

From Daniel R. Anthony to Sister

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Mound City Kansas

Feb 3rd 1862

Dear Sister

Our command arrived here yesterday afternoon.

We march tomorrow for Humbolt 45 miles south west from this place. We have been three days on the march from our old camp at Morristown which is 50 miles north East from this point. Our men have had to sleep out on the snow--the weather has been cold and cutting--to day is sleety, freezing and wet. We hope to reach Humbolt on the 4th or 5th inst. After resting a few days I propose taking 500 men and taking our mountain Howitzer (12 pound) and go south 100 miles in to the Cherokee nation. 50 miles south of Humbolt there are 6000 or 7,000 friendly Indians. We are now sending them food and clothing. They send me word they are anxiously waiting for us--that they are ready to fight all rebeldom. They seem to understand the issue.

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Col[.] Jennison is now at Leavenworth--he expects to command a Brigade in that case--I of course command the Regiment, and [*text stricken through*] advance to the Grand Army of the south west.

In our march we free every slave, every man of all nations, kindred[,] tongue[,] and color--and arm or use them in such manner as will best aid us in putting down rebels. We hope to stir up an insurrection among the negroes.

Many men[,] whites and Blacks, ask--why dont Fred Douglass come out here--raise a regiment of Blacks--I know the reasons why. But if Fred could get \$10,000, he could raise a regiment and our Maj[.] Genl would not refuse them. Blacks can soonest gain the confidence of the slaves, and rebels fear nothing more than the loss of a baby Darkie or an insurrection[.]

I hope to do something in my southern trip. Genl Hunter told me to go as far south as I pleased. If I cant fight, I can run. We can do nothing until the weather moderates--as we must march south without tents and luggage--go with [Celeril?]-and boldness to win.

Capt[.] John Brown Jr[.] is now with us. I like him much--he remembers you and seems glad to be with us.

Truly

D[.]R[.] Anthony