

I dined with the President on Saturday at 5 o'clock.  
I had met him several times before, on public  
occasions & once in Webster's room. He sent  
Webster after me last week & having heard that  
he intended to remove Showmaker from office I  
determined to go & see him. I went on Thursday  
& after some conversation, he said if I would  
come & take "a quiet family dinner" with him  
on Saturday we could talk together alone. I  
agreed to do so. The dinner did not present the  
opportunity promised me. Senator Iverson of Ga  
Gov Medill of Ohio. Henry Starbuck & one or two  
other gentlemen were present. Of course the  
conversation in this mixed company was very  
general. The subject of Kansas was once or twice  
brought forward by allusions to myself, but the  
party fought very shy & handled it as gingerly as  
they would a torpedo. Indeed politeness required  
as much. After dinner in the drawing room, the  
President asked me to call & see him on Monday  
about my business, at 10 1/2 o'clock - in compliance  
with which I saw him this morning for an hour  
alone & held forth on Kansas.