

Elk Falls Kan Feb. 6<sup>th</sup> 1891

Mr Torgue

My Dear Sir,

I have just read your article on the defeat of the closure rule in the Senate, and I can't resist the temptation to write you a few words and ask you a question. I was born in the year 1843, when about 15 years old I read a abolition pamphlet, and among other things it gave an account of the murder of Lovejoy at Alton Illinois my native state, as young as I was it aroused my hatred for slavery, and I vowed that if I ever had the chance I would avenge that crime to the best of my ability. The time came sooner than I expected, and I carried a musket from 1861 to 1865 through a good many hard fought battles and as I fondly hoped and believed settled the slavery question (or the negro question) for ever in this country, but it looks to me now that we are losing gradually all we thought we had won, and that through the counsels of some of the leaders of the Republican party, I have never been any thing but a republican, because I believed the Republican party believed in equal rights to every citizen of this great Republic. The question is. Shall I now leave the Republican Party.

With great respect for you and your thoughts. S. J. Lewis