about what part should be taken[.]