

Document Analysis

[Document A]

SCHEDULE I.—Free Inhabitants in Huntington Borough in the County of Huntington State of Pennsylvania enumerated by me, on the 22d day of Augt 1850. Geo. L. Taylor Ass't Marshal.									
No.	Name	Sex	Age	Occupation or Trade		Place of Birth	Huntington Co., Virginia or County	Color	Whether freeborn, or born Slave, or whether adopted, or whether foreign, or whether naturalized.
				Employed	Not Employed				
No.	Name	Sex	Age	Employed	Not Employed	Year	Month	Day	Hour
11.183	Geo. Grimes	M	33	Merchant	6,000	Penn.			
	Katherine	F	35						
11.184	John G. Gist	M	36	Singer	600				
	William		33						
	Julia		3						
	Hannah		1						
11.185	Lewis B. Gist	M	36	Congressman	8,000	Germany			
	Katharine	F	32						
	Sam'l		6						
	Betty		4						
	George		3						
	Elizabeth		1						
11.186	Eliza Gist	F	31	Singer	6	Penn.			
	Sarah		28						
	Abbie		1						
	Carrie		0						
	Carrie		4						
	Carrie		1						
	Carrie		1						
11.187	John G. Gist	M	37						
	Carry		36						
	Carry		17	Student of Law					
	Mary Gist		6			7,000			
	Jenny		26						
	Sarah Gist		24						
	Mary Gist		1						
	John G. Gist		3						
	Carrie		21						
11.188	Elizabeth S. Miller	F	36	Teacher	1,500	Penn.			
	John		36						
	Mary		33						
	Helen A. Miller		20	Teacher					
	Carry		18						
	Carrie		17						
	Carrie		17						
11.189	William Gist	M	33	Business	8,000	Penn.			
	Mary		33						
	Caroline		17						
	Antonina		10						
	William		4						
	Rebecca		2						

(Census of 1850 of Huntingdon Borough)

Transcription of line 3:

John Scott | 26 | 11 | Lawyer

Citation:

“Schedule L-Free Inhabitants in Huntingdon Borough in the County of Huntingdon State of Penn.” *U.S. Census of 1850*, United States Census Bureau, 1850.

Analysis:

This census is for the county of Huntingdon from 1850. The population was very small. John Scott and his family are found starting on line 3 of this census.

This document can be used to infer that John Scott was probably well-known in his hometown because he was a prominent figure and the population was quite small.

[Document B]

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CENSUS OF 1850.

TABLE L—POPULATION BY COUNTIES—CLASSIFICATION OF AGES AND COLOR—AGGREGATES.

COUNTIES.	WHITES.													
	Under 1.		1 and under 5.		5 and under 10.		10 and under 15.		15 and under 20.		20 and under 30.		30 and under 40.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Adams.....	347	356	1,521	1,448	1,709	1,774	1,680	1,608	1,476	1,405	1,297	2,119	1,305	1,514
Allegheny.....	2,083	2,086	8,260	8,074	8,885	8,828	7,085	7,566	6,661	7,356	14,208	13,469	9,617	7,995
Armstrong.....	454	438	2,084	2,040	2,261	2,238	1,902	1,815	1,511	1,650	2,622	2,482	1,727	1,628
Beaver.....	397	371	1,631	1,623	1,941	1,948	1,688	1,574	1,383	1,440	2,202	2,223	1,557	1,414
Bedford.....	315	303	1,614	1,497	1,861	1,704	1,561	1,393	1,191	1,220	1,828	1,897	1,201	1,174
Berks.....	1,026	1,131	4,909	5,036	5,616	5,520	4,923	4,721	3,535	4,080	6,339	6,363	4,664	4,393
Blair.....	308	291	1,545	1,395	1,611	1,645	1,385	1,325	1,144	1,202	1,951	1,907	1,202	1,137
Bradford.....	489	514	2,671	2,674	3,090	3,021	2,821	2,589	2,380	2,390	3,855	3,473	2,038	2,380
Bucks.....	639	625	2,966	2,917	3,529	3,392	3,105	3,027	2,873	2,870	4,931	4,710	3,403	3,331
Butler.....	465	449	2,079	2,074	2,349	2,377	2,066	1,803	1,621	1,559	2,290	2,405	1,651	1,545
Cambria.....	265	253	1,057	1,153	1,313	1,286	1,103	1,060	994	980	1,702	1,476	1,155	870
Carroll.....	251	228	1,108	1,143	1,070	1,045	835	781	714	709	2,080	1,371	1,420	860
Centre.....	298	254	1,512	1,435	1,763	1,790	1,608	1,499	1,263	1,293	1,800	1,939	1,361	1,311
Chester.....	789	773	3,354	3,294	4,038	3,857	3,879	3,539	3,344	3,341	5,107	5,242	3,648	3,745
Clarke.....	428	393	1,758	1,757	1,853	1,737	1,549	1,422	1,160	1,230	2,147	1,939	1,309	1,117
Cleaveland.....	223	167	979	883	999	943	831	737	643	616	1,191	979	750	633
Clinton.....	176	155	772	745	851	856	745	708	579	568	1,009	878	643	603
Columbia.....	269	288	1,035	996	1,308	1,282	1,171	1,100	1,040	988	1,546	1,543	1,019	934
Crawford.....	472	501	2,320	2,371	2,818	2,758	2,558	2,360	2,158	2,204	3,305	3,131	2,156	2,004
Cumberland.....	421	459	2,035	2,032	2,395	2,358	2,040	1,964	1,824	1,802	2,745	3,084	1,962	1,908
Damphur.....	492	457	2,133	2,178	2,510	2,494	2,217	2,069	1,772	1,928	3,167	3,026	2,185	2,077
Delaware.....	291	266	1,179	1,185	1,400	1,400	1,537	1,346	1,272	1,359	2,140	2,265	1,410	1,392
Elk.....	57	74	274	238	242	294	195	202	102	170	356	265	234	180
Erie.....	441	451	2,290	2,229	2,776	2,692	2,424	2,376	2,132	2,210	3,319	3,297	2,340	2,213
Fayette.....	526	510	2,466	2,470	2,824	2,764	2,508	2,364	2,005	2,056	3,129	3,200	2,000	2,047
Franklin.....	585	525	2,441	2,308	2,773	2,672	2,400	2,290	1,980	2,187	3,021	3,232	2,112	2,259
Fulton.....	132	106	532	462	579	517	504	469	419	382	558	578	361	408
Green.....	349	296	1,540	1,439	1,734	1,630	1,426	1,384	1,199	1,215	1,833	1,813	1,105	1,121
Huntingdon.....	400	302	1,699	1,531	1,780	1,732	1,577	1,424	1,209	1,319	2,267	2,177	1,428	1,944
Indians.....	361	364	1,795	1,733	1,908	1,909	1,848	1,751	1,432	1,624	2,240	2,355	1,420	1,418
Jefferson.....	213	225	977	981	1,041	1,041	870	830	695	752	1,357	1,096	790	605
Juniata.....	147	153	776	760	973	946	883	854	774	740	1,045	1,117	703	731
Lancaster.....	1,290	1,346	5,638	5,502	6,488	6,422	5,788	5,770	5,028	5,268	8,555	8,200	6,050	5,792
Lawrence.....	293	233	1,241	1,254	1,576	1,447	1,430	1,243	1,163	1,233	1,821	1,842	1,157	1,153
Lebanon.....	351	309	1,701	1,630	1,803	1,860	1,699	1,560	1,335	1,368	2,298	2,170	1,544	1,492
Lehigh.....	515	442	2,012	2,025	2,280	2,173	2,012	1,933	1,651	1,764	2,893	2,798	1,967	1,810
Luzerne.....	1,016	922	3,590	3,638	3,904	3,889	3,286	3,171	2,798	2,865	6,099	4,704	4,008	3,073
Lycoming.....	364	317	1,710	1,539	1,950	1,968	1,650	1,686	1,339	1,457	2,199	2,217	1,465	1,425
McKean.....	91	96	370	363	417	384	313	276	249	267	528	449	323	270
Mercer.....	489	413	2,113	1,977	2,376	2,435	2,217	2,149	1,919	1,843	2,749	2,773	1,902	1,822
Mifflin.....	235	194	913	808	1,066	1,065	999	955	743	831	1,284	1,340	874	832
Monroe.....	212	200	916	881	1,058	1,017	954	806	715	712	1,074	999	773	639
Montour.....	191	172	800	803	955	930	812	777	740	745	1,204	1,265	831	754
Northampton.....	504	500	2,455	2,294	2,810	2,707	2,520	2,380	2,104	2,243	3,039	3,501	2,508	2,378
Northumberland.....	348	335	1,422	1,464	1,658	1,721	1,556	1,542	1,338	1,316	1,927	1,907	1,258	1,313
Perry.....	291	309	1,302	1,215	1,539	1,515	1,409	1,284	1,081	1,098	1,546	1,593	1,132	1,133
Philadelphia.....	5,337	5,159	20,661	20,399	23,100	22,504	19,536	20,417	17,720	22,378	39,824	45,541	28,820	27,962
Pike.....	93	96	223	340	408	356	340	314	306	292	653	492	399	281
Potter.....	161	97	430	388	453	447	357	380	334	333	578	478	383	317
Schuykill.....	1,037	1,077	4,441	4,396	4,606	4,561	3,649	3,604	2,766	2,965	5,755	5,658	4,430	3,645
Somerset.....	444	384	1,620	1,631	1,752	1,880	1,615	1,644	1,445	1,402	2,086	1,990	1,317	1,189
Sullivan.....	60	60	277	236	273	319	221	230	183	180	271	247	229	106
Susquehanna.....	352	344	1,705	1,659	2,070	2,044	1,895	1,703	1,545	1,540	2,534	2,228	1,779	1,717
Tioga.....	321	286	1,603	1,639	1,762	1,804	1,620	1,472	1,307	1,200	2,309	2,021	1,453	1,205
Union.....	336	336	1,688	1,634	2,005	1,981	1,749	1,631	1,503	1,438	2,147	2,228	1,372	1,436
Venango.....	236	218	1,287	1,225	1,406	1,419	1,312	1,198	1,050	1,021	1,520	1,473	993	864
Warren.....	191	202	915	854	984	949	885	814	689	719	1,345	1,121	877	706
Washington.....	637	486	2,656	2,478	3,031	3,053	2,737	2,654	2,284	2,460	3,839	3,875	2,566	2,464
Wayne.....	363	330	1,356	1,292	1,427	1,439	1,238	1,252	1,106	1,060	2,641	1,945	1,609	1,206
Westmoreland.....	694	647	3,111	2,980	3,423	3,441	3,170	3,056	2,749	2,880	5,601	4,453	3,245	2,569
Wyoming.....	141	112	710	664	815	763	687	683	557	632	1,018	808	742	579
York.....	698	653	3,519	3,430	4,065	3,945	3,705	3,507	2,967	3,094	4,724	4,779	3,390	3,902
Total.....	31,929	31,017	139,268	135,990	157,009	154,494	138,633	133,958	116,773	124,483	209,438	206,801	144,030	133,072

(Census data from 1850)

Citation:

“Table L—Population by Counties—Classification of Ages and Color—Aggregates.” U.S. Census

of 1850, United States Census Bureau, 1850.

Analysis:

This census is for the state of Pennsylvania from 1850. It has the population of Cambria county that John Scott visited for a court case which was very small.

This document can be used to infer that John Scott was well-known and respected in Cambria County. Because the population was so small, it proves that the case was prominent in Cambria.

[Document C]

SCOTT, Republican, has been elected to the Legislature, from Allegheny County, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of J. B. Backhouse. The vote polled was very small.

Pennsylvania Legislature.

HARRISBURG, January 30

SENATE.—The annual report of the Seamen's Savings Fund was presented.

Bills Reported Favorably.—To incorporate the Philadelphia Spruce and Pine street Passenger Railway.

To vacate part of Mantua and Story streets, Philadelphia.

Read in Place.—By Mr. Randall a bill relative to the Athenaeum, of Philadelphia.

Consideration of Bills.—The bill to incorporate the Numismatic Society, of Philadelphia, passed second reading, when it was laid over. Adjourned.

Hours.—The official returns of the election of a member in place of Mr. Backhouse, of Allegheny, were read:

Scott (Rep.) received	4,417 votes
Sallisbury (Dem.)	3,798 "

Citation:

The Brooksville Jeffersonian [Brooksville, Pennsylvania], 25 Jan. 1858, p. 2

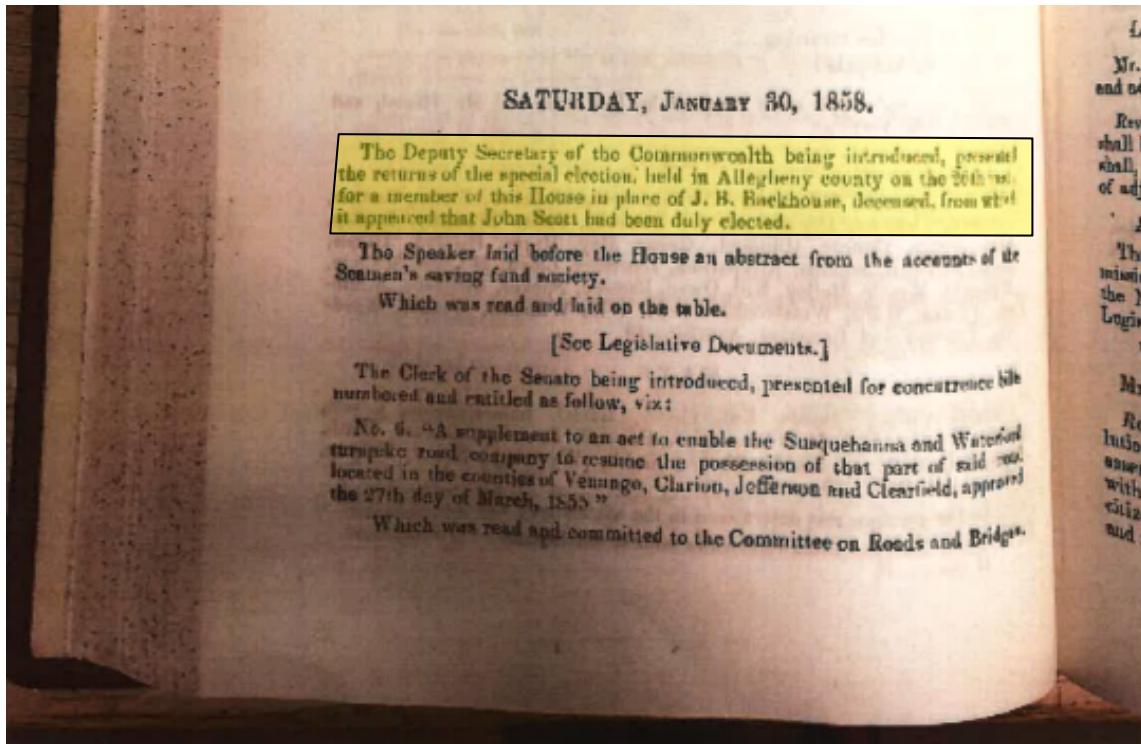
"Pennsylvania Legislature." *Public Ledger* [Philadelphia, Pennsylvania], 1 Feb. 1858, p. 2

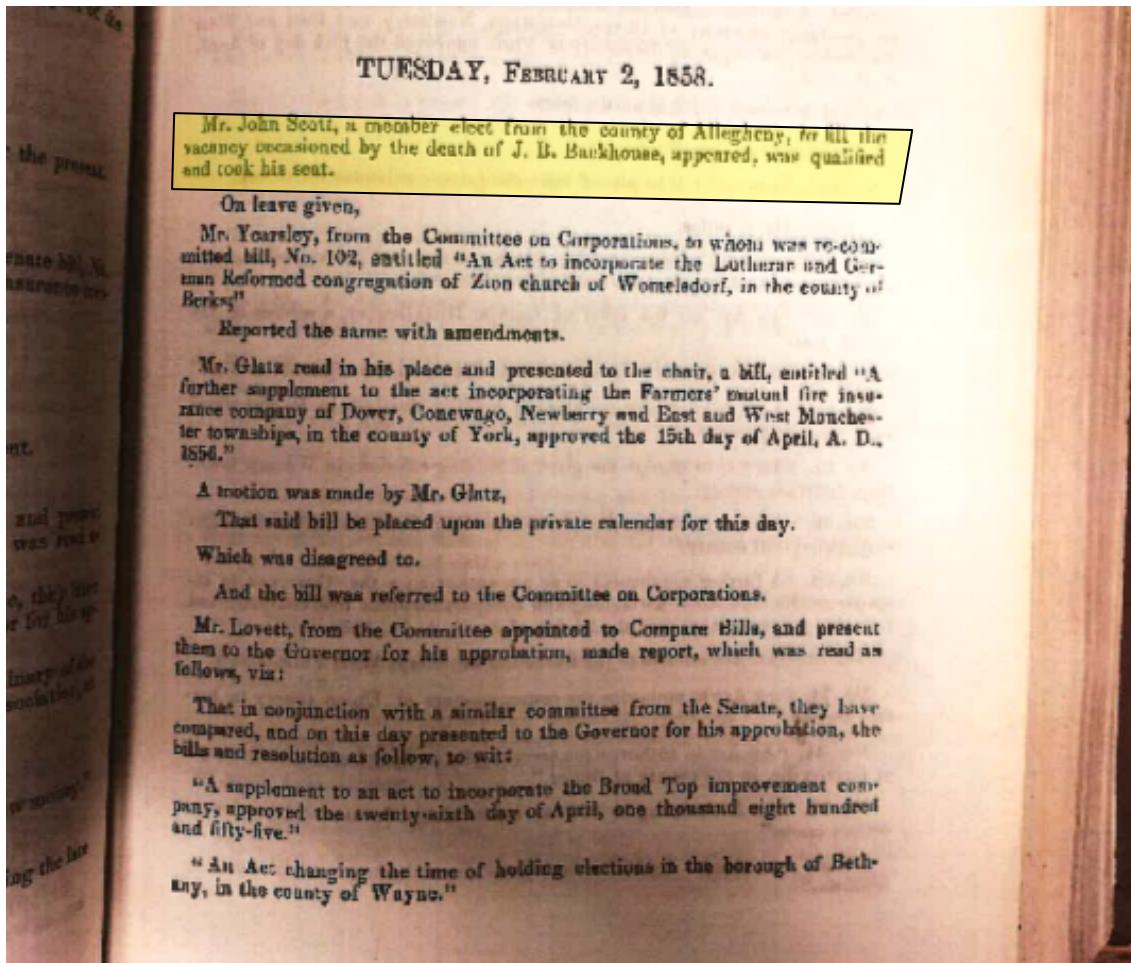
Analysis:

These short newspaper articles describe how John Scott made his entrance into the world of public legislature in 1856. The articles also reveal the special circumstances regarding John Scott's election given the death of J. B. Backhouse and the count of John Scott's 4,417 votes against Sallisbury's 3,798. It's also important to note that John Scott's Republican affiliation may have helped him win the election given that his predecessor J. B. Backhouse was also a Republican.

Given Pennsylvania's state law of not allowing for candidate replacement after ballots have been printed and the information revealed in the article, it can be inferred that a special election was held. Also, it can be inferred that John Scott had already established himself a well-known and credible figure given his selection as Backhouse's successor.

[Document D]





(*Journal of the U.S. House of Representatives*)

Citation

Journal of the House of Representatives of Pennsylvania, Second Session of the Thirty-Seventh Congress. December 6, 1858; Pennsylvania. Congressional Serial Set No. 995 - House Journal

Analysis:

This document is an excerpt from the Journal of the House of Representatives of Pennsylvania. It briefly mentions John Scott being elected to the Pennsylvania House of Representatives.

It can be inferred from this excerpt that John Scott was viewed as a qualified representative despite having little public office experience.

[Document E]

JOHN SCOTT, Esq.—The Senatorial District is composed of Huntingdon, Bedford and Somerset, and is strongly Republican. But the Democrats have nominated one of their ablest men—John Scott, Esq., of Huntingdon—and under present circumstances he has a fair prospect of election. If our State Assembly were composed of such men as Mr. Scott, there would be less corrupt legislation, and the wretched horde of lobby members and borers, who every winter infest our State capital would be completely starved out and their occupation entirely gone. We hope he may succeed.—*Brownsville Times.*

(*The globe.*, October 02, 1860, Image 2)

Citation:

Brownsville Times. "To Farmers of Huntingdon County." *The Huntingdon Globe* [Huntingdon], 3 Oct. 1860 Accessed 25 Feb. 2024.

Analysis:

This document pertains to John Scott's candidacy for the Senatorial District, which comprises Huntingdon, Bedford, and Somerset, and is predominantly Republican. Despite this, the Democrats have nominated John Scott, a formidable candidate from Huntingdon, with a fair chance of winning under current circumstances.

The endorsement highlights Scott's integrity and the hope that his election would lead to less corrupt legislation and diminish the influence of lobbyists in the State Assembly.

[Document F]

United States Senator.

The contest for U. S. Senator is becoming warm, and we are gratified to see the name of our townsmen Hon. John Scott, brought prominently before the people in every part of the State for the position. Mr. Scott has made for himself a reputation that should win in the contest. Hon. Galusha A. Grow, Chairman of the Union State Central Committee, Mr. W. H. Kemble, Treasurer of the same, Hon. Frank Jordan, Hon. J. K. Morehead, and Hon. Thomas Marshall, of Pittsburgh, are prominently named for the position.

[From the Ebensburg Alleghanian.]

Our next Legislature will elect a Republican successor to Hon. Charles A. Buckalew in the United States Senate. Who will be the man? The names of a large number of Republicans are mentioned in that connection—all good men and true, and worthy and well qualified to fill the office.—But the name of Hon. John Scott, of Huntingdon, appears to loom up most prominently in the foreground. Mr. Scott is everywhere known to be one of the ablest men in the State. We heard a gentleman say, not long since, that he had "listened to all the best speakers of either party during the late campaign, and John Scott was a head and shoulders above any and all of them in point of ability." This is high, but merited praise. Then, he is a representative Republican—an advocate and exponent of the advanced principles of the great Republican creed. We trust the State will honor itself by electing Mr. Scott to represent it in the upper house of Congress. He will reflect a higher measure of credit upon the State in that capacity than probably any other available man.

[Correspondence in Franklin Repository.]

It is with great pleasure I see announced in various papers throughout the Commonwealth the name of Hon. John Scott, of Huntingdon, as a Republican successor of Mr. Buckalew in the United States Senate. He is one of the ablest lawyers in the State; is a strong, clear, convincing speaker, and thoroughly acquainted with State and national politics. An active and thorough Republican, he is also a man of spotless purity and high moral courage, proof against the enticements or pressure of wrong.

[From the Harrisburg Telegraph.]

Mr. Scott is one of the most able men in the State.

Citation:

“United States Senator.” *The Globe*, Nov. 25 1868,
<https://panewsarchive.psu.edu/lccn/sn83032114/1868-11-25/ed-1/seq-2/>.

Analysis:

This newspaper article praises John Scott and endorses him for a senatorial role, indicating a high level of approval and support. This article emphasizes Scott's reputation, calling him one of the able men in the state and a strong speaker.

This article suggests that there is a strong positive public perception of John Scott. The endorsement implies that a considerable portion of the newspaper's readership held Scott in high regard. It also signifies a level of community support for John Scott, showing that he has actively engaged with and gained the support of the local community,

[Document G]

The Nomination of John Scott-Sensation Stories.

As we intimated in the first edition of yesterday's TELEGRAPH, John Scott, from Huntingdon county, was almost unanimously nominated as the Republican candidate for United States Senator in Caucus, and will, without a doubt, receive the unanimous support of the party when the day arrives. This selection is not only endorsed by the Republican party generally, but the press has already expressed a decided preference for John Scott, as being the only man who would be most acceptable to the rank and file of the party.

The Pittsburg Gazette, published at the home of two prominent candidates, Messrs. Moorhead and Marshall, says:

In selecting Mr. Scott the Republican members of the Legislature have done decidedly well. He is honest, even beyond suspicion, has intellectual powers of a superior range and quality, and instead of aiding in the distractions of faction by which the State has been disgraced, will do much to restore political affairs to a sounder basis.

The Pittsburgh Commercial says:

Mr. Scott is one of the ablest lawyers of our State, and possesses a thoroughly trained mind, that grasps questions with a severe logic and large intelligence. In the consideration of great questions of policy and statesmanship, he is capable of standing among the foremost of the body to which he is about to be elected. Laboriously devoted to his profession, he is best known in his own State, where his fine abilities and elevation of character are appreciated at their true value. When John Scott takes his seat in the United States Senate, as the successor of Charles R. Buckalew, that body will be stronger in every quality that can confer usefulness, dignity and statesmanship.

Citation:

"The Nomination of John Scott - Sensation Stories ", *Harrisburg Telegraph*, 7 Jan. 1869, p. 2

Analysis:

This article discusses John Scott's almost unanimous support as a Republican candidate, not only from his own party but also from the press. It goes on to discuss his character calling him honest and an intellectual. It also mentions his immense local support.

Different from the other newspaper articles, this one emphasizes John Scott's character rather than his past achievements. With how the article describes him, it can be inferred that John Scott had an aura that exuded honesty, intelligence, and integrity.

[Document H]

WHO JOHN SCOTT IS.

John Scott is a good lawyer, and the Attorney of the Pennsylvania Railroad in all important cases in the centre of the State. He is about forty-five years of age, 5 feet 9 inches high, slightly built, with gray beard and thin hair tinged with silver. He looks older than he really is. He was born in Huntingdon county, educated at the academy in Huntingdon, and studied law there. He was an active Democratic politician until 1863, when he separated from the party. He is a man of pure private life, and has the ability to make an excellent Senator. He is an elder in the Presbyterian Church, and has a strong will of his own. Cameron expects to handle him like a nose of wax, but will be apt to get his fingers bitten when he attempts it. He is not an extreme man in his views, and will be likely to act conscientiously in the discharge of his duties.

(Newspaper excerpt on John Scott)

Citation:

"Lancaster Intelligencer." Lancaster Intelligencer, 13 Jan. 1869, Newspapers.com.

Analysis:

This document is an excerpt from the Lancaster Intelligencer and its article on John Scott. It is a brief biography of John Scott in order to give the readers an idea of Scott because he is about to take office as a Senator.

It can be inferred that John Scott was well-known across the state of Pennsylvania and that he was also well-liked.

[Document I]

41st CONGRESS,
1st SESSION.

H. R. 3.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

MARCH 20, 1860.

Ordered to be printed.

AMENDMENT

Intended to be proposed by Mr. SCOTT to the bill (H. R. 3) to repeal "An act regulating the tenure of certain civil offices," viz: Inserted the following as an additional section:

1 SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the President
2 is hereby empowered to remove, during the next recess of the
3 Senate, any person holding civil office to which he has been,
4 or may hereafter be, appointed by and with the advice and
5 consent of the Senate, except judges of the United States
6 courts, and to commission a successor, who, after taking the
7 oath and giving the bonds required by law to be taken and
8 given by the person commissioned to fill such office, shall,
9 unless sooner removed by the President, hold such office by
10 virtue of such commission only until final action by the Sen-
11 ate upon the nomination for such officer hereinafter required
12 to be made. And it shall be the duty of the President to
13 report to the Senate, within twenty days after the first day of
14 its next meeting, the names of all persons removed by virtue

(Bill introduced in the Senate by John Scott)

Citation:

United States, Congress, Senate. Senate Bill 3. Government Publishing Office, 20 Mar. 1869. *Library of Congress*, memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/ampage?collId=llhb&fileName=041/llhb041.db&recNum=346. Accessed 25 Feb. 2024. 41st Congress, 1st session.

Analysis:

The amendment proposed by John Scott aims to repeal an act regulating the tenure of certain civil offices. This move suggests a deliberate effort to reshape the legal system. Also, given that this proposal was done in the first session, it shows Scott's readiness and eagerness to make a change.

From Scott's proposed amendment, it can be inferred that Scott was not afraid to take initiative and that he was committed to shaping the system in a manner that he deemed more suitable.

[Document J]

John Scott's Speech.

John Scott's speech made no votes for Geary and Williams. His commendations of Packer and Pershing gave the lie to all that the Radicals of Lancaster have heard from their own speakers, and to all that they have read in their newspapers. His labored argument in favor of negro suffrage was received with disfavor by many Republicans. An expression of disgust sat upon the countenances of the party; and not a few seemed to be more pleased with the extracts which Mr. Scott read from the Democratic platform than with the comments of the speaker, and his enunciation of the creed of the Republican party. Many of them are still in the condition of Mr. Scott before he became Senator. They do not believe that negro suffrage is likely to be productive of good, and they are not pleased to see the right of Pennsylvania to regulate suffrage surrendered to Congress. All the sophistry of the gentlemen who was made Senator by the Pennsylvania railroad failed to convince them.

Mr. Scott's attempt to disguise the corruption and extravagance of Geary's administration was very weak and unsatisfactory. His assertion that such things can not be checked by a change of parties was a gratuitous assumption. The people are not yet prepared to believe that they must continue to bear with the rascality which is admitted to have prevailed at Harrisburg under Geary. They demand a change, and they know it cannot be effected under the present administration. Mr. Scott's speech was a confession of that. The people are ready to try whether a change of Governor will not diminish corruption and extravagance. They will not consent to have things go on in the old way. They know that Geary has been the tool of the legislative ring, and those who heard Mr. Scott did not hear one word to disprove the great charges which have been made against him by reputable and leading Republican newspapers. Geary confesses in his speeches that he can not control the ring; but Packer in his letter of acceptance boldly promises to break up special legislation, and to put an end to corruption and extravagance. The two candidates must stand or fall on their own platforms. It is safe to predict that Geary will be overwhelmingly beaten; and such speeches as that made by Senator Scott will do nothing to save him from the merited defeat which awaits him.

(Article on a speech given by John Scott)

Citation:

"John Scott's Speech." *Lancaster Intelligencer* [Lancaster], 29 Sept. 1869.

Analysis:

This is an excerpt from a newspaper, the Lancaster Intelligencer. The article covers a speech given by John Scott where he calls for Black voting rights, calls out corruption in political parties, and unsuccessfully attempts to defend one of his colleagues.

This document can be used to infer that John Scott's beliefs were very progressive at the time considering he was publicly calling for African-American suffrage. It also shows how Scott

was not afraid to call out corruption wherever he saw it, especially if it was in his own working environment.

[Document K]

41ST CONGRESS.
2D SESSION.

H. R. 2045.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

JUNE 27, 1870.

Ordered to be printed.

AMENDMENT

Intended to be proposed by Mr. SCOTT to the bill (H. R. 2045) to reduce internal taxes, and for other purposes, viz: Insert as an additional section the following:

1 SEC. 1. *And be it further enacted*, That from and after
2 the first day of January next, there shall be an executive
3 department, to be denominated the Department of Revenue,
4 and there shall be appointed by the President, by and with
5 the advice and consent of the Senate, a principal officer, to
6 be called the Secretary of the Department of Revenue,
7 who shall perform and execute all the powers and
8 duties now intrusted to the Commissioner of Internal
9 Revenue, which office shall then cease to exist; and all
10 the powers and duties now by law intrusted to the Sec-
11 retary of the Treasury in the collection of the revenue,
12 whether derived from customs duties, internal taxes, or other-
13 wise, are hereby transferred to and invested in the Secretary
14 of the Department of Revenue, from and after his appoint-
15 ment. And the President is hereby authorized to assign to

16 the Department of Revenue such portions of the treasury
17 building as are necessary for the proper discharge of the busi-
18 ness of such department. And the compensation of the Sec-
19 retary, herein provided for, shall be eight thousand dollars
20 annually. There shall also be appointed by the President, by
21 and with the advice and consent of the Senate, one assistant
22 secretary of the Department of Revenue, at a salary of five
23 thousand dollars annually, who shall be charged with such
24 duties as shall be required of him by the Secretary of the
25 Department of Revenue, and shall perform the duties and
26 exercise the powers of Secretary of the Department of Rev-
27 enue, in case of the temporary absence or disability of that
28 officer. And there shall also be appointed in said department
29 by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the
30 Senate, two commissioners, to be called commissioners of
31 revenue, at a salary of four thousand dollars each annually,
32 one of whom shall be assigned by the Secretary of the De-
33 partment of Revenue to the immediate charge of matters per-
34 taining to internal revenue, and the other to the immediate
35 charge of matters pertaining to customs revenue, and to such
36 other duties as may be assigned them, subject to the super-
37 vision and control of the Secretary of the Department of
38 Revenue. The offices of Commissioner of Customs, and
39 deputy commissioners of internal revenue shall cease to
40 exist from and after said first day of January next.

(Bill introduced in the Senate by John Scott)

Citation:

---, ---, Senate. Senate Bill 2045. Government Publishing Office. *Library of Congress*, memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/ampage?collId=llhb&fileName=041/llhb041.db&recNum=7266. Accessed 25 Feb. 2024. 41st Congress, 2nd session, reported in Senate 27 June 1870.

Analysis:

The amendment proposed by John Scott aims to create a new federal department, the Department of Revenue and the leading officer of such a department would be called the Secretary of the Department of Revenue. This move suggests an effort to reshape the treasury and how money is processed in the federal government.

From Scott's proposed amendment, it can be inferred that Scott was not afraid to take initiative and that he was committed to shaping the government to how he believed it should be run. This amendment was also introduced during Scott's second session of Congress, showing his eagerness to contribute to the Senate.

[Document L]

41ST CONGRESS
2D SESSION.

H. R. 2061.

[Report No. 250.]

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

MAY 20, 1870.

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

JULY 9, 1870.

Reported by Mr. SCOTT with amendments, viz: Strike out the parts in [brackets] and insert the parts printed in *italics*. Accompanied by report No. 250.

AN ACT

To compensate the officers and crew of the Kearsarge, for the destruction of the rebel piratical vessel Alabama, *and for the relief of the officers and crew of the United States ship Wyoming.*

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
2 That the Secretary of State be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to sell so many of the registered bonds
3 of the United States now under his control, belonging to
4 the "Japanese indemnity funds" as shall realize [one]
5 three hundred and [ninety thousand] twenty-two thousand
6 five hundred dollars, and pay the same to the Secretary of
7 the Navy, who shall [pay the same to Commodore John A.
8 Winslow and the officers and crew belonging to the United

(Act introduced by John Scott in the U.S. Senate)

Citation:

United States, Congress, Senate. Senate Bill 2061. Government Publishing Office,
9 July 1870. *Library of Congress, memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/*

ampage?collId=llhb&fileName=041/llhb041.db&recNum=7333. 41st Congress, 2nd session.

Analysis:

This is an act introduced by John Scott in the U.S. Senate to compensate the officers of the Kearsarge, destroy the rebel vessel Alabama, and to relieve the officers and crew of the Wyoming. This act was also read over twice by the Committee on Naval Affairs.

From this act, it can be inferred that John Scott cares for the well being of the Union veterans. This shows his dedication to helping the welfare of the people of the Union.

[Document M]

41ST CONGRESS,
3^D SESSION.

H. R. 2816.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 17, 1871.

Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

AMENDMENT

Intended to be proposed by Mr. Scott to the bill (H. R. 2816) making appropriations for the support of the Army for the year ending June thirty, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, and for other purposes, namely: Insert the following:

- 1 That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby,
- 2 authorized and directed to pay to The National Homestead at
- 3 Gettysburg for the Orphans of Soldiers and Sailors of the
- 4 United States, or to their duly authorized agent, out of any
- 5 money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum
- 6 of twenty thousand dollars to be applied to the enlargement
- 7 and improvement of the buildings of that institution: *Provided*,
- 8 That no part of the money hereby appropriated shall be
- 9 paid until satisfactory security shall be given to the Secretary
- 10 of the Treasury, by the officers and directors of The National
- 11 Homestead at Gettysburg for the Orphans of Soldiers and
- 12 Sailors of the United States, that the money so paid shall be
- 13 duly and faithfully expended in carrying out the objects of
- 14 this act.

(Amendment introduced by John Scott in the U.S. Senate)

Citation:

---, ---, Senate. Senate Bill 2816. Government Publishing Office, 17 Feb. 1871.

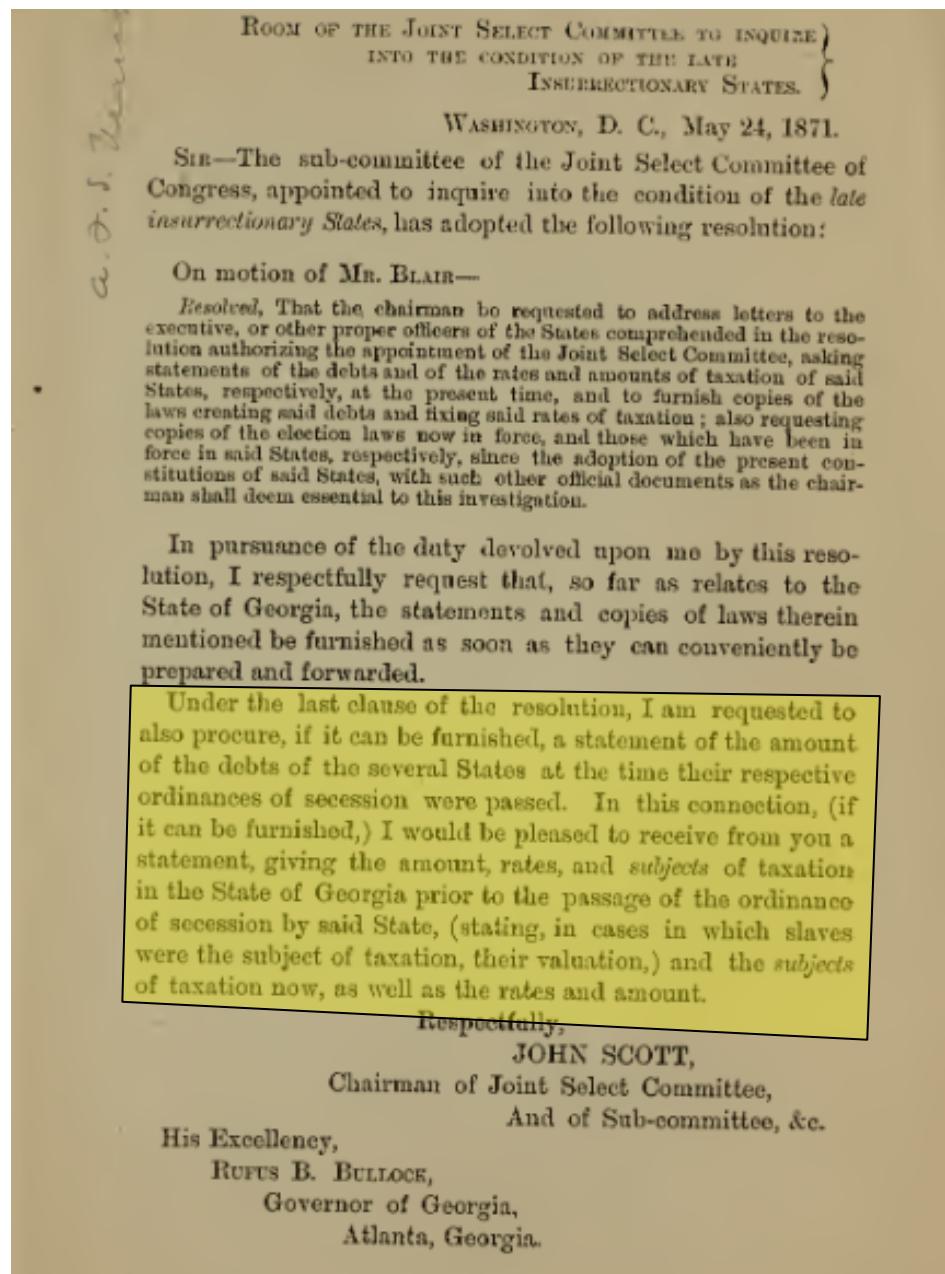
Library of Congress, memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/ampage?collId=llhb&fileName=041/llhb041.db&recNum=10376. 41st Congress, 3rd session.

Analysis:

This is an amendment introduced by John Scott in the U.S. Senate to pay The National Homestead at Gettysburg for the Orphans of Soldiers and Sailors of the United States. This money would be paid in support of the Army by the end of June 30, 1872.

From this amendment, it can be inferred that John Scott cares for the prosperity of the Union veterans and their children. This shows his dedication to helping the welfare of the people of the Union.

[Document N]



(A letter from John Scott to Governor Bullock)

Citation:

Georgia. Governor, 1868-1871 (Rufus B. Bullock), John Scott, and United States. Congress. Joint Committee on Reconstruction. Letter From His Excellency Governor Bullock, of Georgia, In Reply to the Honorable John Scott. Atlanta, Ga., 1871.

Analysis:

This document is a letter that John Scott wrote to the governor of Georgia, Rufus Bullock requesting tax information including the debts, rates, amounts of taxation, election laws, subjects of taxation, and other official documents from these states. It also provides that John Scott was on the Joint Select Committee to Inquire into the Condition of the Late Insurrectionary States.

It can be inferred that John Scott believed in a strong central government because Scott thought that he, as a senator, had the right to gain access to state tax information. Also, this document provides insight into Scott's role in the Reconstruction era and defining boundaries between state and federal authority.

[Document O]

John Scott's Ku-Klux Report.

Twenty of the most prominent citizens of Spartanburg county, South Carolina, among whom are the United States Commissioner of Internal Revenue, the United States Assessor, the Probate Judge, the Sheriff, the Clerks of the Court, the County Representatives in the Legislature, and other Republicans, have addressed a letter to Senator John Scott, stating that, after diligent inquiry, they have been unable to hear of a single outrage committed in the county since his committee left it. They assert, in contradiction to the report which he made to President Grant and the Cabinet, that the country is in a condition of profound peace and quiet. In Mr. Scott's report affidavits were published, stating that numerous gross outrages had been perpetrated since he left. Taking these affidavits to be true, Senator Scott urged the immediate declaration of martial law, and the abolition of civil government in Spartanburg county and other parts of the State.

We used to think John Scott was an honest and narrow-minded political bigot, and we are disposed to adhere to our original estimate of his character, notwithstanding the fact that we have been seriously tempted at times to doubt his honesty, by certain things which have occurred since he was elected Senator. His career as a country attorney in a small country town, and the character of his practice, were not calculated to expand a mind which was naturally contracted. He owed his elevation to the United States Senate, not to any qualities of statesmanship, for he had never displayed anything of the kind, but solely to the fact that the Pennsylvania Railroad Company wanted to give one of its most obsequious servants a seat in that body. If John Scott had not been a salaried attorney of a gigantic corporation his name would never have been mentioned in connection with the United States Senate. Thomas A. Scott owned a majority of a Republican Legislature, and he chose to make John Scott a United States Senator. But for that the Chairman of the Ku-Klux Committee would have lived on in obscurity in the sleepy old town of Huntingdon.

Citation:

"John Scott's Ku-Klux Report," *Intelligencer Journal*, 8 Sep. 1871

Analysis:

Despite John Scott's seemingly unanimous popularity throughout the state, it must be noted that the anti-republican press seemed determined to find fault in his political activities. The effort to criticize Scott's actions were likely based on partisan rivalry rather than genuine fault in his character.

The newspaper's heavy attacks on John Scott's character and policy suggests a motive of persuading readers rather than providing unbiased factual information. Therefore, it's likely John Scott was not the narrow-minded bigot the article suggests him to be.

[Document P]

John Scott and Martial Law.

John Scott, a Senator from this State and chairman of the Congressional Ku-Klux committee, recently made a hurried visit to Washington for the purpose of urging the President to issue a proclamation declaring martial law in the counties of York and Spartanburg, in South Carolina. This is a very scurvy business for Senator Scott, or any other man not a Senator, to be engaged in. It was represented that Grant was at first willing to comply with this modest request of the Pennsylvania Senator, and to let loose the dogs of war, but the timely counsel of some men, wiser and more discreet than either Grant or Scott, prevailed, and the contemplated proclamation has thus far not been issued.

During the past summer, Mr. Scott, with two other members of his committee, Stevenson, radical, and Van Trump, democrat, spent several weeks in the two counties named, and examined a large number of witnesses, black and white, in reference to the existence of Ku-Klux organizations and their alleged outrages. It was not in conse-

quence of the evidence then elicited that Mr. Scott hastened to Washington and demanded that martial law should be proclaimed in the York and Spartanburg districts, but because he had received certain letters containing statements and affidavits to the effect that a reign of terror had broken out in those localities since the sub-committee had left there, and that the most terrible and inhuman outrages were being perpetrated. That

(Article excerpt on John Scott's view on martial law)

Citation:

"John Scott and Martial Law." *The Cambria Freeman* [Cambria], 14 Sept. 1871, p. 2. [newspapers.com, www.newspapers.com/image/74408663/?terms=John%20Scott&match=1](http://newspapers.com/www.newspapers.com/image/74408663/?terms=John%20Scott&match=1).

Analysis:

This document is a clipping from The Cambria Freeman, a newspaper from Cambria, Pennsylvania. This article details John Scott's attempts to invoke martial law in counties where the Klu Klux Klan was running rampant.

This article can be used to infer that John Scott was set on cracking down on the Klu Klux Klan. Scott intended to do everything in his power to fight against the KKK, including replacing civilian rule with military authority, which is usually reserved for wartime.

[Document Q]

KU-KLUX.

SPEECH OF HON. JOHN SCOTT,

OF PENNSYLVANIA,

*Delivered in the United States Senate,
May 18, 1872.*

The Senate, as in Committee of the Whole, proceeded to consider the bill (S. No. 656) to extend the provisions of the fourth section of the act approved April 20, 1871.

Mr. SCOTT. I ask that the bill be read.

The Chief Clerk read as follows:

Be it enacted, &c., That the provisions of the fourth section of the act approved April 20, 1871, entitled "An act to enforce the provisions of the fourteenth amendment to the Constitution of the United States, and for other purposes," shall continue in force until the end of the next regular session of Congress.

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. President, this bill proposes to continue in force until the end of the next regular session of Congress the provisions of the fourth section of April 20, 1871, which I ask the Secretary to read.

The Chief Clerk read as follows :

Citation:

"Ku-Klux. Speech of Hon. John Scott, of Pennsylvania, Delivered in the United States Senate, May 18, 1872." *The Huntingdon Journal*, May 29 1872,
<https://panewsarchive.psu.edu/lccn/sn83032115/1872-05-29/ed-1/seq-1/>.

Analysis:

This newspaper article transcribes a speech made by John Scott delivered in the Senate regarding the KKK. In it, John Scott highlights the prevalence of the terrorist organization and later goes on to emphasize the need to address them. This pivotal speech made by John Scott

drew upon witness testimonies, highlighted violent incidents caused by the KKK, and the KKK's violent nature.

John Scott's speech shows his unwavering commitment to justice. Despite the KKK's history of threats, Scott's willingness to openly confront and expose the KKK's activities not only demonstrates his stance against terrorism, but also his fearlessness in addressing threats to society. John Scott also shows his understanding of the urgency of the situation as he emphasizes the need for immediate action against the KKK.

[Document R]

Judge Richard B. Carpenter, of South Carolina, late candidate for Governor of that State on the so-called Reform (Democratic) ticket, against [Governor Scott, (Republican,)] having been called by the Democratic members of the Congressional Committee on Ku-Klux Outrages, was sworn and examined, testifying that he had held the office of Register of Bankruptcy and Judge of the First Circuit; that, as the candidate of the "Reform" Convention for the Governorship, he had canvassed the State for that position; that he had canvassed every county of the State thoroughly, except the county of Horry, and had become thoroughly acquainted with the situation of the people of both colors. He said: "There have unquestionably been many cases of violence. I have no doubt of the existence, in eight or ten counties, of some secret organization;" but was not certain that it was not more widely disseminated than that. He thinks this secret organization, by which these outrages have been committed in his State, was in existence in York, Chester, Fairfield, Spartanburg, Union, Laurens, Abbeville, Newberry, Edgefield, and Clarendon counties. He admitted that it might have been in existence in other parts of the State, but did not think it had a much more extensive existence in the State; he did think, however, that at one time it threatened to extend over a large area. He believed it was a military organization, and showed itself in first warning its objects, its subjects, of some supposed offense,

bodies of armed men in disguise and operating in the night time. He said his idea of the class of men composing this organization was that "a great many of them were very respectable men in the neighborhood where they lived, and not confined to a low or desperate class of people." When informed that in this particular he disagreed with some witnesses from his State, he replied that his own impression was that "very good men were in that organization, and concurred and aided in these acts of violence." He stated that he did not think it altogether true that the men of substance and respectability of all parties always disapproved of it and spoke against it, and that he still thought, for a variety of reasons that he could not detail, that a great many respectable and well-meaning men were engaged in it. He admitted it as his conviction that respectable people, people of substance, not only approved of it, but actually participated in it.

He admitted that these organizations, these bands of disguised men, committed a great many acts of violence, such as whipping, beat-

Citation:

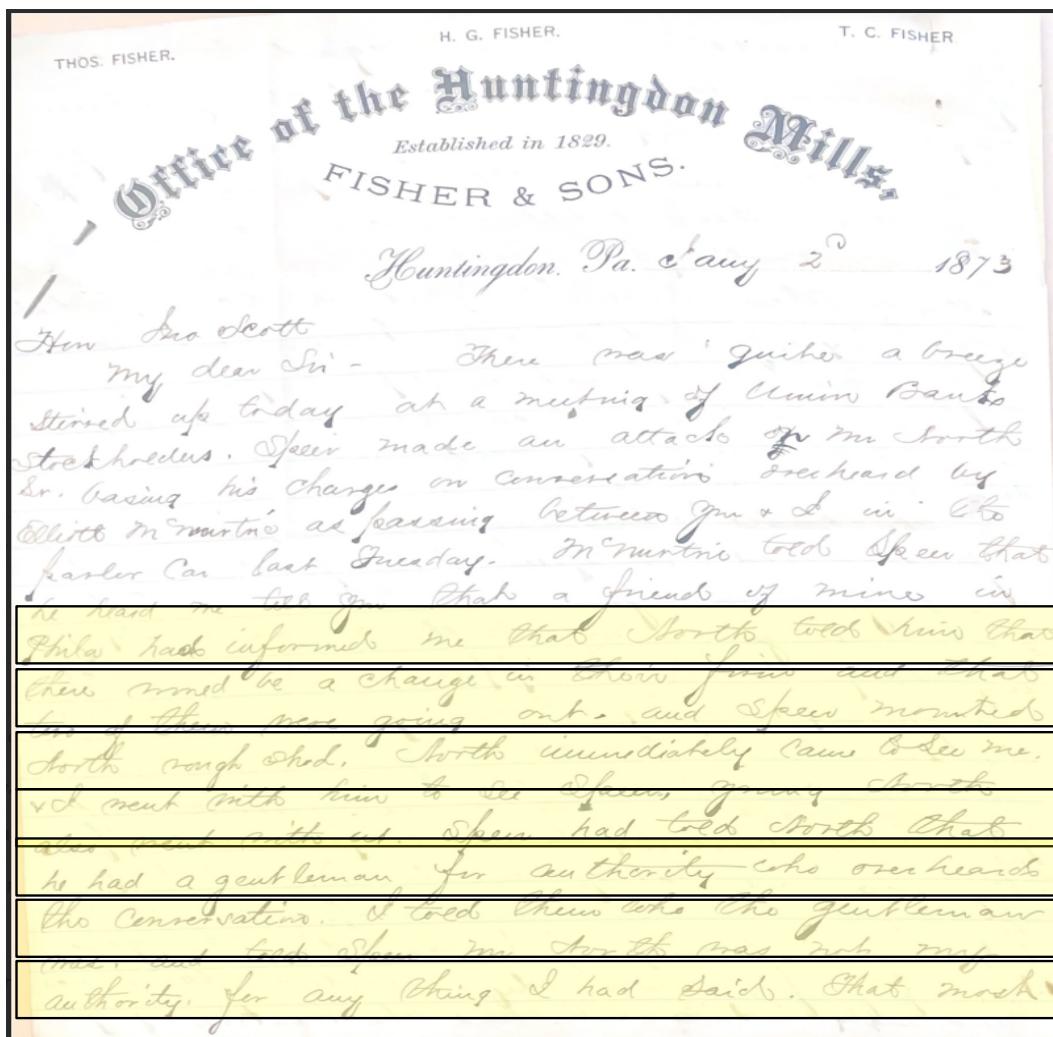
Ku-Klux-Klan. The Ku-Klux reign of terror. Synopsis of a portion of the testimony taken by the Congressional investigating committee. No. 5. n. p. 1872. Pdf. Retrieved from the Library of Congress, <www.loc.gov/item/unk83057951/>.

Analysis:

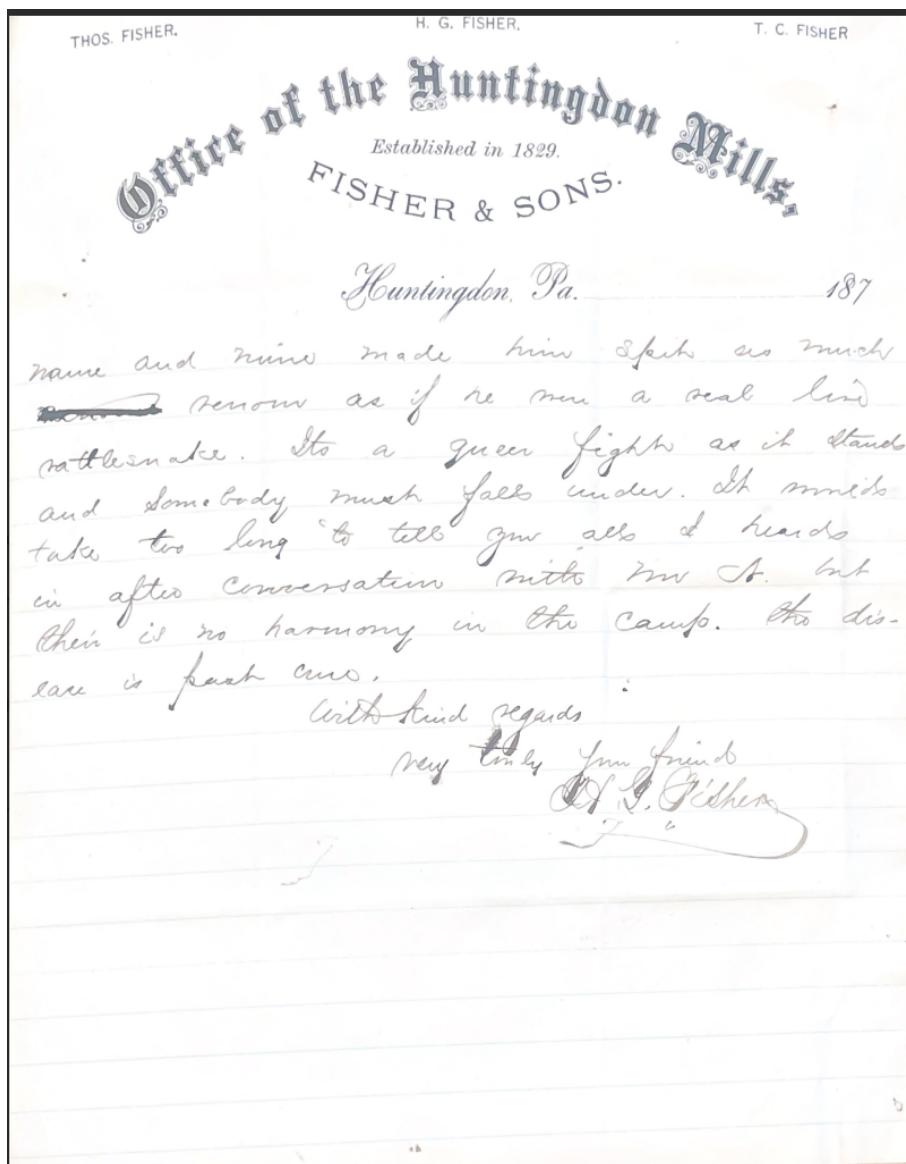
The document titled "The Ku-Klux reign of terror. Synopsis of a portion of the testimony taken by the Congressional investigating committee. No. 5." relates to the predecessor to the extension of the Ku-Klux-Klan Act. This document provides a summary of testimonies gathered by a Congressional committee tasked with investigating Ku-Klux activities. It sheds light on the reign

of terror inflicted by the Ku-Klux Klan, a secretive and violent organization targeting African Americans and Republican sympathizers in the post-Civil War South. This document features part of the events and testimonies that John Scott was a part of that led up to the passing of the Ku-Klux-Klux Act.

[Document S]



if our conversation was in regard to matters
 of common humor or the trials of their
 kingdom regarding a change in their fin-
 ances or a decrease in their Capital Stock.
 and that there is no more common
 and that there is just as much as the
 Act in Huntingdon & the same a Scott. That
 matter of their law
 as for myself I did not know even when
 the limited partnership expired.
 Their mutual mas behind me when
 I knew Mr. Martin was considering and did not think
 he was in a position to enable him to
 give the exact thread of our conversation.
 I further told Mr. Speer that if he desired
 to ask you, that you could tell him that
 I did not give Mr. North as authority for
 any thing said. It appears that is much
 bad feeling among them. Young Mr. Martin
 dislikes North so much as he (North)
 intimates to me that he did not wish
 his son in visiting Woods & Speer and if
 they are not badly mixed before to day
 fire until 1st July. If it was today the "fire
 was caused by somebody. Woods it seems was
 exceedingly indignant and the mention of you



(University of Pennsylvania Folder 4: Fisher, H.G. an autographed letter signed from, 1873
January 2)

Transcription:

Hon. John Scott,
My dear Sir- There was quite a breeze stirred up today at a meeting of Union Bank Stockholders. I have made an attack on Mr. North Sr. Casting his charges on a conversation overheard by Elliot on the marine as passing between you and me in the Kasler Car last Tuesday.

McMuntrie told Speer that he heard me tell you that a friend of mine in Philly had informed me that North told him that there would be a change in their firm and that two of them were going out. North immediately came to see me, and I went with him to see Iraein, who also went with us. I had told North that he had a gentleman for authority who overheard the conversation. I told them who the gentleman was, and told Speer that Mr. North was not my authority for anything I had said. The most significant aspect of our conversation was in common minor on the straits of Huntingdon regarding a change in their firm also a decrease in their capital stock, and that these matters were common, such as much as the Calk in Huntingdon of I had to Thos. a Scott many of their loans. As for myself, I did not know even when their limited partnership was exposed. I knew McMuntrie was behind me when we were conversing and did not think he was in a position to enable him to cue the exact thread of our conversation. I further told Mr. Speer that if he desired to ask you, you could tell him that Mr. North was the authority for I did not give anything said. It appears there is much jailing among them. Young M. Muntrie "as much as he (North) dislikes with, intimated to me that he did not wish to visit at his house. North backed his son in curbing words, and I faced him they were not bodily mind before today they are now. The partnership does not expire until 1st July. If it was today though we would be far closer to finishing. Woods it seems exceedingly indignant and the mention of made him spill as much name and nine rumors as if he were a real-life rattlesnake. It's a Queen fight as it stands and somebody much falls under. It would take too long to tell you all I heard but after a conversation with Mr. A, there is no parsimony in the camp, the disease is past cure.

With kind regards,

Your friend very truly,

H. G. Fisher

(Due to the incoherence of the letter, this is an altered transcription for the purpose of understanding the contents)

Citation:

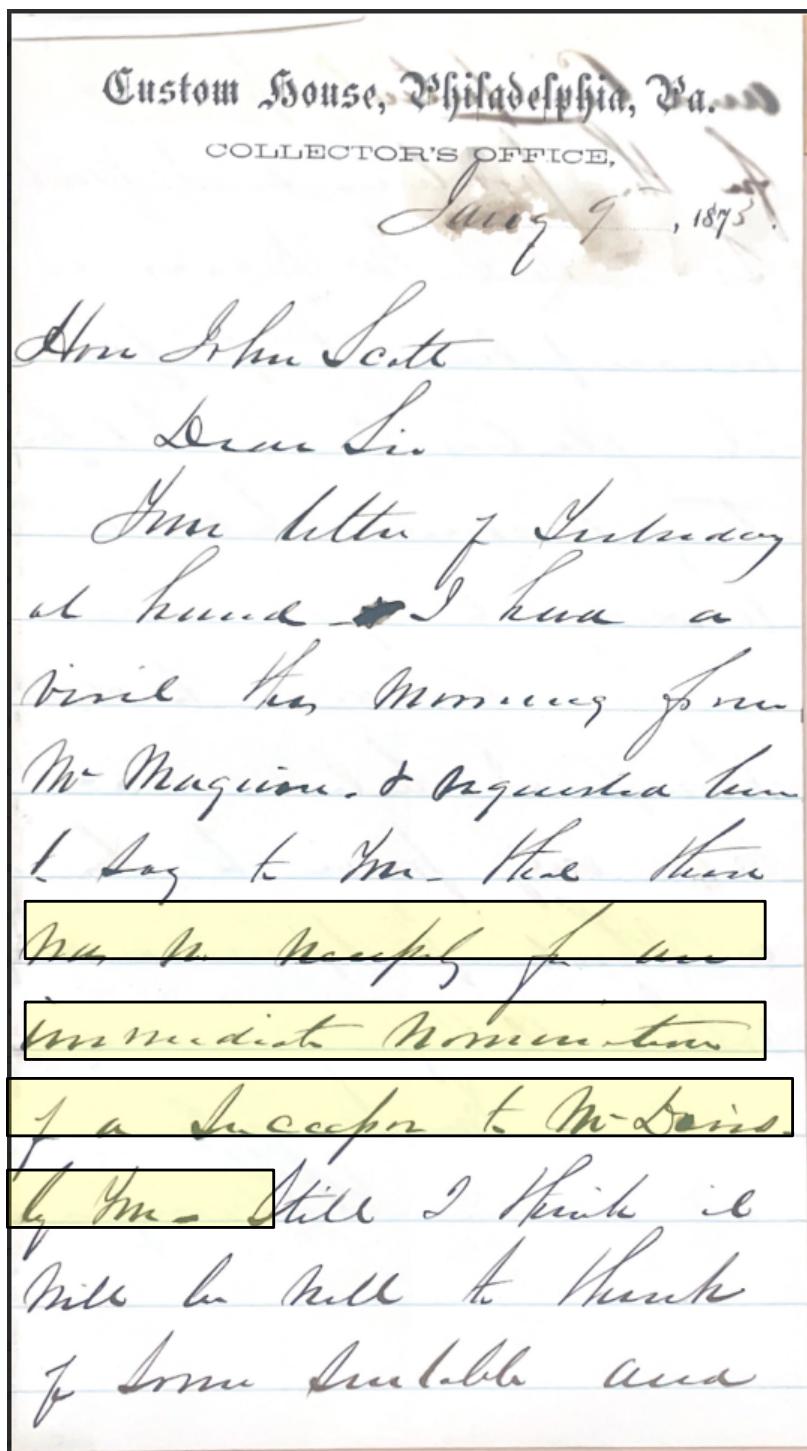
Fisher, H.G. "Fisher, H.G. an autographed letter." Letter to John Scott, 2 Jan. 1873, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Folder 4. Manuscript.

Analysis:

The document recounts a heated meeting among Union Bank shareholders, focusing on allegations against Mr. North Sr. and conversations overheard by John Scott. Tensions rise as accusations fly, revealing a breakdown in trust and communication among the shareholders.

It can be inferred that John Scott was well-connected and regarded as a person of some influence within the Union Bank community, as his account of the conversations was referenced during the meeting.

[Document T]



and incompetent person
for the position as I think
from the Mr Davis is
incompetent to perform
his duties in a satisfactory
Manner but am
anxious to give him
a fair chance to do so
though I believe it is
idle my power to be
a hindrance to his appointment or
with delay
Very truly yours
S.J. Comly

(University of Pennsylvania Folder 12: Comly, S.J., an autographed letter signed from January 9, 1873)

Transcription:

Custom House, Philadelphia, Pa.
COLLECTOR'S OFFICE,
January 9th, 1873
To John Scott

Dear Sir, I received a letter from Mr. Maguon on Sunday morning and inquired about its contents. I informed Mr. Maguon that there may be a need for an immediate nomination of a successor to Mr. Davis, possibly by you. However, I suggest we carefully consider a suitable and competent person for the position, as I believe Mr. Davis is incapable of fulfilling his duties effectively. While it may seem appropriate to appoint someone else, I am hesitant due to potential complications. Please consider these factors.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Comly

(Due to the incoherence of the letter, this is an altered transcription for the purpose of understanding the contents)

Citation:

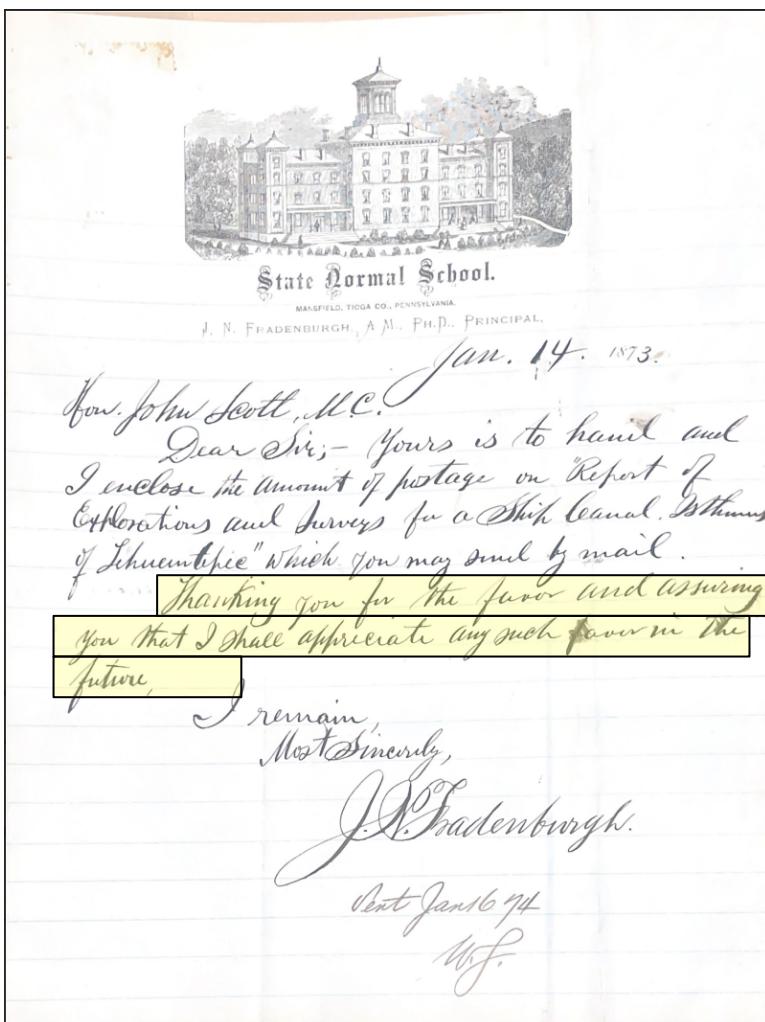
Comly, S.J. "Comly, S.J., an autographed letter." Letter to John Scott, 9 Jan. 1873, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Folder 12. Manuscript.

Analysis:

The letter is from the Collector's Office of the Custom House in Philadelphia. It suggests that there may be a need for an immediate nomination of a successor to Mr. Davis, with a suggestion that John Scott could be involved in the nomination process. The writer expresses concerns about the competency of Mr. Davis to fulfill his duties effectively and suggests considering other options for the position.

Due to John Scott's accomplished background, it is likely that he is a figure of authority or influence, and is implied to have a role in the decision-making process regarding the appointment of a successor.

[Document U]



(University of Pennsylvania Folder 13: Fradenburgh, J.N., an autographed letter signed from January 14, 1873)

Transcription:

State Normal School.

MANSFIELD, TIOGA CO., PENNSYLVANIA

J.N. FRADENBURGH, A.M., PH.D., PRINCIPAL.

Jan. 14, 1873. Hon. John Scott, M.C.

Dear Sir,

- Yours is to hand and I enclose the amount of postage on the "report explorations and survey for a Ship canal Isthmus of Lehenbhie" which you may send by mail. Thank you for the favor and assuring you that I shall appreciate any such favor in the future. I remain

Most Sincerely,

J.N. Fradenburgh.

Sent Jan 16, 1874

Citation:

Fradenburgh, J.N. "Fradenburgh, J.N., an autographed letter." Letter to John Scott, 14 Jan. 1873, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Folder 13. Manuscript.

Analysis:

The document is a letter from J.N. Fradenburgh, the Principal of the State Normal School in Mansfield, Pennsylvania, to Hon. John Scott, Fradenburgh encloses postage for a report on "explorations and survey for a Ship canal" related to Lehuenbhie which he requests Scott to send by mail. John Scott, being a Member of Congress, likely has access to or influence over governmental reports and information pertinent to the canal project. This letter illustrates Fradenburgh's reliance on Scott's assistance

[Document V]

Senator Cameron's great abilities have been long and thoroughly identified with all the larger business enterprises of the State. To him the city has always looked with a confidence and reliance, which have not been disappointed ; but when Senator John Scott, of Huntingdon, a man whose training and associations and whole life have been almost solely confined to the interior of the State, takes on himself to make a study of our special interests and wants, in order that he may the better defend the one and aid us in the other, we must accept it not only as a marked compliment, but see in it a conscientious obligation to duty, and a fidelity to the oath of his high office, of which all Pennsylvanians may feel proud.

Citation:

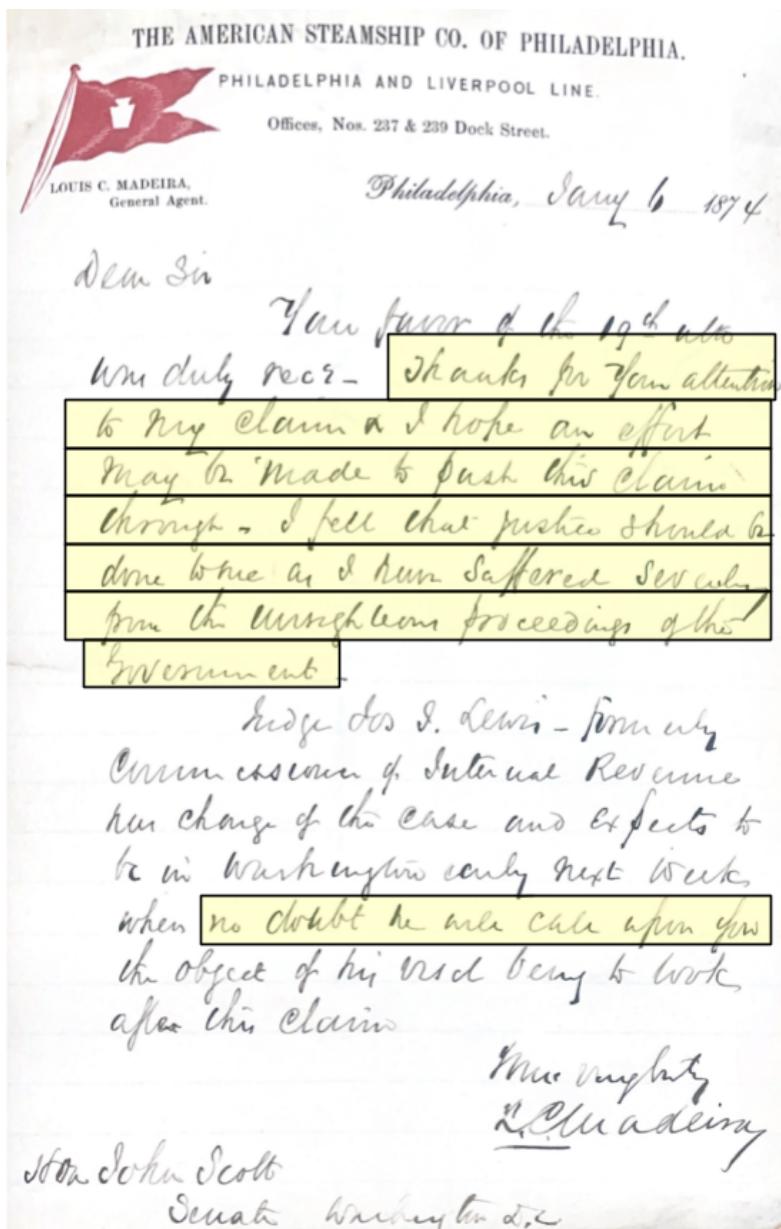
"Our Senators." *The Huntingdon Journal*, Mar. 26 1873,
<https://panewsarchive.psu.edu/lccn/sn83032115/1873-03-26/ed-1/seq-2/>.

Analysis:

This article suggests that John Scott has shown a notable interest in the problems faced by the community. The article also calls for Pennsylvanians to have a sense of pride in Scott's dedication to the high office. This source only further proves Scott's popularity with the public.

It can be inferred that John Scott's ongoing active engagement with local issues is because of a genuine concern for the well-being of the people he represents.

[Document W]



(University of Pennsylvania Folder 24: Madeira, Louis C., autographed letter signed from January 1, 1874)

Transcription:

Dear Sir,

Your favor of the 19th was duly received - thanks for your attention to my claim as I hope an effort may be made to push this claim through - I feel that justice should be done to me as I have suffered severely from the unrighteous proceedings of the Government. Mr. I. Leurs - former Commissioner of Internal Revenue - is now in charge of the case and expects to be in

Washington early next week when no doubt he will call upon you. The object of my writing is to look after this claim.

Yours respectfully,
Mrs. Mederia L. Claudian Hon.
John Scott

Citation:

Mederia, Louis Claudian. "Madeira, Louis C., autographed letter." Letter to John Scott, 1 Jan. 1874, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Folder 24. Manuscript.

Analysis:

The document is a letter requesting assistance with a claim from Mrs. Verghitz L. Claudian, who feels she has suffered unjustly due to government proceedings. She mentions that Mr. I. Leurs, the former Commissioner of Internal Revenue, will be in Washington soon to handle the case. The letter is addressed to Hon. John Scott

This letter indicates that Scott likely holds a position of authority or influence that could help advance her claim within the government bureaucracy.

[Document X]

New York Jan 22/74
Hon John Scott
U. S. Senate Washington D. C.
Within is remonstrance from the Wholesale
Hat dealers of Allentown & Lehightown
against any further extension of the
Wills Patent for forming hat bodies.
This Patent has been in existence, 28
years, and has been all this time a
monopoly of the most aggravating character.
It may appear, a small matter, a tax
of 25¢ on each soft hat made and
sold in this country, but when you
consider that 10 millions of these
hats are made and sold, you will see
that the tax on the public is 2,500,000
Dollars, per annum. This Patent
has been a mine of wealth to every
one of its assignees and owners, and
it has for many years obstructed the
progress of a large manufacturing

intrest, and it should not be again extended.

It has already obtained one extension from Congress viz March 2. 1867. The loss and damage to hat makers, by wantage of material is almost as great as the amount of tax paid by the consumers of Hats.

We hope that at the proper time you will present these remonstrances and use your influence and vote, against its further extension

Yours respectfully
Yates Wharton & Co.
by Wm Yocom

G. J. Ferry
A. E. Suby

Andrew Thompson
Committee of Hat Manufacturers
in New York

(University of Pennsylvania Folder 31: Wharton, Yates & Co. an autographed letter signed from January 22, 1874)

Transcription:

New York, Jan 22/74
Hon. John Scott U.S.
Senate Washington D.C.

Within are remonstrances from the Wholesale Hat Dealers of Allentown & Uniontown against any further extension of the Willis Patent for forming hat bodies. This Patent has been in existence for 28 years and has been all this time a monopoly of the most aggravating character. It may appear a small matter, a tax of 20 cents on each soft hat made and sold in this country, but when you consider that 10 million of these hats are made and sold, you will see that the tax on the public is \$2,500,000 per annum. This Patent has been a mine of wealth to every one of its origins and owners, and it has for many years obstructed the progress of large manufacturing interests, and it should not be again extended. It has already obtained one extension from Congress, viz. March 2, 1867. The loss and damage to the hat makers by wastage of material is almost as great as the amount of tax paid by the consumers of hats. We hope that at the proper time, you will present these remonstrances and use your influence and vote against its further extension.

Yours respectfully,
Gates Wharton &
by W.O. Yocom
G.J. Feny
N. E. Suby
Andrew Thompson
Committee of Hat Manufacturers in New York

Citation:

Wharton, Gates. "Wharton, Yates & Co. an autographed letter." Letter to John Scott, Jan. 1874,
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Folder 31. Manuscript

Analysis:

The document is a letter from a committee of Wholesale Hat Dealers in New York to John Scott during his time as Senator. They expressed opposition to extending the Willis Patent for forming hat bodies, citing its monopolistic nature and significant financial burden on consumers and hat makers alike. John Scott is being urged to consider their remonstrances and use his influence and vote against further extension of the patent. This indicates that John Scott likely holds a position of influence in legislative matters regarding patents and intellectual property rights.

[Document Y]

After the death of President Phillips, of the Allegheny Valley Railroad, as your committee are informed, the Pennsylvania Railroad Company offered the position of President to John Scott, Esq., who agreed to assume it if the Pennsylvania Railroad Company would sustain him in everything that might be necessary to his successful administration of the road. Such assurances having been given, Mr. Scott accepted the office, and soon after entering upon its duties he found that the affairs of the road were embarrassed beyond his anticipation. The first suggestion made to him by the officers of the Pennsylvania Railroad, seems to have been to stop the payment of the commercial paper which he promptly did, thereby throwing upon the public a heavy burden, and entailing embarrassment or ruin upon many of our own citizens and others in different parts of the State.

The foregoing, and other considerations your Committee pressed upon the Pennsylvania Railroad officers, as reasons why they should at once make arrangements to liquidate the debt of the Allegheny Valley Railroad, and relieve the creditors. Their reply was that they were legal creditors, also, and suffering a like with others. Your Committee rejoined that the enterprise was substantially their own, and that its direction was in their own hands.

Citation:

The Pittsburgh Commercial, 1 July 1874, p. 4

Analysis:

This article discusses the Pennsylvania Railroad Company's offer of the position of President to John Scott. Unfortunately, John Scott appears to have made several bad decisions and likely quit shortly after.

It can be inferred that John Scott was quite successful during his time as general counsel of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. It's also likely that John Scott built strong relationships with those at the company to be offered such a high position years after he left the company.

[Document Z]

The American says of Mr. Scott:

The State and the party cannot afford to lose his services in a position he has filled so ably and so acceptably. Granting that no man is indispensable, we still insist that the constituency which voluntarily dispenses with the services of a useful and influential representative of its interests, does itself a wrong which sooner or later it is sure to realize.

On the other hand, it may be as strongly insisted that as great wrong will be done by keeping out of that position some man of ability to be useful to the country, who will need experience, and no better time may occur to train young statesmen than the present.

The Huntingdon County Convention declares that the Republicans of that county feel proud of the pure personal character of the Hon. John Scott, and that they have intense confidence in him, believing him to be one of the ablest and best men now in public life.

This sounds well, but Huntingdon county is certain that a successor will not be selected from her borders, and is wise in keeping the honor as long as possible.

Citation:

The Times Leader, 18 Aug. 1874 p. 2

Analysis:

This document speaks to the indispensable nature of John Scott. The article calls him "one of the ablest and best men now in public life" suggesting that he was recognized for competence and skills.

Given that the article mentions that Huntingdon County likely won't produce his successor, it can be inferred that the talent John Scott was not only exceptional, but also rare.

[Document AA]

The Chair appointed Messrs. David Fleming, George Bergner and James R. Pugh the committee to wait upon Mr. Scott.

During the absence of the committee, the President of the meeting, John H. Briggs, Esq., who had been a consistent Democrat in former years, explained his present position in an able and dignified manner, which met the hearty approval of his hearers. Mr. Briggs was very emphatic in his advocacy of the Constitutional Amendments as now before the country, and expressed his confidence in their ratification by an immense majority.

After the conclusion of Mr. Briggs' eloquent remarks, Mr. Fleming introduced the Hon. John Scott to the assembly.

Mr. Scott took the stand and entered at once upon the discussion of the important issues of the day. He examined the Constitutional amendments minutely, and proved conclusively that their present opponents, such as Johnson, Cowan, Doolittle, and the whole nest of traitors had not only frequently advocated the same measures, but had repeatedly voted for them. Mr. S. took broad issue with these men and narrowed them down to the simple question, "Shall two hundred and ninety thousand South Carolinians have as much power in Congress as seven hundred thousand white men of the North?"

Mr. Scott's speech was an unanswerable argument of facts, throughout, which cannot be controverted by any of the Copperhead tribe, and it was received with constant applause. We wish that Mr. S. would be heard in every city of this State. The meeting was an entire success.

(*The Times Leader* clipping)

Citation:

The Times Leader. 18 Aug. 1874. newspapers.com, www.newspapers.com/image/44265921/?terms=John%20Scott&match=1.

Analysis:

This a clipping from The Times Leader detailing John Scott's address to a committee on traitors of the Constitution. This speech moved the committee and swayed them that there was no doubt in Scott's words.

From this clipping, it can be inferred that John Scott was an influential speaker and had a way with words. He was able to use logos to convince his audiences.

[Document AB]

A convention of delegates, representing nearly all of the counties of the commonwealth, was held in Harrisburg, Aug. 4, 1825, for the purpose of discussing the subject of public improvements. John Blair (Blair's Gap) and John Scott, of Alexandria, were chosen to represent Huntingdon County in this assemblage. After full discussion, the convention gave a decided expression of opinion that the opening of an entire and complete communication from the Susquehanna to the Allegheny and Ohio, and from the Allegheny to Lake Erie, is indispensably necessary to maintain the character and standing of the State, and to preserve her strength and resources. By act of Feb. 25, 1826, the commencement of "The Pennsylvania Canal" was authorized, and the location of a section from the mouth of the Swatara to the mouth of the Juniata, and another section from Pittsburgh to the mouth of the Kiskiminitas, directed to be made immediately and put under contract. The next year, April 9th, the Legislature directed the work to be extended up the valley of the Juniata to a point at or near Lewistown, and up the valleys of the Kiskiminitas and Conemaugh to a point at or near Blairsville. March 24, 1828, the commissioners were instructed to make an extension from Lewistown to the highest point expedient and practicable for a canal on the Juniata, and from Blairsville to the highest point expedient and practicable for a canal on the Conemaugh, and to locate by the most eligible route a railroad across the Allegheny Mountain, with a view of connecting the Juniata and Conemaugh sections of the canal. At the letting at Lewistown, October 15th, contracts for the line in Huntingdon County were awarded as follows (canal in half-mile sections):

JOHN SCOTT was born at Alexandria, on the 14th of July, 1824, and is of Scotch-Irish descent. His father, also named John Scott, was a major of volunteers in the war of 1812, and was elected to Congress in 1828, in the district composed of the counties of Huntingdon, Mifflin, Centre, and Clearfield, and represented said district in the Twenty-First Congress. His son, the subject of this brief sketch, received such an education as the schools of his native village afforded, and afterwards was instructed by private teachers in Latin and Greek.

In 1842 he entered as a student the law office of Alexander Thompson, in Chambersburg, and at the end of the usual course of study was admitted to the bar. He returned to his native county, and was admitted to practice in its several courts on the 23d of January, 1846, and opening an office in Huntingdon, was soon afterwards appointed deputy attorney-general for the county, and discharged the duties of that office for several years with marked fidelity and ability.

He possessed talents of such a high order that he was at once recognized as the leader of the Huntingdon bar, and ranked with the ablest lawyers in the interior of the State. His health failing, in 1853 he visited Europe, in company with the elder William Dorris, and was much benefited by his trip.

In 1861, although a Democrat, he was elected to the State Legislature without opposition, the county being Republican. He was a war Democrat, and acted with the Republicans in the organization of the House. He advocated the re-election of Governor Curtin in 1863, and the re-election of President Lincoln in 1864. In the canvass of 1868 he took an active part in the support of the Republican ticket, and his able arguments before the masses of the people attracted public attention towards him as a suitable successor to Mr. Buckalew in the United States Senate, and when the Legislature convened he was elected to that important position, and took his seat on the 4th of March, 1869, and served till the end of his term of six years.

Space will not permit a review of Mr. Scott's senatorial career. The reader is referred to the "Congressional Record" for that, and it will be found that the State and nation suffered no detriment at his hands. He fulfilled the predictions of the *Pittsburgh Gazette* at the time of his election: "Being a lawyer of great depth and acute discernment, it may be naturally supposed that he will soon take a front rank with the foremost in Congress, peculiarly in questions involving international law and the interest and protection of home manufactures, a subject on which he is well informed and entertains broad and favorable views."

Mr. Scott is at present residing in Philadelphia, but

(*Excerpt from The History of Huntingdon and Blair Counties*)

Citation:

Africa, J. Simpson. "John Scott." *History of Huntingdon and Blair Counties*, Philadelphia, Louis H. Everts, 1883. [archive.org, archive.org/details/historyofhunting00afri/page/n5/mode/1up?view=theater](https://archive.org/details/historyofhunting00afri/page/n5/mode/1up?view=theater).

Analysis:

This is an excerpt from the book, *The History of Huntingdon and Blair Counties*, detailing both John Scott's involvement in the building of a canal in Pennsylvania and his life.

From this excerpt, it can be inferred that John Scott was against the Confederacy and supported the Union. It can also be inferred that Scott switched parties from Democrat to Republican because the Democrats supported the Confederacy.

[Document AC]

or expended his valor in the ranks of their army.

It was evidently not deemed prudent by Mr. Bayard to repeat his disunion views. After Fort Lafayette, at Mr. Seward's command, had opened its doors to men who publicly expressed disloyal sentiments in the North, Mr. Bayard gave to the rebellion the benefit of his silence. The great struggle went on; myriads of patriots stepped to the ranks of the Union Army; the people were fired with love of country; from every loyal platform and every loyal pulpit rang out words of faith and hope for the cause and for its brave defenders. But Mr. Bayard's silence was unbroken even by the thunders of Gettysburg almost within sound of his home, or by the closing and complete triumph of the National arms. He had spoken words of sympathy and encouragement to the enemies of the Union. He never uttered a word of cheer for its friends.(1)

The organization of Governor Fenton's friends in New York, which had failed to secure him the nomination for Vice-President at the Chicago Convention, was strong enough to elect him to the Senate, even against so worthy a competitor as Governor Morgan, who had the advantage of being in the seat. It was a strong attestation of Mr. Fenton's strength in his own State.—William A. Buckingham, whose distinction as War Governor of Connecticut reached far beyond the limits of his State, was now promoted to a seat in the Senate.—Daniel D. Pratt, afterwards Commissioner of Internal Revenue, appeared from Indiana as the successor of Thomas A. Hendricks.

—John Scott, whose father had been a representative in Congress, succeeded Mr. Buckalew as senator from Pennsylvania. Mr. Scott had taken little part in politics, and had been altogether devoted to his profession as a lawyer; but his service in the Senate was distinguished by intelligence and fidelity. No man wrought so effectively in exposing the condemnation of public opinion the evil work of the Ku-Klux organizations in the South. At the close of his term he returned to the practice of law, and was honored by the appointment of chief solicitor to one of the largest corporations in the world—the Pennsylvania Railroad Company.—

Thomas C. McCreery took his seat as senator from Kentucky. Originally a lawyer, he had for many years devoted his attention to farming. He had acquired prominence in his party by carefully preparing and accurately committing to memory a political oration each year, which he delivered at the Democratic State Convention. He was an upright, good-natured man, with extreme Democratic views always amiably expressed.—John P. Stockton, who was deprived of his seat three years before under circumstances which seemed to impose a hardship upon him, now entered with undisputed credentials from New Jersey.

The senators first admitted from the reconstructed States were about equally divided between native Southerners and those who had gone from the North

(*Excerpt from book Twenty Years of Congress: From Lincoln to Garfield*)

Citation:

Blaine, James Gillespie. *Twenty Years of Congress*. Vol. 2, Norwich, General Books, 1884. [archive.org](https://archive.org/details/twentyyearsofcon01blai/mode/2up), archive.org/details/twentyyearsofcon01blai/mode/2up. Accessed 25 Feb. 2024.

Analysis:

This excerpt from the book, *Twenty Years of Congress: From Lincoln to Garfield*, mentions John Scott's work on exposing the Ku Klux Klan during his time as a senator. It also talks of how Scott had almost no political experience before becoming a senator.

It can be inferred that John Scott played a major role in the Reconstruction era. Along with providing insight on Scott's fight against white supremacy, this document also offers how he may have acted in office considering he did not have a lot of experience in a public office. A quote from this passage was also used in the biography.

[Document AD]

the cases, including the Granger cases, shows conclusively that such an attempt is a regulation of interstate commerce, and one which, under the terms of the Constitution of the United States, is unconstitutional and void; and in view of the two principles enunciated in that case—the one opinion on the criminal feature of the law being delivered by the circuit judge, and the other by the district judge—they restrained the Railroad Commissioners of Tennessee from putting that act in force, and said to them: "You shall not collect penalties under it; you shall not regulate these rates upon interstate commerce."

Gentlemen, these are features of this bill which I have deemed it necessary to call your attention to.

I pass now to one which I have not heretofore considered. And in doing that I wish for a moment to say that I am not talking as the attorney of the Pennsylvania Railroad. **I am here as a citizen of this Commonwealth with Scotch-Irish blood in my veins,** and I want to enter my protest against such a blot as the seventh section of this bill being put upon the reputation of the Commonwealth.

Railroad officers are not sinners above all men; and if they are sinners, they are entitled to the common protection of all men who are charged as criminals. I have read no attempt at legislation that contravenes so many of the well-established principles of Anglo-Saxon liberty as the seventh section of this bill.

What does it provide? I will not say a word about the civil penalties. You may do as you please about them. But when you undertake to run and regulate the railroads of this Commonwealth through the Court of Quarter Sessions I am here to protect the rights of large bodies of citizens who are engaged in the railroad business. You first provide that a failure to do anything required is an indictable offense; any doing of a thing prohibited is an indictable offense, punishable by a fine of \$2500 and imprisonment, and then the accused party is to be tried, how? Whenever any man who feels aggrieved thinks proper to lodge information in any county of this Commonwealth through which the road runs,

Citation:

Scott, John. "Remarks of Mr. John Scott General Solicitor Pennsylvania Railroad Company before the Judiciary (General) Committee of the Senate of Pennsylvania on the Anti-Discrimination Bill." Google Books,
https://docs.google.com/viewer?url=https%3A%2F%2Fbooks.google.com%2Fbooks%2Fdownload%2FRemarks_of_John_Scott_General_Solicitor.pdf%3Fid%3D-cQOAQAAJ%26output%3Dpdf%26sig%3DACfU3U2b_5S9PUzdx6Alum9gaFB9x9BVfw.

Analysis:

This document is a transcription of a speech delivered by John Scott, general solicitor of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, addressing the Judiciary Committee of the Senate of

Pennsylvania on the Anti-Discrimination Bill. Scott offers his opinions on various sections of the bill. In the section highlighted, Scott brings up his Scottish-Irish upbringing and attempts to relate to the common-man.

From Scott's speech, it can be inferred that he is well-versed in legal precedents. Scott's inclusion of his Scottish-Irish heritage serves as a subtle appeal to the general person and shows that Scott as not just a corporate representative, but as an individual with a cultural identity.

[Document AE]

My father's ancestry was Scotch-Irish, and as I suppose from an incident he related from tradition, lived in Londonderry before their emigration to the United States. That incident was, that one of his ancestors, John Scott, his great grandfather, was in the seige of Derry, and in the extremity of hunger, paid a guinea for a rat to eat. Their first settlement in the United States was upon Marsh Creek, (then in York) now Adams County, some miles from Gettysburg. His paternal grandfather was John Scott, whose wife's name was Miller. His maternal grandfather was Wm. McCreary, whose wife's name was Deborah. When they first settled there is not stating, but I find in the notes taken from a history of Adams County, as published in the Gettysburg Star and Sentinel, and contained in slips pasted in a volume in the library of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, that a John Scott was in 1751 Sheriff of York County, then embracing all of Adams, which was created from it in 1800. The names of these children of John Scott and _____ Miller, his wife, are not given separately from the children of a second marriage, and the second wife's name is not given. The names of all the children are stated in the rough chart of June 6th, 1848, as follows:

My father, John Scott, was married October 16th, 1806 to Sarah Davis. She resided in Morris Township, Huntingdon County, and was born August 2nd, 1788. Her brothers, George Davis and John David, were farmers who also lived in that township and both left families. They commenced housekeeping in Alexandria, where my father had previously established himself in his business of shoemaking. They had children, - 1st, a son, born 13th December 1807, died January 7th, 1808.

2nd, Sarah, born 22nd March 1809, died February 22n, 1837. She married Joseph McIlvaine January 22, 1833. They removed to Missouri, where she died, leaving no children.

3rd, Oliver G. Scott, born 26th November, 1810, died 5th August, 1843. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Wallace, of Warriors Mark, where he practiced his profession of medicine, afterwards removed to Birmingham, where he died leaving two children, Cornelia and Ellen. He was buried at the Presbyterian Church in Sinking Valley. His widow afterwards married James Bell, and they removed to Tyrone. Cornelia Scott died there, as did also Mrs. Bell and her husband. They are all buried at Tyrone. Helen Scott still lives there unmarried.

4th - Nancy Scott, born October 30th, 1813, married John R. Gregory. They resided in Alexandria, where she died, _____, leaving two daughters and one son; Sally, who married _____ Coy, a farmer living on Stone Creek; Rebecca, unmarried, and John, who is a physician in Luthersburg, Clearfield County.

5th - Eliza Scott, born June 3rd, 1816, died unmarried March 22nd, 1844.

6th - Rebecca Scott, born July 11th, 1818, died unmarried July 13th, 1844.

Sarah, wife of John Scott, died July 17th, 1820.

Citation:

Scott, John. "Family History," Nov. 5 1890, p. 1, 4

Analysis:

This family history written by John Scott describes his alleged Scotch-Irish origins. John Scott describes a plausible theory involving the Siege of Derry as to why his ancestors traveled to Pennsylvania. John Scott also goes through the names and birthdates of his family members,

referencing an unincluded chart he made years ago. Some of the most useful information is that of his half-siblings as references to them in other sources are scarce.

It can be inferred that given Sarah Davis's early death, John Scott's father likely was searching for a new companion and thus remarried one year later. This is based on the common historical practice of individuals, especially those with young children, seeking remarriage relatively soon after the death of a spouse.

[Document AF]

The image shows a historical newspaper clipping from "The Philadelphia Times" dated February 1, 1891. The main title is "A DESERVING CHARITY". Below it is a subtitle: "LEGISLATORS MEET THE TRUSTEES OF THE PENNSYLVANIA HOSPITAL". Underneath that is another subtitle: "A PLEA FOR HELP FROM THE STATE". The text discusses the hospital's history and its need for funds. It mentions that twenty years ago the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania received an endowment of \$200,000 from the State. The article continues with a speech by President Wood, where he describes the hospital as the pride of the city and in need of funds. It also mentions that Dr. William Pepper, a trustee, addressed the guests. The text is framed by a yellow border.

A DESERVING CHARITY

**LEGISLATORS MEET THE TRUSTEES OF
THE PENNSYLVANIA HOSPITAL**

A PLEA FOR HELP FROM THE STATE

Eloquent Appeals for Help in the Good Work Which Has Hitherto Been Carried On by Private Munificence—An Institution the Pride of the City in Need of Funds.

Twenty years ago the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania received an endowment of \$200,000 from the State to assist in establishing that institution.

THE SPEECH MAKING.

A light lunch was served in the audience room of the hospital, after which President Wood, of the trustees, Dr. William Pepper on behalf of the faculty, Hon. John Scott, also a trustee, and John H. Fow addressed the guests briefly on the immediate needs of the institution. President Richard Wood said: "When the hospital was established the State had materially assisted it. It is the object of the trustees in inviting the members of the Legislature to visit the hospital to-day to show them, as the representatives of the people, how the money originally granted had been spent, and how the hospital had developed under the care and by the aid of private persons in this city and State." President Wood went on to say that the hospital was the child of the State, and that patients from all parts of the Commonwealth were received from time to time.

Provost Pepper said: "Since the establishment of this institution not one dollar had ever been received from the State, nor had any request been made for such aid. The total income of the hospital had been derived from private sources. But the time had now come when they could not go on with their work without some recognition from the State. It was the ambition of the faculty to be among the first if not the first institution of its kind in the country. The hospital had now outgrown the limits of its resources, and had come to the State for help."

Citation:

"A Deserving Charity," *The Philadelphia Times*, 1 Feb. 1891, p. 6

Analysis:

This document describes a visit from legislators to the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania to see how its endowment had been spent. The article also mentions how John Scott himself was a trustee. Given that John Scott was a trustee, it's likely that he had been involved in the hospital's history. This further proves John Scott as an involved figure who had a genuine interest in his community.

[Document AG]

EX-U. S. SENATOR JOHN SCOTT DEAD

WAS PROMINENT IN POLITICS AND WELL
KNOWN IN RAILROAD CIRCLES.

PENNSY'S LAW CHIEF FOR YEARS

John Scott, the Former General Solicitor of the Pennsylvania Railroad, Died Late Sunday Night at His Home in West Philadelphia—At an Early Age He Studied Law, Was Elected to the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, Then to the United States Senate in 1869—After Serving One Term He Returned to His Adopted Profession.

John Scott, ex-United States Senator from Pennsylvania and for eighteen years General Solicitor for the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, died late Sunday evening at his residence, 3808 Chestnut street, after a brief illness, at the age of 74 years.

For some time past he has been in declining health, which forced him to resign the office of chief counsel of the law department of the Pennsylvania Railroad. Since that time, however, in appreciation of his valuable services to the company, he has remained the consulting counsel.

Mr. Scott leaves a widow and six sons, William W. Scott and Walter Scott, prominent lawyers in Pittsburgh; John Scott, Jr., a well-known lawyer in this city; George Scott, a coal merchant in this city; Irving Scott and Dr. J. Allison Scott, the latter assistant medical director of the Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company.

John Scott was born at Alexandria, Huntingdon county, Pa., in 1823, of Scotch-Irish ancestry. His father was a major general of volunteers in the war of 1812 and a member of the Twenty-first Congress. He was also engaged in the business of tanning leather and manufacturing it into boots and shoes and gave to his son the best education his native town could afford.

When at the age of 14 young John commenced to assist his father in conducting the business, by keeping his books, making sales and distributing the products of both tannery and shoe shop through a large portion of the country. At the age of 17 he manifested an inclination for public speaking and took part in the public meetings of the Washingtonian temperance movement. In November, 1842, he went to Chambersburg and was entered as a student of law in the office of Alexander Thomson, father of Vice President Frank Thomson, of the Pennsylvania Railroad.

His studies there were interrupted for a period of six months by the death of his brother, Dr. O. G. Scott, of Birmingham, Pa., of whose will he was made executor, and whose estate he settled at the age of 19. In 1846 he was admitted to the bar, and immediately located his office in Huntingdon, remaining there in the practice of law until the end of his service in the United States Senate, 1875.

Blair county was created in 1846, having been taken in large part from Huntingdon county. Again his field of usefulness was made manifest by his attending the courts in the new county.

Elected to the Senate.

In 1857, associated with the present Judge Pershing, of Pottsville, then the resident counsel of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company in Cambria county, he was engaged by the company to try one of its important cases in that county. Their antagonists were Thomas White, Henry D. Foster, Robert L. Johnston, S. Steele Blair and John Fenlon. The case excited a large degree of public interest, and after two protracted trials in the court below ended in a verdict in the company's favor, which was affirmed in the Supreme Court. Mr. Scott then entered the Pennsylvania Railroad Company's service as special counsel for the district comprising Cambria, Blair and Huntingdon counties, taking charge also of the questions arising out of the transfer of the canals and railroads of the State to the company. In this capacity he continued to serve the company until his connection with it was severed by his election to the United States Senate.

On several occasions

On several occasions his fellow citizens called upon him to accept public office, but he uniformly declined to enter public life until 1861, when at the urgent solicitation of both political parties he accepted the nomination for the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, and was elected.

His colleagues in the State Legislature learned to value his talents, and when, in 1869, it became necessary to elect a United States Senator to succeed Charles R. Buckalew, Mr. Scott was chosen. He entered the United States Senate in 1869 as a Republican and served the full Senatorial term of six years. His public life was marked by the same earnestness of purpose, diligence and faithfulness to the interests intrusted to his keeping as had always characterized him as a private citizen. One of the most observant writers of contemporary political history, James G. Blaine, in his "Twenty Years in Congress," says: "John Scott, whose father had been a Representative in Congress, succeeded Mr. Buckalew as Senator from Pennsylvania. Mr. Scott had taken little part in politics and had been altogether devoted to his profession as a lawyer, but his services in the Senate were distinguished by intelligence and fidelity."

During his tenure of the Senatorial office, his ability attracted the attention of the leaders of his party, and at the expiration of his term President Grant tendered him the post of Secretary of the Interior in his Cabinet. Mr. Scott considered the Senatorship one of the highest honors his State could confer upon him, and being anxious to return to the chosen work of his life declined the position of a Cabinet officer, and re-entered the service of the Pennsylvania Railroad as legal adviser to Colonel Thomas A. Scott, then the president. At the close of

his Senatorial term, in 1875, he removed from Huntingdon to Pittsburg and took charge of the legal business pertaining to the lines west of Pittsburg for the Pennsylvania Company. He organized the legal department at Pittsburg for those lines in June, 1875, and after that time reports of all legal proceedings were made to his office. Upon the resignation of William J. Howard, in November, 1877, Mr. Scott was called to take charge of the legal department of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company in Philadelphia, and became general solicitor of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company and its allied lines.

His Work as a Lawyer.

As a lawyer he stood in the very front rank of his profession and was considered by his confreres as one of the most learned, able and accomplished members of the fraternity. During his business and public career Mr. Scott was always exceedingly active in all enterprises which tended to the advancement and welfare of his fellow-men. As a resident of Huntingdon he was one of the original incorporators and a director of the Huntingdon and Broad Top Railroad Company; a director of the Huntingdon Gas Company; a member of the banking firm of Bell, Garrettson & Co.; a director of the First National Bank of Huntingdon; trustee of the academy; School Director and elder in the Presbyterian Church; assistant superintendent and superintendent of the Sunday school, and, what perhaps marks as strongly as any other fact in his life, the confidence reposed in him, he was, during these years executor, administrator and trustee of many estates, and guardian of over thirty minor children, of all of which trusts he settled accounts before he left Huntingdon county, and from all of these trusts he was, at his own request, discharged, no exception having been filed to any one of these numerous accounts. During his residence in Pittsburg he was manager of the Dixmont Hospital and a director in the Western Theological Seminary.

Since his location in Philadelphia he had become an elder of the Walnut Street Presbyterian Church, a member of the Board of Publication and Sabbath School Work, a member of the Board of Ministerial Relief, a director and trustee of the Princeton Theological Seminary and a trustee of the University of Pennsylvania. Mr. Scott retired from the office of general solicitor of the Pennsylvania Railroad in February, 1895, and was succeeded by Judge James A. Logan. His long and honorable career in his official capacity and his universally recognized ability made the severance of his official ties a distinct loss to the company and his associates, and a fitting tribute to his fidelity and ability was at that time entered in the official archives.

(Obituary from *Philadelphia Times*)

Citation:

"Ex-U.S. Senator John Scott Dead." *The Philadelphia Times* [Philadelphia], 1 Dec. 1896. newspapers.com, www.newspapers.com/.

Analysis:

This obituary in the Philadelphia Times details John Scott's life. It confirms he was born in Huntingdon, Pennsylvania and died in his house at 3808 Chestnut Street in Philadelphia. It also depicts all stages of his life: working at his father's tannery, becoming a lawyer, being elected to the State House of Representatives then the U.S. Senate, and his subsequent role as the general solicitor of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. It also includes the organizations he was associated with after a career as an attorney, and that he helped the Pennsylvania Railroad Company win a case in the Supreme Court.

From this document, it is inferred that wherever John Scott was employed, he played an important and pivotal role. Also that the connections he made while in law school led him to be able to work at the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. In addition, it can be inferred that Scott was a hardworking and dedicated man.

[Document AH]

HON. JOHN SCOTT DEAD.
Passed Away at His Home in Philadelphia
Sunday Night.

Hon. John Scott, ex-United States senator from Pennsylvania and formerly general solicitor of the Pennsylvania Railroad company, died at his residence in Philadelphia Sunday night after a brief illness.

Concerning the deceased's life the Tribune says: He did much good during life, and those who knew him years ago have most pleasant memories of his correct life—he was a Presbyterian in faith, but his denominational stand was that all people were good until they were proven otherwise, and even then there was hope. The young people who attended the Presbyterian Sunday school in Huntington during the '80's, where the deceased was superintendent in the old building now torn down and the space occupied by J. C. Blair, stationer, will remember his kindly demeanor, his welcoming smile, his advice for good. He was not narrow-minded, but on the reverse was broad. His memory will be kept fragrant by the many loving deeds done by him.

Citation:

"Hon. John Scott Dead: Passed Away at His Home in Philadelphia Sunday Night," *Tyrone Daily Herald*, 1 Dec. 1896, p. 4

Analysis:

This article discusses the death of John Scott on a Sunday night after a brief illness. It also discusses the positive effect of his life, mentioning the kind memories those who attended the Presbyterian Sunday school would have of him.

It can be inferred that John Scott left a positive impact on his local community and that he will be remembered fondly. Overall, the article paints a picture of a well-respected individual whose death was notable within the community he was a part of.

[Document A]

THE FUNERAL OF JOHN SCOTT

SERVICES AT THE CHURCH ATTENDED
BY MANY DISTINGUISHED MEN.

OLD FRIENDS AS PALL BEARERS

The Ex-United States Senator and Former General Solicitor of the Pennsylvania Railroad Interred After Simple But Impressive Services—Men Who Lead in Finance, Commercial Life and Railroad Management, as Well as the Friends Made in His Religious and Scholastic Connections, Attend in Large Numbers—Sympathy From His Church Friends.

The funeral services over the body of Ex-United States Senator John Scott, the former general solicitor for the Pennsylvania Railroad, who died last Sunday at his home, 3808 Chestnut street, were held yesterday afternoon at the West Walnut Street Presbyterian Church, Walnut street, above Thirty-ninth. The services were simple and impressive. Those who had known Mr. Scott in life, and his friends were almost countless, were largely represented. Philadelphians of the older generation, those men who see their friends die off more and more quickly each succeeding year, were especially prominent, and the man whose hair was not at least tinged with gray was an exception. Their venerable presence gave an added air of solemnity and sacredness to the unostentatious service which preceded the final private service at Woodland Cemetery.

The first rows of the church pews were occupied by members of the family. Back of the relatives sat the officers and directors of the Pennsylvania Railroad: Alexander M. Fox, N. Parker Shortridge, Alexander Biddle, William L. Elkins, C. Stuart Patterson, A. J. Cassatt, C. A. Griscom, Benjamin B. Comegys, Charles E. Pugh, Amos R. Little, William H. Barnes, George Wood, Frank Thomson, John P. Green, John C. Sims, D. S. Newhall, Robert W. Smith, S. M. Prevost, Robert W. Downing, William H. Brown, Theodore N. Ely, F. Walcott Jackson, Joseph T. Richards, Samuel Rea, William A. Patton, George W. Boyd, Max Klebenack, George V. Massey, J. Ross Thompson, John C. Wilson, George W. I. Ball, James A. Logan and P. B. Prince, presented an almost complete body of the principal officers of the road. George B. Roberts and Henry D.

Welsh were the only absentees, and they were prevented by sickness from coming.

Other Organizations Represented.

Behind the ranks of the representatives of the Pennsylvania Railroad sat delegations from the Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company, the University of Pennsylvania Board of Trustees and the Presbyterian Board of Ministerial Relief, consisting of George Junkin, A. Charles Barclay, Rev. Dr. W. W. Heberton, J. H. Mason Knox, Rev. Samuel T. Lowrie, Joseph M. Collingwood, Henry L. Davis, Henry E. Niles, William M. Paden, John A. Liggett, Rev. J. Henry Sharpe and Hon. John Scott. Robert C. Ogden was unable to be present. The members of the session of the Walnut Street Presbyterian Church, Hon. J. Allison, Henry M. Lewis, Robert P. Field, William H. Castle, Samuel B. Huey, Patterson DuBois and J. B. Chapin, also occupied seats of honor. Many members of the staff of the Jefferson Medical College and of the Theological Seminary of Princeton showed their respect for their dead friend by their presence.

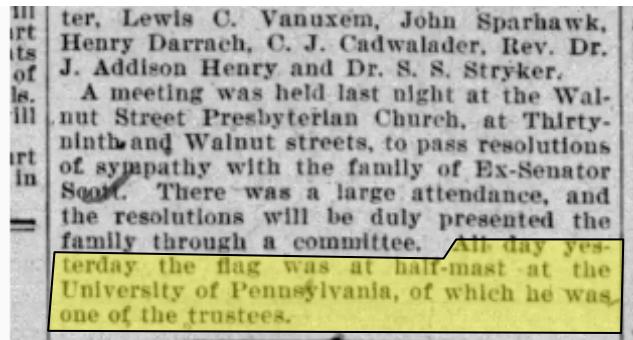
The wide influence of the man who had died and the steady quality of his friendships could have been evidenced in no better way than by the presence of these, his many friends. It was an imposing gathering.

At 3 o'clock, to the strains of Grieg's funeral march, from his Peer Gynt suite, the pall-bearers, William Thompson, Charles E. Pugh, John M. Bailey, John C. Sims, John P. Green, C. Stuart Patterson, Dr. J. B. Chapin, J. A. Logan, Benjamin B. Comegys and Henry F. West, entered the church. Closely following the coffin walked the aged wife, leaning on the arm of her son, William W. Scott. Following them came in turn George Scott, John Scott, Jr., and J. Elliston Scott, with their wives, while J. Irvin Scott, Walter Scott, the two Misses Scott and Mrs. Sculley completed the immediate family.

Impressive Funeral Services.

On the platform were seated Rev. Dr. Henry C. McCook, Rev. George D. Baker, Rev. Edward W. Hitchcock, Rev. Joseph H. Dulles, Rev. James Stuart Dickson, Rev. William C. Cattell, Rev. Dr. Paxton and Rev. Dr. H. Clay Trumbull. The last named opened the services with prayer, and after the singing of Monk's Jewett, which was Mr. Scott's favorite hymn, Rev. Cattell read selected portions of Scripture, and was followed by Dr. McCook, who closed the services with prayer and the benediction. The funeral procession then left the church, while the organist played Chopin's Trauer Marsch, and the immediate family drove to Woodland Cemetery, where the final services were read by Dr. McCook.

Other prominent people in the church were General William J. Sewall, United States Senator from New Jersey; Congressman John Dalzell, Samuel Gustine Thompson, Horace Pettit, Abram H. Wintersteen, George R. Van Dusen, J. Parker Crippenden, Chief Justice James P. Sterrett, Judge S. W. Penny-packer, John B. Guest, Clarence H. Clark, J. G. Rosengarten, E. M. Needles, William S. Forbes, William H. Rhawn, William Pot-



(Obituary from *Philadelphia Times*)

Citation:

"The Funeral of John Scott." *Philadelphia Times* [Philadelphia], 3 Dec. 1896, p.
3. *Newspaper Archive*, newspaperarchive.com/obituary-clipping-dec-03-1896-3939257/.

Analysis:

This excerpt is from the December 3, 1896 issue of the *Philadelphia Times*. On page three, John Scott's obituary is found. Attendees of Scott's funeral along with the organizations they represent are provided. The organizations present included the Pennsylvania Railroad, the Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company, the University of Pennsylvania Board of Trustees, the Presbyterian Board of Ministerial Relief, the Jefferson Medical College, and the Theological Seminary of Princeton. Further, the proceedings of the funeral were described. His address at the time of his death is also provided.

This document was used primarily to prove that John Scott was on the Board of Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania. It was also used to show the wide influence and organizations in which John Scott played a role.

[Document AJ]

HON. JOHN SCOTT.

JOHN SCOTT, lawyer, and ex-United States senator, was born in Alexandria, Huntingdon county, Pa., July 14, 1824. His ancestors, both paternal and maternal, were Scotch-Irish; his father was a major of volunteers in the war of 1812, and a member of the Twenty-first congress. He attended the common schools of his native town, enjoying, moreover, the advantage of private instruction in Latin and Greek. He early exhibited his powers as a forcible public speaker, and, before attaining his eighteenth year, had acquired some celebrity as an earnest advocate of the "Washingtonian temperance movement." His talents and taste led him to select the legal profession, and he entered the office of Hon. Alexander Thomson, of Chambersburg, Pa., in 1842.

Having been admitted to the bar in June, 1846, he immediately engaged in practice at Huntingdon, Pa. He was the same year appointed deputy attorney-general for Huntingdon county, and continued until 1849, rising rapidly in his profession and acquiring a large professional practice. In 1851, he

was the youngest and one of the most active members of the board of revenue commissioners; and, in 1852, a member of the democratic state convention, where he spoke earnestly against the nomination of James Buchanan for the presidency. His health having failed considerably, he visited Europe in 1853, and in 1854 was nominated by the citizens' convention for the state legislature, but, refusing to affiliate with the "know nothings," when organized, after his nomination, he was by them defeated.

He strenuously opposed the Kansas policy of Mr. Buchanan, and constantly endeavored to thwart and nullify its measures. Unsuccessfully nominated as a Douglas democrat for the state senate, in 1860, in 1861, he accepted the nomination of both political parties for the state legislature; having been elected without opposition, he worked to effect a non-partisan organization of the house, and warmly supported the government in its determined measures to suppress the Rebellion. The democratic caucus having declined to act in unison with him, he, with other war democrats, took sides with

HON. JOHN SCOTT.

the republicans, and was appointed chairman of the judiciary committee for the session, at the expiration of which he declined a re-election. Although not a politician, strictly speaking, he felt that so much was at stake that he became an earnest advocate of the re-election of Gov. Curtin, in 1863, and participated warmly in the support of Abraham Lincoln in the presidential campaign of 1864. He was elected a delegate to the national republican convention in 1868, but was at this time engaged in the argument before the supreme court of a question of vital importance, and his position was otherwise filled. Having taken a very active part in the political canvass of that year, he was prominently named for the United States senate, to succeed

Hon. C. R. Buckalew; elected finally by the legislature, he took his seat in the house, March 4, 1869. He served on many of the most important committees, and proved himself to be diligent, fearless, and able senator. He was chairman of the select committee appointed to investigate the alleged outrages in the southern states; and was chairman of the committee on claims, as well as an industrious and effective member of the committees on finance and railroads. His voice was heard upon all momentous occasions when important questions came before the senate; and, in his speeches, or addresses, there was a laudable avoidance of all straining for oratorical display, while his remarks were lucid, concise and pointed.

(John Scott chapter from book *The Progressive Men of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania*)

Citation:

Blanchard, Charles, compiler and editor. *The Progressive Men of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania*. Vol. 1, A. W. Bowen & Company, 1900. 2 vols.
Google Books.

Analysis:

This excerpt from a book details John Scott's political career. Scott's opposition to James Buchanan's Democratic nomination for president and the "know nothing" party. Scott's political allegiance was stated. It also provided insight into Scott switching political allegiance from democrat to republican.

It is inferred that as the Civil War approached, John Scott saw the road that the Democratic Party was going down and decided that it did not suit his own beliefs. It also shows how Scott was not loyal to the beliefs of a party, but rather to his own personal beliefs that he had developed.

[Document AK]

defeat. "We have met the enemy and we are theirs," grumbled President Buchanan.¹⁵¹ Republicans did expand on their totals from the previous two elections, obviously winning over a sizable number of former Fillmore voters. Yet they seem to have gained few Democrats, and exceeded the 'Union' vote in 1856's congressional races in only a few districts. Most districts actually saw a drop-off in the opposition vote between 1856 and '58. Significant gains were made in the fourth and fifth districts, which bordered Philadelphia. While former Democrats George Scranton and John Schwartz also vastly improved on the previous opposition totals, scoring tremendous upsets.

Democrats though lost voters in every single district. Incumbents in the third, fourth, fifth, and seventeenth districts lost more than a quarter of their 1856 supporters, all meeting defeat. Five other Democratic seats passed into the hands of the People's party coalition. In Schuylkill County William Dewart drew 4,000 fewer votes than he had two years earlier. Dewart was undercut by an anti-Lecompton challenger who provided the margin of defeat in a three-way race. But his eleventh district was the only one where such a challenge played in so directly to an administration defeat. An anti-Lecompton Democrat failed to alter the race in Thomas Florence's first district, while John Hickman brushed off both a pro-Lecompton Democrat and a People's party challenger. In Butler and Allegheny Counties' twenty-second district the former Republican anti-tax candidate drew a dismal thirty-nine percent.¹⁵² Although the crisis of 1856--with the possibility of secession looming--helped draw an artificially high Democratic vote in both

(J.F Coleman. *Disruption of the Pennsylvania Democracy*)

Citation:

Coleman J.F., Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. *Disruption of the Pennsylvania Democracy 1848-1860*. 1975.

Analysis:

This document further gives us insight on how Buchanan's actions and policies alienated members of his own party as seen through the loss of Pennsylvania. The defeat of the Democrats in Pennsylvania shifted political dynamics. Democrats experienced losses in every district, with incumbents losing significant portions of their support. These events lead to John Scott and other members to begin to shift their political affiliations.

[Document AL]

the building collecting their last pay, and if he wished to put them on the PRR's payroll he was sure it could be arranged. Watt then hired ten cops. When they arrived back at the yards, they were able to retake a couple of switches, but Watt soon found that even if all the switches were cleared not one worker could be found to move a train. So now the striking workers had won a second round. Furious, Watt sent a message to Mayor McCarthy ordering him to send 50 policemen. Five showed up, so about 1:00 p.m. Watt left the city for the stockyards at Torrens Station in East Liberty to see if any of the stock trains could be moved.

At Torrens Station, as in the Pittsburgh freight yards, a large group of railroaders and their families had gathered. By coupling a yard engine to a stock train and fooling the crowd, Watt was able to get one train east-bound, with a crew of foremen and small bosses. At 4:00 p.m. Watt wanted to repeat this move again, but was stopped when no one could be found to man the train. Back in Pittsburgh, a large crowd of people had begun to gather at the 28th Street Crossing. In the next few days this place was to become known to the entire population of the city. There were a couple of attempts to move trains when a few scabs would be found or bought, but each time the attempt was beaten back by the workers. Finally the bosses gave up and no trains were moved on the 19th.

AT ABOUT 5:00 P.M. WATT WENT ONCE AGAIN to City Hall to see Mayor McCarthy, but was informed that the mayor had left the city for Castle Shannon where his wife was supposedly sick. When he demanded police assistance, he was told by the mayor's clerk that the day-force was too busy and that the night-force were needed elsewhere. For any more help he was suggested to see Allegheny County Sheriff Fife.

Watt met with Fife later that night, and persuaded him to go to 28th St. and talk with the workers there. Fife was booted and hissed as he climb atop a locomotive to address the workers. He ordered them to disperse and go home. This was met by loud shouts and jeering from the crowd. A worker took the lead and told Fife that the railroad workers had no intention of giving up the strike, at least not until the rail bosses restored the 10 percent wage cuts and dropped the "double-headers." "It's question of bread and blood," the worker exclaimed, "and we will fight the rail bosses to the end." With this, Fife gave up and left the crossing. Watt was demanding that Sheriff Fife gather a posse and either arrest the strikers or else physically remove them from company property. To this, Fife explained that not one man could be found who would move against the striking railroaders.

That night a large meeting was held on the North Side at Phoenix Hall where the railroad workers unanimously endorsed the strike. The workers from Pittsburgh were joined by fellow railroaders of the Western Division and together they adopted the following demands:

- 1) Restoration of all 10 percent wage cuts;
- 2) All workers fired for striking to be rehired to their former positions;

- 3) Engineers and firemen to have only one wage classification, the highest prior to the strike;
- 4) Double-headers to be abolished;
- 5) Every engine have its own fireman.

DURING THIS MEETING MESSAGES OF SUPPORT were coming in from other workers. From the Monongahela Valley coal fields came this note: "Hold your positions until tomorrow, and we will send 500 coal miners to assist you." Next a young worker from a rolling steel mill took the floor and assured the railroaders of support from Pittsburgh labor generally. "We're with you," he said. "We're in the same boat. I heard a reduction of 10 percent hint in our mills this morning. I won't call employers despots, I won't call them tyrants, but the term capitalist is sort of synonymous and will do as well."

The meeting was interrupted several times by announcements of other roads joining the strike. The B&O's Connellsville branch to Pittsburgh was to be out on strike by morning. Other announcements were made when new train crews joined the strike. The meeting ended enthusiastically with a resolution and a call for "all workingmen to make common cause with their brethren on the railroads."

After the meeting, large groups of people gathered again at the 28th Street crossing. The one thing that now scared the hell out of the bosses was the make-up of the crowd: men, women and children, black and white, old and young—one angry mass of workers and their families. At 9:00 p.m. they stopped a livestock train coming from Pittsburgh, but after holding it for a while decided, for the sake of the animals, to let it pass.

Meanwhile Watt was busy sending telegrams to the Pennsylvania Adjutant General James Latta, informing him that the police and sheriff were useless against the striking workers. Tom Scott also received news of the events in Pittsburgh at the home of his daughter in Delaware. Among the top officials of the PRR arose the cry almost in chorus, "WE WANT TROOPS!"

General Latta sent a telegram to Major General Alfred L. Pearson, Commander of the 6th Division of the Pittsburgh militia, asking him to send a full report of the situation, and his opinion on whether troops would be needed. But this was a decision that was already decided. Robert Pitcairn, who had quickly returned from his vacation, called Fife, Watt, Pearson, and ex-senator John Scott to his office. After little discussion the decision was made. Scott drew up the dispatch. Fife signed it and it was sent to Latta, asking that the Pittsburgh militia be used against the striking railroad workers. The answer came at 3:30 a.m., Friday, July 20th. It was a short message ordering Gen. Pearson to call out the troops.

FRIDAY, JULY 20th

Friday morning nothing ran except passenger and mail trains. At that time, the workers were only striking freight. In the yards the workers had complete control of all the main switches. A crowd of about 600 men, women and children was gathered at Torrens Station that

(Pamphlet on the Pittsburgh Insurrection)

Citation:

"Pittsburgh Insurrection and Railroad Strike of 1877: A Progressive Labor Party Pamphlet." Archive.org, <https://archive.org/details/pittsburgh-insurrection-and-railroad-strike-of-1877-1977>. Accessed January 18, 2024.

Analysis:

This pamphlet explained the insurrection of railroad workers in Pittsburgh who rose up against their employers and led a violent strike. In response to this strike, the Pittsburgh militia was called upon to put a stop to the workers. John Scott wrote the dispatch, calling for the militia.

From this document, it can be inferred that John Scott's first major role as an employee of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company was in the quelling of the Pittsburgh insurrection and railroad strike. Because of his hasty response, he was instantly viewed as a valuable employee.

[Document AM]

The Democrats' Loss of Pennsylvania in 1858

PENNSYLVANIA'S IMPORTANCE in antebellum politics is a commonplace to historians. In 1856 it was one of only five free states to be won by the Democratic presidential candidate, James Buchanan. The Democrats chose Buchanan partly because he was an influential Pennsylvanian. The state was vital to the Republicans for 1860, and, reluctantly and in vague terms, they introduced a tariff resolution into their national platform of that year specifically to appeal to protectionist sentiment in the state.¹ As historians have emphasized, the crucial breakthrough for the Republicans occurred in 1858, when the state went dramatically against the Democrats. President Buchanan wrote in October: "We have met the enemy in Pennsylvania and we are theirs. This I have anticipated for three months, and was not taken by surprise except as to the extent of our defeat. . . . It is so great that it is almost absurd."² There were twenty-four Northern congressional districts in which the Democrats' share of the vote fell by over four percentage points between 1856 and 1858; no fewer than fifteen were in Pennsylvania. In the contest for state offices the Democrats' percentage fell from 50.1 in 1856 and 52.0 in 1857 to 46.3 in 1858.³ This was scarcely a cataclysmic

The author would like to thank Professor Michael F. Holt for his advice at an early stage of this research and for a stimulating and encouraging critique of an earlier draft of the present paper.

¹ Roy F. Nicols, *The Disruption of American Democracy* (New York, 1948), 59-60; Allan Nevins, *The Emergence of Lincoln*, (New York, 1950), I, 60; John F. Coleman, *The Disruption of Pennsylvania Democracy 1848-1860* (Harrisburg, 1975), 99-101; Eric Foner, *Free Soil, Free Labor, Free Men. The Ideology of the Republican Party before the Civil War* (New York, 1970), 173-76.

² Nevins, *Emergence of Lincoln*, I, 400; Coleman, *Disruption of Pennsylvania Democracy*, 117.

³ Throughout this paper, two sources for election returns have been used. Congressional results, with percentages already provided, are found in Congressional Quarterly's *Guide to U.S. Elections* (Washington D.C., 1975), 602, 605. For all other results the county returns are taken from the *Tribune Almanac and Political Register for 1857* (New York, 1857), 48-9; *Tribune Almanac . . . for 1858*, 53; *Tribune Almanac . . . for 1859*, 52-3. The state figures for the 1860s are from Joel H. Silbey, *A Respectable Minority: The Democratic Party in the Civil War Era 1860-1868* (New York, 1977), 22, 151, 220.

(1985 *The Democrats' Loss of Pennsylvania in 1858 article*)

Citation:

Collins, Bruce. "The Democrats' Loss of Pennsylvania in 1858." *The Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*, vol. 109, no. 4, Oct. 1985, pp. 499-536.

Analysis:

The loss of Pennsylvania by the Democrats in 1858 was a significant event in antebellum politics, marking a crucial breakthrough for the Republicans. Pennsylvania's importance was underscored by its pivotal role in presidential elections and its influence on national policies like the tariff. President Buchanan's acknowledgment of the defeat reflects the magnitude of the Democratic setback. John Scott's political perspective, given his position and influence in Pennsylvania, were shaped by these events.

[Document AN]

Grand Army of the Republic meeting at 9:30 to come to West Philadelphia station; after 10:00 PM, Charles E. Pugh arrives at Andalusia to summon Pres. Scott, and he hurries to the West Philadelphia station, where he meets with Adjutant General Latta; after 11:00 PM, Latta leaves for Harrisburg on the special train of General Superintendent Gardner, who is going home to Altoona.
(Rept, Bruce, Davis, RyW; Pinkerton, Dacus)

July 19, 1877

About 10:30, Watt and PRR lawyer John Scott find Sheriff Fife at home; the three then go to the outer depot near 26th Street, where they find Gen. A.L. Pearson, who had been asked by Adjutant General Latta to investigate. (Rept)

July 19, 1877

Meeting of Trainmen's Union held in Pittsburgh at Phoenix Hall at night; demand rescind wage cut and double-heading order, amnesty for all strikers, abolition of grading wages for each trade by skill and seniority, and provision of assigned firemen on all engines, including yard service, instead of first-in-first-out system; other craft unions in county proffer aid. (RyW, Dacus)

July 1, 1877

Erie Railway, Terre Haute & Indianapolis Railroad, NYC&HR, Michigan Central Railroad and LS&MS impose a 10% reduction in all wages and salaries; B&O hesitates to make cut. (RRG, Mott, Bruce, Foner)

July 1, 1877

Former U.S. Senator John Scott (1824-1896) named PRR General Counsel at Pittsburgh, and Wayne MacVeagh (1834-1917) named General Counsel at Philadelphia. (MB)

July 1, 1877

Columbia & Port Deposit Railroad opens for revenue service over whole length, forming a low-grade alternative to the Northern Central; leased to PRR and operated at cost as part of Philadelphia

Nov. 1, 1877

General Solicitor John Scott moves from Pittsburgh to Philadelphia to head PRR's Legal Dept. (MB)

(John Scott's involvement in quelling the Pittsburgh Insurrection)

Citation:

"PRR Chronology 1877." *prrths.com*, June 2006, www.prrths.com/newprr_files/Hagley/PRR1877%20Jun%202006.pdf.

Analysis:

The document is an excerpt from the PRR Chronology which is a timeline of the events pertaining to PRR occurrences throughout 1877. This excerpt focuses on the events of the Pittsburgh insurrection.

It can be inferred that Scott's advocacy to deploy the Pittsburgh militia greatly influenced the decisions of other executives. Although his call for the militia caused casualties, it minimized the overall deaths and injuries for the insurrection. This shows Scott's problem solving and leadership skills.