

Kansas Memory



E. P. Lamborn correspondence and research papers

Section 50, Pages 1471 - 1500

This collection reflects E. P. Lamborn's life long interest in crime, criminals and law officers. E. P. Lamborn was an amateur historian and collector of sources on crime and criminals of the Middle West in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. His interests ranged from bandits, peace officers, famous detectives, and buffalo hunters. The Correspondence and Research section, presented here, contains much information on these topics from friends, relatives, companies, law officers, etc., who had some connection or dealings with these individuals. The arrangement for this section, generally, is alphabetical by last name of the correspondent. A detailed, searchable calendar of correspondents is available by clicking on "Text Version" below or by accessing the full collection finding aid in the link below. A transcription of this correspondence is not yet available. This series comprises boxes 2 and 3 of the E. P. Lamborn collection. You can find individual items in the order they are described in the "calendar of correspondents" by using the page selection feature available when you are looking at a full sized page image.

Creator: Lamborn, E. P. (Edward Parker), 1890-1978

Date: 1915-1965

Callnumber: E. P. Lamborn Coll. #156

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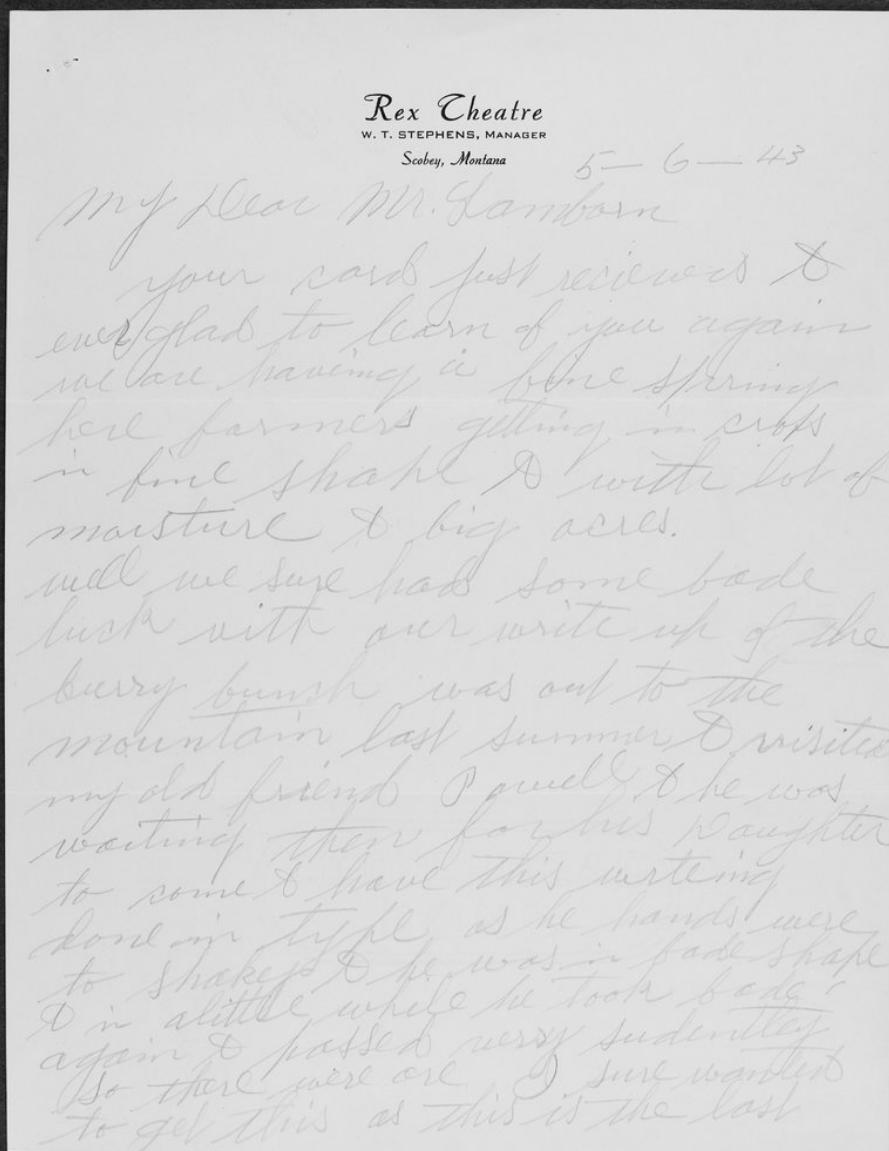
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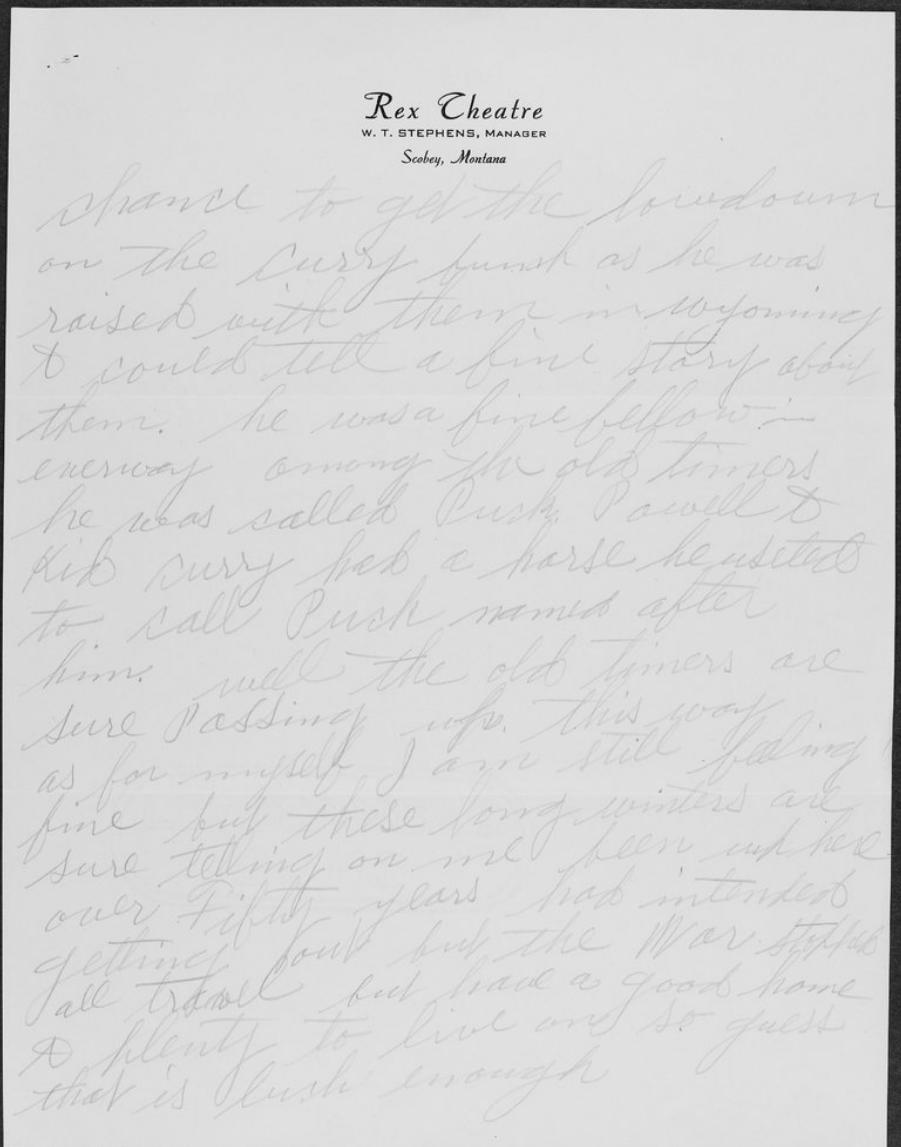


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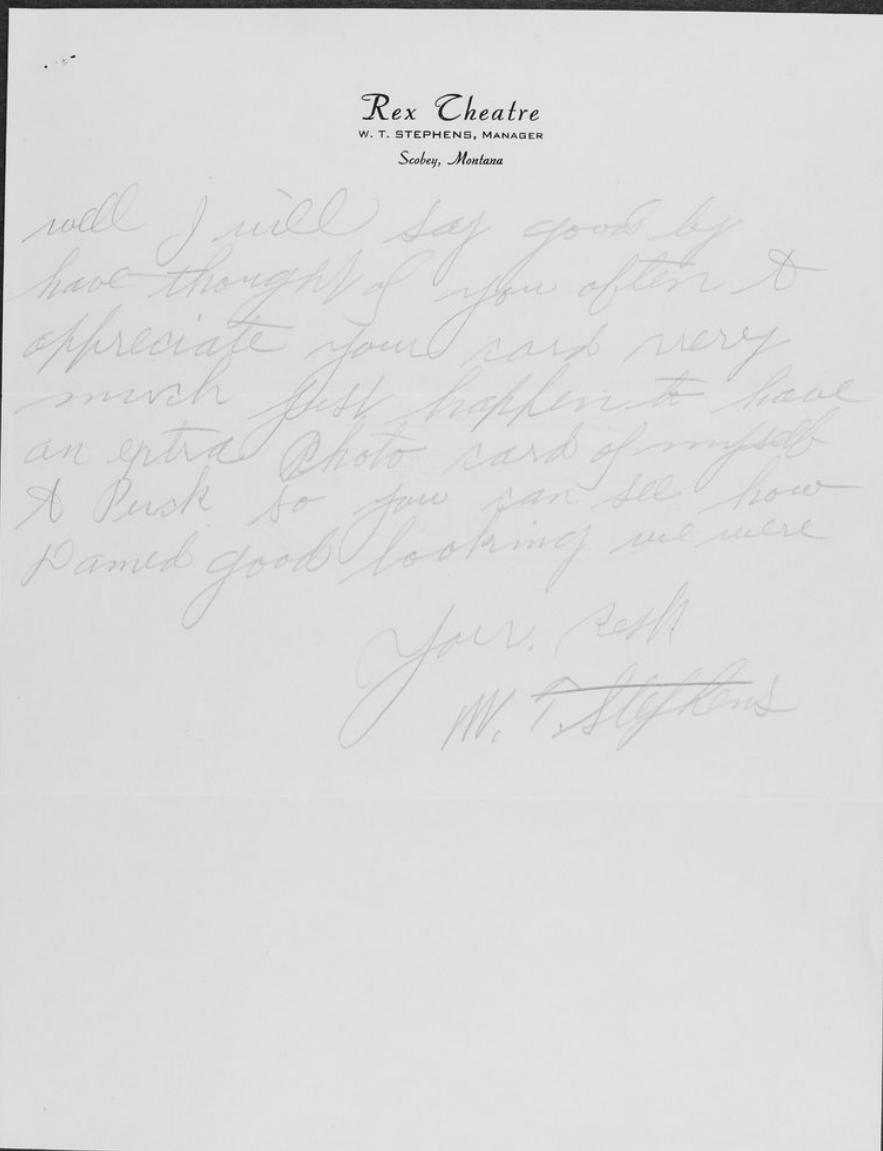
... chance to get the lowdown on the Curry bunch as he was raised with them in Wyoming & could tell a fine story about them. He was a fine fellow - every way among the old timers he was called Curly Powell & Kid Curly had a horse he used to call Curly named after him. Well the old timers are sure passing up. This way as for myself I am still feeling fine but these long winters are sure telling on me. I have been up here over fifty years had intended getting out but the War stopped all travel but have a good home & plenty to live on so guess that is flush enough.

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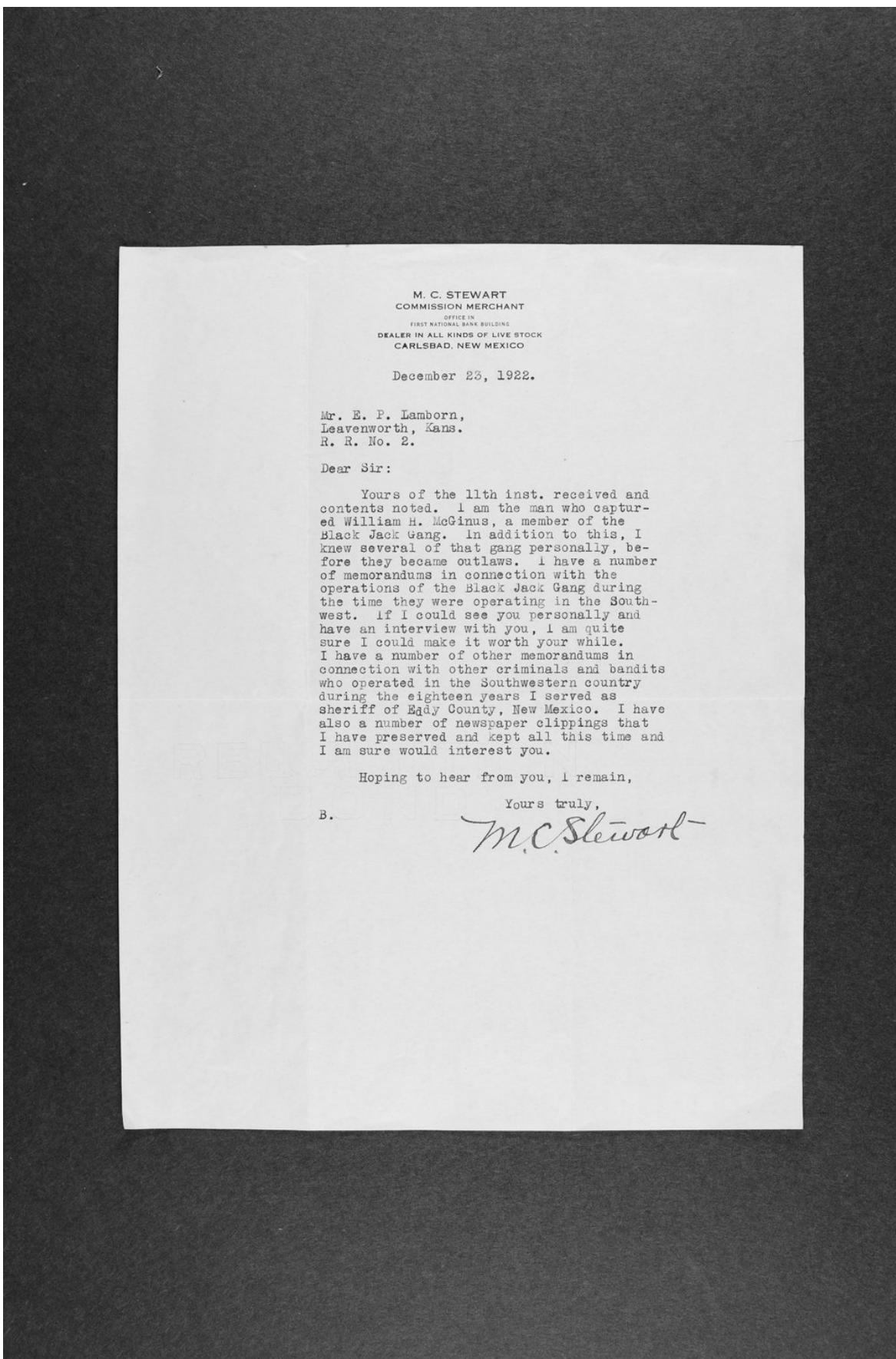


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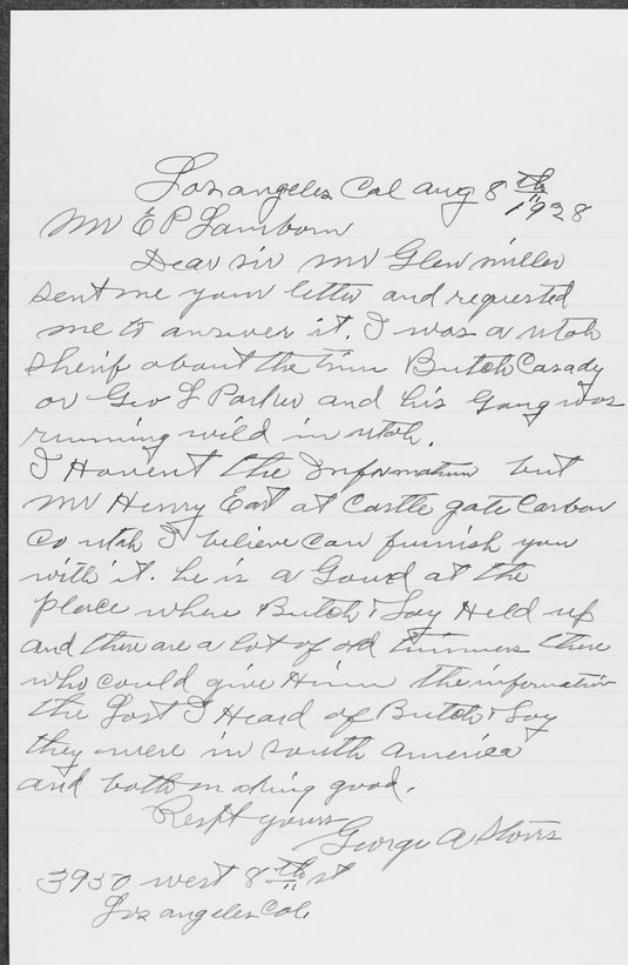


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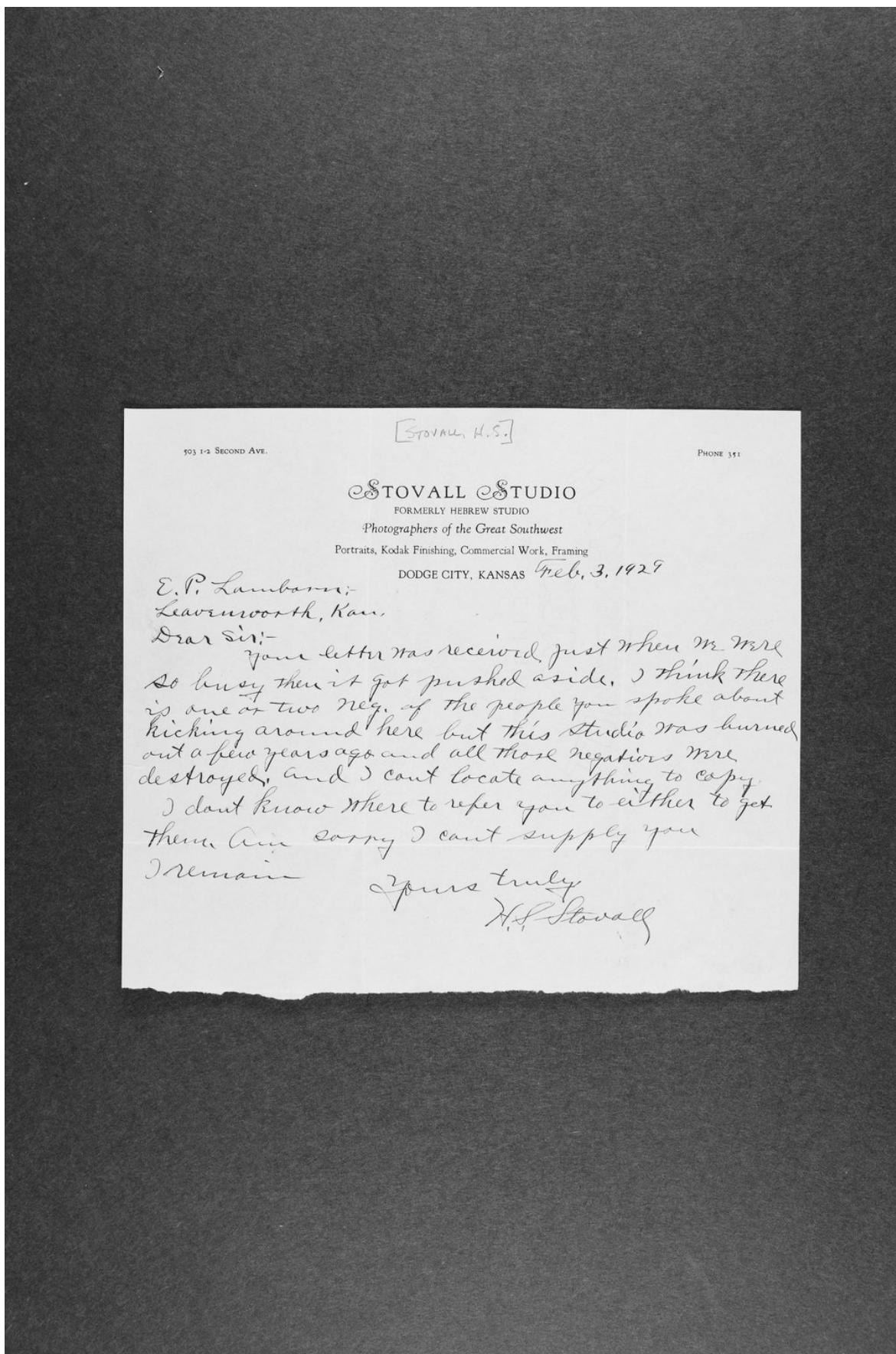


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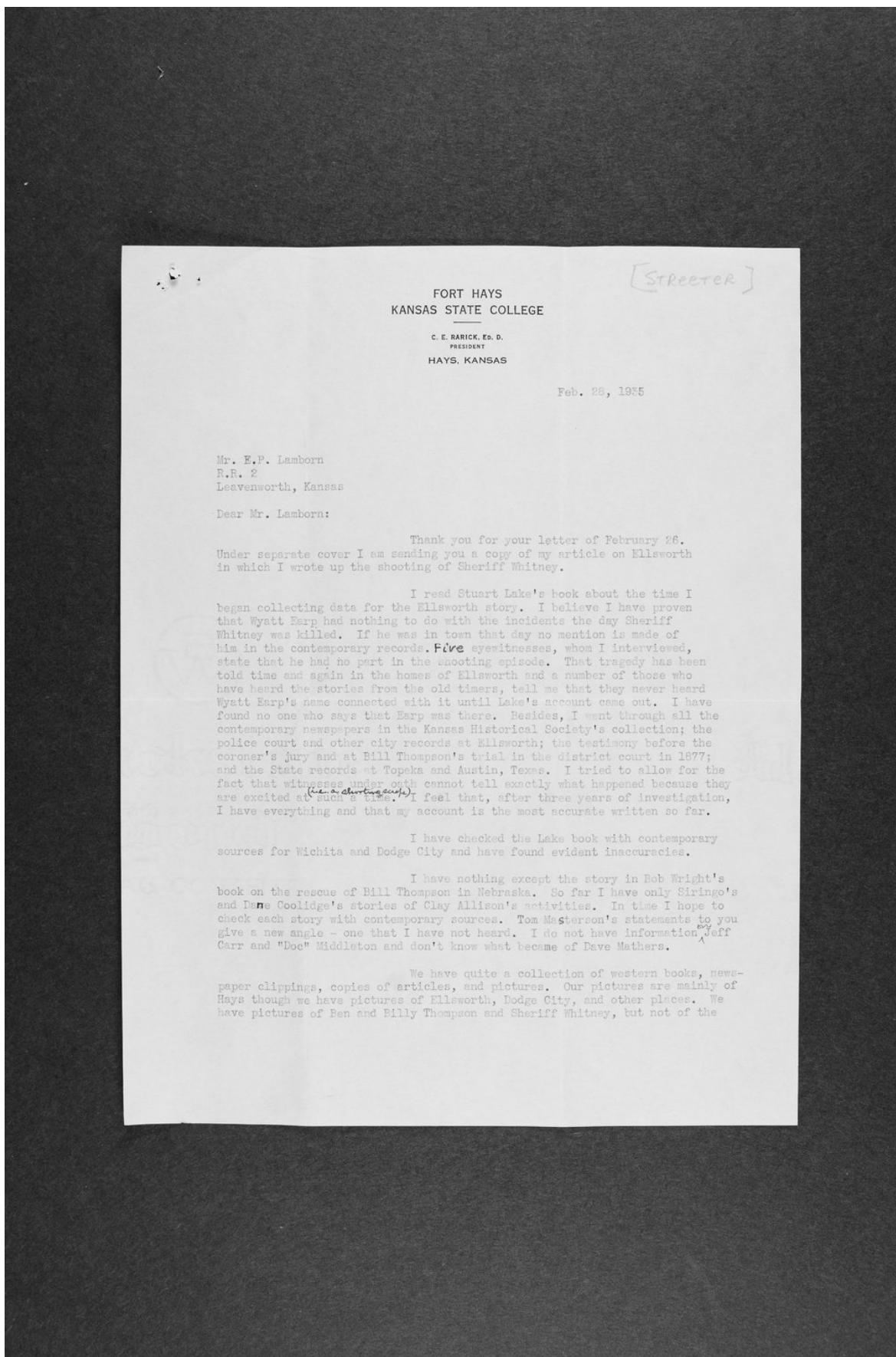


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Mr. E.P. Lamborn
R.R. 2
Leavenworth, Kansas

Dear Mr. Lamborn:

Thank you for your letter of February 26.
Under separate cover I am sending you a copy of my article on Ellsworth
in which I wrote up the shooting of Sheriff Whitney.

I read Stuart Lake's book about the time I began collecting data for the Ellsworth story. I believe I have proven that Wyatt Earp had nothing to do with the incidents the day Sheriff Whitney was killed. If he was in town that day no mention is made of him in the contemporary records. Five eyewitnesses, whom I interviewed, state that he had no part in the shooting episode. That tragedy has been told time and again in the homes of Ellsworth and a number of those who have heard the stories from the old timers, tell me that they never heard Wyatt Earp's name connected with it until Lake's account came out. I have found no one who says that Earp was there. Besides, I went through all the contemporary newspapers in the Kansas Historical Society's collection; the police court and other city records at Ellsworth; the testimony before the coroner's jury and at Bill Thompson's trial in the district court in 1877; and the State records at Topeka and Austin, Texas. I tried to allow for the fact that witnesses under oath cannot tell exactly what happened because they are excited at such a time. I feel that, after three years of investigation, I have everything and that my account is the most accurate written so far.

I have checked the Lake book with contemporary sources for Wichita and Dodge City and have found evident inaccuracies.

I have nothing except the story in Bob Wright's book on the rescue of Bill Thompson in Nebraska. So far I have only Siringo's and Dan Coolidge's stories of Clay Allison's activities. In time I hope to check each story with contemporary sources. Tom Masterson's statements to you give a new angle - one that I have not heard. I do not have information on Jeff Carr and "Doc" Middleton and don't know what became of Dave Matthers.

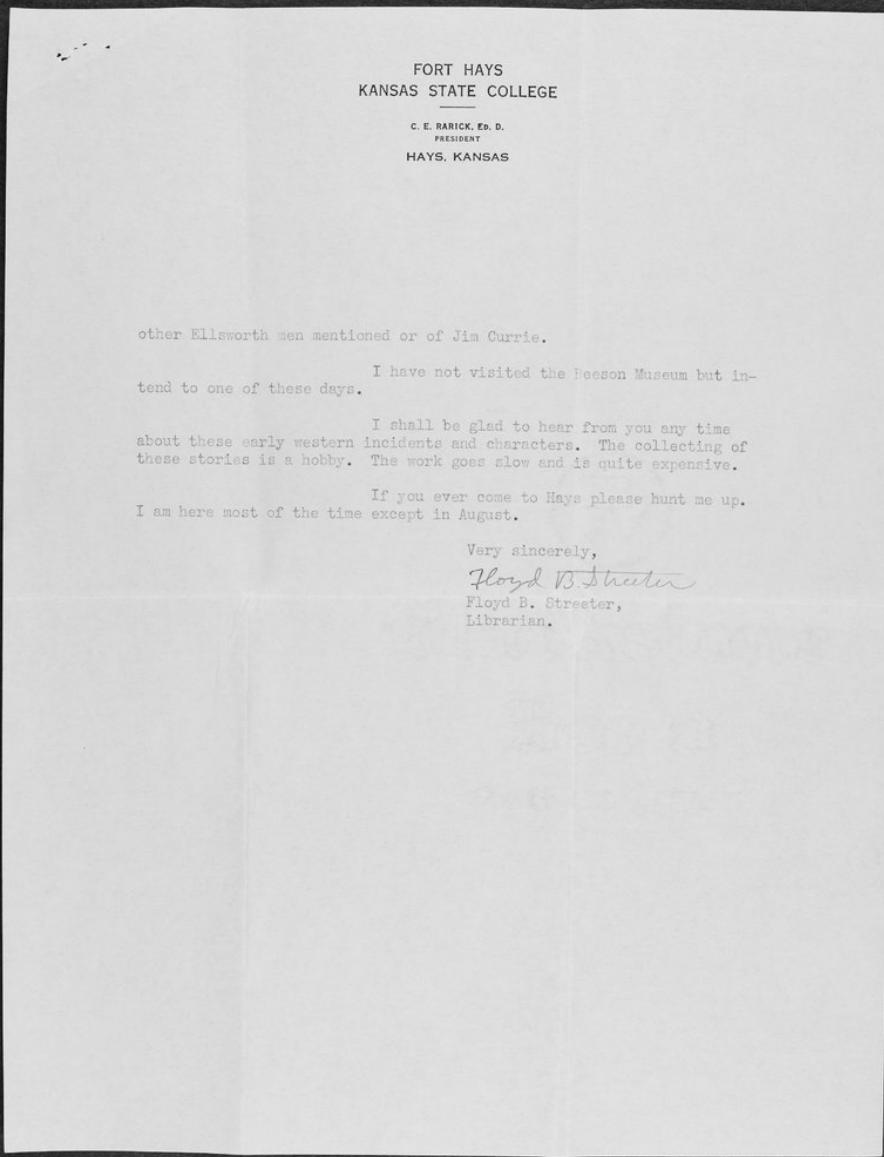
We have quite a collection of western books, newspaper clippings, copies of articles, and pictures. Our pictures are mainly of Hays though we have pictures of Ellsworth, Dodge City, and other places. We have pictures of Ben and Billy Thompson and Sheriff Whitney, but not of the

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SUNSET MAGAZINE SERVICE BUREAU

It is the aim and purpose of this Bureau to supply disinterested information concerning the West, its lands and institutions, made available to all, whether tourist, homeseeker or investor. Its organization covers the entire West and the service is free.



Sunset Magazine is published monthly in the interest of the Pacific Slope. It is the representative magazine of the Great West, presenting conservatively, accurately and interestingly information concerning the country which it serves. Subscription price \$1.50 per year.

San Francisco, September 23, 1916

Mr. E. P. Lamborn,
202 Branner Street,
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Sir:-

We are in receipt of your letter asking about the addresses of the notorious westerners you mention. To the best of our knowledge all of these men are dead with the exception of Geo. Scragg. He is an old man now and has been pretty well shot up in the course of his life, and has but recently been released from prison. We do not know where he is living.

Yours very truly,

SUNSET MAGAZINE SERVICE BUREAU,

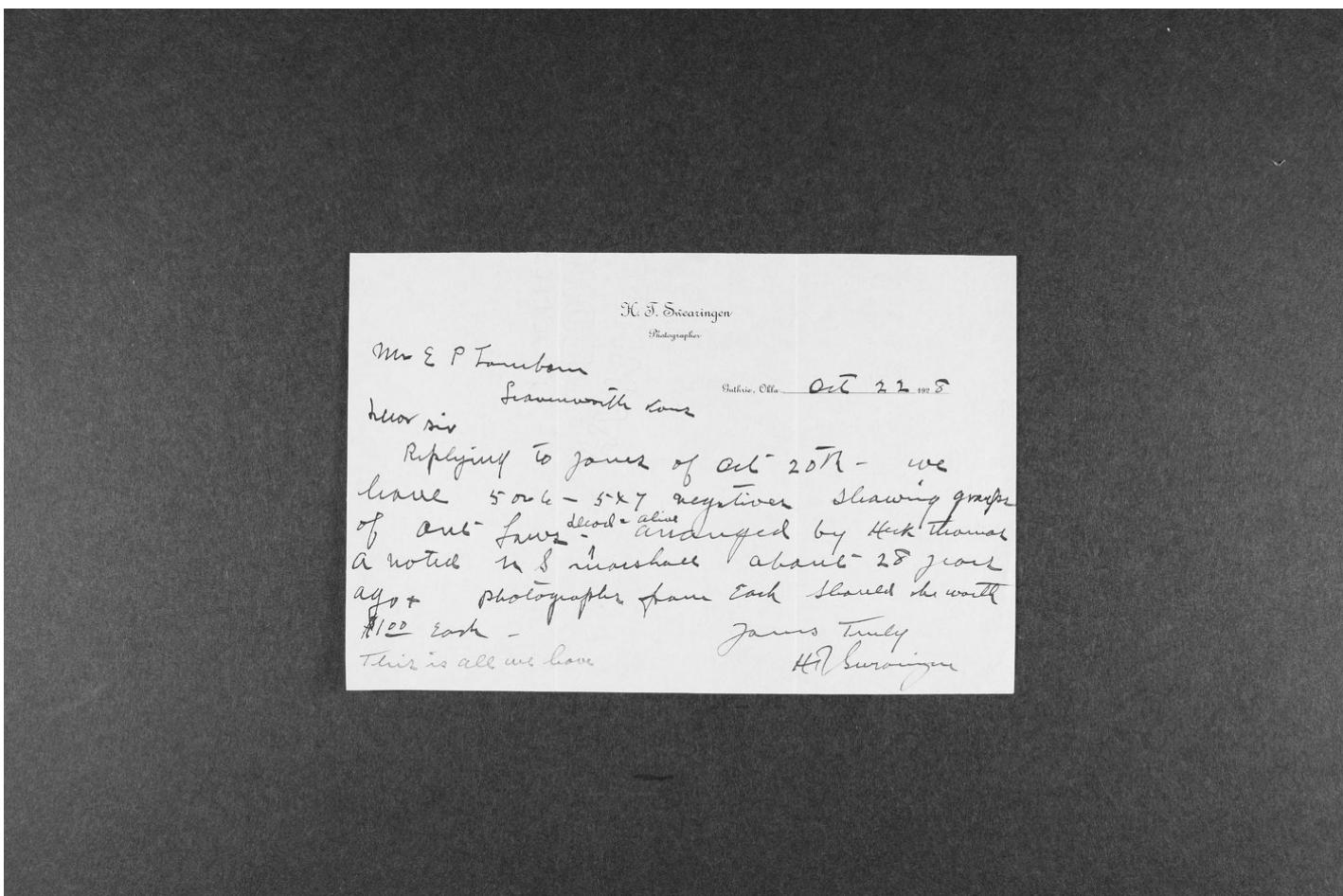
Per *Elmo L. Pease*

AP/AC

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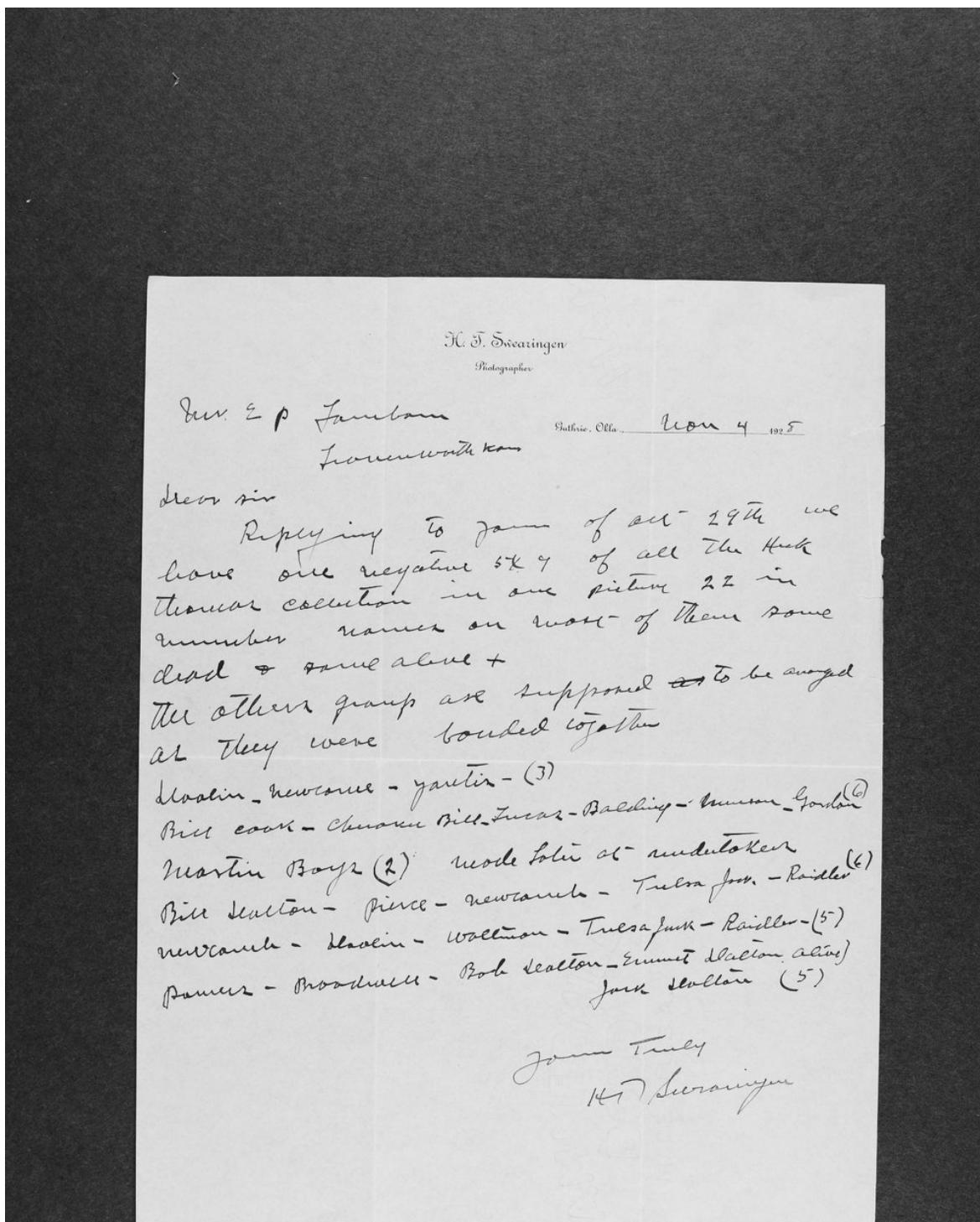
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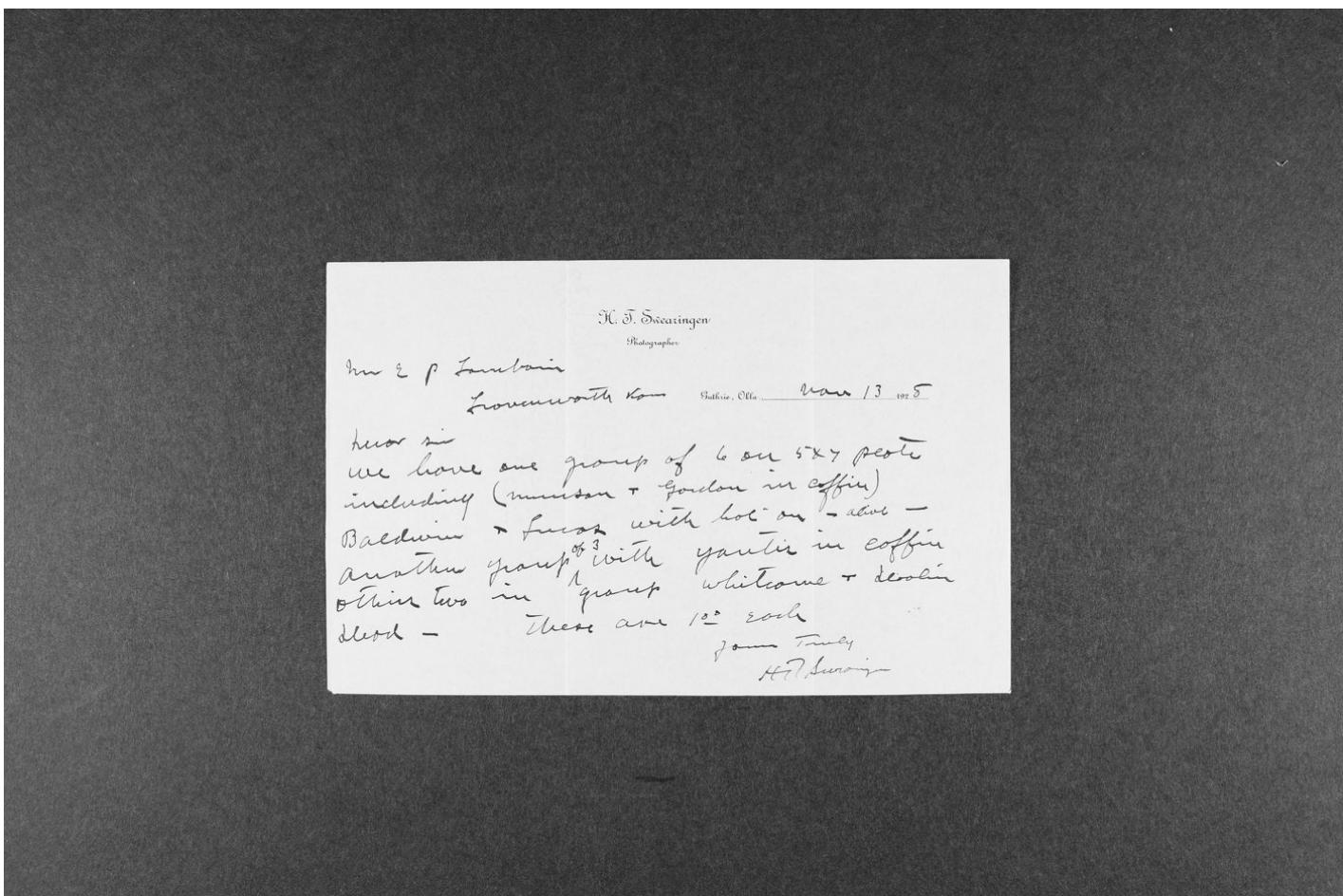
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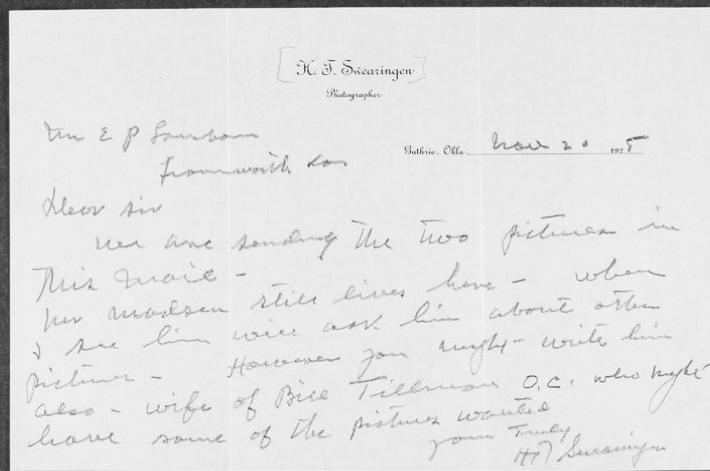
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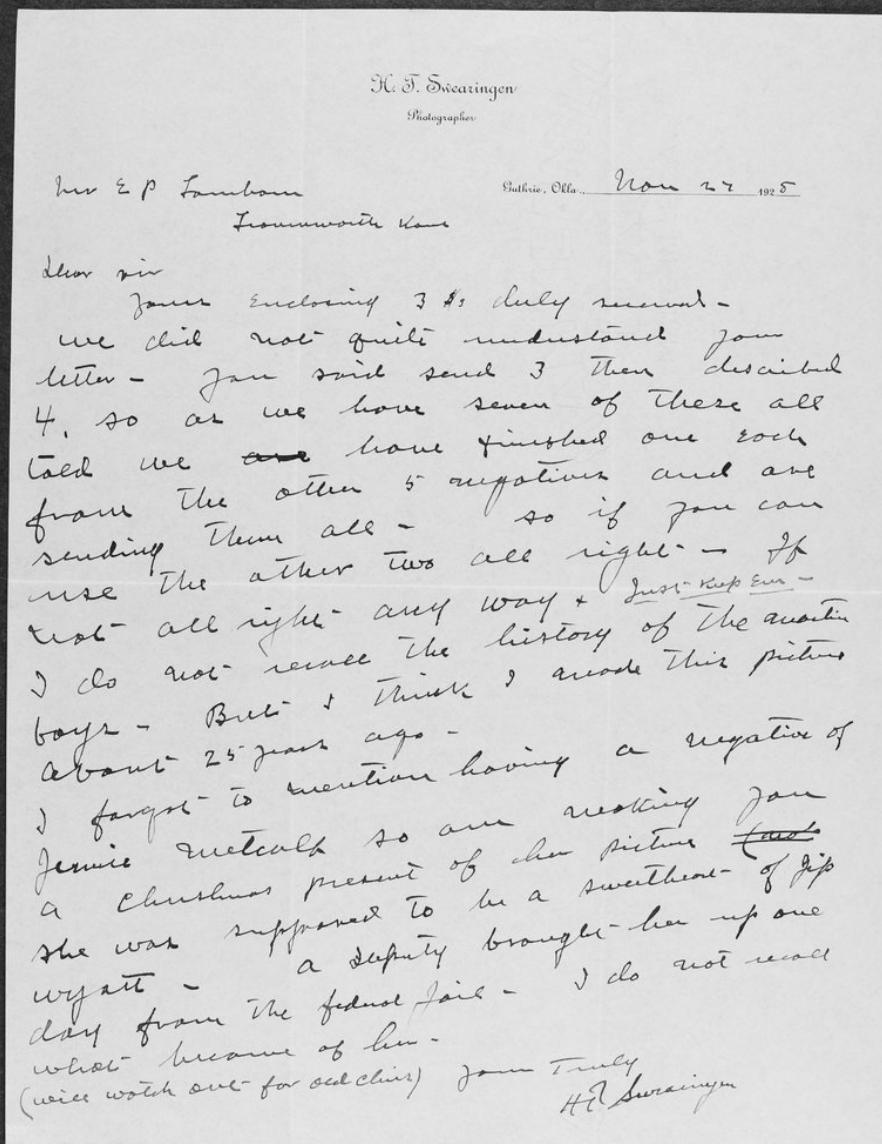


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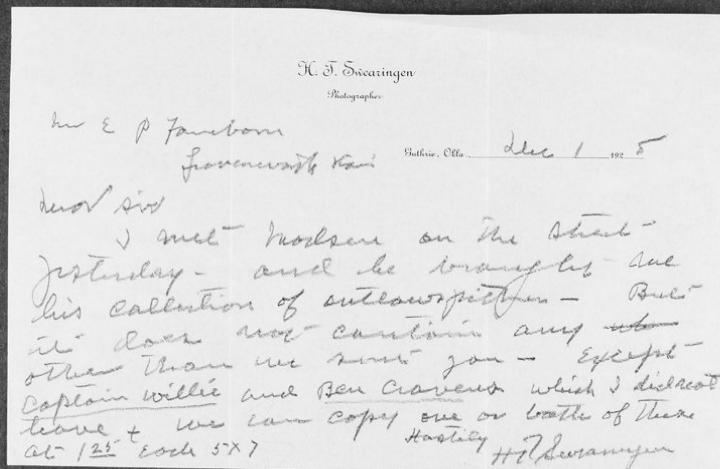
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Carrizozo, N.M. 5/13-16

Mr. E. P. Lamborn

Dear Sir:

You card
of 16" ult. 5-hand.
Don't know where
you can get the
histories you mention.
My "A Texas Cow-
boy," published by
Rand McNally & Co.,
Chicago, gives a
chapter on Billy
the Kid. And my
"A Cowboy Detective"
gives a history
of Harvey Logan

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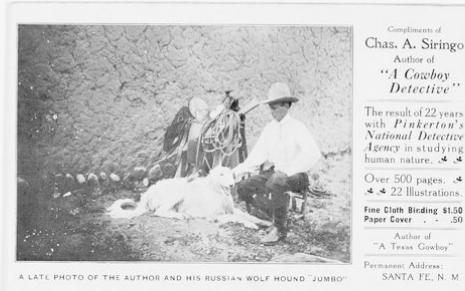
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and the Holman -
Wall gang.
I enclose card
of "A Cowboy Det-
ective."
Very truly
Chas. A. Simpo
Bamijojo
New Mex.

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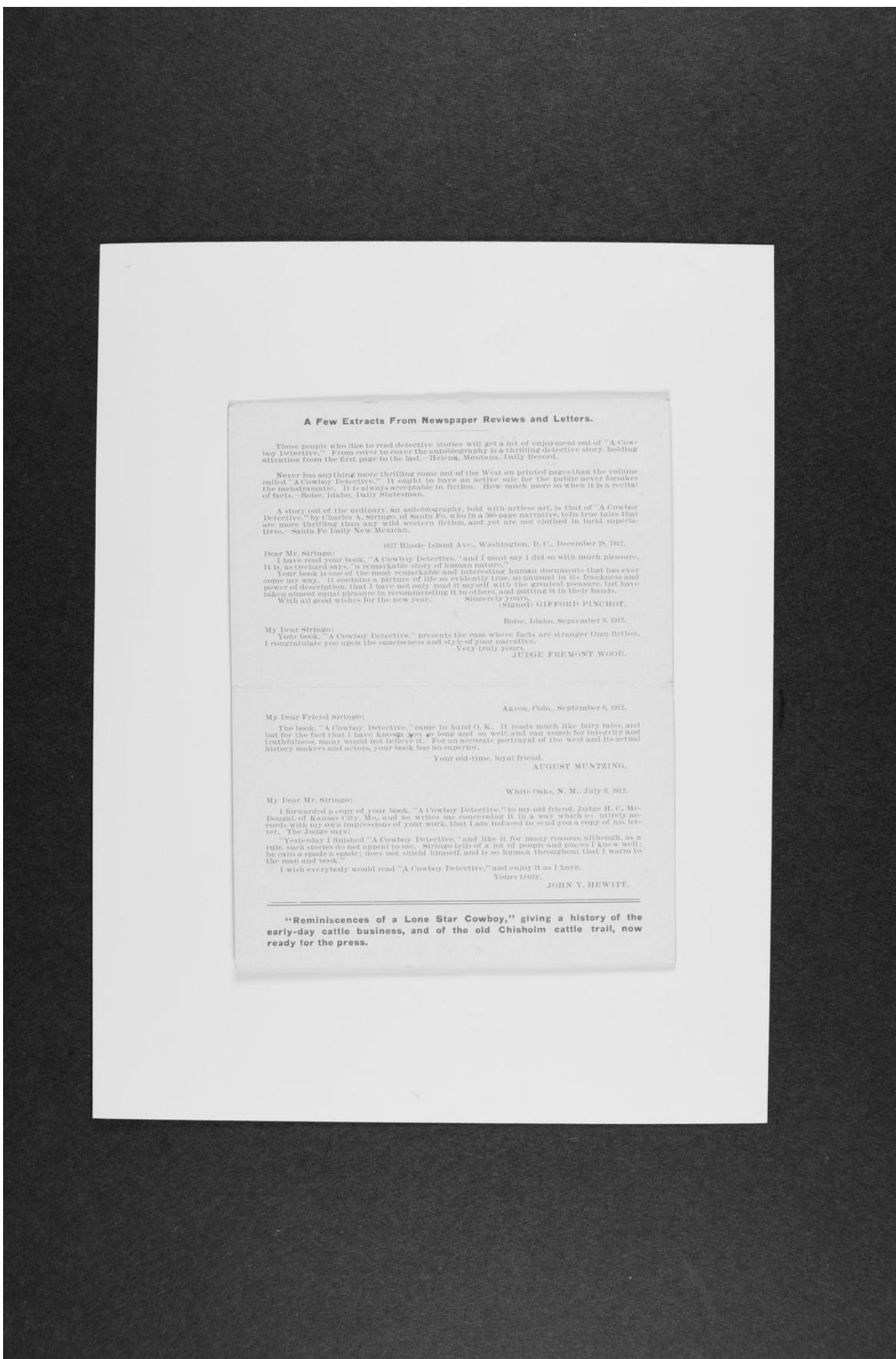
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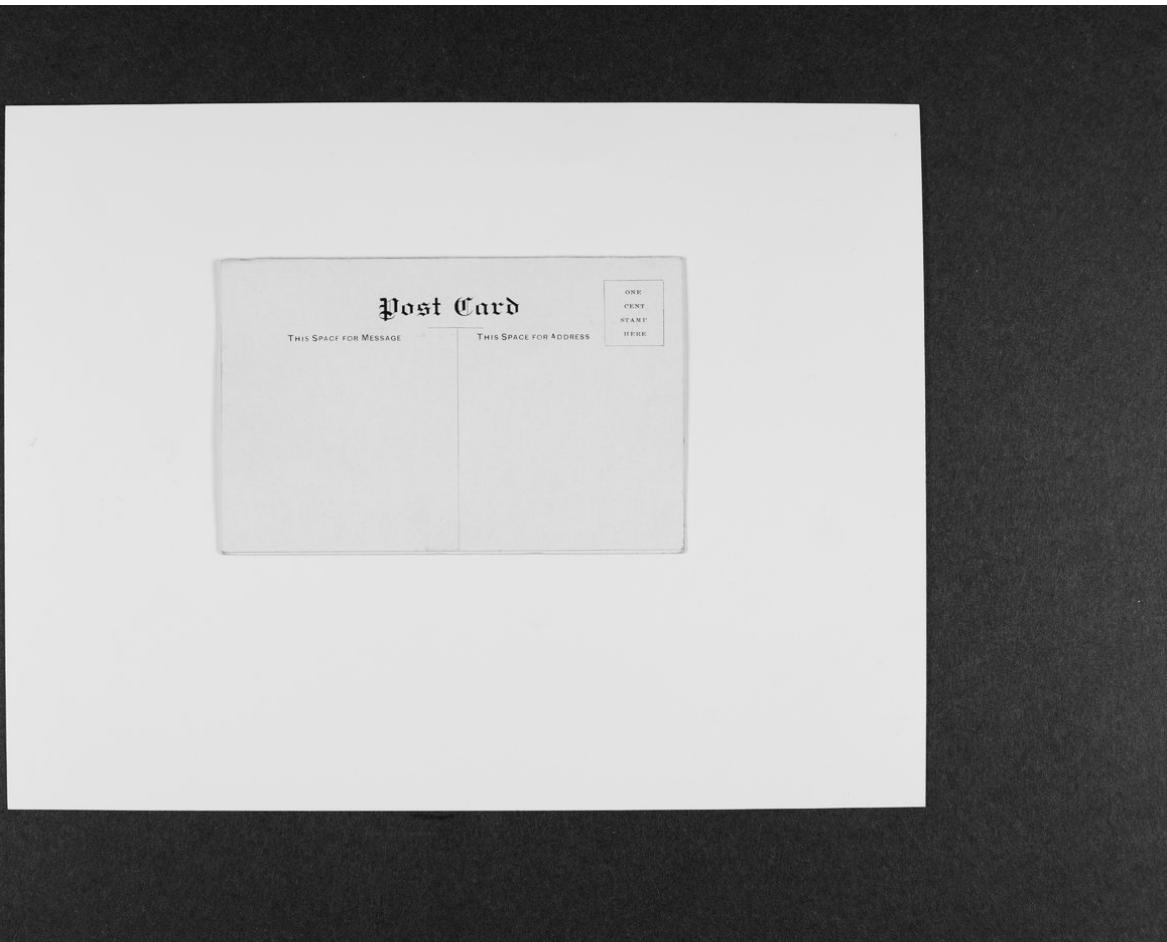
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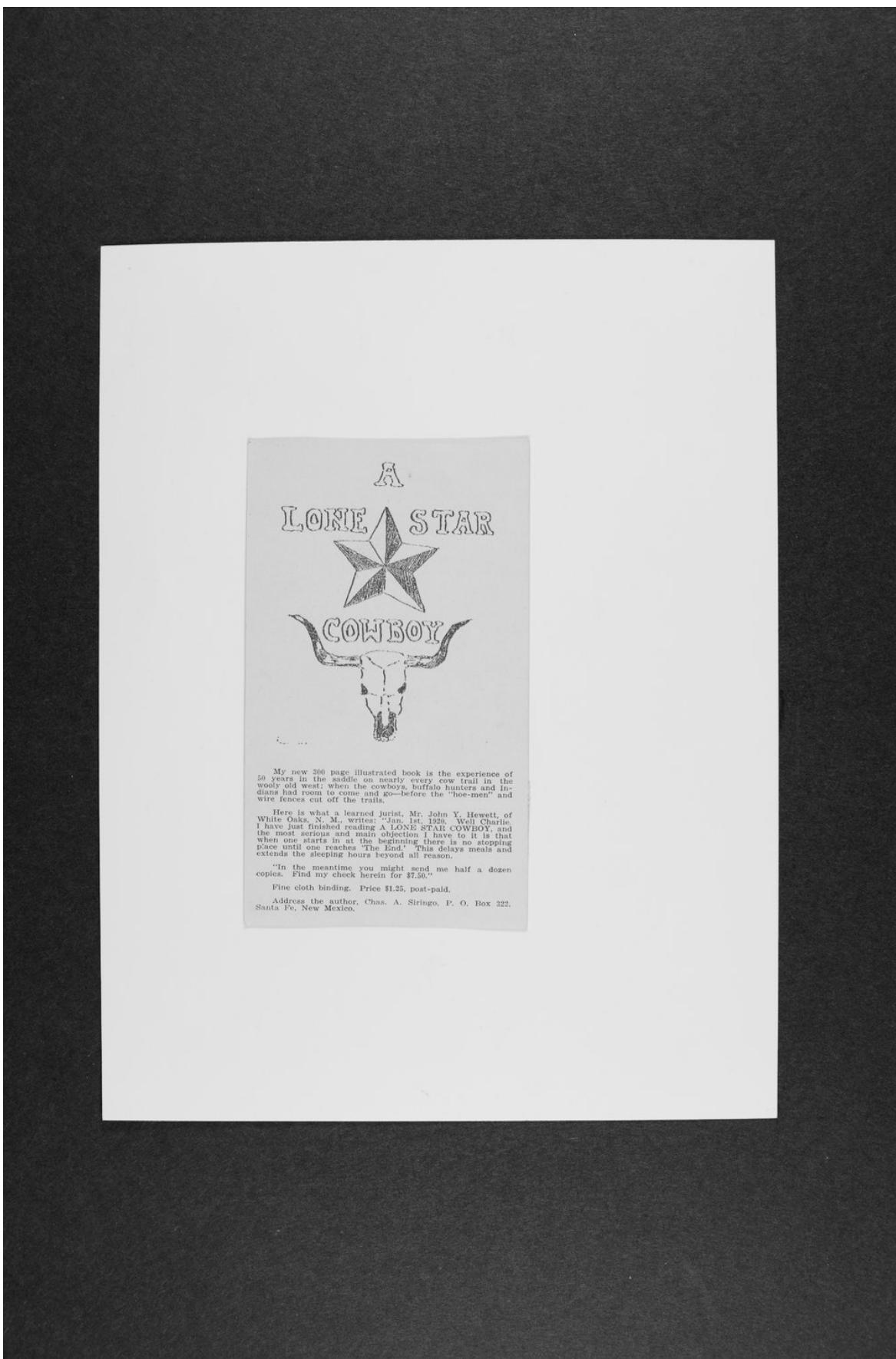


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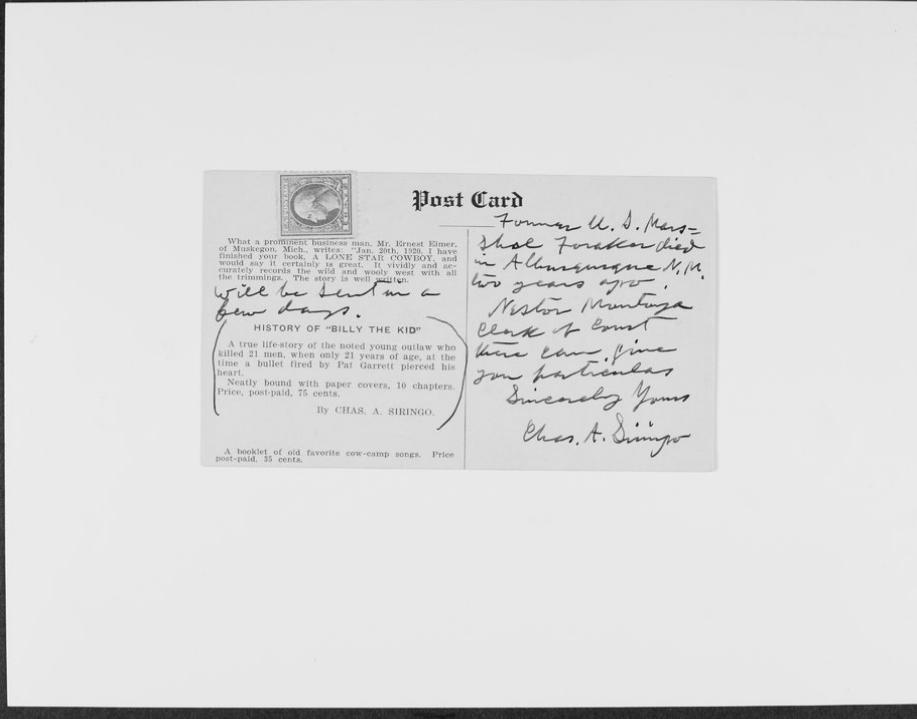
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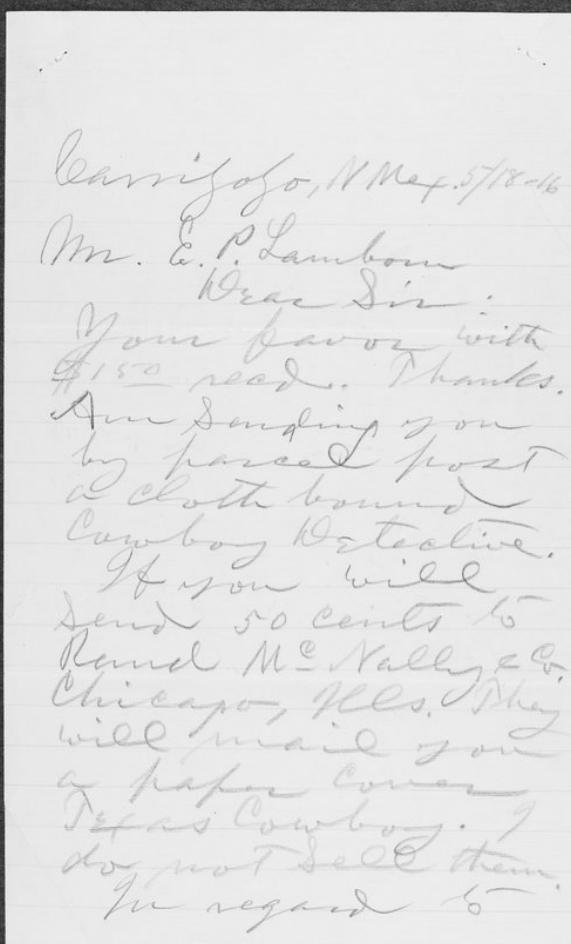


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My new book "Fancies of a
game Star Cow-boy" I cannot
tell when it will be published,
as I've got to go over it
and make some changes. And as
matters stand I am
too busy on other
matters. It may
be a year or two before I find
time.

Truly yours
Chas. A. Simpo

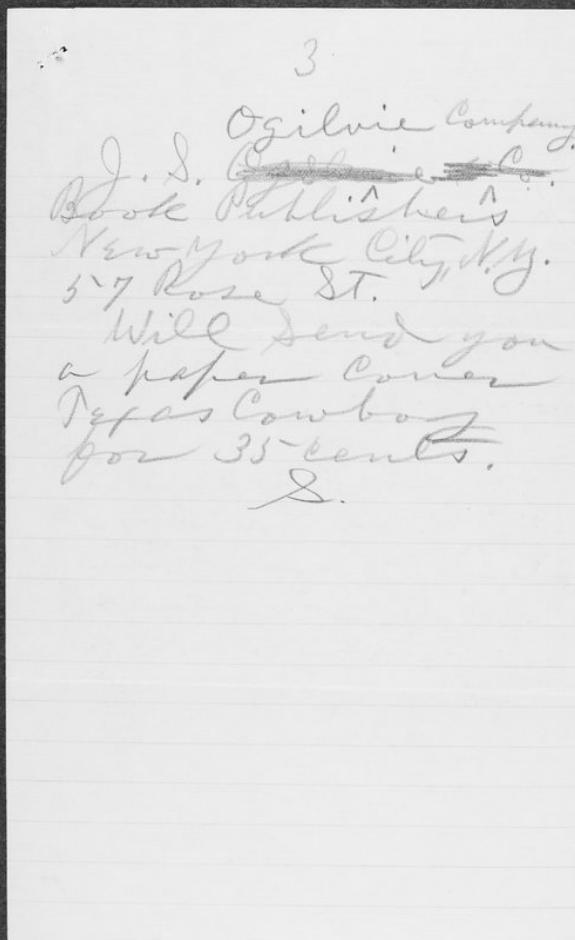
P.S.:

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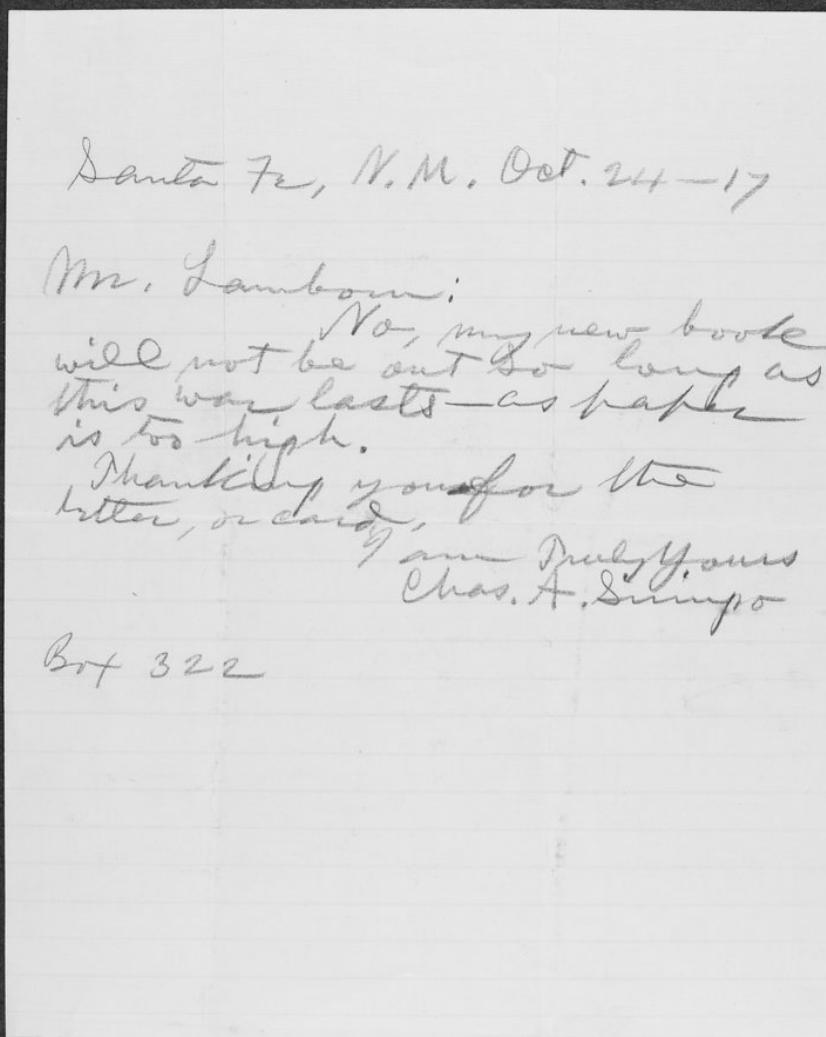


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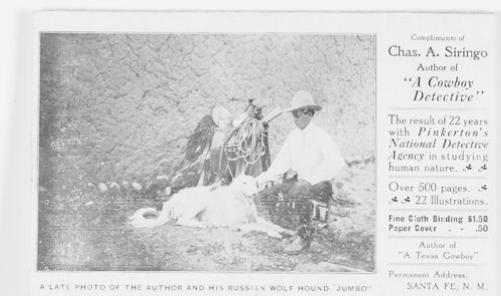
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A Few Extracts From Newspaper Reviews and Letters.

Those people who like to read detective stories will get a lot of enjoyment out of "A Cowboy Detective." From cover to cover the autobiography is a thrilling detective story, holding attention from the first page to the last. - Helena, Montana, Daily Record.

Never has anything more thrilling come out of the West on printed pages than the volume called "A Cowboy Detective," which is to give an active sale for the public never forsakes the melodramatic. It is always acceptable in fiction. How much more so when it is a recital of facts. - Boise, Idaho, Daily Statesman.

A story out of the ordinary, an autobiography, told with artless art, is that of "A Cowboy Detective." Charles A. Siringo, of Santa Fe, who in a 500-page narrative, tells true tales that are more thrilling than any western fiction, and yet are not clothed in lurid superlatives. - Santa Fe Daily New Mexican.

Dear Mr. Siringo:
I liked your book, "A Cowboy Detective," and I must say I did so with much pleasure. It is, as Orchard says, "a remarkable story of human nature." Your book is one of the most remarkable and interesting human documents that has ever come out of the West. It is a very true and eventfully true account, unusual in its frankness and power of description, that I have not only read it over with the greatest interest, but have taken almost equal pleasure in recommending it to others, and putting it in their hands.
Sincerely yours,
(Signed) GIFFORD PINCHOT

Boise, Idaho, September 9, 1912.
Your book, "A Cowboy Detective," presents the case where facts are stranger than fiction. I congratulate you upon the conciseness and style of your narrative.
Very truly yours,
JUDGE FREMONT WOOD.

My Dear Friend Siringo:
The book, "A Cowboy Detective," came to hand O. K. It reads much like fairy tales, and but for the fact that I have known you so long and so well, and can vouch for integrity and truthfulness, I would not believe it. The accurate portrayal of the west and its actual history makes and actors, your book has no superior.
Your old-time, loyal friend,
AUGUST MUNTZING.

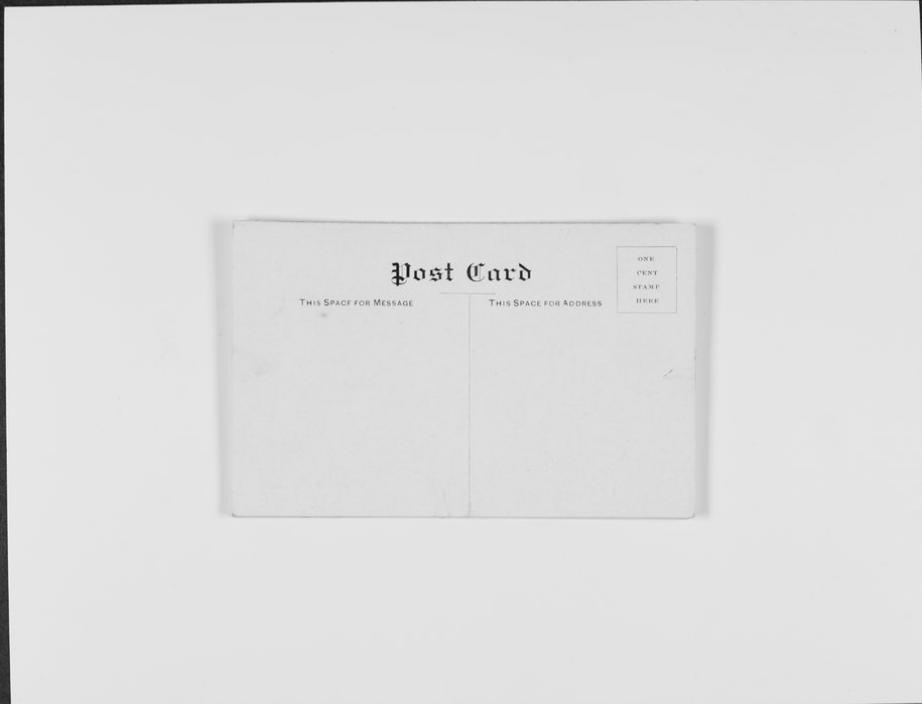
White Oaks, N. M., July 3, 1912.
I borrowed a copy of your book, "A Cowboy Detective," to my old friend, Judge H. C. McDonald of Kansas City, Mo., and his many remarks concerning it in a way which we entirely agree. The Judge says:
"Yesterday I finished "A Cowboy Detective," and like it for many reasons, although, as a rule, such stories do not appeal to me. Siringo tells of the men and their work I knew well; he is a -poker a shaver; does not shield himself, and is so human throughout that I warmly recommend everybody would read "A Cowboy Detective," and enjoy it as I have."
Yours truly,
JOHN Y. HEWITT.

"Reminiscences of a Lone Star Cowboy," giving a history of the early-day cattle business, and of the old Chisholm cattle trail, now ready for the press.

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