

Leicester, Massachusetts.

March 8-1935.

Dear Mayor -

In 1853, Eli Thayer, a wealthy man of Worcester, Mass, aided by Amos A. Lawrence, a wealthy man of Boston, Mass, settled your state of Kansas, by sending delegations of 400 or 500 people, (families,) at a time, in order to bring Kansas into the Union as a free state, which they did.

In order to raise money for this enterprise, Mr. Thayer sold all his property in the east, including all his antique furniture. At that time my grandfather and grandmother, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Marshall, of Leicester, Mass, bought his most prized piece, a Bath's Duffet, or sideboard. It has been in my family ever since, and is now lent to the American Museum of Fine Arts in Worcester, Mass. It is perfectly plain, with the finest inlay that I have seen, and it is in perfect condition. We have always kept it covered, as it is too fine a piece for everyday use. I enclose small photo which will show