

From Sterling Price to John W. Geary

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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT.

Jefferson City, Mo.

Sept. 9th 1856

His Excellency Jno. [John] W. Geary,
Governor of Kansas:

My Dear Sir:

Your esteemed favor of the 7th instant has been received, and the request of your Excellency considered with that deliberation, which its importance demands. After the fullest reflection [*text stricken through*] I am still of the opinion, that the course suggested by me in our last interview, is the most prudent for me to pursue, & that which will be most acceptable to the people of Missouri.

I cannot, for a moment, believe that any portion of the citizens of Missouri, will remain in arms an hour longer than is necessary for their own safety or their return to their respective houses, in Missouri, after the arrival of your Excellency,

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in the Territory, and an intimation from you that you wish them to disband. I trust my Dear Sir, that you will not deny me and them the pleasure of showing to the country their promptness, and willingness to submit to the proper constituted authorities of the country. I feel every confidence that they will readily & cheerfully obey every order you may give them-- that they will in no wise mar the harmony your administration and that they will give to your Excellency and all others interested the best evidence that their only desire has been, & is to protect their friends & relatives in Kansas from the murderer, the incendiary and the robber--that they are a Union loving and law-abiding people.

If, however, I should unfortunately be mistaken in the estimate which I place upon the virtue [*text stricken through*] patriotism, and obedience to the

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laws, [*text stricken through*] of the people of Missouri, I beg leave to assure your Excellency, that I will use every [every] means in my power to aid [*text stricken through*] your Excellency in quelling the disturbances, now, so unfortunately, existing in Kansas. Should the Missourians, now in Kansas, not disperse immediately upon your orders to that effect being received by them, I must ask the favor of your Excellency to inform me of that fact, and all that I can do to aid you will be promptly and cheerfully done.

I am very Respectfully,

Your obt. Svt.--
Sterling Price