

John Keith Letters page 138

2017.CC.09.10.142

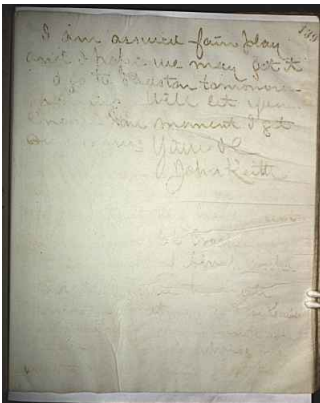
Jan 25 6 [corrected date 1877]

Buckley Dunton Co.

Gentlemen,

Your telegram at hand I think I had better not go to Washington. I have had letters from my friends there and they think the matter is working all right. One who had talked with the Pub. Printer. The influence of A.N.R. is working well. He sent a letter from the "Senator" about

January 25 1877;



John Keith Letters page 139

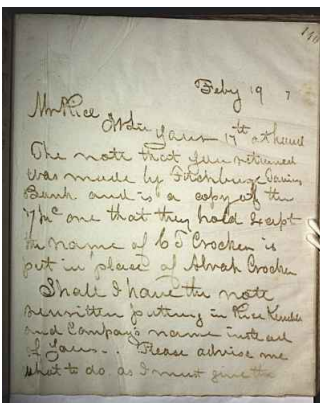
2017.CC.09.10.143

I am assured fair play and I hope we may get it to go to Boston tomorrow morning. Will let you know the moment I get [there.]

Yours &c

John Keith

January 25 1877;



John Keith Letters page 140

2017.CC.09.10.144

Feby 19 7 [1877]

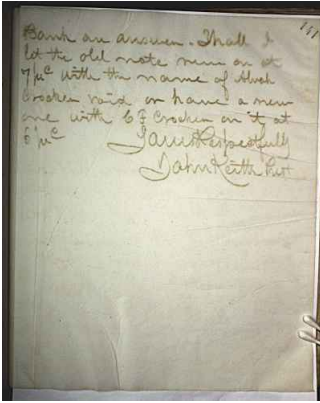
Mr. Rice

Dear Sir,

Yours 17th at hand The note that you returned was made by Fitchburg Savings Bank and is a copy of the 7 prc one that they hold except the name of CT Crocker is put in place of Alvah Crocker.

Shall I have the note rewritten putting in Rice Kendall and Company's name instead of yours. Please advise me what to do as I must give the

February 19 1877;



John Keith Letters page 141

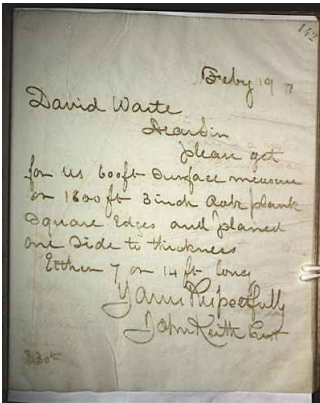
2017.CC.09.10.145

bank an answer. Shall I let the old note run on at 7 prc with the name of Alvah Crocker void or have a new one with CT Crocker on it at 6 prc.

Yours Respectfully

John Keith Prest

February 19 1877;



John Keith Letters page 142

2017.CC.09.10.146

Feb 19 7 [1877]

David Waite

Dear Sir,

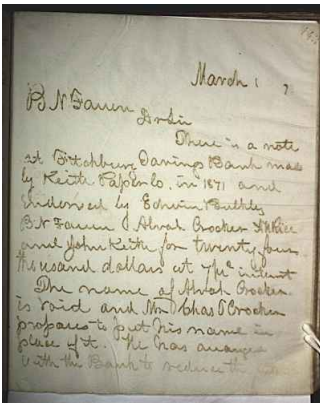
Please get for us 600 ft surface measure or 1800 ft 3 inch oak plank square edges and planed one side to thickness.

Either 7 or 14 feet long.

Yours Respectfully

John Keith prest

February 19 1877;



John Keith Letters page 143

2017.CC.09.10.147

March 1 7 [1877]

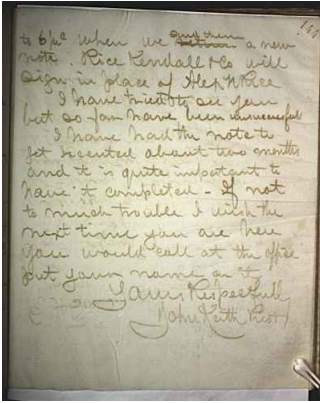
B. N. Farren

Dear Sir,

There is a note at Fitchburg Savings Bank made by Keith Paper Co. in 1871 and endorsed by Edwin Bulkley BN Farren Alvah Crocker AN Rice and John Keith for twenty four thousand dollars a 7 prc interest.

The name of Alvah Crocker is said and Mr Chas T Crocker proposes to put his name in place of it. He has arranged with the bank to reduce the per cent

March 1 1877;



John Keith Letters page 144

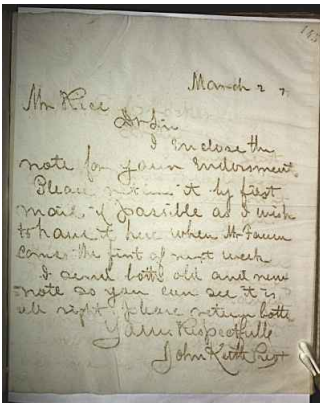
2017.CC.09.10.148

To 6 prc when we send them a new note. Rice Kendall Co will sign in place of Alex N Rice.

I have tried to see you but so far have been unsuccessful. I have had the note to get reentered about two months and it is quite important to have it completed. If not to much trouble I wish the next time you are here you would call at the office put your name on it.

Yours Respectfully
John Keith Prest

March 1 1877;



John Keith Letters page 145

2017.CC.09.10.149

March 2 7 [1877]

Mr Rice

Dear Sir,

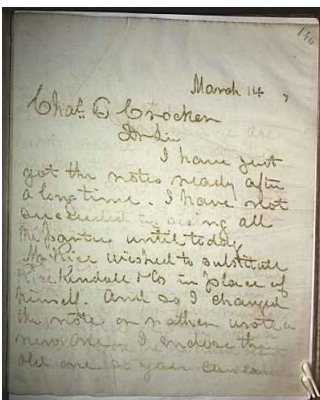
I enclose the note for your endorsement. Please return it by first mail if possible as I wish to have it here when Mr Farren comes the first of next week.

I send both old and new note so you can see it is all right please return both.

Yours respectfully

John Keith Pres

March 2 1877;



John Keith Letters page 146

2017.CC.09.10.150

March 14 7 [1877]

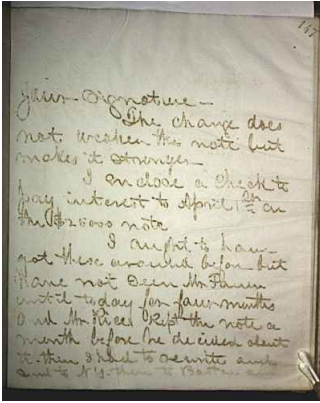
Chas. T. Crocker

Dear Sir,

I have just got the notes ready after a long time. I have not included in asking all the partners until today.

Mr. Rice wished to substitute Rice Kendall Co. in place of himself. And so I changed the note or rather wrote a new one I endorse the old one so you can include

March 14 1877;



John Keith Letters page 147

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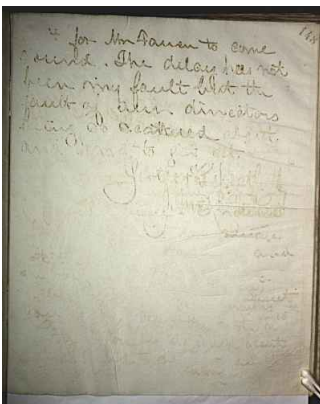
your signature —

The change does not weaken the note but makes it stronger.

I enclose a check to pay interest to April 1st on the \$28000 note.

I ought to have got these around before but have not seen Mr. Farren until today for four months and Mr Rice kept the note a month before he decided about it — then I had to overwrite and send to N.Y. then to Boston and

March 14 1877;



John Keith Letters page 148

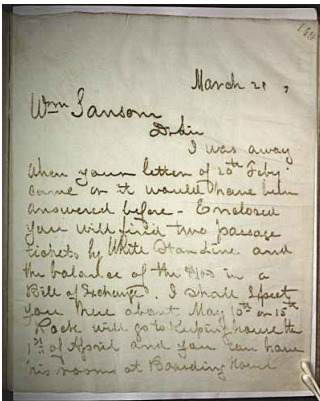
2017.CC.09.10.152

wait for Mr. Farren to come around. The delay has not been my fault but the fault of our directors being so scattered about and hard to get at.

Yours Respectfully

John Keith Prest

March 14 1877;



John Keith Letters page 149

2017.CC.09.10.153

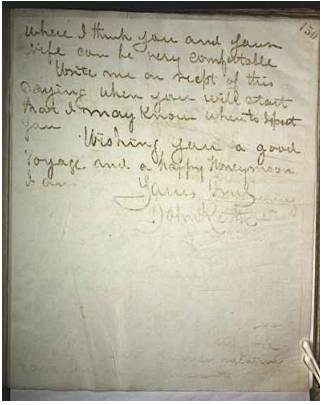
March 21 7 [1877]

Wm Sanson

Dear Sir,

I was away when your letter of 20th Feby. came as it would have been answered before. Enclosed you will find the passage tickets by White Star Line and the balance of the \$100 in a bill of Exchange. I shall expect you here about May 10th or 15th. Robt. will go to Kuping house the 1st of April and you can have his rooms at Boarding house

March 21 1877;



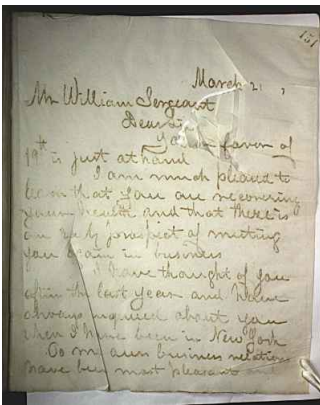
John Keith Letters page 150

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where I think you and your wife can be very comfortable. Write me on receipt of this saying when you will start that I may know when to expect you.

Wishing you a good voyage and a happy honeymoon.

I am
Yours Truly
John Keith
March 21 1877;



John Keith Letters page 151

2017.CC.09.10.155

March 21 7 [1877]
Mr. William Sergeant
Dear Sir.

Yours in favor of 19th is just at hand.

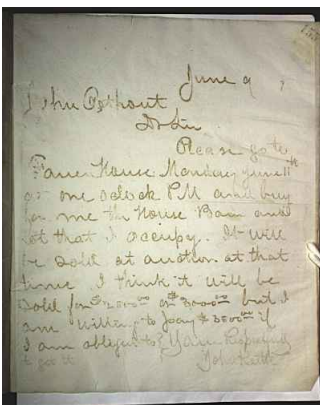
I am much pleased to know that you are recovering your health and that there is an early prospect of meeting you again in business.

I have thought of you often the last year and have always inquired about you when I have been in New York.

To me our business relations have been most pleasant and ;

Pages 152, 153 and 154 are not included in the Keith book.

March 21 1877;



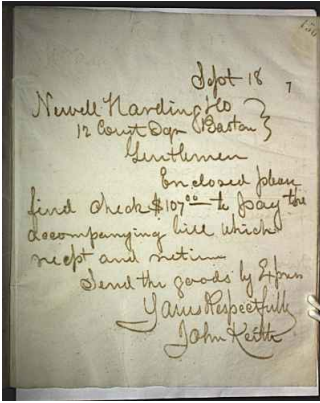
John Keith Letters page 155

2017.CC.09.10.156

June 9 7 [1877]
John [Cathout]
Dear Sir,

Please go to Farren House Monday June 11th at one oclock PM and buy for me the house barn and lot that I occupy. It will be sold at auction at that time. I think it will be sold for \$2500⁰⁰ or \$ 3000⁰⁰ but I am willing to pay \$3500.⁰⁰ if I am obliged to get it.

Yours Respectfully
John Keith
June 9 1877;

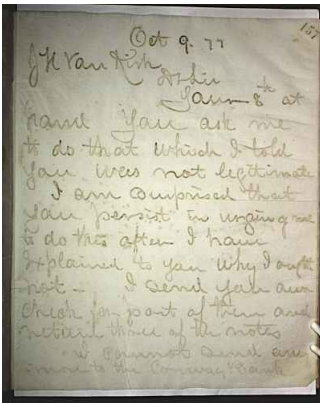


John Keith Letters page 156

2017.CC.09.10.157

Sept 18 7 [1877]
Newell Harding & Co.
12 Court Sqr. Boston

Gentlemen,
Enclosed please find check \$107⁰⁰ to pay the accompanying bill which receipt and return.
Send the goods by Express.
Yours Respectfully
John Keith
September 18 1877;



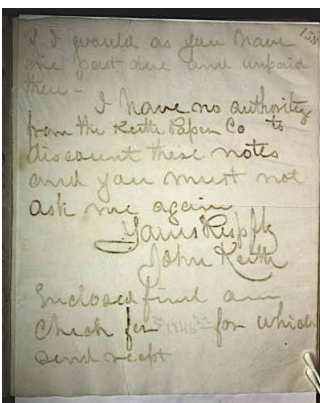
John Keith Letters page 157

2017.CC.09.10.158

Oct 9 7 [1877]
J. H. Van Kirk

Dr Sir,
Your 8th at hand You ask me to do that which I told you was not legitimate. I am surprised that you persist in urging of me to do this after I have explained to you why I ought not. I send you our check for part of them and retired three of the notes.
I cannot send any more to the Conway Bank

October 9 1877;

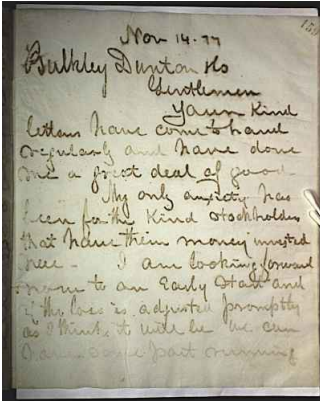


John Keith Letters page 158

2017.CC.09.10.159

If I would as you have one past due and unpaid there.
I have no authority from the Keith Paper Co. to discount these notes and you must not ask me again.
Yours Respectfully
John Keith
Enclosed find our check for \$1346²² for which send receipt

October 9 1877; March 8 2018; Date modified



John Keith Letters page 159

2017.CC.09.10.160

(Editor's note: The Keith Paper mill was largely destroyed on November 7, 1877. This letter was written 7 days after the fire.)

Nov. 14, 77 (1877)

Bulkley Dunton Co.

Gentlemen,

Your kind letters have come to hand regularly and have done me a great deal of good.

My only anxiety has been for the Kind stockholders that have their money invested here. I am looking forward now to an early start and if the loss is adjusted promptly, as I think it will be, we can some part running

; Headline from the Turners Falls Reporter:

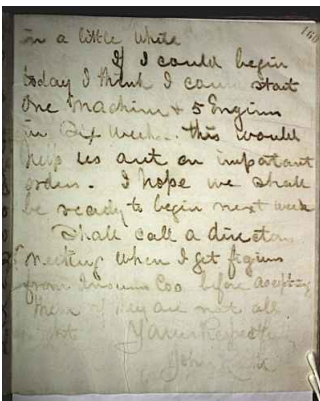
November 7, 1877

OUR GREAT LOSS !

Disastrous Fire This Morning! The Magnificent Keith Mill Burned to the Ground - Three Hundred Persons Thrown Out of Employment.

LOSS NEARLY \$400,000!

November 14 1877;



John Keith Letters page 160

2017.CC.09.10.161

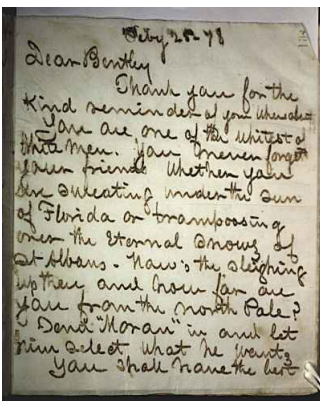
in a little while. If I could begin today I think I could start one machine & 5 Engines in six weeks – this would help us out on important orders. I hope we shall be ready to begin next week.

I Shall call a directors meeting when I get figures from Insurance Co before accepting them if they are not all right.

Yours Respectfully,

John Keith

November 14 1877;



John Keith Letters page 161

2017.CC.09.10.162

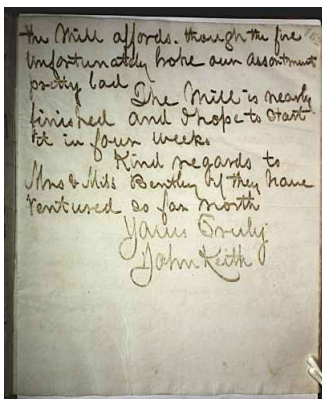
February 25 – 78 [1878]

Dear Bentley,

Thank you for the kind reminder of your Where abouts. You are one of the whitest of white men. You never forget your friends Whether you are sweating under the sun of Florida or transposing over the Eternal Snows of St Albans. How's the sleighing up there and how far are you from the north Pole?

Send "Moran" in and let him select what he wants. You shall have the best

February 25 1878;



John Keith Letters page 162

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the mill affords, though the fire unfortunately broke our assortment pretty bad.

The mill is nearly finished and I hope to start it in four weeks.

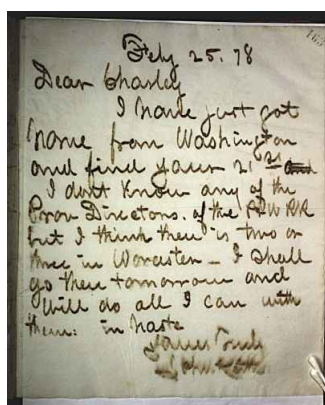
Kind regards to Mrs. & Miss Bentley if they have ventured so far north.

Yours Truly

John Keith

(EDITORS NOTE) From the Turners Falls Reporter: April 24, 1878 - THE NEW KEITH MILL - The Model Fine Paper Mill of the World Again in Operation. The Keith Paper Co., having decided to rebuild, President Keith made his plans for the new structure, following the style of the old mill in so far as it was expedient, making such changes as four years' experience suggested. Campbell & Hazelton were given the charge of the brick work and Wm. R. Farnsworth the wood work, and affairs were rapidly pushed under the general surveillance of Mr. Keith, the intention being at first to build and finish one half of the mill so that it could run with half its former capacity, and subsequently complete the work. But the good weather and other things conspiring to help matters along, the complete mill took the place of the first project in a surprisingly short time.

February 25 1878;



John Keith Letters page 163

2017.CC.09.10.164

February 25 78 [1878]

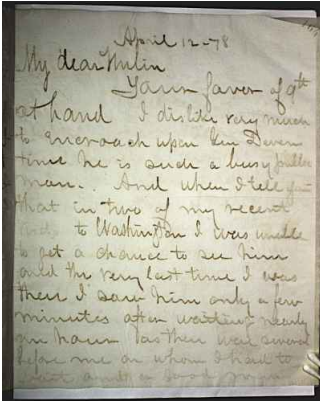
Dear Charley,

I have just got home from Washington and find your 21st. I don't know any of the Prov. Directors. Of the P&W RR but I think there is two or three in Worcester. I shall go there tomorrow and will do all I can with them: in haste,

Yours Truly

John Keith

February 25 1878;



John Keith Letters page 164

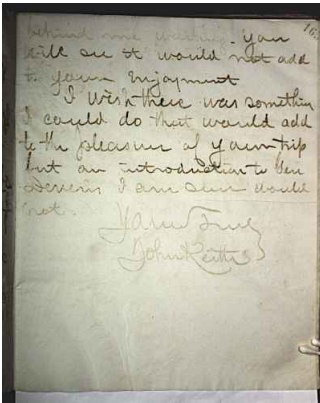
2017.CC.09.10.165

April 12 78 [1878]

My dear [Nulin,]

Your favor of 9th at hand. I dislike very much to encroach upon Gen. Devens time he is such a busy public man. And when I tell you that in two of my recent visits to Washington I was unable to get a chance to see him and the very last time I was there I saw him only a few minutes after waiting nearly an hour as there were several before me an whom I had to wait and a good many

April 12 1878;



John Keith Letters page 165

2017.CC.09.10.166

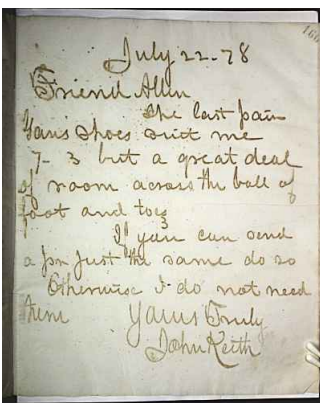
behind me waiting – you will see it would not add to your enjoyment. I wish there was something I could do that would add to the pleasures of your trip but an introduction to Gen Devens I am sure would not.

Yours Truly

John Keith

; Fort Devens (1917-Present) - First established in 1917 as Camp Devens in Middlesex County, Massachusetts. Named in G.O. 95, 18 Jul., 1917 after Bvt. Major General Charles Devens, a Massachusetts son who served in the Union Army during the U.S. Civil War, and later was named U.S. Attorney General.

April 12 1878;



John Keith Letters page 166

2017.CC.09.10.167

July 22 -78 [1878]

Friend Allen,

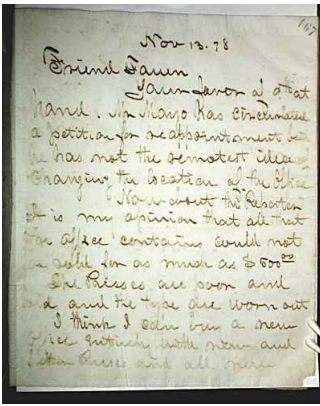
The last pair of your shoes suit me 7- 3 but a great deal of room across the ball of foot and toes.

If you can send a pair just the same do so. Otherwise I do not need them.

Yours Truly

John Keith

July 22 1878;



John Keith Letters page 167

2017.CC.09.10.168

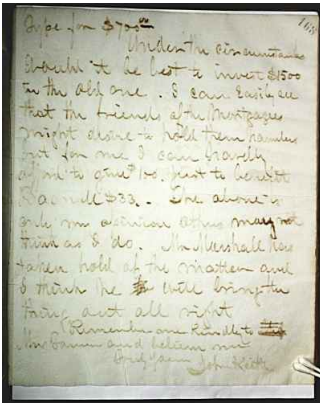
Nov 13 78 [1878]

Friend Farren,

Your favor of 9th at hand. Mr Mayo has circulated a petition for re appointment but he has not the remotest idea of changing the location of the Office. Now about the Reporter. It is my opinion that all that this office contains could not be[?] sold for as much as \$500.⁰⁰ The Presses are poor and old and the type are worn out.

I think I can buy a new office entirely with new and better Presses and all new

November 13 1878;



John Keith Letters page 168

2017.CC.09.10.169

Under the circumstances wouldn't it be best to invest \$1500 in the old one. I can Easily see that the friends of the Montagues might desire to hold them harmless but for me I can hardly afford to give \$100.⁰⁰ just to benefit Bagnall \$33. - The above is only my opinion others may not think as I do. Mr. Marshall has taken hold of the matter and I think he will bring the thing out all right.

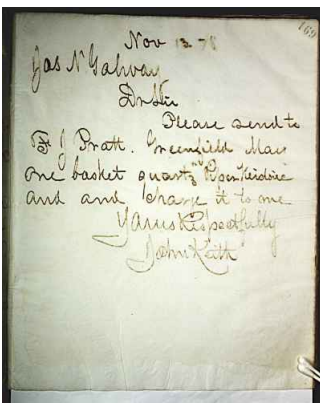
Remember one Kindly to Mrs. Farren and believe me.

Truly Yours

John Keith ;

Cecil Bagnall was editor of the Turners Falls Reporter (local newspaper) from 1876 to 1922. e.g.

November 13 1878;



John Keith Letters page 169

2017.CC.09.10.170

Nov 13 78 [1878]

Jas. N. Galvan

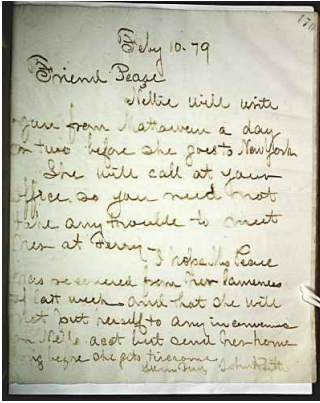
Dear Sir,

Please send to F. J. Pratt. Greenfield Mass one basket quartz ["Paper Heidoire"] and and charge it to me.

Yours Respectfully

John Keith

November 13 1878;



John Keith Letters page 170

2017.CC.09.10.171

Feb 10 79 [1879]

Friend Pease,

Nellie will write you from Mattawen a day or two before she goes to New York.

She will call at your office so you need not take any trouble to meet her at Ferry.

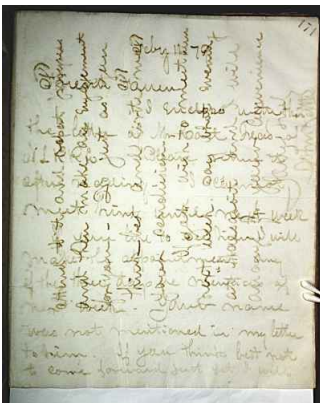
I hope Mrs. Pease has recovered from her lameness of last week and that she will not put herself to any inconvenience on Nell's acct. but send her home long before she gets tiresome.

Yours Truly

John Keith

;George L. Pease, New York, would become a director of the K.P. Co. in 1891.

February 10 1879;



John Keith Letters page 171

2017.CC.09.10.172

Feb 11 79 [1879]

Friend Farren,

Enclosed with this the letter at Mr Root Treas – of L R Root. Please return it after so reading. I cannot meet him until next week so you have to see him. I will make the arrangement any of the three days he mentions of next week. Your name was not mentioned in my letter to him. If you think best not to come forward just yet I will

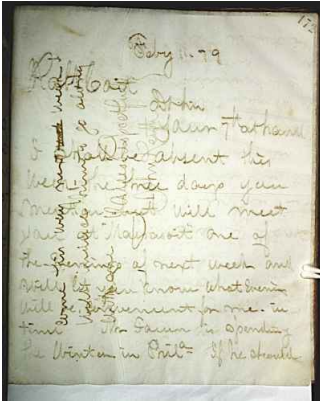
[Editor – the following is aparently a part of another undated letter. This is the text that appears vertically in the image]

Attend to it and [report] [progress] and then make an engagement for you. Do just as you think best and write me your conclusion.If you wish to meet him next week, say what evening at Massasoit and I will arrange for your convenience

Yours Truly

John Keith

February 10 1879;



John Keith Letters page 172

2017.CC.09.10.173

[Editor – the vertical writing on this page appears to be the end of the Feb. 11 letter to B.N. Farren started on the previous page.]

come this way next week. I will induce him to go with me. Yours Respectfully John Keith

[Editor – the following appears to be another February 11, 1879 letter to Robert Coit]

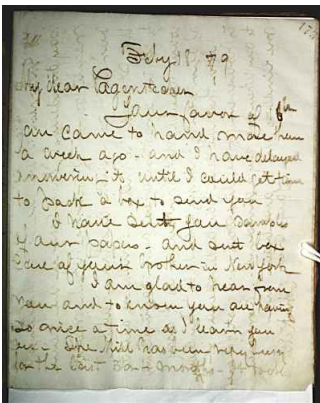
Feb 11 79 [1879]

Robt Coit

Dr Sir,

Your 7th at hand. I shall be absent this week. The three days you mention but will meet you at "Massasoit" one of the evenings of next week and will let you know what evening will be convenient for me in time Mr. Farren is spending the Winter in Phila If he should

February 11 1879;



John Keith Letters page 173

2017.CC.09.10.174

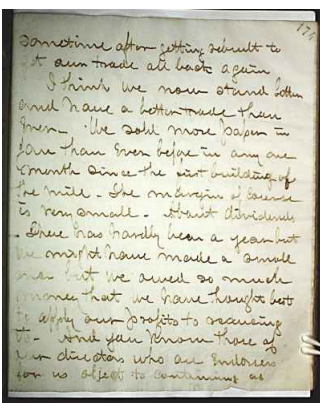
Feb 18 79 [1879]

My dear Pagenstecher,

Your favor of 6th Jan came to hand more than a week ago and I have delayed answering it until I could get time to pack a box to send you. I have sent you samples of our papers and sent one box care of your brother in New York.

I am glad to hear from you now and to know you are having so nice a time as I learn you [?]. The mill has been very busy for the last 3 or 4 months. It took

February 18 1879;



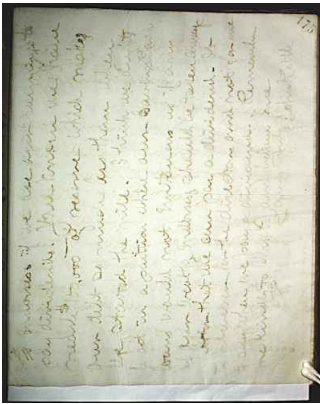
John Keith Letters page 174

2017.CC.09.10.175

some time after getting rebuilt to get our trade all back again.

I think we now stand better and have a better trade than ever. We sold more paper in Jan. than ever before in any one month since the first building of the mill. The margin of course is very small. About dividends. There has hardly been a year that we might have made a small one but we owed so much money that we have thought best to apply our profits to securing it. And you know those of our directors who are endorsers for us object to continuing as

February 18 1879;



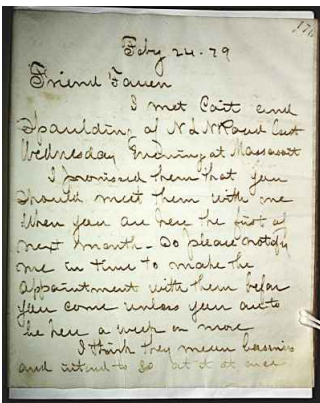
John Keith Letters page 175

2017.CC.09.10.176

endorsers if we use our savings to pay dividends. You know we have nearly \$100,000 of reserve which makes our debt so much less than when we started the mill. I think we ought to get in a position where our Savings Bank loans would not embarrass us if any of our wealthy endorsers should be taken away. After that we can pay a dividend. It is however for the directors and not for me to say when we pay a dividend. Remember me kindly to Mrs P. and believe me.

Yours truly
John Keith

February 18 1879;



John Keith Letters page 176

2017.CC.09.10.177

Feb 24 79 [1879]

Friend Farren,

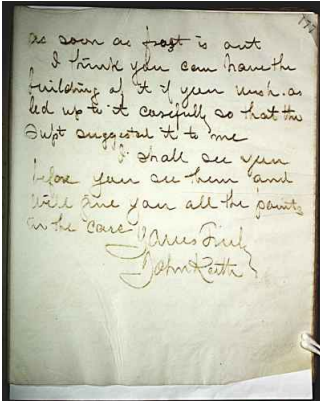
I met Coit and Spaulding of NLR Road last Wednesday evening at Massasoit.

I promised them that you should meet them with me when you are here the first of next month. Do please notify me in time to make the appointment with them before you come unless you are to be here a week or more.

I think they mean business and intend to go at it at once

; N. L. R. Road; New London R.R.

February 24 1879;



John Keith Letters page 177

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as soon as frost is out.

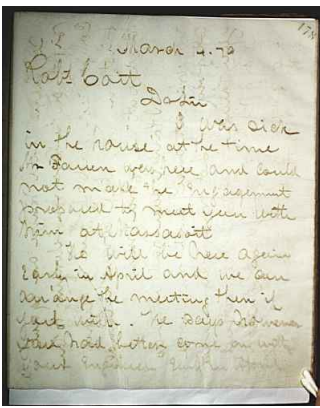
I think you can have the building of it if you wish as led up to it carefully so that the Supt. suggested it to me.

I shall see you before you are there and will give you all the points in the case.

Yours Truly

John Keith

February 24 1879;



John Keith Letters page 178

2017.CC.09.10.179

March 4 79 [1879]

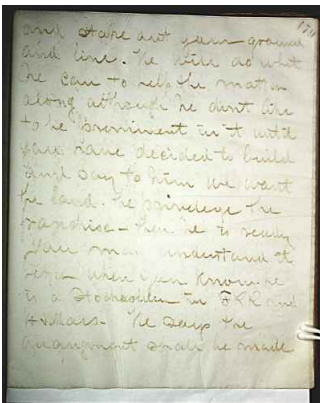
Robt. Coit

Dear Sir,

I was sick in the house at the time Mr. Farren was here and could not make the engagement proposed to meet you with him at Massasoit.

We will be here again early in April and we can arrange the meeting then if you wish. He says however just had better come on with your engineer early in April

March 4 1879;



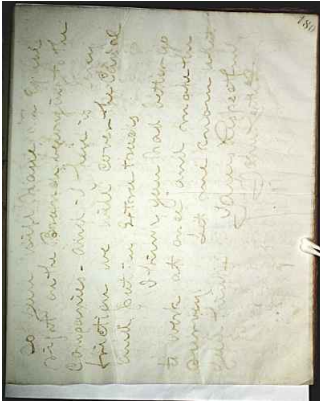
John Keith Letters page 179

2017.CC.09.10.180

and take out your ground and line. He will do what he can to help the matter along although he don't like to be prominent in it until you have decided to build and say to him we want the land. The [?] the franchise – when he is ready you may understand it after when you know he is a stockholder in F.R.R. and Vt. & Mass. He says the arrangement shall be made

; Fitchburg R.R.Vermont & Massachusetts R.R.

March 4 1879;



John Keith Letters page 180

2017.CC.09.10.181

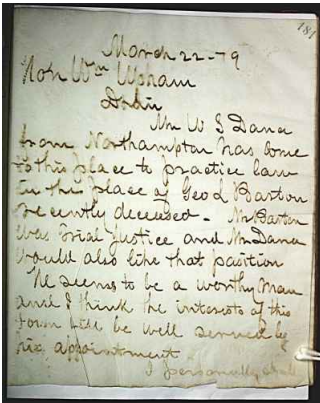
so you will have an equal right on the Branch leading to the companies – and if there is any friction we will cover the canal and put in structures.

I think you had better go to work at once and make the survey. Let me know what you think.

Yours Respectfully

John Keith

March 4 1879;



John Keith Letters page 181

2017.CC.09.10.182

March 22 79 [1879]

Hon. Wm Waham

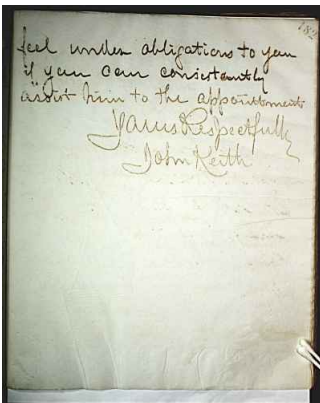
Dear Sir,

Mr. W. S. Dana from Northampton has come to this place to practice law in the place of Geo. L. Barton recently deceased. Mr. Barton was Trial Justice and Mr. Dana would also like that position.

He seems to be a worthy man and I think the interests of this town will be well served by his appointment.

I personally shall

March 22 1879;



John Keith Letters page 182

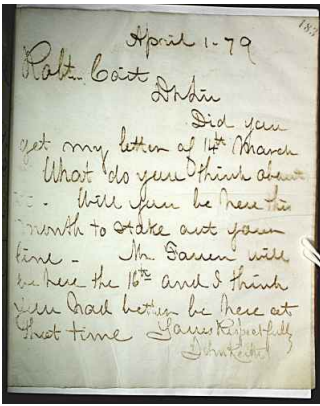
2017.CC.09.10.183

feel under obligations to you if you can consistently assist him to the appointment.

Yours Respectfully

John Keith

March 22 1879;



John Keith Letters page 183

2017.CC.09.10.184

April 1 79 [1879]

Robt. Coit

Dr. Sir,

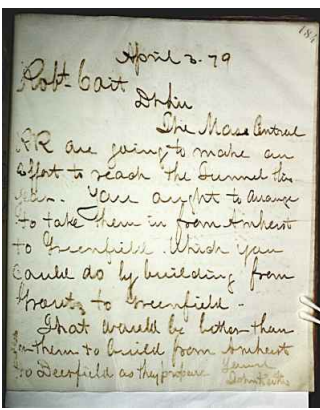
Did you get my letter of 14th March. What do you think about it.

Will you be here this month to stake out your line – Mr. Farren will be here 16th and I think you had better be here at that time.

Yours Respectfully

John Keith

April 1 1879;



John Keith Letters page 184

2017.CC.09.10.185

April 3 79 [1879]

Robt. Coit

Dr Sir.

The Mass Central RR are going to make an effort to reach the tunnel this year. You ought to arrange to take them in from Amherst to Greenfield.

Which you could do by building from Grouts[*] to Greenfield.

That would be better than for them to Greenfield from Amherst to

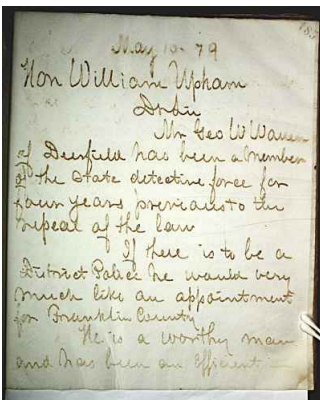
Deerfield as they propose

Yours

John Keith

*Grouts would be Grouts Corner in Millers Falls, MA. A railroad depot was located there to accommodate trains entering from the south and west and subsequently heading north and east.

April 3 1879;



John Keith Letters page 185

2017.CC.09.10.186

May 10 79 [1879]

Hon. William Upham

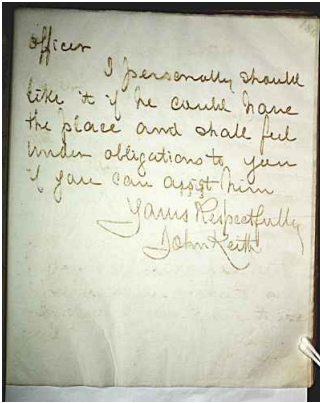
Dear Sir,

Mr. Geo. W. Warren of Deerfield has been a member of the state detective force for four years previous to the repeal of the law.

If there is to be a district police he would very much like an appointment for Franklin County

He is a worthy man and has been an efficient police

May 10 1879;



John Keith Letters page 186

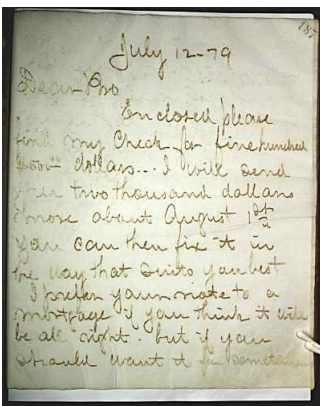
2017.CC.09.10.187

officer. I personally should like it if he could have the place and shall feel under obligation to you if you can appoint him.

Yours Respectfully
John Keith

; Is Keith "influence peddling", or, simply looking for a good candidate for the police position?

May 10 1879;



John Keith Letters page 187

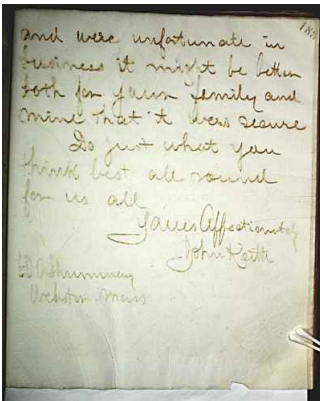
2017.CC.09.10.188

July 12 79 [1879]

Dear Bro.,

Enclosed please find my check for five hundred \$500 dollars. I will send you two thousand dollars more about August 1st you can then fix it in the way that suits you best. I prefer your note to a mortgage if you think it will be all right – but if you should want it for something

July 12 1879;



John Keith Letters page 188

2017.CC.09.10.189

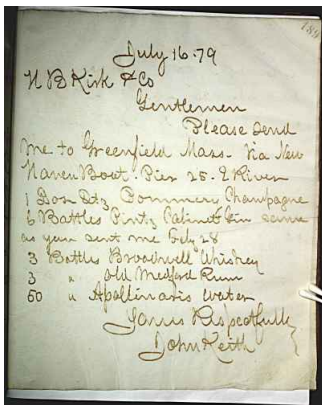
and were unfortunate in business it might be better both for your family and mine that it were secure.

Do just what you think best all round for us all.

Yours Affectionately,
John Keith

W.D. Shumway Webster, Mass.

July 12 1879;



John Keith Letters page 189

2017.CC.09.10.190

July 16 79 [1879]

N. B. Kirk & Co.

Gentlemen,

Please send me to Greenfield Mass. via New Haven Boat. Pier 25. E. River.

1 Doz. Qtz. Bommery Champagne

6 Bottles Pints Cabinet Gin same as you sent me Feby. 28

3 Bottles Broadwell Whiskey

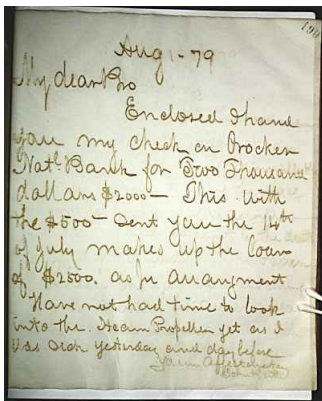
3 " old Medford Rum

3 " [Apallinoris] Water

Yours Truly

John Keith

July 16 1879;



John Keith Letters page 190

2017.CC.09.10.191

Aug 1 79 [1879]

My Dear Bro.,

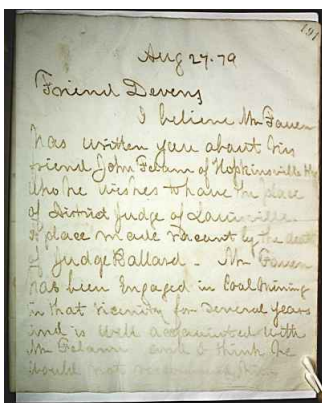
Enclosed I hand you my check on Crocker Natl. Bank for two thousand dollars \$2000. This with the \$500 sent you the 14th of July make up the loan of \$2500. As per arrangement.

Have not had time to look into the steam propeller yet as I was sick yesterday and day before.

Yours Affectionately

John Keith

August 1 1879;



John Keith Letters page 191

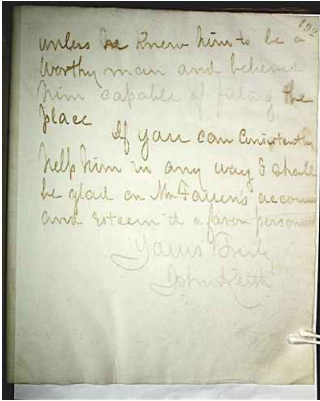
2017.CC.09.10.192

Aug 27 79 [1879]

Friend Devens,

I believe M.r Farren has written you about his friend John [Felam] of Hopkinsville Ky. who he wishes to have the place of District Judge of Louisville. A place made vacant by the death of Judge Ballard. Mr. Farren has been engaged in coal mining in that vicinity for several years and is well acquainted with Mr [Felam] and I think he would not recommend him

August 27 1879;



John Keith Letters page 192

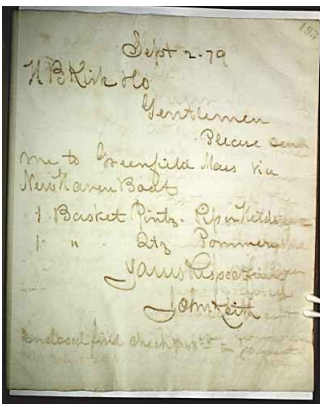
2017.CC.09.10.193

unless he knew him to be a worthy man and believe him capable of filling the place.

If you can consistently help him in any way I shall be glad on Mr. Farren's account and esteem it a favor personally.

Yours Truly
John Keith

; Keith once again becomes "influential."
August 27 1879;



John Keith Letters page 193

2017.CC.09.10.194

Sept 2 79 [1879]

N. B. Kirk & Co,

Gentlemen,

Please send me to Greenfield Mass via North Haven Boat.

1 Basket Pints -[Paper Heidoire]

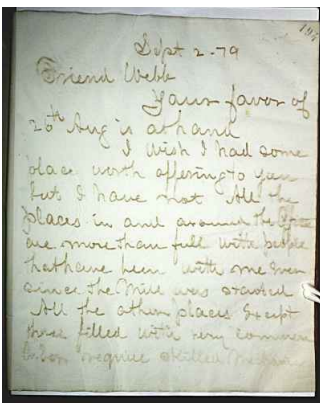
1 " Qtz [Pommery]

Yours Respectfully

John Keith

Enclosed find check \$48²⁵ in [?] payment

September 2 1879;



John Keith Letters page 194

2017.CC.09.10.195

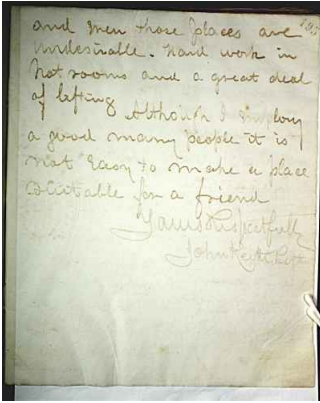
Sept 2 79 [1879]

Friend Webb,

Your favor of 20th Aug is at hand. I wish I had some place worth offering to you but I have not All the places in and around the Office are more than full with people that have been with me ever since the mill was started.

All the other places except these filled with very common labor require skilled mechanics

September 2 1879;



John Keith Letters page 195

2017.CC.09.10.196

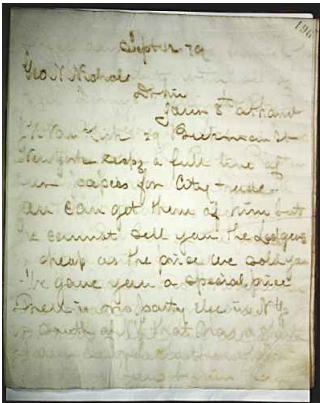
and knew those places are undesirable. Hard work in hot rooms and a great deal of lifting.

Although I employ a good many people it is not easy to make a place suitable for a friend

Yours Respectfully

John Keith

September 2 1879;



John Keith Letters page 196

2017.CC.09.10.197

Sept 12 79 [1879]

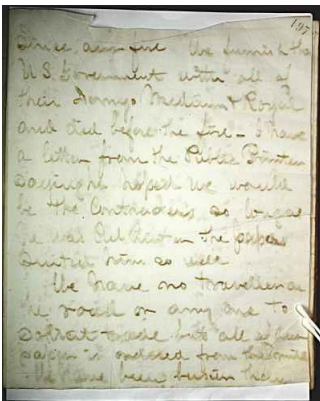
Geo. N. Nichols

Dear Sir,

Yours 8th at hand. J.H. Van Kirk 29 Burman St. New York uses a full line of our papers for city trade. You can get them of him but he cannot sell you the Ledgers as cheap as the price we sold you.

We gave you a special price There is no party use in NY or south of NY that has a greater [too faded to transcribe]

September 12 1879;



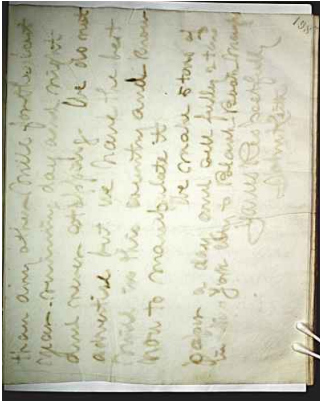
John Keith Letters page 197

2017.CC.09.10.198

since our fire we furnish the U.S. Government with all of their Demy Medium Royal and did before the fire. I have a letter from the Public Printer saying he hoped we would be the contractors so long as he was Pub. Printer The papers suited him so well.

We had no traveller on the road or any one to solicit trade but all of our paper is ordered from the mill. We have been busier now

September 12 1879;



John Keith Letters page 198

2017.CC.09.10.199

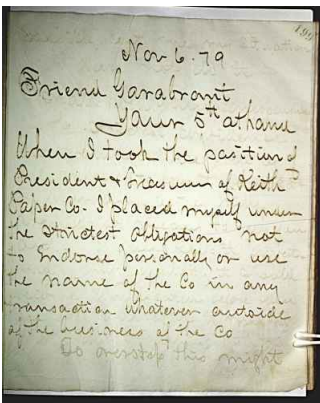
than any other mill for the last year morning day and night and never stopping. We do not advertise but we have the best mill in the country and know how to manipulate it.

We make 5 tons pf paper a day and sell fully 2 tons in New York City to Blank Book Manufs.

Yours Respectfully

John Keith

September 12 1879;



John Keith Letters page 199

2017.CC.09.10.200

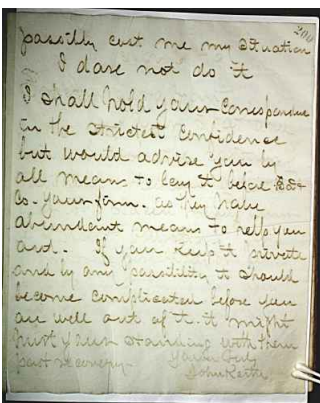
Nov 6 79 [1879]

Friend Garabrant,

Your 5th at hand. When I took the position of President & treasurer of KeithPaper Co. I placed myself under strictest obligations not to endorse personally or use the name of the Co. in any transactions or whatever outside of the business of the Co. To overstep this might ;

Read the next page of this letterKeith's statement may not be entirely sincere. Ref. Letters 185-186; 191-192. Although Keith does not directly use the name of his company, the name Keith would be synonymous with his paper mill operation.

November 6 1879;



John Keith Letters page 200

2017.CC.09.10.201

possibly cost me my situation.

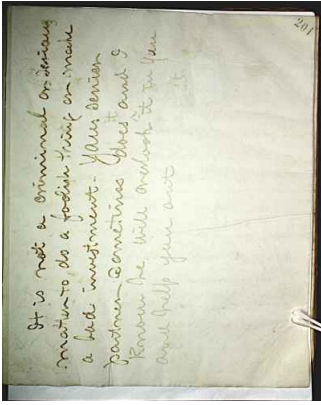
I dare not do it.

I shall hold your correspondence in the strictest confidence but would advise you by all means to levy it before BD&Co. your firm. As they have abundant means to help you out. If you keep it private and by any [possibility] it should become complicated before you are well out of it. It might hurt your standing with them past recovery.

Yours Truly

John Keith

November 6 1879;



John Keith Letters page 201

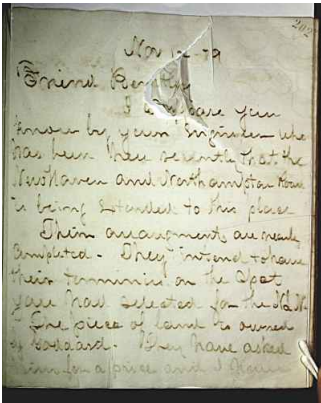
2017.CC.09.10.202

It is not a criminal or serious matter to do a foolish thing as make a bad investment. Your senior partner sometimes does it and I know he will overlook it in you and help you out.

; Page 201 may be a codicil to the text on page 200.

e.g.No Keith signature.

March 11 1818;



John Keith Letters page 202

2017.CC.09.10.203

Nov 12 79 [1879]

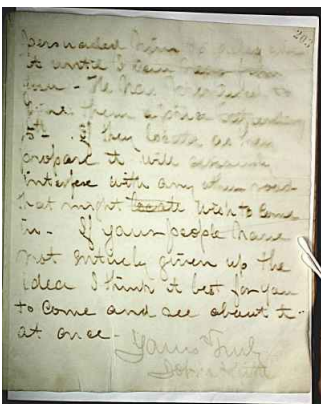
Friend Bentley,

I [am aware] you know by your engineer who has been here recently that the New Haven and Northampton Road is being extended to this place.

This arrangement are nearly completed. They intend to have their terminal on the spot where you have selected for the N & N The piece of land is owned by Goddard. They have asked him for a price and I have

; [Goddard would be E.L. Goddard of T.F.. Extract from the T.F. Reporter Nov. 19, 1879: "The New Haven and Northampton Railroad Company have advertised for proposals for the building of the extension of their road from Northampton to Turners Falls. The company have been trying to negotiate with E.L. Goddard for the purchase of the land lying along the river between L Street and the bridge, but the price asked was considered altogether too high to be entertained." e.g.]

November 12 1879;



John Keith Letters page 203

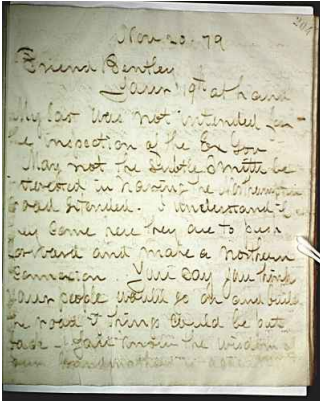
2017.CC.09.10.204

persuaded him to delay [arrival] it until I can hear from you. He has provided to them a price Saturday 15th. If they locate as have proposed it will [generally] interfere with any other road that might locate wish to come in. If your people have not entirely given up the idea I think it best for you to come and see about it at once.

Yours Truly

John Keith

November 12 1879;



John Keith Letters page 204

2017.CC.09.10.205

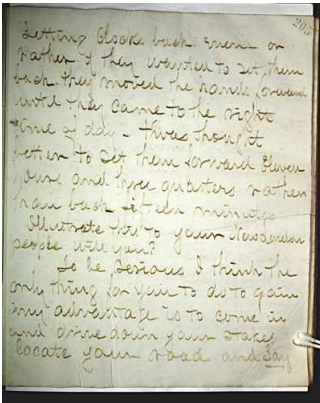
Nov 20 79 [1879]

Friend Bentley,

Your 19th at hand. My last was not intended for the inspection of the Ex Gov.

May not the subtle [Cmitte] be interested in having the Northampton road extended. I understand if they came here they are to push forward and make a northern connection. You say you think your people would go on and build the road if things could be put back. You know the wisdom of our grandmothers is against

November 20 1879;



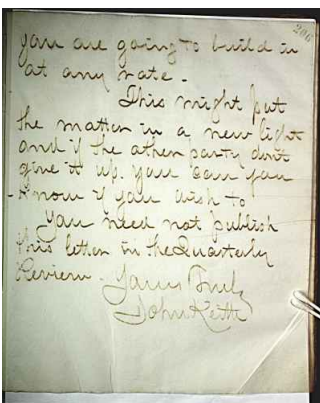
John Keith Letters page 205

2017.CC.09.10.206

setting clocks back even or rather if they wanted to set them back they moved the hands forward until they came to the right time of day. T'was thought better to get them forward eleven hours and three quarters rather than back fifteen minutes. Illustrate this to your New London people will you?

To be serious I think the only thing for you to do to gain any advantage is to come in and drive down your stakes locate your road and say

November 20 1879;



John Keith Letters page 206

2017.CC.09.10.207

you are going to build in at any rate.

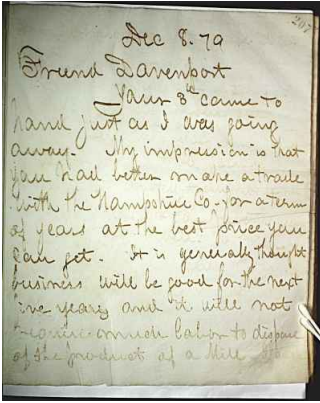
This might put the matter in a new light and if the other party don't give it up, you can you know if you wish to.

You need not publish this letter in the Quarterly Review.

Yours Truly

John Keith

November 20 1879;



John Keith Letters page 207

2017.CC.09.10.208

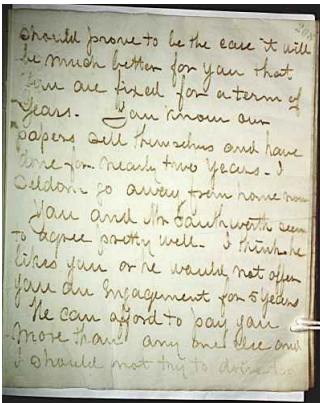
Dec 8 79 [1879]

Friend Davenport,

Your 3d came to hand just as I was going away. My impression is that you had better make a trade with the Hampshire Co. for a term of years at the best price you can get. It is generally thought business will be good for the next five years and it will not require much labor to dispose of the product of a mill. If it

; Davenport may have been Chester Davenport a lawyer representing the Town of Gill during the assessment of costs for the construction of the Upper "Red" Suspension Bridge (1878). Davenport was also active in other local goings-on. e.g.

December 8 1879;



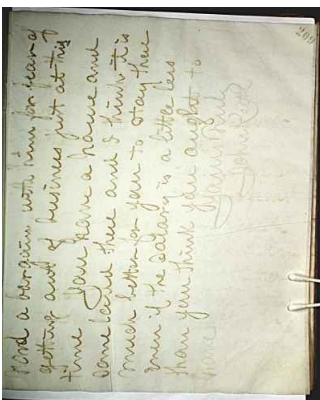
John Keith Letters page 208

2017.CC.09.10.209

should prove to be the case it will be much better for you that [the are fixed for a term of years. You know our papers sell themselves and have done for nearly two years. I seldom go away from home now.

You and Mr. Southworth seem to agree pretty well. I think he like you or he would not offer you an agreement for 5 years. He can afford to pay you more than any one else and I should not try to drive too

December 8 1879;



John Keith Letters page 209

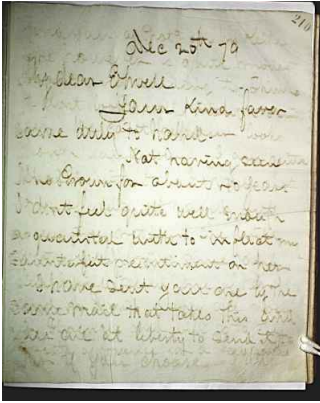
2017.CC.09.10.210

hard a bargain with him for fear of getting out of business just at this time. You have a house and some land there and I think it is much better for years to stay there even if the salary is a little less than you think you ought to have.

Yours truly

John Keith

December 8 1879;



John Keith Letters page 210

2017.CC.09.10.211

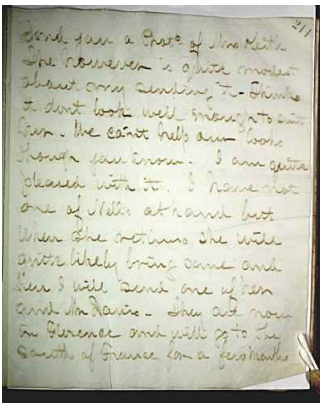
My Dear Elwell,

Your kind favor came duly to hand.

Not having seen Mrs. Brown for about 40 years I don't feel quite well enough acquainted with to inflict my [counterfeit] [?] on her.

I have sent you one by the same mail that takes this and you are at liberty to send it to you [?] [?] [?] [?] if you choose I will

December 20 1879;

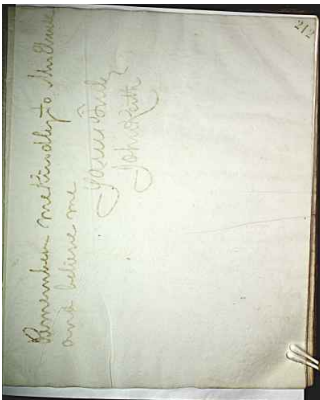


John Keith Letters page 211

2017.CC.09.10.212

send you a photo of Mrs. Keith. She however is quite modest about my sending it-thinks it don't look well enough to suit her. We cant help our looks though you know I am quite pleased with it. I have not one of Nell's at hand but when she returns she will quite likely bring some and then I will send one of her and Mr. Davis. They are now in Florence and will go to the South of France for a few months

December 20 1879;



John Keith Letters page 212

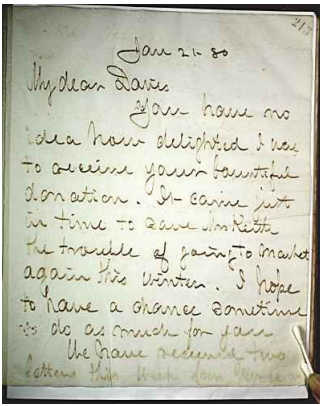
2017.CC.09.10.213

Remember me kindly to Mrs. Elwell and believe me,

Yours Truly

John Keith

December 20 1879;



John Keith Letters page 213

2017.CC.09.10.214

Jan 21- 80 [1880]

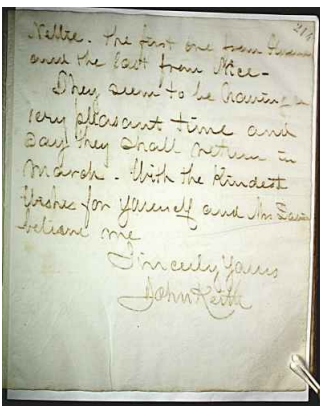
My Dear Davis,

You have no idea how delighted I was to receive your bountiful donation. It came just in time to save Mrs. Keith the trouble of going to market again this winter. I hope to have a chance some time to do as much for you.

We have secured two letters this week from

; [Davis would be Wendell Davis; a Greenfield lawyer (admitted to Bar 1841), and businessman. Register of Probate (1851). A major investor in the Keith Paper Co.. Davis was one of the original Directors of the Franklin County Nat'l. Bank in Greenfield, (1849). Was elected as State Rep. 1851-1856. e.g.]

January 21 1880;



John Keith Letters page 214

2017.CC.09.10.215

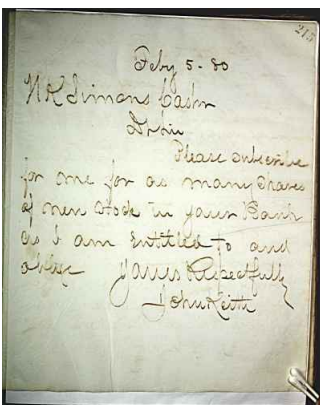
Nellie. The first one from Florence and the last from Rice.

They seem to be having a very pleasant time and say they shall return in March. With the kindest wishes for yourself and Mrs. Davis believe me.

Sincerely Yours

John Keith

January 21 1880;



John Keith Letters page 215

2017.CC.09.10.216

Feb 5- 80 [1880]

M. K. Simons Cashier

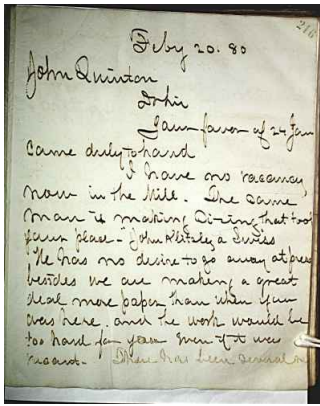
Dr Sir,

Please subscribe for me for as many shares of new stock in your Bank as I am entitled to and to and oblige.

Yours Respectfully

John Keith

February 5 1880;



John Keith Letters page 216

2017.CC.09.10.217

Feb 20- 80 [1880]

John Quinton

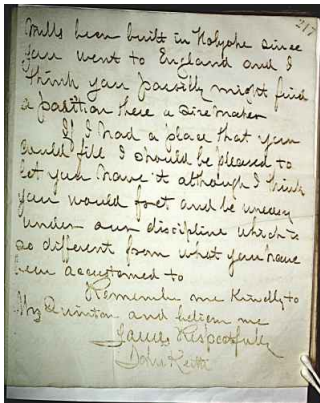
Dr Sir,

Your favor of 24 Jan came duly to hand.

I have no vacancy now in the mill. The same man is making [Sizing] that took your place. John Klitsler a Swiss.

He has no desire to go away at present besides we are making a great deal more paper than when you was here and the work would be too hard for you even if it was vacant. There has been several new

February 20 1880;



John Keith Letters page 217

2017.CC.09.10.218

mills been built in Holyoke since you went to England and I think you possibly might find a position there a size maker.

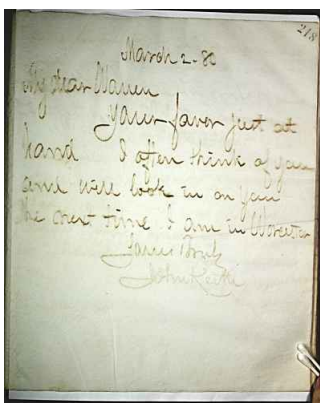
If I had a place that you could fill I should be pleased to let you have it although I think you would fret and be uneasy under our discipline which is so different from what you have been accustomed to.

Remember me kindly to Mrs. Quinton and believe me,

Yours respectfully

John Keith

February 20 1880;



John Keith Letters page 218

2017.CC.09.10.219

March 2- 80 [1880]

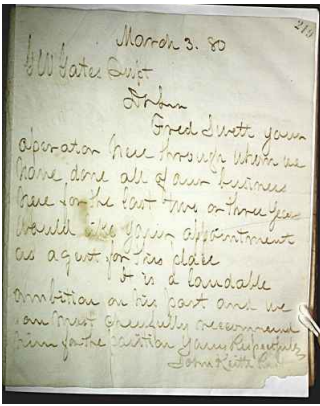
My dear Warren,

Your favor just at hand. I often think of you and will look in on you the next time I am in Worcester.

Yours Truly

John Keith

March 2 1880;



John Keith Letters page 219

2017.CC.09.10.220

March 3, 80 [1880]

G. W. Gates Supt.

Dr Sir,

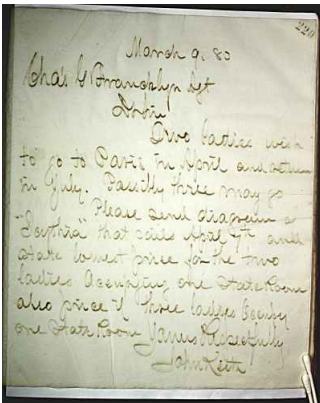
Fred Swett your operator here through whom we have done all of our business here for the last two or three years would like your appointment as agent for this place.

It is a laudable ambition on his part and we can most cheerfully recommend him for the position .

Yours Respectfully

John Keith Prest

March 3 1880;



John Keith Letters page 220

2017.CC.09.10.221

March 9, 80 [1880]

Chas G. Franklyn Agt.

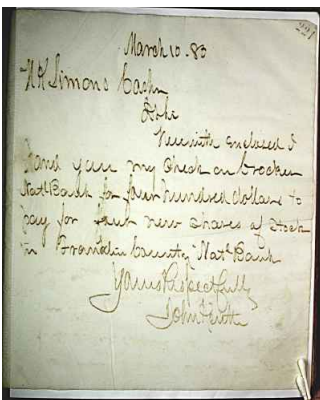
Dr Sir,

Two ladies wish to go to Paris in April and return in July. Possibly three may go. Please send diagram of "Scythia" that sails April 7th and state lowest price for the two ladies occupying one State Room also price if three ladies occupy one State Room.

Yours Respectfully

John Keith

March 9 1880;



John Keith Letters page 221

2017.CC.09.10.222

March 10- 80 [1880]

M. K. Simons Cashier

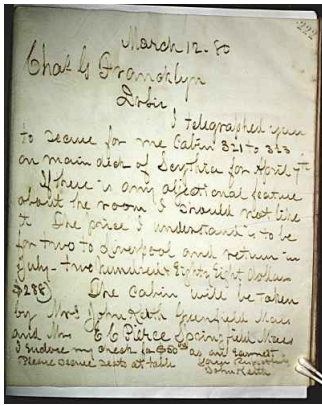
Dr Sir,

Herewith enclosed I hand you my check on Crocker Natl. Bank for four hundred dollars to pay for four new shares of stock in Franklin County Natl .Bank.

Yours Respectfully

John Keith

March 10 1880;



John Keith Letters page 222

2017.CC.09.10.223

March 12, 80 [1880]

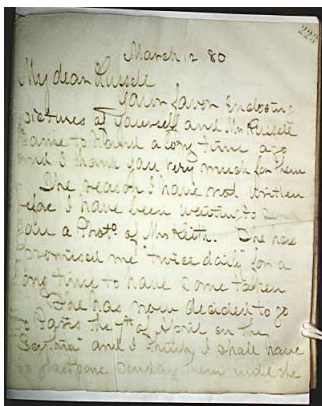
Chas. G. Franklyn
Dr Sir,

I telegraphed you to secure for me cabin 321 to 323 on main deck on Scythia for April 7th.

If there is any objectional feature about the room I should not like it. The price I understand is to be for two to Liverpool and return in July. Two hundred & eighty eight dollars \$288.

The cabin will be taken by Mrs. John Keith Greenfield Mass. and Mrs. E. L. Pierce Springfield Mass. I endorse my check for \$50⁰⁰ as am earnest. Please secure seats at table.

Yours Respectfully
John Keith
March 12 1880;



John Keith Letters page 223

2017.CC.09.10.224

March 12, 80 [1880]

My dear Russell,

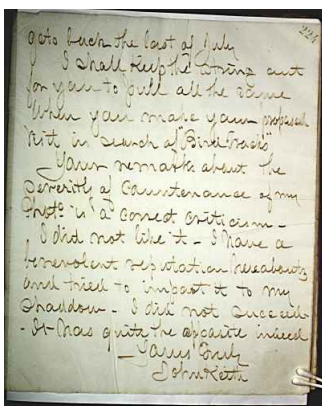
Your favor enclosing pictures of yourself and Mrs. Russell came to hand a long time ago and I thank you very much for them.

The reason I have not written before I have been waiting to send you a photo of Mrs Keith.

She has promised me twice daily for a long time to have some taken. She has now decided to go to Paris the 7th of April on the Scythia and I think I shall have to postpone sending them until she

; Russell may have been Mr. D.W. Russell, clerk of the Montague Paper Co. or, John Russell of the John Russell Cutlery Works.

March 12 1880;



John Keith Letters page 224

2017.CC.09.10.225

gets back the last of July.

I shall keep the string out for you to pull all the same

When you make your proposed [visit] in search of "Bird Tracks."

Your remark about the severity of countenance of my Photo is a correct criticism.

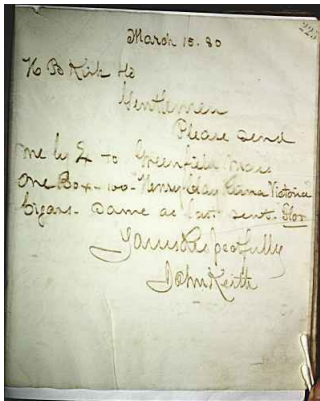
I did not like it. I have a benevolent reputation hereabouts and tried to impart it to my shadow. I did not succeed. It has quite the opposite indeed.

Yours Truly
John Keith

John Keith

; "Bird Tracks": Edward Hitchcock (1793-1864) of Amherst College studies the discovery of strange tridactylous tracks in the sandstone deposits of the Barton Cove area in Gill, MA, and other sites along the Connecticut River at Gill and Turners Falls, MA. Hitchcock's 30 year study and scientific delineation of the available information led to the taxon for the tracks that remains valid today. He died not knowing the tracks were made by dinosaurs.

March 12 1880;



John Keith Letters page 225

2017.CC.09.10.226

March 15, 80 [1880]

H. B. Kirk & Co.

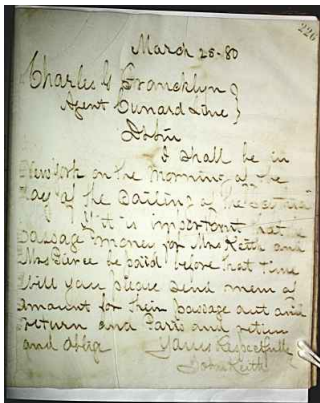
Gentlemen,

Please send me by Ex to Greenfield Mass one box - 100 - "Henry Clay Reina Victoria" cigars - Same as last sent - [Flor]

Yours Respectfully

John Keith

March 15 1880;



John Keith Letters page 226

2017.CC.09.10.227

March 28, 80 [1880]

Charles G. Franklyn

Agent Cunard Line

Dr Sir,

I shall be in New York on the morning of the day of the sailing of the Scythia.

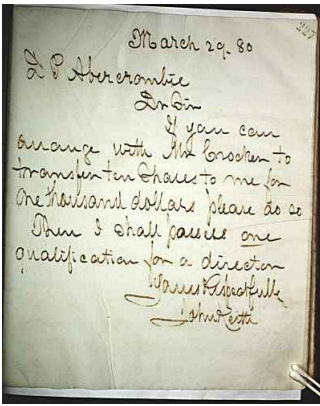
If it is important that the passage money for Mrs. Keith and Mrs. Pierce be paid before that time

Will you please send mem of amount for their passage out and return and Paris and return and oblige.

Yours Respectfully

John Keith

March 25 1880;



John Keith Letters page 227

2017.CC.09.10.228

March 29, 80 [1880]

D. P. Abercrombie

Dr Sir,

If you can arrange with Mr. Crocker to transfer ten shares to me for one thousand dollars please do so.

Then I shall possess one qualification for a director.

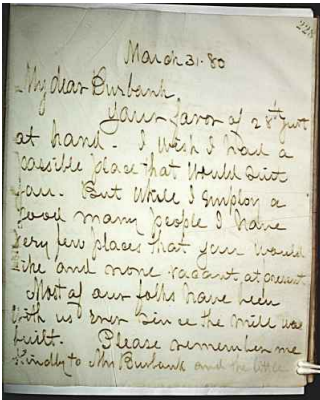
Yours Respectfully

John Keith

; D.P. Abercrombie (Daniel P.) was a Banker, Selectman and member of various board and societies and a community leader in Turners Falls. His residence was on Prospect St. in T.F. The brick Victorian remains today.

e.g.

March 29 1880;



John Keith Letters page 228

2017.CC.09.10.229

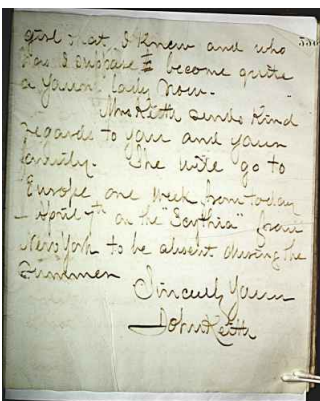
March 31, 80 [1880]

My Dear Burbank,

Your favor of 28th just at hand. I wish had a possible place that would suit you. But while I employ a good many people I have very few places that you would like and none vacant at present.

Most of our folks have been with us ever since the mill was built. Please remember me kindly to Mrs. Burbank and the little

March 31 1880;



John Keith Letters page 229

2017.CC.09.10.230

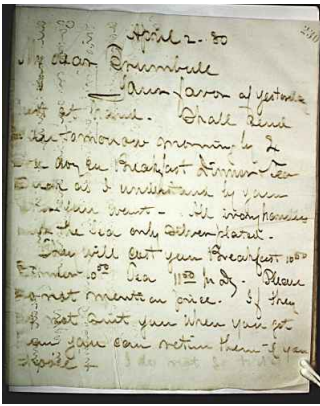
girl that I knew and who has I suppose become quite a young lady now.

Mrs. Keith send kind regards to you and your family. She will go to Europe one week from today — April 7th on the "Scythia" from New York to be absent during the summer.

Sincerely Yours

John Keith

March 31 1880;



John Keith Letters page 230

2017.CC.09.10.231

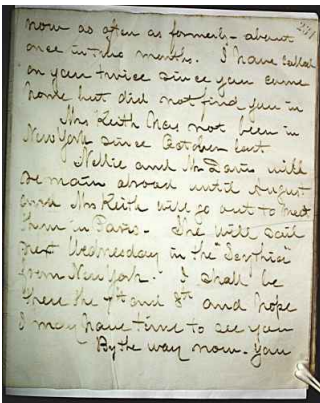
April 2, 80 [1880]

My Dear Trumbull,

Your favor of yesterday just at hand. Shall send you tomorrow morning by Express a dozen Breakfast Dinner tea as I understand by your [?] want all II ivory handles with the tea only silver plated.

They will cost you Breakfast 10⁵⁰ Dinner 10⁵⁰ Tea 11⁵⁰ per dz. Please do not mention price. If they do not suit you when you get home you can return them. If you choose. I do not go to N.Y.

April 2 1880;



John Keith Letters page 231

2017.CC.09.10.232

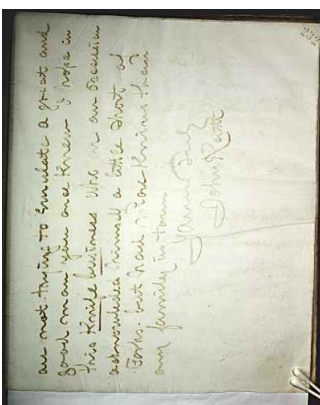
now as often as formerly, about once in two months. I have called on you twice since you came home but did not find you in.

Mrs. Keith has not been in New York since October last.

Nellie and Mrs. Davis will remain abroad until August and Mrs. Keith will go out to meet them in Paris. She will sail next Wednesday in the "Scythia" from New York. I shall be there the 7th and 8th and hope I may have time to see you.

By the way now, you

March 12 1880;



John Keith Letters page 232

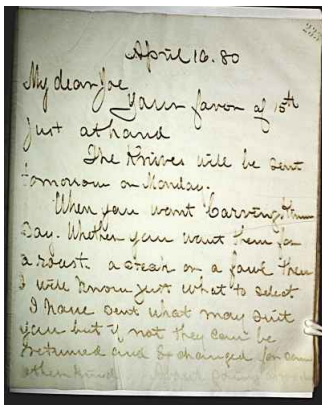
2017.CC.09.10.233

are not trying to emulate a great and good man you once knew I hope in this Knife business who on an occasion acknowledged himself a little short of Forks – but had more knives than any family in town.

Yours Truly

John Keith

April 2 1880;



John Keith Letters page 233

2017.CC.09.10.234

April 16, 80 [1880]

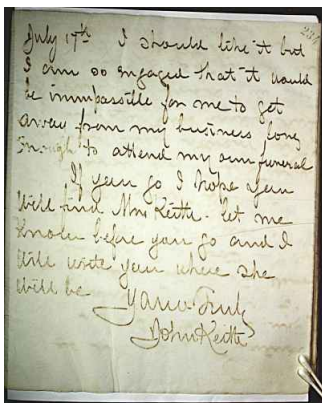
My Dear Joe,

Your favor of 15th just at hand. The knives will be sent tomorrow or Monday.

When you want Carving knives say. Whether you want them for a roast, a steak or a fowl then I will know just what to select.

I have sent what may suit you but if not they can be returned and exchanged for some other kind. About going

April 16 1880;



John Keith Letters page 234

2017.CC.09.10.235

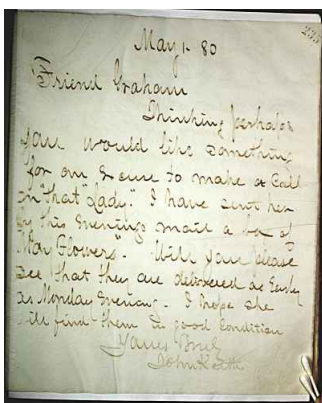
July 17th I should like to but I am so engaged that it would be impossible for me to get away from my business long enough to attend my own funeral.

If you go I hope you will find Mrs. Keith. Let me know before you go and I will write you where she will be

Yours Truly,

John Keith

April 16 1880;



John Keith Letters page 235

2017.CC.09.10.236

May 1, 80 [1880]

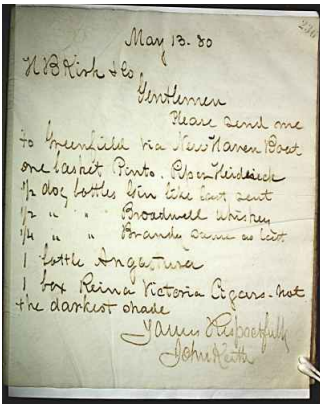
Friend Graham,

Thinking perhaps you would like something for an excuse to make a call on "that Lady." I have sent her by this evenings mail a box of "May Flowers." Will you please see that they are delivered as early as Monday evening. I hope she will find them in good condition.

Yours Truly

John Keith

May 1 1880;



John Keith Letters page 236

2017.CC.09.10.237

May 13, 80 [1880]

N. B. Kirk & Co.

Gentlemen,

Please send me to Greenfield via New Haven Boat

one basket Pinto Piper [Heiderich]

½ doz. bottles gin like last sent

½ " " Broadwell whiskey

¼ " " Brandy same as last

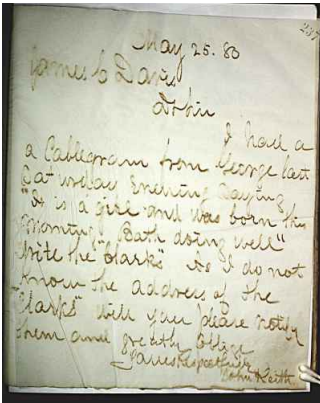
1 bottle Angustura

1 box Reina Victoria Cigars-not the darkest shade

Yours Respectfully

John Keith

May 13 1880;



John Keith Letters page 237

2017.CC.09.10.238

May 25, 80 [1880]

James C. Davis

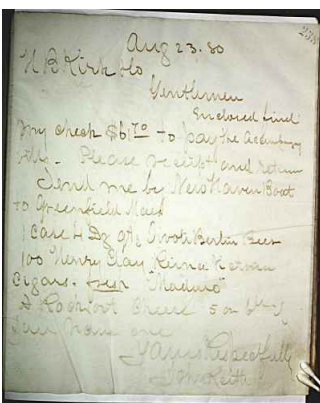
Dr Sir,

I had a cablegram from George last Saturday evening saying "It is a girl and was born this morning both doing well" write the "Clarks" I do not know the addresses of the "Clarks" will you please notify them and greatly oblige.

Yours Respectfully

John Keith

May 25 1880;



John Keith Letters page 238

2017.CC.09.10.239

Aug 23, 80 [1880]

N. B. Kirk & Co.

Gentlemen,

Endorsed find my check \$61⁷⁰ to pay the accompanying bills. Please receipt and return

Send me by New Haven Boat to Greenfield Mass.

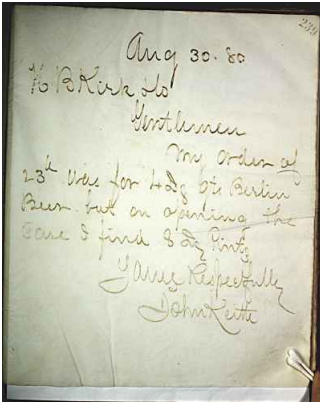
1 case 4 doz. qts. Tivoli Berlin Beer 100 Henry Clay Reina Victoria cigars. fresh "Maduro"

A Roquefort Cheese 5 or 6 lb if you have one

Yours Respectfully,

John Keith

August 23 1880;



John Keith Letters page 239

2017.CC.09.10.240

Aug 30, 80 [1880]

N. B. Kirk & Co.

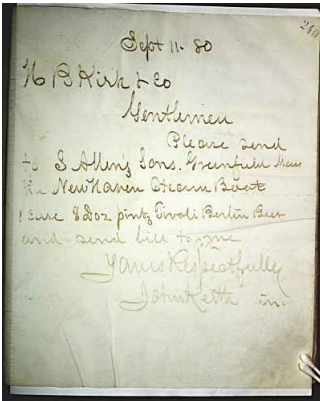
Gentlemen,

My order of 23^d was for 4 doz. qts. Berlin Beer but on opening the case I find 8 dz. Pints

Yours Respectfully

John Keith

August 30 1880;



John Keith Letters page 240

2017.CC.09.10.241

Sept 11, 80 [1880]

N. B. Kirk & Co.

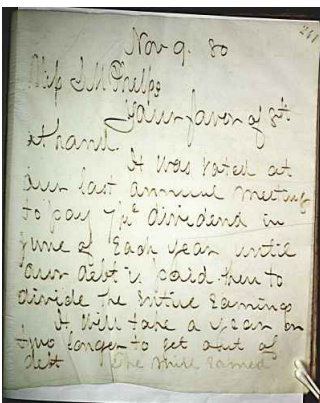
Gentlemen,

Please send to S. Allens Sons. Greenfield Mass via the New Haven Boat 1 case 8 doz. pints Tivoli Berlin Beer and send bill to me.

Yours Respectfully

John Keith [inc]

September 11 1880;



John Keith Letters page 241

2017.CC.09.10.242

Nov 9, 80 [1880]

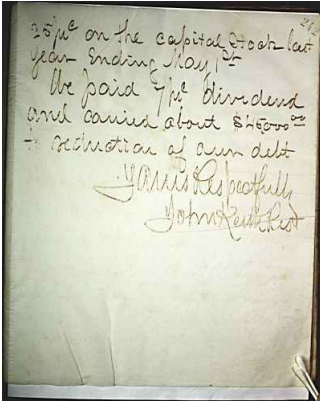
[Mr.] S.M. Phelps

Your favor of 8th at hand.

It was voted at our last annual meeting to pay 7pc dividend in June of each year until our debt is paid then to divide the entire earnings.

It will take a year or two longer to get out of debt. The mill earned

November 9 1880;

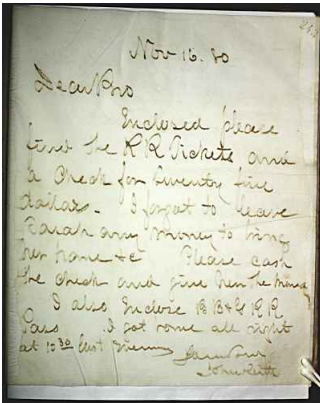


John Keith Letters page 242

2017.CC.09.10.243

25pc on the capital stock last year ending May 1st.
We paid 7pc dividend and carried about \$45000⁰⁰ to reduction of our debt.

Yours Respectfully
John Keith Prest
November 9 1880;



John Keith Letters page 243

2017.CC.09.10.244

Nov 16, 80 [1880]

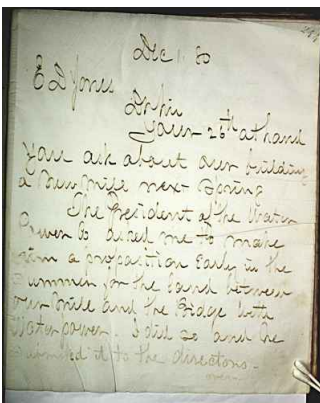
Dear Bro.

Enclosed please find the RR Tickets and a check for twenty five dollars. I forgot to leave Sarah any money to bring her home &c Please cash the check and give her the money.

I also enclose BB & G RR pass I got home all right at 10³⁰ last evening.

Yours Truly
John Keith

; BB & G RR . . . Boston, Barre and Gardner Railroad e.g.
November 16 1880;



John Keith Letters page 244

2017.CC.09.10.245

Dec 1, 80 [1880]

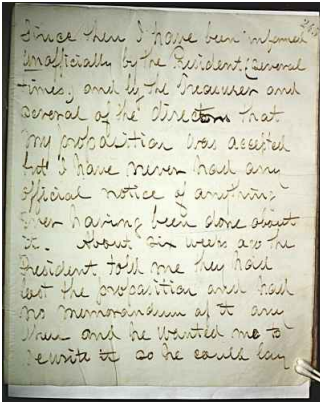
E. D. Jones

Dr Sir,

Your 26th at hand. You ask about our building a new mill next spring. The President of the Water Power Co. asked me to make him a proposition early in the summer for the land between our mill and the Bridge with water power. I did so and he submitted it to the directors-over

; Bernard N. Farren was then President of the Turners Falls Co., the "Water Power Co." The Bridge had to be the Lower "White" Suspension Bridge or what is today the 6th St. Bridge (at the Griswold Cotton Mill) as the land to the east and up to the canal gatehouse is now occupied by the Russell Cutlery, Montague Paper and Montague Pulp Co's. E.D. Jones of Pittsfield provided the engines for Keiths two paper making machines.e.g

December 1 1880;

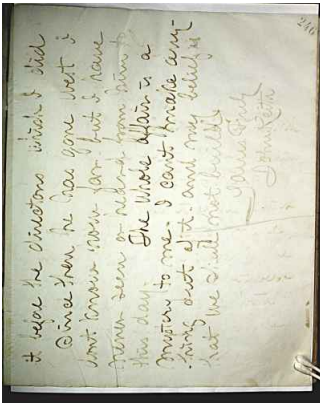


John Keith Letters page 245

2017.CC.09.10.246

Since then I have been informed unofficially by the President (several times), and by the Treasurer and several of the directors that my proposition was accepted but I have never had any official notice of anything ever having been done about it. About six weeks ago the President told me they had lost the proposition and had no memorandum of it any where and he wanted me to rewrite it so he could lay

December 1 1880;



John Keith Letters page 246

2017.CC.09.10.247

it before the directors which I did. Since then he has gone west I don't know how far but I have never seen or heard from him to this day. The whole affair is a mystery to me. I cant make anything out of it, and my belief is that we shall not build.

Yours Truly
John Keith

December 1 1880;

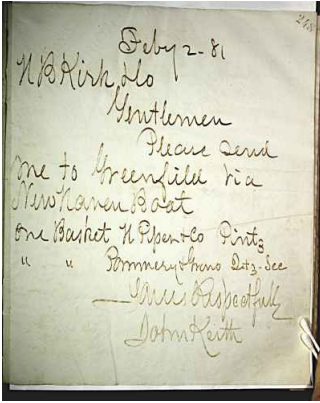


John Keith Letters page 247

2017.CC.09.10.248

Blank page.

; March 12 2018;



John Keith Letters page 248

2017.CC.09.10.249

Feb 2, 81 [1881]

N. B. Kirk & Co.

Gentlemen,

Please send me to Greenfield via New Haven Boat

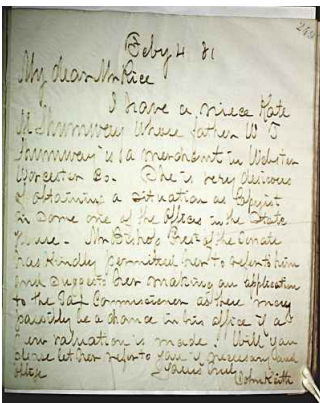
one Basket H. Piper & Co. Pints

" " Pommery & [Geno] Qtz. Sec.

Yours respectfully

John Keith

February 2 1881;



John Keith Letters page 249

2017.CC.09.10.250

Feb 4, 81 [1881]

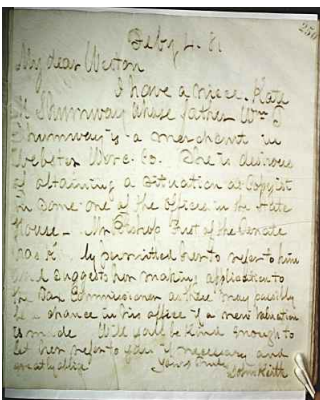
My dear Mr. Rice,

I have a niece Kate M. Shumway whose father W.J. Shumway is a merchant in Webster Worcester Co. She is very desirous of attaining a situation as copyist in some one of the offices in the State House. Mr. Bishop Prest. of the Senate has kindly permitted her to refer to him and suggests to her making an application to the Tax Commissioner as there may possibly be a chance in his office if a new valuation is made. Will you please let her refer to you if necessary and oblige.

Yours truly

John Keith

February 4 1881;



John Keith Letters page 250

2017.CC.09.10.251

Feb 4, 81 [1881]

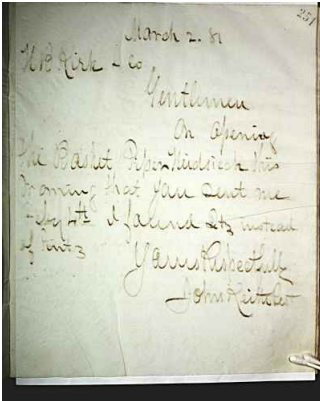
My dear Weston,

I have a niece Kate M. Shumway whose father W.J. Shumway is a merchant in Webster, Worcester Co. She is very desirous of attaining a situation as copyist in some one of the offices in the State House. Mr. Bishop Prest of the Senate has kindly permitted her to refer to him and suggests to her making application to the Tax Commissioner as there may possibly be a chance in his office if a new valuation is made. Will you please be kind enough to let her refer to you if necessary and greatly oblige

Yours truly.

John Keith

February 4 1881;



John Keith Letters page 251

2017.CC.09.10.252

March 2, 81 [1881]

N. B. Kirk & Co.

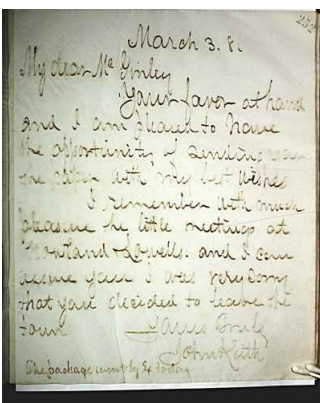
Gentlemen,

On opening the Basket Piper [Heiderich] this morning that you sent me Feby 4th I found Qtz. instead of Pints

Yours Respectfully,

John Keith

March 2 1881;



John Keith Letters page 252

2017.CC.09.10.253

March 3, 81 [1881]

My dear McGinley,

Your favor at hand and I am pleased to have the opportunity of sending you the paper with my best wishes.

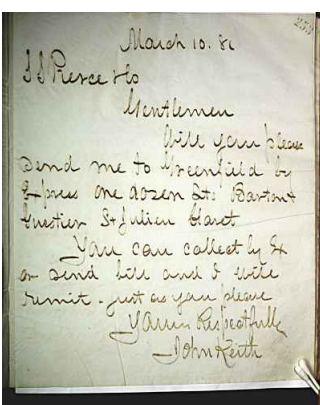
I remember with much pleasure the little meetings at Howland & Lowells and I can assure you I was very sorry that you decided to leave the town.

Yours Truly

John Keith

The package went by Ex today

March 3 1881;



John Keith Letters page 253

2017.CC.09.10.254

March 10, 81 [1881]

S.S. Pierce & Co.

Gentlemen,

Will you please send me to Greenfield by Express one dozen Qts. Barton & Guestier St. Julien Claret

You can collect by Ex or send bill and I will remit – just as you please.

Yours Respectfully

John Keith

March 10 1881;



John Keith Letters page 254

2017.CC.09.10.255

March 29, 81 [1881]

John Adams Gnl. Supt. F.R.R

John,

Your letter with annual Pass is just at hand.

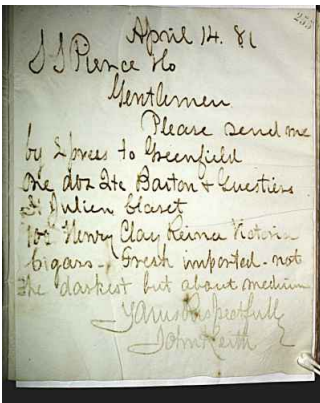
I sincerely thank you for so kindly thinking of me and as a slight return for so generous a favor I send you today by Express a small package of specimens of our handiwork Please accept it with my best wishes.

Yours Respectfully

John Keith

; The Fitchburg Railroad is a former railroad company, which built a railroad line across northern Massachusetts, United States, leading to and through the Hoosac Tunnel. The Fitchburg was leased to the Boston and Maine Railroad in 1900.

March 29 1881;



John Keith Letters page 255

2017.CC.09.10.256

April 14, 81 [1881]

S.S. Pierce & Co.

Gentlemen,

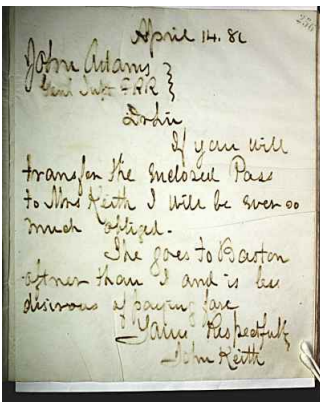
Will you please send me by Express to Greenfield one doz. Qts. Barton & Guestier St Julien Claret

100 Henry Clay Reina Victoria cigars – fresh imported – not the darkest but about medium.

Yours Respectfully

John Keith

April 14 1881;



John Keith Letters page 256

2017.CC.09.10.257

April 14, 81 [1881]

John Adams

Genl Supt F.R.R.

Dr Sir,

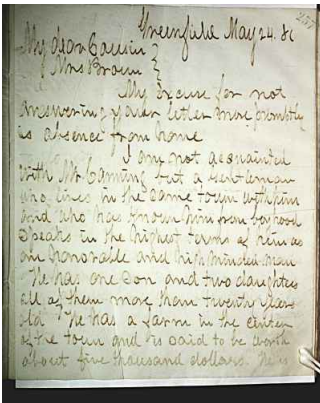
If you will transfer the enclosed Pass to Mrs. Keith I will be ever so much obliged.

She goes to Boston oftener than I and is less desirous of paying fare.

Yours Respectfully

John Keith

April 14 1881;



John Keith Letters page 257
2017.CC.09.10.258

Greenfield May 24, 81 [1881]

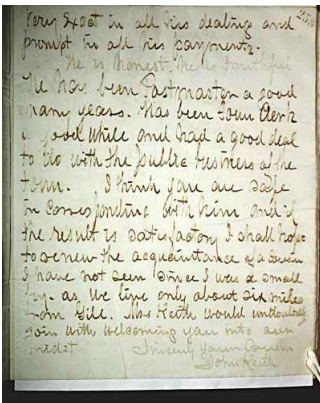
My dear Cousin,
Mrs Brown,

My excuse for not answering your latter more promptly is absence from home.

I am not acquainted with Mr. Canning but a gentleman who lives in the same town with him and who has known him from boyhood speaks in the highest terms of him as an honorable and high minded man.

He has one son and two daughters all of them more than twenty years old He has a farm in the center of the town and is said to be worth about five thousand dollars. He is

; Mr. Canning was the Rev. Josiah W. Canning (Hist. of Gill 1793-1943 Vol. 1 Stoughton Pp 160). J.W. Canning was the father of Josiah D. Canning the "Peasant Bard" of Gill. e.g.
May 24 1881;

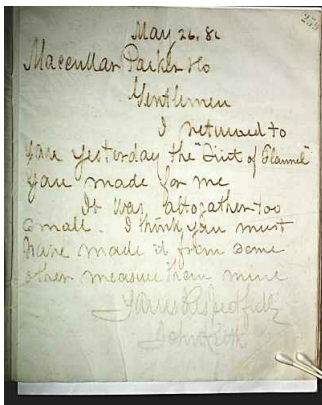


John Keith Letters page 258
2017.CC.09.10.259

very exact in all his dealing and prompt in all his payments.

He is honest. He is truthful. He has been Post master a good many years. Has been Town Clerk a good while and had a good deal to do with the public business of the town. I think you are safe in corresponding with him and if the result is satisfactory I shall have to renew the acquaintance of a cousin I have not seen since I was a small boy, as we live only about six miles from Gill. Mrs Keith would undoubtedly join with welcoming you into our midst.

Sincerely your Cousin
John Keith
May 24 1881;



John Keith Letters page 259

2017.CC.09.10.260

May 26, 81 [1881]

Maccullar Parker Co.

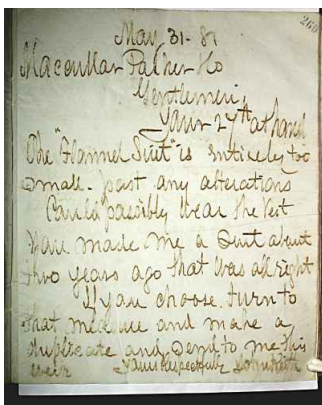
Gentlemen,

I returned to you yesterday the "Suit of Flannel" you made for me. It was altogether too small. I think you must have made it from some other measure than mine.

Yours Respectfully

John Keith

May 26 1881;



John Keith Letters page 260

2017.CC.09.10.261

May 31, 81 [1881]

Maccullar Parker Co.

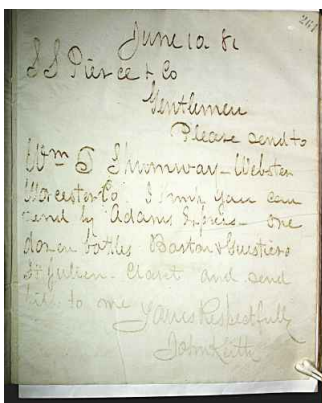
Gentlemen, Yours 27th at hand. The "Flannel Suit: is entirely too small. Past any alterations.

Could possibly wear the vest you made me a suit about two years ago that was alright. If you choose to turn to that measure and make a duplicate and send to me this week.

Yours respectfully

John Keith

May 31 1881;



John Keith Letters page 261

2017.CC.09.10.262

June 10, 81 [1881]

S.S. Pierce & Co.

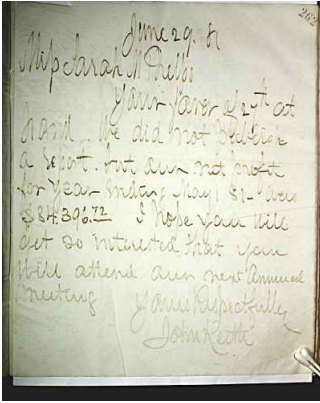
Gentlemen,

Please send to Wm. J. Shumway—Webster Worcester Co. I think you can send by Adams Express — one dozen bottles Barton & Gustier St Julien Claret and send bill to me.

Yours Respectfully

ohn Keith

June 10 1881;



John Keith Letters page 262

2017.CC.09.10.263

June 29, 81 [1881]

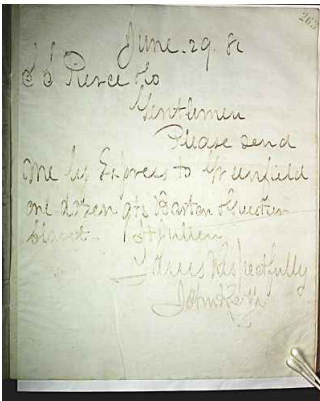
Miss Sarah M. Phelps,

Your favor of 27th at hand. We did not publish a report but our net profit for year ending May 1, 81— was \$84,396.⁷². I hope you will get so interested that you will attend our next Annual meeting.

Yours Respectfully

John Keith

June 29 1881;



John Keith Letters page 263

2017.CC.09.10.264

June 29, 81 [1881]

S.S. Pierce & Co.

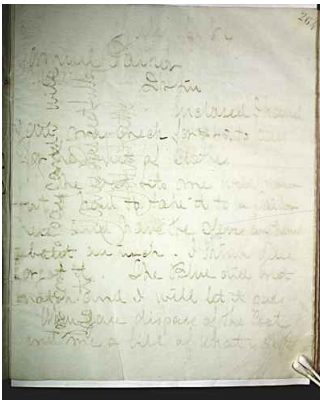
Gentlemen,

Please send me by Express to Greenfield one dozen qts. Barton & Gustier Claret - St Julien

Yours Respectfully

John Keith

June 21 1881;



John Keith Letters page 264

2017.CC.09.10.265

July 16, 81 [1881]

Samuel [Farley]

Dr Sir.

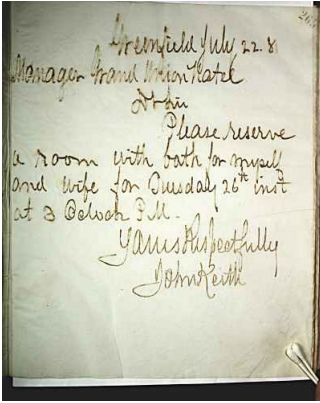
Enclosed I hand you my check for \$45. to pay for the suit of clothes. The coat fits me well now but I had to take it to a tailor here and have the sleeves lengthened an inch. I think you forgot it. The blue did not match and I will let it pass.

When you dispose of the coat send me a bill of what is right for me to pay and will do it.

Yours Respectfully

John Keith

July 16 1881;



John Keith Letters page 265

2017.CC.09.10.266

Greenfield July 22, 81 [1881]

Manager Grand Union Hotel

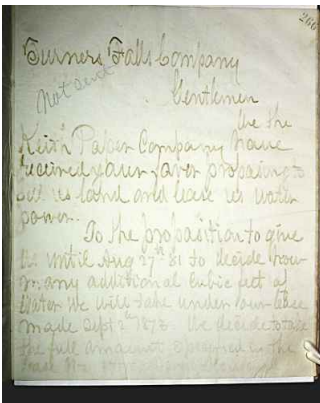
Dr Sir,

Please reserve a room with bath for myself and wife for Tuesday 26th inst. at 3 O'clock P.M.

Yours Respectfully

John Keith

; inst. An infinitesimal or very short space of time; a moment.
July 22 1881;



John Keith Letters page 266

2017.CC.09.10.267

Note: Not Dated. This letter is marked "not sent"Turners Falls Company

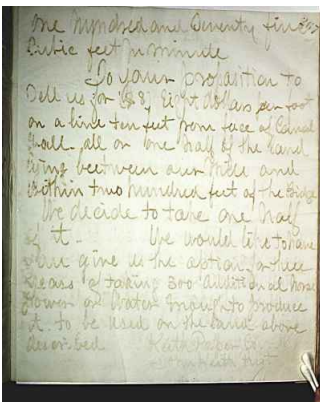
Gentlemen,

We the Keith Paper Company have received you favor proposing to sell us land and lease us water power.

To the proposition to give us until Aug 27th 81 to decide you know many additional cubic feet of water we will take under our lease made Sept 2^d 1873. We decide to take the full amount specified in the lease viz (7175) and showing

; I have in my library a first edition "Turners Falls Company Indentures January 1 1887" which includes land and water power agreements made between the T.F., Co. and all the companies they dealt with at that time. e.g.

circa July 1881;



John Keith Letters page 267

2017.CC.09.10.268

one hundred and seventy five cubic feet pr. minute.

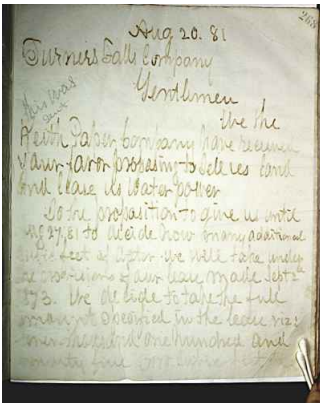
To your proposition to sell us for \$8 eight dollars per foot on a line ten feet from face of canal shall all or one half of the land lying between our mill and within two hundred feet of the bridge.

We decide to take one half of it. We would like to have you give us the option for three years of taking 300 additional horse power or water enough to produce it to be used on the land above described

Keith Paper Co.

John Keith Prest

circa July 1881;



John Keith Letters page 268

2017.CC.09.10.269

Note: This letter is marked as having been sent.

Aug 20, 81 [1881]

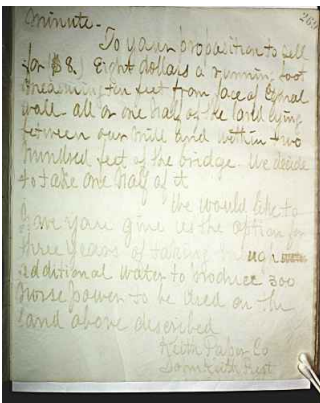
Turners Falls Company

Gentlemen,

We the Keith Paper Company have received your favor proposing to sell us land and lease us water power.

To the proposition to give us until Aug 27th 81 to decide how many additional cubic feet of water we will take under the provisions of our lease made Sept. 2^d, 1873. We decide to take the full amount specified in the lease viz seven thousand one hundred and seventy five (7175) cubic feet a

August 20 1881;



John Keith Letters page 269

2017.CC.09.10.270

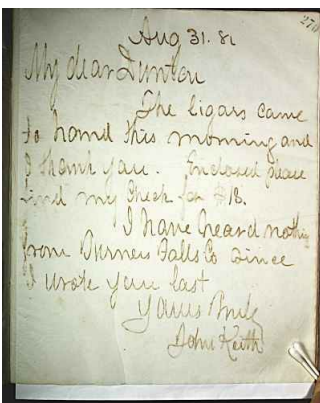
minute. To your proposition to sell for \$8. Eight dollars a running foot measured ten feet from face of canal wall all or one half of the land lying between our mill and within two hundred feet of the bridge. We decide to take one half of it.

We would like to have you give us the option for three years of taking enough water additional water to produce 300 horse power to be used on the land above described.

Keith Paper Co.

John Keith Prest

August 20 1881;



John Keith Letters page 270

2017.CC.09.10.271

Aug 31, 81 [1881]

My Dear Dunton,

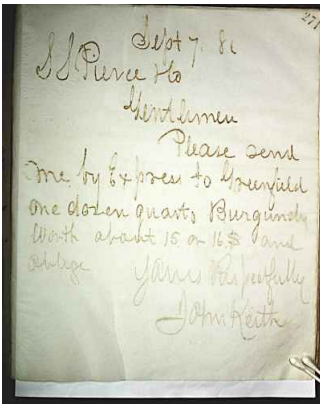
The cigars came to hand this morning and I thank you. Endorsed please find my check for \$18.

I have heard nothing from Turners Falls Co since I wrote you last.

Yours Truly

John Keith

August 31 1881;



John Keith Letters page 271

2017.CC.09.10.272

Sept 7, 81 [1881]

S.S. Pierce & Co.

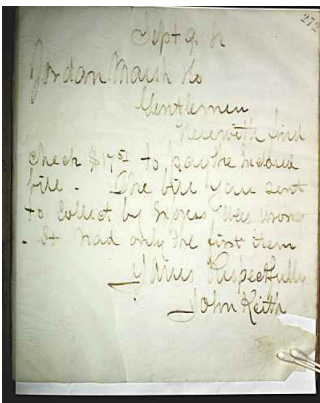
Gentlemen,

Please send me by Express to Greenfield one dozen quartz Burgundy worth about 15 or \$16 and oblige.

Yours Truly

John Keith

September 7 1881;



John Keith Letters page 272

2017.CC.09.10.273

Sept 9, 81 [1881]

Jordan Marsh Co.

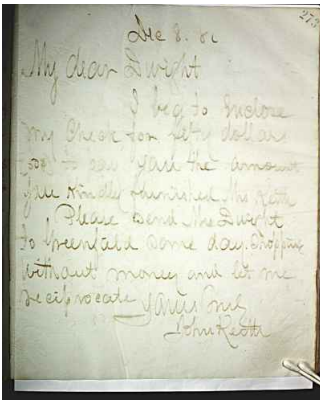
Gentlemen,

Herewith find check \$17⁵¹ to pay the endorsed bill. The bill you sent to collect by express was wrong. It had only the first item.

Yours Respectfully

John Keith

September 9 1881;



John Keith Letters page 273

2017.CC.09.10.274

Dec 8, 81 [1881]

My dear Dwight,

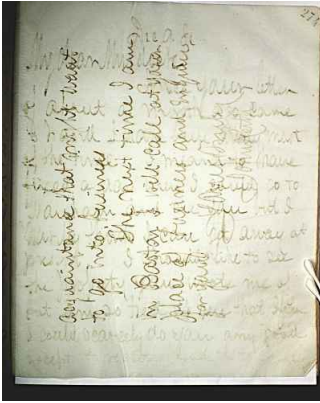
I beg to enclose my check for fifty dollars (50\$) to pay you the amount you kindly furnished Mrs. Keith.

Please send Mrs. Dwight to Greenfield some day shopping without money and let me reciprocate.

Yours Truly

John Keith

December 8 1881;



John Keith Letters page 274

2017.CC.09.10.275

Dec 9, 81 [1881]

My dear Murdock,

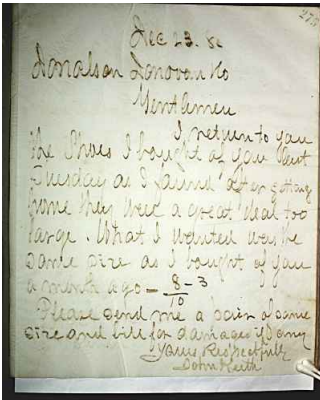
Have your letter of about a month or so came to hand. I have been away most of the time. I mean to have fixed a day when I could go to Warren and see all you but I hardly think I can get away at present. I should like to see the property you wrote me about am so tied up here that I fear I could scarcely do you any good except to [meet] and to [have] an acquaintance that might want to go into business.

The next time I am in Boston I will call at your place of business and inquire for you.

Yours Truly

John Keith

December 9 1881;



John Keith Letters page 275

2017.CC.09.10.276

Dec 23, 81 [1881]

Donalson Donovan Co.

Gentlemen,

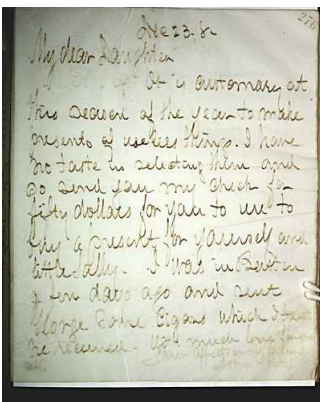
I return to you the shoes I bought of you last Tuesday as I found after getting home they were a great deal too large. What I wanted was the same size as I bought of you a month ago — 8/10-3

Please send me a pair of same size and bill for damages if any.

Yours Respectfully

John Keith

December 23 1881;



John Keith Letters page 276

2017.CC.09.10.277

Dec 23, 81 [1881]

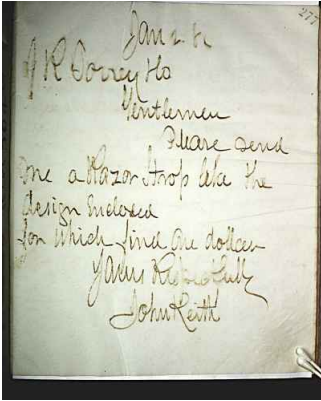
My dear Daughter,

It is customary at this season of the year to make presents of useless things. I have no taste in selecting them and so send you my check for fifty dollars for you to use to buy a present for yourself and little Sally. I was in Boston a few days ago and sent George some cigars which I trust he received.

With much love for you your affectionate father,

John Keith

December 23 1881;



John Keith Letters page 277

2017.CC.09.10.278

Jan 2, 82 [1882]

J.R. [Davey] & Co.

Gentlemen,

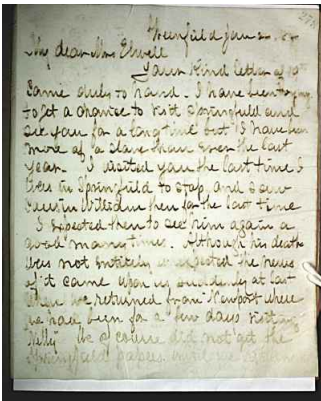
Please send me a Razor strop like the design enclosed for which find one dollar

Yours Respectfully

John Keith

; Strop. A device, typically a strip of leather, for sharpening straight razors.

January 2 1882;



John Keith Letters page 278

2017.CC.09.10.279

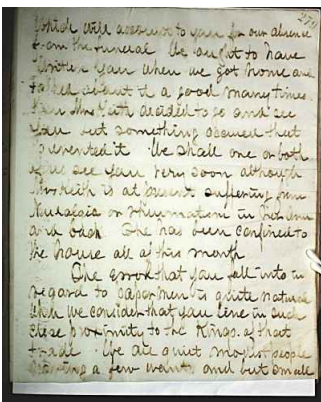
Greenfield, Jan. [20] 82 [1882]

My dear Mrs Elwell

Your kind letter of 10th came duly to hand. I have been trying to get a chance to visit Springfield and see you for a long time but I have been more of a slave than ever the last year. I visited you the last time I was in Springfield to stop and saw cousin William then for the last time.

I expected then to see him again a good many times. Although his death was not entirely unexpected the news of it came upon us suddenly at last when we returned from Newport where we have been for a few days visiting "Nelly" We of course did not get the Springfield papers until we returned

January 20 1882;

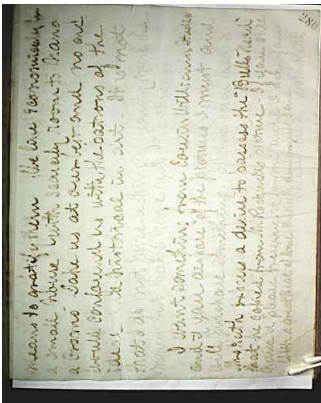


John Keith Letters page 279

2017.CC.09.10.280

which will account to you for our absence from the funeral. We ought to have written you when we got home and talked about it a good many times. Now Mrs. Keith decided to go and see you but something occurred that prevented it. We shall one or both of us see you very soon although Mrs. Keith is at present suffering from Neuralgia or rheumatism in her arm and back. She has been confined to the house all of this month. The error that you fall into in regard to paper men is quite natural when we consider that you live in such close proximity to the Kings of that trade. We are quite modest people having a few wants and but small

January 20 1882;



John Keith Letters page 280

2017.CC.09.10.281

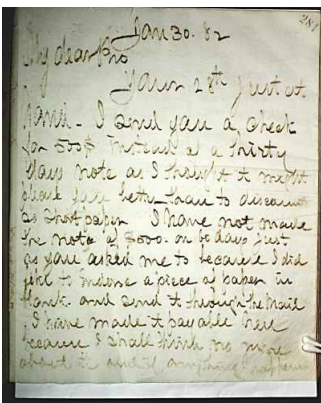
means to gratify them. We live economically in a small house with scarcely room to hang a "Cromo" Take us at our best and no one would confound us with the patrons of the ideal and historical in art. It is not that I do not prize a thing of beauty more than money but that I have not the money.

I want something from cousin William's studio and if you dispose of the pictures I must and will purchase something. Mrs. Keith express a desire to possess the "Bulls head" that he copied from Mr Rockwells picture. If you still have it please reserve it for me until I see you.

With a great deal of love Mrs. Keith and myself I am sincerely yours,
John Keith ;

***Editors Note ***John Keith's estate was assessed by the Franklin County Probate Court on December 10, 1886. The court's appointees appraised Keith's estate to be worth \$52,758.13. In terms of 2018 dollars, that amount would be worth about \$1,362,672 today. Although this certainly didn't indicate that he was a poor man, it also may not be considered a fabulous treasure in exchange for the hard and dedicated work of the last 15 years of life.(CC)

January 20 1882;



John Keith Letters page 281

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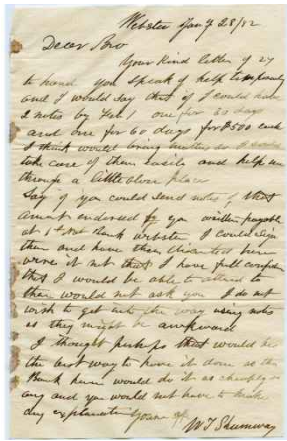
Jan 30, 82 [1882]

My dear [Bro.]

Your 28th just at hand. I send you a check for 500\$ instead of a thirty dollar note as I thought it might please you better than a discount as short paper. I have not made the note at \$500.00 because I did like to endorse a piece of paper in bank and send it through the mail.

I have made it payable here because I shall think no more about it and if anything happens

January 30 1882;



John Keith Letters page 281a

2017.CC.09.10.283

[this original letter was pasted in the book after page 281. I was not penned by Keith]

Webster Jan y 28 82 [1882]

Dear Bro.

Your kind letter of 27 to hand. You speak of help temporarily and I would say that if I could have 2 notes by Feb. 1 one for 30 days and one for 60 days for \$500 each I think I would bring matters so I could take care of them easily and help me through a little close place.

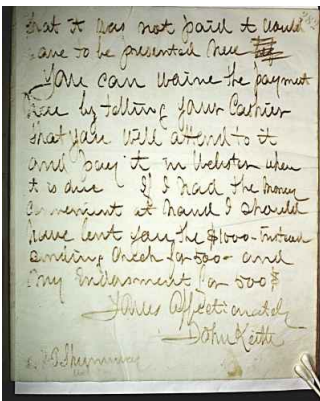
Say, if you could send notes of that amount endorsed by you written payable at 1st Nat Bank Webster I could sign them and have them discounted here were it not that have full confidence that I would be able to attend to them would not ask you. I do not wish to get [?] the way using notes as they might be awkward.

I thought perhaps that would be the best way to have it done as the bank never would do it as cheaply so any and you would not have to broker any explanation.

Yours aff

W.J. Shumway

January 28 1882;



John Keith Letters page 282

2017.CC.09.10.284

that it was not paid it would have to be presented here her.

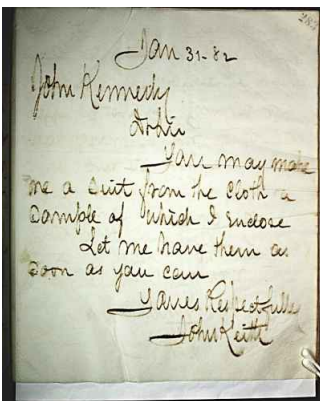
You can waive the payment here by telling your Cashier that you will attend to it and pay it in Webster when it is due. If I had the money convenient at hand I should have lent you the \$1000 — instead sending check for 500 - and my endorsement for \$500.

Yours Affectionately

John Keith

J. T. Shumway, Webster

January 30 1882;



John Keith Letters page 283

2017.CC.09.10.285

Jan 31, 82 [1882]

John Kennedy

Dr Sir,

You may make me a suit from the cloth a sample of which I enclose.

Let me have them as soon as you can.

Yours Respectfully

John Keith

January 31 1882;