

Norwalk
March 5th 1858

Dear Col.

Copies
Your letter of Jan 22^d we received about a week ago, but as ^{we} were expecting to have a meeting of Rowson County for the purpose of talking over the matters of our people, I deferred writing till the meeting had taken place so I might have something of interest to write about.

According to notice quite a large number of the citizens came together, and a goodly number from other counties were present, All seem to feel the importance of doing something forthwith to restore law & order; Animated speeches were made by a number of persons on the occasion, and sundry resolutions were drafted and adopted by ^{the} meeting without a dissenting voice.

The spirit of the resolutions were that a convention ^{of the people} should be called represented by delegates, to meet on the first Wednesday in May next and to remodel the old constitution of 1850, and the meetings affirmed all laws passed by the Gen. Council in pursuance of said constitution to be in full force and virtue until superseded or repealed by legal process.

Thus we are now fairly started for a constitution and when it is reached

will lay aside the new Constitution; and the
three chief system will be revived. It is certain
an overwhelming majority are opposed to the
new Constitution; if the new Constitution
party persists and supported by the Agent
we are on the eve of trouble; if not we
shall soon have law & order restored which
is so desirable, and I do hope as good citi-
zens and lovers of their country, ~~to~~ ^{they will} permit
this movement to be perfected without hinder-
ance.

The enterprise is set on foot on the
supposition that the new Constitution was
unconstitutionally brought about, and is
null and void; which places the old Con-
stitution party in the right which was con-
tented ^{for} from the beginning;

There has been for nearly a whole year
a total suspension of laws throughout the
Nation and it is a matter of thankfulness
that we are no worse off than we were.

It is an evidence of the good effect
of the gospel; it was not the fear of law
which restrains our people, for then we
might expect ere now to see the whole
country in dreadful anarchy.

I believe I wrote you that Sophia F. Woods
had left with Mr. J. Johnson for Edgeworth Seminary
and is there now I presume.

Mary and the children send their love to you -

Yours as ever Jos. Dukes