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**Todd, David, and Charlotte Farnsworth.
Letters, 1846-1874**

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Box 1

Original Correspondence

Original Correspondence, 1846

Charlotte Farnsworth, Oberlin, Ohio, to David Todd July 21, 1846. Confirmation for a meeting date in near future.

David Todd, Clarksfield Huron County, Ohio, to Charlotte Farnsworth, August 4, 1846. Discusses visit to John Todd's home in Clarksfield and his impressions of the town.

Charlottes Farnsworth, Oberlin, Ohio, to David Todd, September 4, 1846. Discusses classes, religious belief, and anti-slavery within the Church and hopes for teaching school.

David Todd, Granville, Illinois, to Charlotte, Farnsworth, September 10, 1846. Visited brother-in-law C. B. French in Chicago. Description of Chicago landscape and number of inhabitants. Family, health, and sickness in Granville.

Charlotte Farnsworth, Oberlin, Ohio, to David Todd, October 24, 1846. She expresses her love and states that she did not receive a school position.

David Todd, Princeton, Illinois, to Charlotte Farnsworth, November 6, 1846. David's boarding with Lovejoy Family and taking over Owen's ministry until he returns.

David Todd, Granville, Illinois, (at home), to Charlotte Farnsworth, December 28, 1846. He asks questions about Charlotte's teaching school and he calls her a "Yankee."

David Todd, Granville, Illinois, to Charlotte Farnsworth, December 29, 1846. Charlotte now teaching school in North Dover, Ohio. Mentions Hannah's marriage.

Original Correspondence, 1847

David Todd, Wethersfield Henry County, Illinois, to Charlotte Farnsworth, January 14, 1847. Attended Protestant-Methodist meeting in French Grove. Travelled to homes of English immigrants. Calls himself "wanderer."

David Todd, Victoria, Knox County, Illinois, to Charlotte Farnsworth, February 22, 1847. Description of liquids drunk in the 40's and the scenery of Galesburg. Idea of going to Mexico as a soldier.

- David Todd, Victoria, Knox County, Illinois, to Charlotte Farnsworth, March 8, 1847. Discusses steam ships, weather, and the chance of becoming a missionary in a foreign land.
- Charlotte Farnsworth, Oberlin, Ohio, to David Todd, April 3, 1847. Apology for not writing, complaint about no letters from home, and of Mr. Finney's talk to her. Describes conversation with friend Maria.
- David Todd, Galesburg, Knox County, Illinois, to Charlotte Farnsworth, April 7, 1849. Politics discussed; Whigs and Democrats; Constitution of Illinois. David asks about classes at Oberlin.
- David Todd, Galesburg, Knox County, Illinois, to Charlotte Farnsworth, April 26, 1847. Sad letter due to David's depressed state of mind.
- David Todd, Victoria, Knox County, Illinois, to Charlotte Farnsworth, May 5, 1847. Description of prairie fire and farming procedures. Asked about his former classmates at Oberlin College.
- Charlotte Farnsworth, Oberlin, Ohio, to David Todd, May 10, 1847. Charlotte tells of scarcity of letter paper; describes the weather and signs her letter "Lotte."
- David Todd, Farmington Fulton County, Illinois, to Charlotte Farnsworth, May 24, 1847. Education and politics.
- David Todd, Galesburg, Illinois, to Charlotte Farnsworth, June 7, 1847. Discusses missions with the Indians; Charlotte's mother's address in Boston, foreign mission with Brother Cushman; slaveholding as being a-political.
- David Todd, Victoria, Knox County, Illinois, to Charlotte Farnsworth, June 15, 1847. News from Oberlin through visitors; worried about Charlotte's health, and mentions Knox College.
- David Todd, Victoria, Knox County, Illinois, to Charlotte Farnsworth, June 15, 1847. Comments on Miss Adams' letter informing him of Charlotte's illness (fever). Attended July 4th event in Hendersonville. (Charlotte never opened this letter).
- David Todd, Victoria, Knox County, Illinois, to Charlotte Farnsworth, July 23, 1847. Miss Adams informs David of Charlotte's health in a previous letter of July 13 – David discusses crops, physicians, and medicine. Good description of the Scottish Settlement in Henry County is included. (Charlotte never saw this letter).
- August 28, 1847. Charlotte Farnsworth's obituary in Oberlin Evangelist
- Original Correspondence, 1853-1860
- David Todd, Providence, Bureau County, Illinois, to John Harrison, July 6, 1853. Family news, religion, population of congregation and railroad laborers were discussed.
- David Todd, Providence, Illinois, to John Todd, December 6, 1855. David is a land speculator. Went to musical convention (Bradburg). Politics.
- David Todd, Providence, Illinois, to John Todd, February 29, 1856. Illinois weather conditions; abolitionists; and Kansas; land speculation; and a religious colony planned to be set up by Brother Coleman.
- David Todd, Providence, Illinois, to John Todd, May 13, 1856. Weather; preaching in Providence, and railroads and railroad towns. Politics concerning Nebraska issue – formed a Republican Club.

David Todd, Granville, Illinois, to John Todd, September 8, 1856. Farming conditions, spiritualism, feelings towards Democrats, and real estate.

David Todd, Buda Bureau County, Illinois, to John Todd, April 16, 1858. Financial situation in the area and a "Revival" in the congregation.

David Todd, Providence, Buda P.O., Bureau County, Illinois, to J. L. Shellabarger, May 5, 1858. David inquires about information concerning John R. Harrison's death. Mentions his ancestors from Hanover Township, Dauphin County, Pennsylvania; and knew a family by name of Shallenbarger.

David Todd, Providence, Illinois, to John Todd, January 12, 1859. Politics (fugitives, Cuba, parties) and weather, religious, and financial conditions in the area.

David Todd, Providence, Illinois, to John Todd, March 2, 1859. Settlement of Margaret and John Harrison's estate. Spoke of money for A.M.A.

David Todd, Granville, Putnam County, Illinois, to John Todd, November 1, 1859. Mentions Harpers Ferry and Kansas issues. Prospects good for remaining in Providence as a preacher.

David Todd, Providence, Bureau County, Illinois, to John Todd, May 29, 1860. Republican National Convention. Mentions Lincoln, Seward, and slavery.

David Todd, Granville, Illinois, to John Todd, October 8, 1860. Typhoid fever crisis in Granville and sickness in Providence.

David Todd, Granville, Putnam County, Illinois, to John Todd, October 25, 1860. Death of Sister Sarah (October 23, 1860) from typhoid fever - severe hemorrhaging.

David Todd, Providence, Illinois, to John Todd, November 28, 1860. Claudius French, Sarah's husband, in deep mourning.

Original Correspondence, 1861-1865

David Todd, Providence, Illinois, to John Todd, April 22, 1861. Rumors of Washington's take over; Jeff Davis; Fort Sumpter's fall; and the "crisis of the nation."

David Todd, Providence, Illinois, to John Todd, June 20, 1861. Financial and farming situations. He also mentions Stephen Douglas.

David Todd, Providence, Bureau County, Illinois, to John Todd, August 19, 1861. Financial affairs. Captain Swain, and "martial music."

David Todd, Providence, Bureau County, Illinois, to John Todd, September 12, 1861. An account of battles and volunteers; Owen Lovejoy and casualties from Oberlin; money standard; slavery; and Lincoln.

David Todd, Providence, Illinois, to John Todd, November 18, 1861. May enter army as a private. Cousin James Todd died.

David Todd, Providence, Bureau County, Illinois, to John Todd, June 11, 1862. Detailed sketch of Mrs. Lovejoy's experiences in Washington, D.C. Political issues concerning Congress and Illinois. Willie Lincoln's illness and death.

David Todd, Providence, Illinois, to John Todd, November 7, 1862. Civil War, elections, and Harrisburg wounded.

David Todd, Providence, Illinois, to John Todd, July 2, 1863. Rumor that "Negroes" will be armed. David's trip to the East and a mosquito scourge in Providence.

David Todd, Providence, Illinois, to John Todd, September 14, 1863. Visited military prison on Rock Island; Indian prisoners at Davenport; and family affairs.

David Todd, Granville, Illinois, to John Todd, November 28, 1863. Plans made to become a teacher and preacher among the freedmen in Dixie. Others are going along through the A.M.A.

David Todd, Pine Bluff, Arkansas, to John Todd, April 16, 1864. Thirteen members of A.M.A. left Chicago December 1863. Five people stayed at Pine Bluff. A description of the settlement is given.

John Todd, on board steamer "Golden Era," to Reverend D. Worcester, September 12, 1864. John is a preacher for a regiment and is heading home. Describes his experiences with the Regiment.

David Todd, Pine Bluff, Arkansas, to John Todd, September 29, 1864. David is ill yet continues to teach. Saw William Hicks hung as a spy. Describes conditions on the farm.

David Todd, Pine Bluff, Arkansas, to John Todd, May 6, 1865. Discusses politics, rumors, war, and educational achievements of the freedmen.

David Todd, Pine Bluff, Arkansas, to John Todd, June 24, 1865. Colony of freedmen located at Senator R. Johnson's farm (4 to 500). Weather hot, good produce available.

David Todd, Granville, Putnam County, Illinois, to John Todd, September 8, 1865. David returned to Granville due to his illness. Invested in Government Bonds through his brother John.

David Todd, Granville, Putnam County, Illinois, to John Todd, September 27, 1865. Financial investments. David so ill he is unable to write his own letters.

David Todd, Granville, Putnam County, Illinois, to John Todd, October 20, 1865. David is unable to return to Pine Bluff due to severe illness. He ordered his trunk back home.

David Todd, Granville, Putnam County, Illinois, to John Todd, November 28, 1865. David's condition during the illness.

Original Correspondence, 1866-1874

David Todd, Princeton, Bureau County, Illinois, to John Todd, March 13, 1866. Visiting parishioners. Has to watch his health in hot weather; political issues; and his future plans.

David Todd, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, to John Todd, May 12, 1866. Describes his journey to Pennsylvania and the stops he made to see friends.

David Todd, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, to John Todd, June 20, 1866. News of friends, visited Fort Washington, prices of produce, and a description of the burning of the Harrisburg bridge.

David Todd, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, to John Todd, July 27, 1866. David's health is better and preached a few times. Spectator at Freedman's Parade. Describes a new sport - baseball.

David Todd, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, to John Todd, December 24, 1866. Discusses politics and religion. David sold Cobbins Domestic Bible with no success, but conversed with some real nice people.

- David Todd, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, to John Todd, January 17, 1867.
Discussed political issues and witnessed the inauguration of General Geary as Governor of Pennsylvania.
- David Todd, Providence, Bureau County, Illinois, to John Todd, June 11, 1867.
Preaching in Providence area. Left Harrisburg in April. Sketches trip home from Pennsylvania.
- David Todd, Providence, Bureau County, Illinois, to John Todd, July 1, 1867.
David decided to preach in Providence. Discusses ancestors from Dover, Antrim.
- David Todd, Providence, Bureau County, Illinois, to John Todd, July 23, 1867.
Discusses money matters. Mentions Tabor College and hopes to have John come visit.
- David Todd, Providence, Bureau County, Illinois, to John Todd, August 7, 1867.
John not going to see his son James graduate from Oberlin. Family affairs discussed.
- David Todd, Providence, Bureau County, Illinois, to John Todd, September 20, 1867. Visited Granville and discussed his interest in Tabor College and the idea of a professorship for a Todd. Also discussed family affairs.
- David Todd, Providence, Bureau County, Illinois, to John Todd, November 5, 1867. Election of county officers; reconstruction; religious associations.
- David Todd, Providence, Bureau County, Illinois, to John Todd, July 9, 1868.
Effort made to get money and recognition for Tabor College. Political issues discussed.
- David Todd, Providence, Bureau County, Illinois, to John Todd, July 23, 1868.
Crops and weather discussed.
- David Todd, Providence, Bureau County, Illinois, to John Todd, August 20, 1869.
Family news and an eclipse.
- David Todd, Providence, Bureau County, Illinois, to John Todd, September 5, 1870. David's health not good. Discussed crops, weather, and the Franco-Prussian, incident.
- C. B. French, Granville, Illinois, to Friends, August 12, 1874. Describes David's illness and his death.
- C. B. French, Granville, Illinois, to John Todd, December 7, 1874.
Commemorative plaque placed by descendants of colonists at Providence Colony. Discusses news of family and friends. Mentions division of David's estate.

Envelopes

Envelopes, 1847-1870

Transcriptions of Letters

- Typescript, Letters of David Todd, Title - Page 36, 1846
- Typescript, Letters of David Todd, Page 37 - 123, 1847
- Typescript, Letters of David Todd, Page 124 - 162, 1853-1860
- Typescript, Letters of David Todd, Page 163 - 205, 1861-1865
- Typescript, Letters of David Todd, Page 206 - 238, 1866-1867
- Typescript, Letters of David Todd, Page 239 - End, 1868-1874
- Charlotte & David* by Rebecca Magee Kovalski (Philadelphia: Xlibris Corporation, 2010)

Appendix. Biographical sketch of David Todd by Grace Wilson

David Todd was born November 15, 1821, in Hanover Township, Pennsylvania, the youngest child of James Todd (1779-1851) and Sally Ainsworth (1780-1831).

The other children in the family were Mary (1809-1871), Margaret (1811-1849), James (184-1887), Sally (also called Sarah, 1816-1860), and John (1818-1894). John was our grandfather Todd and, being next to David, was close to him in every way.

Up to this time no one in the Todd family had received very much education but with new ideas being developed at Oberlin College, James Todd sent his two sons there to become ministers.

Sally Ainsworth Todd died in 1831. Her grave may be seen in the Old Hanover Church burying ground, the last of her family to be placed there. In 1840, James Todd left Hanover and emigrated with his daughter Sarah and her husband, Claudius B. French, to Granville, Illinois.

David Todd graduated from Oberlin in 1843 with a B.S. degree, then received his B.D. degree in 1846. John received his degrees a year or two earlier.

While at Oberlin College, David became very much interested in a young woman named Charlotte Farnsworth who had been sent to Oberlin to school from New Hampshire and they engaged in a reserved way. Soon after his graduation, he left for Granville, Illinois, to join his father. Only a few letters survive and I do not know how. In the summer of 1847, Charlotte contracted typhoid fever and died. David did not know of her death for some time. It must have been a great blow to him. He never married.

John and his family moved to Southwest Iowa about 1852. The earliest letters in the series from David and John is dated December 6, 1855. I surmise that when the John Todds left Ohio for Iowa no letters could be taken. Then, for several years they were unsettled, finally moving to the site of Tabor College and the church. Most of the letters written by David to John were carefully preserved. When I was quite a young girl, I remember they were in an attic room of the old Todd house and Gene Todd, an older cousin, was allowed to cut off some of the stamps for his collection.

To return to David. It was his duty as a new minister to walk around the country looking for a place where a new church would be started and where the people would accept him as its minister. The letters to John for this period are largely missing, but those that remain give some hints and make interesting reading. I have wished that some of the letters written by John to David had been saved.

One of David's first duties was to substitute in the Congregational Church of Princeton, Illinois, while Owen Lovejoy, who was pastor, made a trip Easter. Owen Lovejoy was the leader of the abolitionists in Illinois. David stayed at the Lovejoys' at this time and looked upon Mrs. Lovejoy almost as a mother.

Most of the rest of David's biography comes out in the index to the letters which I plan to write. The one thing that will probably remain is a marker placed in front of the little church in Providence, Illinois, which is just a cross-roads near Wyand, Illinois. The church is probably

closed since I visited it three years ago. It stands in the midst of rich cornfields. The marker reads as follows:

Providence Colony

Organized in Rhode Island in 1837 named for Rhode Island Capital

Foremost among those who came to make homes here were:

Caleb Kushing,

Asa Barney Hosea,

James Dexter,

Alfred Anthony

Providence Congregational Church organized in 1841 faithfully led for 25 years by David Todd.

Membership twice doubled under E. A. Paddock, 1883-1887, greatly strengthened by O.C. Clark, 1887-1891. From this church have gone two sons to the foreign mission field: Lawrence Powers to India; Charles Nelson who completed 45 years of notable service in China.

Stone placed by descendants of the colonists 1937.