

Collection #  
SC 3532

**GODLOVE STEIN ORTH  
LETTER, 3 FEBRUARY 1864**

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November 2018

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## **COLLECTION INFORMATION**

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 manuscript folder

COLLECTION DATES: 3 February 1864

PROVENANCE: Raynor's Historical Collectible Auctions, Burlington, North Carolina, November, 2018

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ACCESSION NUMBER: 2018.0374

NOTES:

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Godlove Stein Orth (1817–1882) was born in Lebanon County, Pennsylvania, and attended the Pennsylvania College at Gettysburg. Orth began his political career as a supporter of the Whig Party and William Henry Harrison, but he became allied with the American or "Know Nothing" Party after the Whigs ceased to exist as a party. He later joined the Republican Party.

A fervent abolitionist, Orth served in Indiana and national politics for most of his life. He was a member of the Indiana State Senate from 1843–1849 and was acting Lieutenant Governor in 1845. From 1863–1871, 1872–1875, and 1879–1882, he served in the U.S. House of Representatives. In addition to his anti-slavery pre-war position, Orth was also a supporter of Reconstruction and believed in overall racial equality. He also served as ambassador to Austria-Hungary for a short time in 1875–1876.

### Sources:

*Biographical Directory of the Indiana General Assembly, 1816–1978* [JK5666 .W35 1987]  
*Biographical Directory of the American Congress, 1789–1997*. [JK1010 .A5 1997]

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

In the letter dated 3 February 1864, Orth writes to C. S. Nichols in Salem, Massachusetts, expressing his hopes that the rebellion will be crushed and freedom be given to every human being.

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CONTAINER

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