

Fort Barnwell

Leavenworth, K.C.

January 26th 1889

Elias Leary Esq.
Sir

About a month ago,
I wrote to Capt. Scudder to enquire, if he
had made any arrangements, by which we
could get supplies at first cash &c. He replied
as follows "I have not made arrangements to
purchase any thing, I have no money to pay
cash, and the Agency fund is not completed, so I
have no credit &c." I write this, not by any
means to find fault with the Agent or Agency,
as it is no doubt a trying ^{position} at the start and
I fear too much is expected of it, and I am
by no means sure but some mistakes have
been made in trying to raise so much
to start with, but I will not discuss
thus at this time. I have taken the
liberty to make a suggestion to you,

President Alexander and Capt Darden.
It is this, As Captain Darden has no money
to purchase any thing with, that he, be
ordered by the President and Executive
Committee to visit Baltimore, New York,
Chicago and other Cities from which
the farmers of the State get their supplies,
and make arrangements with Wholesale
houses, pork packers and flour dealers,
Phosphate Manufactures &c &c, who
will sell to the bounty Agents for Cash.
We can manage our affairs if the Agent
would make these arrangements for us,
Keep the bounty Agents properly and
promptly informed of any changes he
may see fit to make, and also as to
the fluctuations in prices as near as he can
for one do not think it practicable
for the Agent to do all the purchasing
for the State, even if he ^{had} the money,
and in the absence of it the above
change or modification of the original
plan, would in my humble opinion

Be a step in the right direction, and
it involves but a small outlay in
expenses, we are moving about in
the dark here, trying to make arrange-
ments of our own, which could and
should be much better made by
the State Agent. If you agree
with me be pleased to stir things
up and make a forward movement.

Yours Respectfully

O. Gordon
Business Agent, Cranston R.I.

P. S. I think he ought to be required to
visit manufacturers &c at least twice
a year, and make the competition as
sharp as possible, but as Bill Carrum
often told me you had more brains
than any other farmer in the state
I leave the matter solely in your hands,
and Executive Committee of which
you are Chairman.

H. G.