

Shared Stories of the Civil War Reader's Theater Project

Settling the Kansas Territory

In 1854, the Kansas Territory was opened for settlement. The area along the Missouri border attracted many settlers, some with political motivations and others motivated by opportunity. Each experience was unique, yet all who arrived suffered hardships from trying to make a living on the western frontier.

The *Settling the Kansas Territory* reader's theater script was created using excerpts from historical letters and diaries. Following the reading, participants will have the opportunity to discuss what it took to move west to the frontier.

Please Note: Regional historians have reviewed the source materials used, the script, and the list of citations for accuracy.



Settling the Kansas Territory is part of the Shared Stories of the Civil War Reader's Theater project, a partnership between the **Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area** and the **Kansas Humanities Council**.



FFNHA is a partnership of 41 counties in eastern Kansas and western Missouri dedicated to connecting the stories of settlement, the Border War and the Enduring Struggle for Freedom in this area. KHC is a non-profit organization promoting understanding of the history and ideas that shape our lives and strengthen our sense of community.

For More Information:

Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area
Kansas Humanities Council

www.freedomsfrontier.org
www.kansashumanities.org

Introduction

Instructions: The facilitator can either read the entire introduction out loud or summarize key points.

This introduction is intended to provide context to the reader's theater script. It is not a comprehensive examination of the settlement of Kansas Territory. It tells the story of settlers moving into the Kansas Territory — settlers interested in advancing the free state cause and those against it. Their accounts, though unique, reveal the everyday hardships that awaited them and the influence of mounting political tensions.

The first section includes accounts from three figures on their way to the Kansas Territory — Julia Louisa Lovejoy, Chestina Bowker Allen, and Axalla Hoole. Lovejoy and Allen hail from New England and come to the Kansas Territory to promote the anti-slavery cause alongside their husbands. Hoole travels to the Territory in support of the proslavery cause. He has no intention of staying too long. What do they find along the way? Sickness, corruption, and hard times.

The second section considers the challenges of daily life once the settlers arrive. Though politics is a popular topic on most everyone's mind, for Lovejoy, Allen, and Hoole, much of their energies focus on surviving on the frontier. It's not easy and the weather doesn't help.

Beginning in late 1859, a severe drought hits the prairie and for nine long months there is little to no precipitation. Crops die. The local economy is shattered, and some 30,000 settlers leave the territory, homeless and impoverished. Political tensions escalate. Those who stay think about, and write of, home.

Group Discussion Questions

Instructions: The facilitator should pose one or more of these questions in advance of the reading of the script. At the conclusion of the reading, participants can return to the questions for consideration.

1. Abraham Lincoln once famously remarked, "If I went West, I think I would go to Kansas." Did Kansas ever succeed in being the place seen as "fit to pitch a tent," in the words of Julia Lovejoy?
2. Given the tumultuous circumstances encountered everyday, why would anyone stay?
3. Who decides where to live? Is the decision based on what's best for our family? What's best for the country? What's best for preserving our beliefs, our way of life?

Script

Instructions: Each part will be read out loud by an assigned reader. Readers should stand and speak into a microphone when it's their turn. The source of the quote should also be read out loud (this is the information bolded beneath each quote).

NARRATOR *Episode One – Moving to the Kansas Territory*

In the mid-1850s, many people made the decision to make the dangerous, and sometimes deadly, trip to the Kansas Territory. For some, it was a matter of principle — a way to halt the advancement of slavery in the United States or it was a way to protect the law and uphold an established way of life. However, others went to Kansas for the promise of opportunity: a chance to own land, a chance to provide a new start, a chance to provide a better life for their families.

The Lovejoys arrived in Kansas Territory from Croydon, New Hampshire. Reverend Charles Lovejoy served as a traveling Methodist Episcopal minister for the anti-slavery New Hampshire Conference. After being called for service in the Kansas Territory, he sent for his pregnant wife, Julia, and their two daughters, 15-year-old Juliette, and 5-year-old Edith (a son, 17-year-old Charles, had already reached Kansas Territory). Julia and her daughters left New England in late 1854, but would not arrive in Kansas Territory until four months later. Julia's choice to move was not completely her own (as was the case with many women), but she considered the move "in the order of Providence."

READER 1 Croydon, New Hampshire, December 10, 1854.

We are now very busy, making preparations, to go west in the Spring. We may go to Kansas, if the way opens for us, in the order of Providence. We have "usefulness to our fellow-creatures," in view, before any other object, of worldly gain. I am perfectly passive, as it respects "the spot," or state, or Territory where Mr. Lovejoy sees fit to pitch his tent, let God direct, and all will be right. I write no more, in this diary, until we reach our place of destination. "Carry us not thence, unless Thy Presence, go with us," is our prayer.

Julia Louisa Lovejoy, Diary entry.¹

NARRATOR *For the Allens, moving to Kansas Territory meant the chance to own land. Asahel Gilbert Allen, his wife Chestina, and their five children resided in Roxbury, Massachusetts. In November 1854, Asahel and his two eldest sons met with a land selection committee in Lawrence, Kansas and claimed land near Rock Creek. Chestina and the three youngest children, Henrietta, John, and Abbie, set off to meet them and traveled by wagon, steamship, and train to get there.*

READER 2 Chicago, Illinois, October 21, 1854.

Went on board the steamship Mayflower, left this morning for Detroit, Michigan. There were many disagreeable passengers, some evidently for the purpose of plunder. We had a pleasant passage and arrived in Detroit on the morning of the 20th.

Took the cars at 9 AM for Chicago, arrived too late for the night train. After standing awhile at the depot to find what we should do, the women and children were permitted to return to the cars and remain overnight as best they could. A few ungallant, selfish men crowded in, to the inconvenience of the weaker party.

Chestina Bowker Allen, Diary entry

READER THREE Missouri, October 23, 1854.

Each [of us] carried a satchel, bucket or whatever was convenient. I wore a cloak, placed the 25 pounds of shot on my arm under my cloak, took a bandbox in my hand — someone made as if to take my box — in my best mood I politely told them it contained a ladies bonnet; they acted ashamed and we were no further molested.

Chestina Bowker Allen, Diary entry.²

NARRATOR

The Kansas Territory drew settlers from different regions of the country. Settlers from neighboring Missouri were interested in protecting their state's interest and wanted to be sure that the soon-to-be-state would allow the extension of slavery. Others, such as Axalla Hoole, came from the South. Hoole was a celebrated captain of a southern militia when he left South Carolina on his wedding day on March 20, 1856. He moved to the Territory specifically to provide support for the pro-slavery cause.

READER 4 Kansas City, Missouri, April 3, 1856.

My Dear Brother,
It has cost me over \$102 to get here, besides about \$25 which I have spent for necessaries. We have been quite well since we left — with the exception of one day that I had a headache and fever, caused I guess from losing so much sleep, and the fatigue of traveling . . .

The Missourians (all of whom I have conversed with, with the exception of one who, by the way, I found out to be an Abolitionist) are very sanguine about Kansas being a slave state and I have heard some of them say it shall be. I have met with warm reception from two or three, but generally speaking, I have not met with the reception which I expected. Everyone seems bent on the Almighty Dollar, and as a general thing that seems to be their only thought.

Well, dear brother, the supper bell has rung, so I must close. Give my love to [the immediate family] and all the Negroes. Excuse bad writing for I am very nervous. I am anxious to hear from home . . . direct to Lawrence City, Kansas Territory, as I shall leave word there for my letters to be forwarded to whatever place I go.

Letter, from Axalla Hoole to his Brother.³

NARRATOR *Julia Lovejoy and her two children continued their journey, eager to meet up with her husband at their cabin near the Big Blue River, near present-day Manhattan. But their journey had come with a cost. The Lovejoy's youngest daughter, five-year-old Edith, had fallen gravely ill, and Julia prayed for a quick recovery.*

READER 1 Kansas City, Missouri, April 3, 1855.

All three of us are sick, and I know we cannot live in this unhealthy atmosphere. Deaths almost, are quite daily, here. Sadness and discontent sit on the brow of every fresh arrival of emigrants, and scores come back here, after wandering about in the Territory and spending (in a number of cases) nearly or quite all their means, and take the boat for the return trip to St. Louis, for New England again.

O how my sick lone heart, at this time, sighs for a home, where our children may be comfortable again . . . I have never seen so much suffering in so short a time, as since I have been here. O how many have left for the Territory who will there find a grave!

Julia Louisa Lovejoy, Diary entry.

NARRATOR *On November 15, 1854, Chestina Allen and her children arrived in Lawrence. They were less than 100 miles from their log cabin in Rock Creek. To safely cross the prairie, they joined a party of five families. They all shared two wagons for the overland trip.*

READER 2 November 23, 1854.

Passed the Catholic mission toward night, the wind blew fiercely, as we approached the Vermillion it became very dark. The fire was raging in the timber and grass near us. We descended the steep bank of the Creek and rode through the water, then we all got out and walked up the other bank. Henrietta declared her eyes were full of dust and smoke and she could not see. Mr. T[ilton] walked at the horses' heads it was so dark. Arrived at Mr. Wilson's late at night, camped on the floor, a cold uncomfortable night.

Chestina Bowker Allen, Diary entry.

NARRATOR *Axalla and Betsie Hoole arrived in April, 1856 with the hope of advocating for the extension of slavery into the Kansas Territory. They boarded at a residence in Lawrence, a prominent anti-slavery stronghold. Axalla was convinced that the harsh land, expensive resources, and growing hostilities between anti-slavery and pro-slavery neighbors, would keep his stay in Kansas temporary. He had a tough time making a living.*

READER 5 Douglas City, Kansas Territory, April 14, 1856

I don't think I will ever like this country. The timber is too scarce, but the land is very rich — any of it will make from fifty to a hundred bushels of corn to the acre; but then the wind is always blowing, sometimes so hard that a man can hardly keep his hat on his head. I don't intend to preempt land, for all the claims worth having are already taken up, but if I like it well enough when the land comes in market, as there will be thousands who will not be able to pay for their claims, I will then buy a place. But I don't think I will ever like this country well enough to settle here, and I don't think, or at least I am afraid, it will never be made a slave state, and if it is not, I will not live here on any conditions.

Axalla Hoole, Diary entry.

NARRATOR *On April 28, 1855, Julia Lovejoy and her family had even more bad news. For \$30, they hired a driver to transport them to the Big Blue River. It was a slow trip and on their last day, the driver stole the family's belongings. To make matters worse, Edith's health was worsening. She died the morning of May 4.*

Julia recounted her arrival to the cabin in the Kansas Territory to eager friends and family back in New England. Her letters back to newspaper editors helped shaped perceptions about life in Kansas. Julia's letters were usually careful to contain a degree of optimism and hope.

READER 1 Mouth of the Big Blue River, Kansas Territory, May 22, 1855.

Dear Mr. Editor,
The sorrows of a life of forty years, have been as nothing, compared with what our poor hearts have felt in a few brief days...our sweet Edith a child of many prayers and hopes, laid low in death! For five short summers she has gladdened our hearts, and been a light in our dwelling, and within four days of her sixth birthday, the spirit took its heavenward flight, and we laid her precious dust away on a beautiful prairie, near Lawrence, Kansas Territory. Sleep on, my angel child-though thy mother's heart is breaking with untold anguish.

Lung fever, that has swept like a pestilence through Missouri, seized all of our family who remained in Kansas, and [with] measles setting in, our little one was soon numbered with the dead.

We arrived at our intended home about two weeks ago, and, notwithstanding the vacant spot in the home circle, and our own desolate hearts, we must pronounce this the most charming country our eyes ever beheld . . . It seems to us impossible that any spot on earth, uncultivated by art, can be more inviting in appearance than this country.

**Letter, from Julia Louisa Lovejoy to Editor of the [Concord, N.H.]
*Independent Democrat.***

NARRATOR

In Rock Creek, Chestina Allen and her family finally arrived at their cabin, and struggled to adapt to the harsh realities of rural life in the Kansas Territory. Food was scarce, and the family took in lodgers as a way to make some money. Like the Lovejoys, the Allens were devout Christians, believing that divine providence would oversee and ensure the safety of their new life. They attended Rev. Charles Lovejoy's Methodist services.

READER 2

Rock Creek, Kansas Territory, December, 1854.

House not all chinked, no door, no window, no floor, some of our bed clothes were left at Mr. Eubanks' and some with William [her eldest son] on the flat boat . . . Cold and windy we slept, Mr. A. and Charles [her second son] applied themselves to keeping out the wind and on the 9th hung the door, having worked himself about sick.

Chestina Bowker Allen, Diary entry.

READER THREE

Rock Creek, Kansas Territory, March 22, 1855.

Mr. Morgan wished to sell [us] a bag of flour, as the scarcity of timber and the expense of moving conspired to make him conclude that he had better return to Maine and be content with his already good home. By us this flour is considered a God send, for we were out and could buy none in Juanita, we lack a dollar to make enough to pay for a bag of flour and the price of their entertainment [food and lodging] just made it. Let me never forget to trust and serve my Heavenly Father.

Chestina Bowker Allen, Diary entry.

READER 2

Rock Creek, Kansas Territory, March 23, 1855.

Mr. Morgan and [his] son returned from Fort Riley and stopped with us overnight. Gave us seed corn and apple seeds, sold socks for their supplies, which seemed to be the very things we needed. I love to think and trust in an over-ruling Providence.

Chestina Bowker Allen, Diary entry.

NARRATOR *Episode Two – Daily Life in “Bleeding Kansas”*

Settlers quickly encountered the realities of the conflict between proslavery and anti-slavery forces. By 1855, the census reported 1,000 members of the New England Emigrant Aid Company lived in Kansas; five years later, the number increased tenfold. Despite, their growth, New Englanders still accounted for only four percent of the population.

Yet, daily life proved hard. Julia Lovejoy remained homesick for New England, especially after her husband Charles was transferred to a position in Lawrence. Life on the frontier was especially tedious for women, who often had no books or magazines, and few accessible newspapers. Men could often travel long distances to find fellowship and a distraction from the isolation, but for women, whose duties were to maintain the house and children, long journeys to distant towns and neighbors were rarely an option. Indeed, many women received news from the outside world from salesmen and peddlers.

READER 1 Mouth of the Big Blue River, Kansas Territory, July 8, 1855

O how lonely, lonely, I feel, from day to day, and from week, to week. Mr. [Lovejoy] is still in the East, and there are “wars, and rumors, of wars.” Almost every week somebody falls by the hand of violence, and I know not that any place is secure. The Free State men are shot down by pro-slavery villains, as beasts of prey. A soldier, in the U. S. army is posted as sentinel, and keeps a constant lookout, (from the top of old Bluemont, in sight, from my cabin window) for the approach of Lane, and his army, that are supposed to be en route for Kansas, through Iowa. How long must I remain here . . . May the sufferings the pioneers of Kansas, have passed thro’ be the means of helping the down-trodden, and oppressed, and working out the Heaven-approved principles, of universal emancipation.

Julia Louisa Lovejoy, Diary entry.

NARRATOR *Chestina Bowker Allen also battled homesickness and the uneasiness of an uncertain future. Yet, her daily life was often consumed with more immediate worries, like the spread of sicknesses, such as typhoid and scarlet fever, with no close medical assistance. She made do, like others, and kept homemade salves, purgatives, and other remedies made from skunk oil and goose grease close at hand. Rattlesnakes and rabies-infected wolves were also a danger and she worried for her children’s safety.*

READER 2 Rock Creek, Kansas Territory, May 14, 1857.

At eve as Abbie [her youngest daughter] was going after the cows that were in sight, she stepped on a snake, it bit her leg and run off, we were much frightened as we did not know what kind it was. I sucked the bites it had bit twice, washed it in saleratus [sodium bicarbonate], put sweet oil and gave her whiskey. No signs of poison appeared.

Chestina Bowker Allen, Diary entry.

READER THREE July 31, 1857.

The wolves are becoming troublesome, they bite calves so that they die, we have lost one, wild animals catch the poultry. Mrs. Arnold, who lives near the mouth of the Blue, has been bitten by a Copper head snake, it was under her pillow and as she put up her hand, it bit. It was exceedingly painful, but she recovered. Hear that [Col. James] Lane with 2000 men is opposing the Missourians who are coming into the Territory in great numbers and it is more than the Militia can do to keep them from fighting.

Chestina Bowker Allen, Diary entry.

NARRATOR

Axalla and Betsie Hoole eventually rented a house in Douglas City, near present-day Lecompton. Axalla made a small income as a carpenter, building furniture from the cottonwood trees found along the nearby rivers. But the bed stands and tables were too expensive for many of the settlers and, as a result, business was slow and profits were hard to come by. In his letters, Hoole expresses greater fears about his income and the well-being of his wife, than fears of abolitionism.

READER 4 Douglas City, Kansas Territory, May 18, 1856.

My dearly Beloved Sister,
I have been working at carpenter's trade for three weeks, until last Thursday when the man I was working for got out of lumber and had no work for coarse workmen like me, so he discharged all of us except those who could do fine work. I was getting \$1.75 per day. I made lacking 25 cents of \$30 in what time I worked. But you may depend upon it, I earned every cent I got, for I had to walk about three miles, work eleven hours, and then walk back at night. I was, you may say, exercising fifteen hours of the hardest kind every day . . . I engaged to work for a man near me, but I hear he is bad pay and I believe I will back out. Betsie has been unwell for two or three days, and I fear that she is worse off than she pretends she is . . .

While I am writing, guns are firing in the camps of the different companies of soldiers who are gathering to attack Lawrence. Sunday as it is, they are shooting in every direction. I expect before you get this Lawrence will be burnt to the ground . . .

Letter from Axalla Hoole to his sister, Elizabeth Euphrasia Hoole.

READER 5

June 1, 1856.

My Dear Beloved Mother,

I am determined to make a living while I stay in this Territory, and I turn my hand to anything that I can make money at. I have had to lay out so much money for necessaries to keep house on, that for all I have made since I have been here, my purse is reduced to about \$140, but then my heaviest expenses are over for the present.

This would be a good country for one who had money enough to commence farming to live in so far as making a plenty to eat, but it is out of the question to think of making a fortune here for years to come. And with the exception of a plenty to eat, there is nothing else desirable.

Letter from Axalla Hoole to his mother.

NARRATOR

For Julia Lovejoy, news and rumors of the clashes between “Jayhawkers” and “Border Ruffians” was met with great anxiety and uncertainty. War would mean reduced supplies. Food and clothing assistance from the East was already in short supply. Although corn meal, flour, and milk were usually plentiful, there was a great need for vegetables, greens, and fruit. The extremely dry summers had hurt the crops. For settlers, shoes, wool socks, and undergarments were luxuries, even during the winter months, and the rough conditions inside the drafty houses meant many could freeze.

READER 1

Lawrence, Kansas Territory, September 1, 1856.

All things look war-like — there is now a large army in Lawrence, marching, and counter-marching through our streets, almost daily. Colonel Lane is now in the Territory and the ruffians, dread his presence, and fear his military skill and courage. We are in constant fear and

excitement. Startling reports, from various quarters, are coming in, every few hours.

Our family are sick—Mr. L. very sick, with ague, and intermittent fever, and so also is our little Irving. I too am sick, with fever. External things are dark and gloomy — our enemies have cut off the means of receiving supplies, from Leavenworth, and are doing their best, to starve us, into submission. Our food, though we are sick, is of unbolted flour, and glad

to get that. Our men are in fine spirits, and in every engagement yet, have whipped the enemy. I shall find but little time to write, save for the N. E. papers, at present.

Julia Louisa Lovejoy, Diary entry.

NARRATOR *Axalla Hoole continued to struggle and his inability to make a living concerned him, perhaps more so, than falling into the hands of anti-slavery forces. The rough economic conditions only amplified the conflicts between pro-slavery and anti-slavery settlers.*

READER 4 September 12, 1856.

My dear Mother,
Lane came against us last Friday. As it happened we had about 400 men with two cannon — we marched out to meet him, though we were under the impression at the time that we had 1,000 men. We came in gunshot of each other, but the regular soldiers came and interfered, but not before our party had shot some dozen guns, by which it is reported that five of the Abolitionists were killed or wounded . . . I drew a bead a dozen times on a big Yankee about 150 yards from me, but did not fire, as I knew if I did, the boys all around me would do the same, and we had orders not to fire until the word was given . . .

But, my dear mother, I must close as the stage has come. You must not be uneasy about me, as I hope our difficulties here will soon end, and we will all get to our work soon — I am more uneasy about making money than I am about being killed by the Yankees, though the times looked pretty squally for the last three weeks.

Letter from Axalla Hoole to his mother.

NARRATOR *Soon after the Lovejoys resettled in Lawrence in 1856, pro-slavery supporters staged an attack on the town, and Julia was forced to flee her home.*

READER 1 Lawrence, Kansas Territory, September 19, 1856.

Dear Mr. Editor,
When the firing commenced, as our house stands a little out of town, in a direct line from Mt. Oread fort and the enemy, expecting our dwelling to be demolished by cannon balls, though built of stone, I caught my darling babe [her infant son, Irving] from the bed, burning with fever, from which he has been suffering two weeks, moaning as he went, and though just recovering from the same fever myself and with hardly strength to walk, I rushed to a place of safety out of town as fast as my feeble limbs could carry me until I had walked about two miles . . .

The scene that met our gaze bears description – women and children fleeing on every hand to a place of safety – men running to secure the best place to fight – cattle as though aware danger was near, huddling together-smoke rolling up in clouds from Franklin, four miles distant – the "smoke and flash" of our well-directed rifles, all produced a daguerreotype that will never fade from memory's vision.

Letter, from Julia Louise Lovejoy to the Editor of the [Concord, N.H.] *Independent Democrat*.

NARRATOR *As if matters could hardly get worse, a drought hit the Kansas Territory in 1860. The local economy collapsed. By 1861, over 30,000 settlers left the territory. The settlers who stayed knew they would not be able to face the impending winter without help.*

READER 5 Washington D.C., October 16, 1860.

Dear Sir,

Thousands of once thrifty and prosperous American citizens are now perishing of want. Winter is upon them. Of clothing, they are nearly bereft. Food they have not to last them through the cold season that is approaching. Of over a hundred thousand people upon Kansas soil six months ago, at last one quarter or a third have left. Of the remainder, it is safe to say that 40,000 at this moment see nothing but exodus or starvation at the end of the sixty days now just before them. From ten to twenty thousand look with only despairing eyes upon November. Thousands cannot subsist a month longer unaided.

Had the blood of this poor people in 1860 been as valuable for coinage into votes as it was in 1856, your department would have long since been made aware of their miseries.

Letter from Thaddeus Hyatt to President James Buchanan.⁴

NARRATOR *Episode Three – The Civil War in the West*

The violent clashes that had come to Kansas and Missouri in the 1850s foreshadowed the events of the 1860s: The Civil War. On January 29, 1861, Kansas was admitted to statehood and pledged its allegiance to the Union. By the time Charles Robinson, the first Kansas governor, took office, seven Southern states had seceded from the Union. On April 12, the Civil War began.

Of the 30,000 men in Kansas of eligible age to serve in the Union Army, approximately 20,000 volunteered. In Missouri, dual governments took charge: one that supported the Union, one that opposed it. Missouri

provided troops to both the Union and the Confederate armies. Military skirmishes and battles took place on Missouri's home front — only miles away from homes and families. Thousands of civilians and soldiers were killed.

READER 4

March 7, 1863.

It is absolutely necessary unless the country [Missouri] is abandoned by the citizens, that as much land as can be peaceably cultivated should be planted, to enable their families to live and to supply in part at least the future necessities of the community and army. By so reducing the Regiments, more men could be relieved from active service and become producers...

Letter from Brigadier General Colley B. Holland to Colonel William D. Wood.⁵

NARRATOR

The threat of impending war and unsustainable land and weather made the western frontier too difficult to bear, even for the bravest of families. Julia Louisa Lovejoy and her family left Kansas for their native New Hampshire in 1860, but returned to Baldwin City, Kansas in 1862. The oldest Lovejoy daughter, Juliette, remained in Kansas with her husband, but died of typhoid fever at age 21. Reverend Charles Lovejoy still remained active in the abolitionist movement and enlisted in the army, becoming Chaplain of the Seventh Regiment of the Kansas Cavalry. Their son, Charles J. Lovejoy, was an adjutant in the Kansas volunteer infantry.

READER 1

Leavenworth, Kansas, March 18, 1862.

Everything looks warlike here. The streets are constantly thronged with soldiers, and regiments are going and coming . . . Yesterday, by special invitation, in company with Sister Paddock and two other Christian friends, we visited the hospitals for the sick soldiers, and those were somewhat convalescent . . . Our own emotions at times quite overcame us as we grasped the skeleton fingers of one after another of these poor creatures, who had come hundreds of miles to fight for their country, and now must find a grave unmarked, and be buried by a stranger's hand.

O the changes that have taken place since we left Kansas, 18 months since — instead of a daughter come to welcome our return, the graves of two beloved daughters in solemn stillness tell us, “our loved ones are not here,” and we in untold agony turn away to weep. God help us to feel “Thy will be done.”

Letter, from Julia Louisa Lovejoy to the Editor of *Zion's Herald* (Boston, Massachusetts).

NARRATOR *In 1857, Axalla and Betsie Hoole left Kansas to rejoin their families. Upon his return to South Carolina, he prepared for war. He eventually became a lieutenant colonel and led Company A of the 8th South Carolina Infantry. He was killed in battle on September 20, 1863.*

Chestina Bowker Allen remained in Kansas. Her sons, Charles and William, both served in Kansas regiments.

Instructions: The facilitator will now return to the questions found on page 2 for consideration and discussion by the group.

At the conclusion of the event:

- ***The local coordinator will indicate whether the scripts need to be returned.***
- ***The page titled Citations is intended to be a take-home handout for participants.***

Footnotes:

¹ Julia Louisa Lovejoy (née Hardy) (1812-1882) was born in Lebanon, New Hampshire, on March 9, 1812. At the age of 9, Julia experienced a deep religious conversion to Methodism, and pledged to use the rest of her life as a vehicle for the good of others. Although she had tentative plans to become a missionary, her marriage to the Methodist Reverend Charles Haseltine Lovejoy meant that most of her time and passion was devoted to her children. In 1854, she left New Hampshire with her daughters to join her husband and son in Kansas, as part of the abolitionist New England Emigrant Aid Company. They built their first house on the Manhattan Town Company site, but relocated to Lawrence, one of the major hubs of the territorial conflict, in 1856. After a brief return to New Hampshire in 1860, the Lovejoys moved back to Kansas in 1862, settling in Palmyra (present-day Baldwin City). Julia Lovejoy died in 1882.

² Chestina Bowker (1808 -?) was born in Fitzwilliam, New Hampshire, in 1808. She served as a rural schoolteacher, and married Asahel Allen, a farmer, in 1831. Asahel tried his hand at a number of professions, before heading West during the 1849 California gold rush, but Chestina demanded that the family stay in New England. When the New England Emigrant Aid Company offered money to settlers in Kansas, however, the Allens could not refuse. At the age of 46, Chestina traveled to Rock Creek, Kansas with her three youngest children in 1854. The family experienced hardships, such as the death of Chestina's daughter, Henrietta, and successes, such as Asahel becoming justice of the peace in 1858. The family remained in Kansas during and after the war, and Chestina helped raise her five grandchildren. Asahel died October 4, 1879.

³ Axalla Hoole (1822-1863) was born in Darlington, South Carolina, on October 12, 1822. His brothers had served in the Seminole War, the Mexican War, and later, the Civil War, and in 1842, at the age of 20, Hoole joined the Darlington Riflemen, a local company of militia. Twelve years later, in 1854, he was elected captain of the militia. Hoole also held a formal job teaching at St. John's Academy, Darlington. In 1856, he left for the Kansas Territory to lend his support to the growing pro-slavery movement, and was elected probate judge of Douglas County. Hoole and his wife did not stay long, however, and returned to South Carolina in December, 1857. During the Civil War, he served as captain and eventually lieutenant colonel for Confederacy until his death on September 20, 1863, while fighting in the Battle of Chickamauga.

⁴ Thaddeus Hyatt (1816-1901) was a native of New York and a prosperous manufacturer before joining the abolition movement in Kansas in the mid-1850s. Having been acquainted with John Brown, he was summoned in 1860 to appear before a U.S. Senate committee investigating the Harper's Ferry incident, but refused, leading to his temporary imprisonment. Soon thereafter, he became heavily involved with the relief activities for Kansas farmers, was president of the National Kansas Committee, and wrote a 68-page pamphlet to President James Buchanan "on behalf of Kansas." During the Civil War, Hyatt served as American consul at La Rochelle, France, and after the war's conclusion, became a pioneer in the cement business and returned to the United States.