

## E. P. Lamborn correspondence and research papers

### Section 58, Pages 1711 - 1740

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

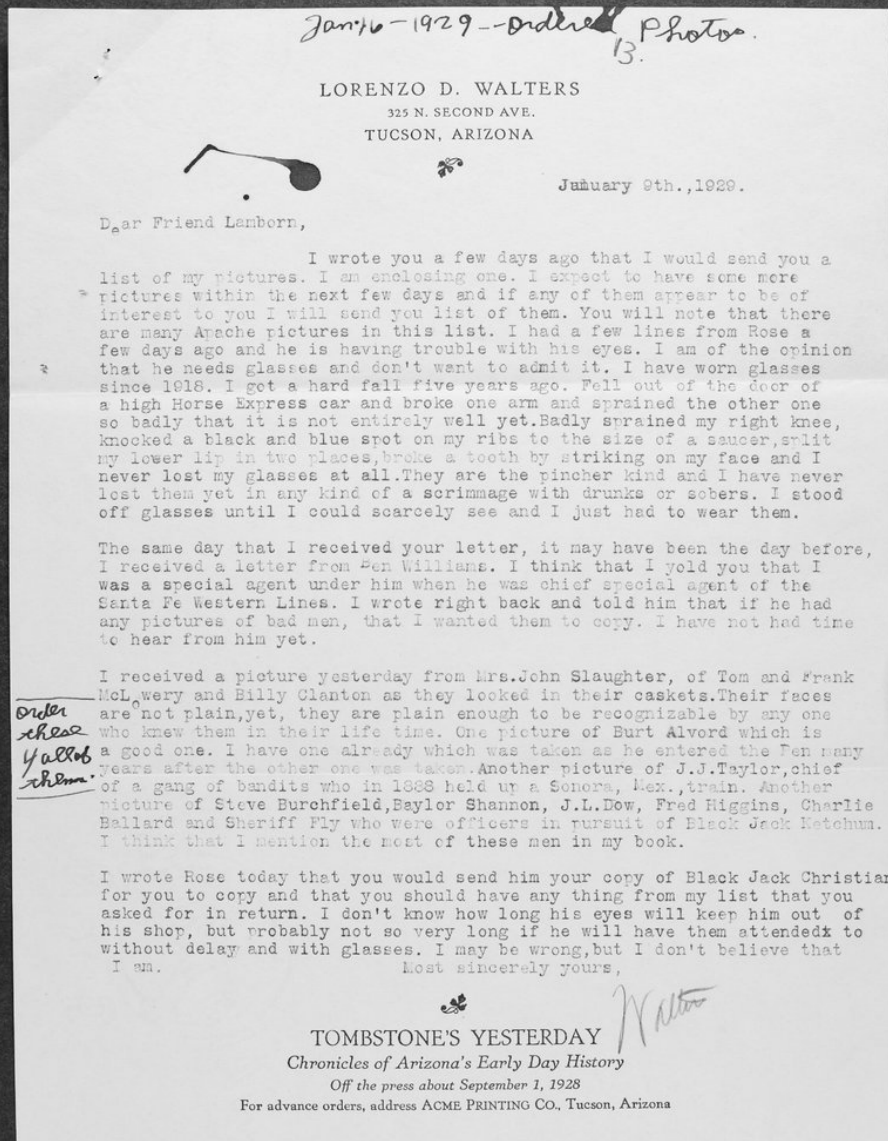
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## E. P. Lamborn correspondence and research papers





## E. P. Lamborn correspondence and research papers

### LIST OF PICTURES IN COLLECTION OF L.D. WALTERS.

1. - Cowboys and buffaloes, Pawnee Bill Ranch. Size 8"x10".
2. - Buffalo herd showing many calves. Size 8"x10".
3. - Ed Scheffelein, Father of Tombstone. With hat on. .... 3" X 4"
4. - Ed Scheffelein, hat off. .... 3" X 4"
5. - Ed Scheffelein, from life size painting. .... 5" X 7"
6. - Crystal Saloon Bar, Tombstone, in the '80's. .... 5" X 7"
7. - California Joe, 1873. .... 5" X 7"
8. - Mrs. California Joe, 1873. .... 5" X 7"
9. - Johnnie Behan, first sheriff of Cochise County, Ariz.,. 6" X 4"
10. - Deputy Sheriff Billy Breakenridge, of Tombstone, 1881. 3" X 4"
11. - Colonel Breakenridge, 1927. .... 3" X 4"
12. - Wyatt Earp, 1926. .... 5" X 7"
13. - Al Sieber, Dep. U.S. Marshal and Chief of Scouts, in '80's 5" X 7"
14. - Al Sieber's grave. .... 3" X 4"
15. - Bob Leatherwood, early day sheriff of Pima County, Ariz. 5" X 7"
16. - Charlie Shibbell, early day sheriff of Pima Co., Ariz.,. 5" X 7"
17. - Lyman Wakefield, early day Pima County Sheriff, .... 5" X 7"
18. - Bob Paul, Early day sheriff and shot-gun messenger, .... 5" X 7"
19. - Jeff Milton, early day shot-gun messenger and US Marshal 5" X 7"
20. - Augustine Chacon and Chavez, murderers, .... 5" X 7"
21. - Apache Bill Young, 40 years a scout and interpreter, .... 5" X 7"
22. - Merijildo, interpreter for government in '80's, .... 5" X 7"
23. - Abraham Lincoln, copy from actual photograph. .... 5" X 7"
24. - Group taken in 1927, Deadwood Dick, Capt. North, Pawnee Bill, Doc Carver, Diamond Dick, Idaho Bill, .... 7" X 10"
25. - Same group except standing. .... 7" X 10"
26. - Doc W.F. Carver, champion rifle shot of the world, 1927. 5" X 7"
27. - Pawnee Bill, (Maj. Gordon W. Lillie), 1927. .... 5" X 7"
28. - Capt. L.H. North, Old time Govt. Scout. 1927. .... 5" X 7"
29. - Idaho Bill, (Col. W.B. Pierson), 1927. .... 5" X 7"
30. - Diamond Dick, (Dr. Richard Tanner), 1927. .... 5" X 7"
31. - Richard W. Clark, (Deadwood Dick), 1927. .... 5" X 7"
32. - Boney Earnest, Old time scout, 1927. .... 5" X 7"
33. - Kit Carson, about 1845. .... 5" X 7"
34. - Kit Carson, about 1867. .... 3 1/2 x 4 1/2
35. - Calamity Jane, Deadwood, about 1876, fine picture. .... 5" X 7"
36. - Calamity Jane, about 1875, good. .... 5" X 7"
37. - Grandma Cody, .... 5" X 7"
38. - Ned Buntline, Buffalo Bill, Texas Jack Omahundra, .... 5" X 7"
39. - Bat Masterson, about 1876. .... 5" X 7"
40. - Bat Masterson, about 1900. .... 5" X 7"
41. - Billy the Kid, about '80. .... 5" X 5"
42. - Pat Garrett, the man who killed Billy the Kid, 7-12-81. 5" X 7"
43. - Jim Miller who killed Garrett, hanging. .... 5" X 7"
44. - Execution of 38 Sioux Indians, Mankato, Minn., 12-26-'62. 5" X 7"
45. - Henry Starr, fair picture. .... 3 1/2 X 6"
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47. - Black Jack Ketchum, adjustment of noose. .... 5" X 7"
48. - Black Jack Ketchum, adjustment of black cap. .... 5" X 7"
49. - Black Jack Ketchum, showing body under trap. .... 5" X 7"
50. - Black Jack's grave. .... 5" X 7"
51. - Black Jack Christian, Oklahoma and Arizona outlaw, .... 5" X 7"
52. - General George A. Custer and Mrs. Custer, 1874. .... 5" X 7"
53. - Judge McComas and family who were murdered by Apaches, 5" X 7"



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- 54.- Gen. Custer, Duke Alexis, Buffalo Bill, about 1868, .....5"x7"
  - 55.- Judge Roy Bean, Law west of the Pecos, .....2"x4"
  - 56.- Judge Roy Bean in front of his store and office building, .....5"x7"
  - 57.- Judge Roy Bean hearing a horse stealing case on porch, .....5"x7"
  - 58.- Judge Bean's "Jersey Lily Saloon" and "Courthouse" today, .....5"x7"
  - 59.- Lillian Langtry after whom Judge Bean named Langtry, Texas, .....5"x7"
  - 60.- Wild Bill, last photo, 1876, .....5"x7"
  - 61.- Gen. Miles, Captains Maus and Baldwin, and Cody, Pine Ridge, 1892, .....5"x9"
  - 62.- Green River Tom Smith, first marshal of Abilene, Kansas, 1871, .....5"x7"
  - 63.- Billy Dixon, Old time scout and Indian killer, .....5"x7"
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  - 65.- Broncho Bill, Arizona Outlaw, .....5"x7"
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  - 68.- Original Evans Homestead, near Visalia, Calif., .....5"x7"
  - 69.- General Pancho Villa, mounted on white horse, .....5"x7"
  - 70.- Gen. Villa, Gen. Urbana, Gen. Zapato, fair picture, .....5"x7"
  - 71.- Gen. Villa, body hanging over auto door after having been shot, .....5"x7"
  - 72.- Gen. Villa, body in Hidalgo Hotel, Parral, Chihuahua, Mex., .....5"x7"
  - 73.- Gen. Villa, body showing numerous bullet wounds, .....5"x7"
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  - 75.- Gen. G.A., Tom, Boston Custer, Sitting Bull and others, 1874, .....5"x7"
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  - 78.- Beverly P. Herndon, son of Lincoln's law partner, .....4"x6"
  - 79.- Vernon Cook Wilson, Ranger, RR Police Officer, killed in fight between Sontag and Evans at Sampson Flats, Calif., in 1892, .....5"x7"
  - 80.- Merve L. Weaver, officer also wounded in same fight, .....3"x6"
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  - 82.- Pearl Hart, the Arizona Lady Bandit, .....5"x7"
  - 83.- Burt Alvord, outlaw, mostly Cochise County, Ariz., .....5"x7"
  - 84.- Bill Downing from Sam Bass Gang to Arizona, .....5"x7"
  - 85.- Leonard Alverson, Arizona outlaw, .....5"x7"
  - 86.- Matt Burts, Arizona Outlaw, .....5"x7"
  - 87.- Lewis Owens, Arizona Outlaw, .....5"x7"
  - 88.- George Owens, Arizona Outlaw, .....5"x7"
  - 89.- Bob Brown, Arizona Outlaw, .....5"x7"
  - 90.- Fatty Ryan, Arizona Outlaw, .....5"x7"
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  - 93.- Scouting Party posing for picture, 1886, .....5"x7"
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 241.-Chief Nosey and wife, of the Chiricahua Apache tribe,1881 5X7  
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     Lodge at Santa Fe a short time before his death in 1888,5X7  
 247.-Scheffelein Monument at Tombstone,.....3X5  
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 255.-William K.Meade,United States Marshal in early days,.... 5X7

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55 Co. 2nd East  
Price, Utah

E. P. Lamborn:

The complete life story of Matt Warner is now out in book form. As you seemed to be interested in the brief sketch of his life which came out in the *Comopolitan* in 1938 under the title of *THE LAST OF THE BANDIT RIDERS*, I thought you may want to purchase a copy of this beautifully bound book. It sells for \$5.00 and I would appreciate your order if you wish to have a copy.

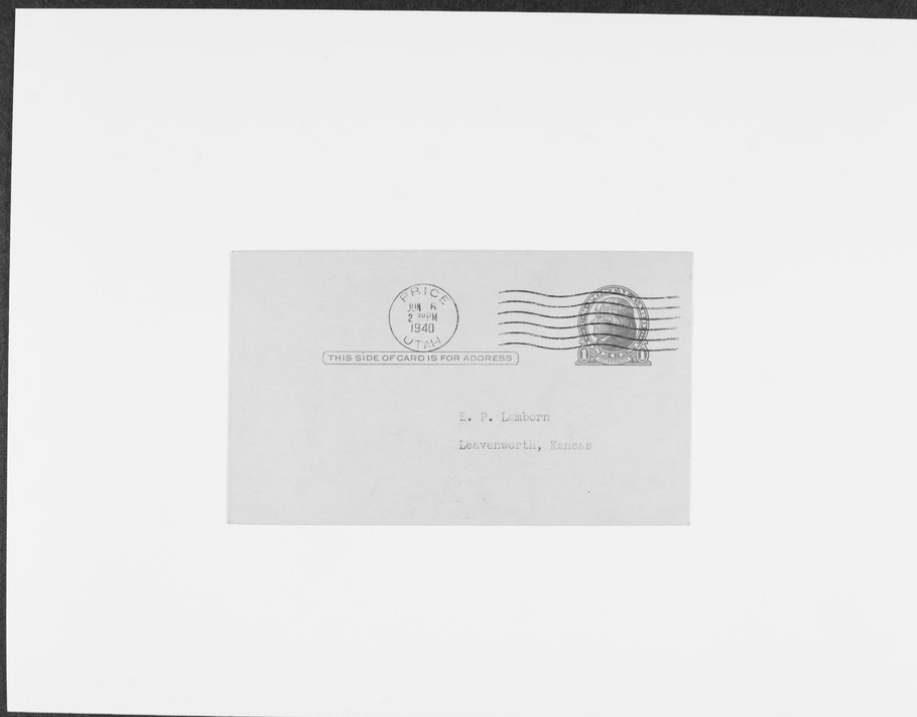
You can send me a P.O. order and I shall prepay one to you. Possibly you have friends who would like one also.

*Ordered June 11, 1940  
with a letter about photos of Matt Warner*

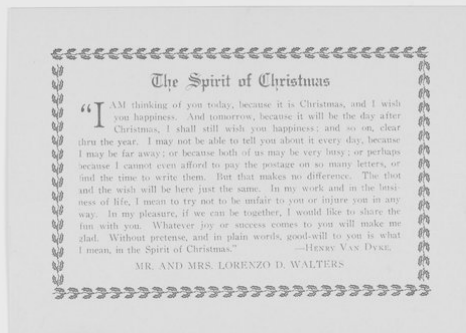
Yours very truly,  
E. P. Lamborn



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With kindest regards  
for Christmas 1920  
L. S. Mauds.  
315 N. W. 2nd,  
Topeka - Kan.

## E. P. Lamborn correspondence and research papers

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

January 19, 1928

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

Dear Mr. Lamborn:

Your letter of the 9th. was received and I am always mighty glad to hear from anyone with the kindred interest of frontier history. However, I'm afraid that I can't be of much assistance to you in locating the book about Sam Bass or the Reno brothers. I inquired at the University library without result. At the same place I tried to find if there was any such book listed in their card catalogue of the Library of Congress. There is your best bet, I believe. If Mr. Ramsell can give you the exact title of the book, your library in Leavenworth can find whether or not the Library of Congress has it and if so can secure it for you.

Here are two book companies which might possibly find the books for you -- the Hudson Book Company 25 West 42nd. Street, New York, and the Heartman Auction Company, Raritan Building, Perth Amboy, N.J. Both specialize in western Americana and if you haven't happened to try either, do so.

I'm interested in Sam Bass, too, and here are a few scraps of information that I have about him. In his book "The Story of the Outlaw", Emerson Hough gives Bass one short paragraph in his chapter on "Bad Men of Texas" but doesn't tell much about him. I reckon you're familiar with the old cowboy song beginning "Sam Bass was born in Indiana" and perhaps you have John Lomax's book "Cowboy Songs" which gives the song in full. In the Camp Fire section of the Adventure magazine for October 18, 1920 and November 18, 1920 there is some valuable information about Sam Bass, contributed by two men who knew him. If you don't happen to be a reader of Adventure and haven't seen these items, I would be glad to copy them from my clippings and send them to you. Another stray newspaper clipping which I find in my scrapbooks records the death in January, 1918 of George Herold, a Texas Ranger, who claimed credit for having killed Bass. I can give you a copy of that too. That's about all the information about him that I can put my finger on right now, but his name is very familiar to me in my reading on the bad men of the west.

I'd like to compare notes with you on our respective libraries of frontier history. I've been collecting for about 20 years and I have a few over 100 books, several hundred magazine articles and several thousand newspaper clippings as well as a pretty complete collection of photographs of Indians who were prominent in the plains wars since 1860. I've done a little writing on the



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subject. A newspaper syndicate last summer issued a series of 48 articles of mine called "Stories of Great Scouts" which I hope to have published in book form in the near future. They are also getting out another series of 48 on "Stories of Great Indians" and I expect to follow it up, if it goes well, with a series on "Stories of Noted ~~Outlaws~~ Outlaws". For that reason I'd welcome the chance to swap information with you on that particular subject. I have a vague memory of hearing somewhere about the Reno brothers but I can't place it now and I haven't any clippings or articles on them. Incidentally I have one outlaw relic which I prize highly -- a Colt's six shooter carried by one of the Dalton gang in their last raid on Coffeyville, Kans. Al Jennings was in Urbana the other day, but I happened to be in Chicago at the time and when I returned found that I had missed the chance to interview him just about 15 minutes.

I've been in correspondence with your friend Mr. Clark for more than a year -- originating in an inquiry about his book on Clay Allison, a copy of which he has since given me. I had a very pleasant visit with him last summer in Colorado Springs and hope to renew the acquaintance some time soon.

I reckon I'd better be stopping before I wear you out with all this talk. But I'll be mighty glad to hear from you again whenever you have the time or inclination to write.

Yours very truly,

Elmo S. Watson

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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

January 30, 1922

Mr. E.P. Lamborn,  
Leavenworth, Kans.

Dear Mr. Lamborn:

Yours of the 24th. was received. Thank you for the Siringo card. Last summer I heard Mr. Clark and Andy Adams (author of "Log of a Cowboy") talk about Siringo when I introduced Mr. Clark to Andy in Colorado Springs, ~~last summer~~. At that time Clark showed me the little book of cowboy verse and I intended to write to Siringo and get a copy, but neglected to take down the address. But now that I have it I expect to add his books to my library.

Enclosed are the copies of my clippings about Sam Bass. Sorry that I can't give you any more information but will remember you if I run across any more. As you see, the clipping doesn't give the exact date of his death (Herold's) but I reckon you could get it by writing to some newspaper in El Paso.

I have a little dope on Harvey Logan but not much on Black Jack Ketchum. As I reckon you know, Logan was also known as Harvey Curry or Kid Curry and his gang was famous in the Hole in the Wall country back in the '90's. Here are the things I have on him; the most information (and a picture of Curry) in an article "The Bandit Hunters of the Union Pacific" by T.R. Porter in Pearsons Magazine for September, 1905; a personal reminiscence of him in an article "When Hole-in-the-Wall Was Away Out West" by A.U. Mayfield, a Denver newspaperman, in The Mountain States Monitor, <sup>for June, 1920</sup> published by the Mountain States Telephone Company, Denver. and another brief letter about him in The Camp Fire of Adventure, August 3, 1920. If you want any of this dope let me know and I'll send you copies.





## E. P. Lamborn correspondence and research papers

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Springs at the time I would have seen that fight for I always went out with the police on such calls as they made that day when they went to arrest the gang at that filling station. The chief of detectives which the Jones' gang killed that day, Johnny Rowan, I knew very well. Here's another interesting sidelight on the case which every newspaper account overlooked. The other officer who was wounded in that battle J. Dolan Riley (one eye shot out) was the son of the Riley who was a member of the firm of Murphy, Riley and Dolan, leading actors in the Lincoln County War in New Mexico in the '80's. He was named for Jimmie Dolan, one of the other partners. His father is now dead but his mother is still alive and I have tried several times to get to see her and have her talk on the Lincoln County war. To me the interesting thing is that Dolan Riley, son of one of the leading participants in the Lincoln County war in which some hot street fights were staged, should himself be mixed up in what was probably the hottest street fight in late years with bandits -- sort of a history repeating itself, the Old gun-fighting West living again.

Well, I've rattled on at a great length so I guess I'd better be stopping. You speak of my book on "Stories of Great Outlaws" -- that's far in the future. I'm not even sure yet that the newspaper syndicate which has issued my Stories of Great Scouts and Stories of Great Indians will want to handle the Outlaws but I intend to get them ready within the next few months so that they will be available if the syndicate will handle them. So when I get around to writing the stories, I'll certainly call on you for information for you seem to be more of an authority on the subject than any one I've struck yet, and I'll be mighty glad to swap information with you as much as you wish. I'm inclosing a tentative list of the outlaws about whom I'll probably write. I know that some of them



## E. P. Lamborn correspondence and research papers

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were not so noted as others and shouldn't be classified with them. Some of them I'll have to discard because the information obtainable about them will be too inadequate. And I'll probably add others to the list so that this list probably will be greatly changed by the time the series is written. However, I've made out this list just to see how many bad men I have on tap to include in my series. If you can add any others, who you think should be in it, I'll be glad to have your suggestions and I'll appreciate it if you will check thus + those about whom you have some information which I might ask for when I get ready to write the yarns.

I'm much interested in your collection of pictures. I have a big collection of Indian photographs but only one outlaw -- that of the dead members of the Dalton gang after the Coffeyville raid, given to me by the man who gave me the six-shooter carried in that raid. I reckon you have Emerson Hough's "Story of the Outlaw" in your library. Do you have Robert M. Wright's "Dodge City, the Cowboy Capital"? It has some good dope on Ben Thompson and Bill Hodges, as well as a picture of Hodges.

Your method of collecting information by digging in old newspaper files and taking notes is a good one and I think I shall imitate it. I've never done that very much -- depending more on clippings which I can get, books and magazine articles, but I can see the advantage of your system. No, I am no relation of the Watson you mentioned. All of my relatives came from Ohio and now live in Illinois. I went to Colorado to college and then drifted into newspaper work there, finally coming back to the University here to teach journalism.

I'm cataloguing my library now and will send you a carbon of my list of books. Here's looking forward to hearing from you again.

Sincerely,

*Elmer Scott Watson*

## E. P. Lamborn correspondence and research papers

### SLAYER OF SAM BASS DIES ON TEXAS BORDER

(Associated Press Dispatch in Colorado Springs Gazette)

EL PASO, Tex. Jan. 12 - Another Texas border character died here recently in the person of George Herold, Confederate soldier, Texas ranger and veteran police officer. Herold claimed credit for the killing of Sam Bass, the notorious Texas outlaw, about whom a popular chanty of the cow camps was composed by some cowboy bard. He also defended the city jail when it was attacked by negro soldiers of the Fort Bliss command many years ago. He carried six bullet wounds as trophies of his experiences on the border and in the Civil war.

-----  
Letter in The Camp Fire, Adventure Magazine, Oct. 16, 1920

"I knew Sam Bass and was within a few miles of him when he was killed. He was killed at Round Rock, Tex. in the early eighties by a Ranger. I was there at the time and went immediately to Round Rock but he was dead when I arrived. The legislature was in session at Austin, only a short distance away, and they adjourned and with the governor came to Round Rock."

"Sam and two others came down to rob a country bank and stopped at Round Rock, tying their stock in an alley that a blind alley ran out of or a cross alley ~~xx~~ from the Main street to the long alley. With their pistols on they went into a store that had a bar in the rear. The deputy marshal of Round Rock went in to disarm them and Sam shot him and the three ran for their horses. Sam was behind and just as he ran in the side alley a Ranger who happened to be stopping over night showed up and shot Sam through the body with a Winchester. He made good to his horse and rode out about three miles, got off beside the road and a farmer or milkman came along and he called him and sent word to town for them to come and get him. The authorities would hardly believe him when he told them he was Sam Bass."

"I knew all the gunmen of those times; was within four feet of Ben Thompson and King Fisher when they were killed in Jack Hines' old place in San Antonio." - H.P. Whartenby, Everett, Washington..



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Letter in The Camp Fire, Adventure Magazine, November 18, 1920

"One night I met Sam Bass while camping in Trinity River bottoms about 10 miles below Dallas, Tex. when he walked into camp. I was just 15 years of age and was hauling lumber from Dallas to Rockwell which town my father was late mayor of. Sam stayed all night with me and I did not know who he was until he was about to depart the next morning, when he said "Son, if anyone asks if you have seen Sam Bass, you haven't. Understand?"

I almost fell off the wagon.

About 9 o'clock I met a posse. The sheriff stopped men and asked "Sonny, have you seen a young fellow with long black hair, riding a white stallion, around here?"

Somehow I just couldn't set the law-hounds on the kid's trail and I pointed in the opposite direction he had taken. "Yes sir" I said "he went that way" Turning about they rode in the direction I had indicated.

A few months later Sam and four other men whom I took to be Joe Collins, Rickinson, Jackson and "Old Dad" rode up to the fence that circled the field wherein I was plowing. They asked a few questions, then Sam offered me a drink of whisky. I refused it, saying "No, thanks. Mother doesn't allow me to drink."

Sam looked at me and said "That's right, son. Mind your Ma. I wouldn't be where I am today if I had minded mine."

One of the fellows, the oldest one, coughed and changed the subject.

Sam was hanged, shot, snake-bit and drowned all at one time and then the young rascal popped up again. A mob got him once and hanged him. In a bloodthirsty frenzy some of them began shooting at his suspended body. A shot broke the rope and his body fell and rolled off into the river. From the place his body had struck a large rattlesnake was seen to wiggle away. They dragged the river but couldn't find his body. A farmer asked one of the returning mob if Sam was really dead.

"If he ain't he ought to be," he replied. "He was shot, hanged, snake-bit and drowned."

Sam later said his falling body must have stunned the snake and that when he struck the water it revived him. Coming to the surface, he found himself under a pile of driftwood where he remained until nightfall, then escaped. Sam is buried at Round Rock, near Austin, Tex. -- Charles B. McCafferty, Arlington, Tex.

## E. P. Lamborn correspondence and research papers

Tentative List for "Stories of Noted Outlaws"	
1. Meason or Mason	
2. Sturdevant	All connected with Robbers Roost on the Ohio river in 1800 and later. See Hough
3. Big Harpe	
4. John A. Murrell	
5. Henry Plummer	
6. Boone Helm	Montana
7. Joe Slade	Nebraska, Colorado, Wyoming, Montana
8. Billy the Kid	New Mexico
9. Jesse Evans	Texas
10. Joel Fowler	Texas
Bob Ollinger	New Mexico
12. Billy Wilson	Texas
13. Ben Thompson	Kansas and Texas
14. King Fisher	" "
15. Sam Bass	Texas
16. Quantrill	Kansas
17. Jesse James	Missouri
18. Frank James	" "
19. Cole Younger	
20. Bob Younger	
21. Jim Younger	
22. Kit Dalton	
23. Bill Dalton	Oklahoma



## E. P. Lamborn correspondence and research papers

24. Bob Dalton Oklahoma  
 25. Grat Dalton  
 26. Emmett Dalton  
 27. Bill Doolin Oklahoma  
 28. Bill Cook Oklahoma  
 29. Jim Cummings (Member of James gang)  
 30. Joaquin Murieta California  
 31. Tiburcio Vasquez "  
 32. Juan Soto "  
 33. Juan Espinoza Colorado  
 34. Black Bart California  
 35. Sam Hildebrand Missouri  
 36. William Fox Iowa  
 37. Al Jennings Oklahoma  
 38. Henry Starr "  
 39. Belle Starr "  
 40. Buck Hamby Kansas and South Dakota  
 41. Tom Horn Wyoming  
 42. Fred Whitrock (the fake Jim Cummings)  
 43. Big Nosed George Wyoming  
 44. Dutch Charlie "  
 45. Bill Carlisle "  
 46. Black Jack Ketchum Colorado and Wyoming  
 47. Kid Curry Wyoming  
 48. Doc Middleton "  
 Cattle gate "  
 50. Jim Cummings (of the James gang)  
 51. Harry J. Talbott (Cherokee Bob) Idaho  
 Dutch Henry ?????????  
 Tom Slaughter recently killed in Arkansas.

*Harry Tracy*  
*Reno gang*

*Oregon*  
*?*



## E. P. Lamborn correspondence and research papers

Coll. 156.3.5 Watson  
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

February 12, 1922

Mr. E.P. Lamborn;  
Leavenworth, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Lamborn:

Your interesting letter of the 6th. was received and I'll confess that I'm a piker as compared with you in knowledge on the subject of bandits, outlaws and such. You certainly have a splendid library on the subject and one of great historical value. I got started late in the study of outlaws -- my first interest was Indians, then I branched out into scouts, frontiersmen and other characters of pioneer life, and it has been just in recent years that I began collecting material on outlaws. But through my acquaintance with you I hope to broaden my education in that line.

I don't know just how soon I'll get started on the Outlaws series of articles. Just at present I'm putting in my best ticks on the manuscript for my book on Scouts and keeping up a series of articles on Illinois history which I am syndicating myself to Illinois newspapers. But when I do get down to business on the Outlaws I'm mighty glad to know that I can count on you for some help and I take this opportunity of thanking you for saying you will give me the benefit of your study of the subject.

Thanks much for the article on Payne in the Oklahoma Historian. ~~Exclaim~~ As you guessed I was the "E.S.W. Urbana, Ill." who was asking the K.C. Times for information about him. I did not include him in the newspaper series but I expect to put him in the book if I can get enough material. And I am especially glad to know that such a magazine is being published about Oklahoma history. It's a new one to me and I intend to write for copies. If I can't get that issue of July 1, 1920 may I keep the one you sent until I can copy the article about Payne?

Enclosed is a copy of the clipping about Ketchum. It also has a bit on Tom Horn. I accept your amendment that he wasn't a bandit. That list I sent was only a preliminary one, subject to many changes either by addition or subtraction. I didn't get time to copy the material on Kid Curry from the magazine article on "Bandit Hunters of the U.P." but I'll do it and send it in my next letter, or if you wish, I can send you the whole article and you can return it after you have got all the information you want out of it. If you can't get that Mountain States Monitor with the Hole in the Wall article, I can send that one too.

I had a letter from Mr. Clark the other day in which he was speculating on who and what you are. He and I know each other personally after our visit in Colorado Springs last summer. Shall we (you and I) introduce ourselves further? If so:

Elmo Scott Watson, 30 years of age, married, have two of the finest youngsters, son and daughter, in the world; native of Illinois, "went west,"

*\* He's a banker, as far as you already know, about 60 years old, 22' tall.*



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young man" to college; newspaperman in Colorado, now instructor in journalism here at the University. That's me.

Kansas. Insofar as you are a Kansan, perhaps you have some dope on two scouts about whom I'm seeking more information -- Sharp Grover and Jack Stilwell. Grover scouted for Custer and both he and Stilwell were with Forsyth at the Battle of Beecher's Island. About all that I have on them is from Cyrus Townsend Brady's "Indian Fights and Fighters" and Gen. Forsyth's "Story of the Soldier". Can you tell me of any other sources of information?

Friend Wife says I've pounded the typewriter enough for today so I'll be calling a halt now. Let me know if I can send you any more stuff on anybody in whom you're interested. Yes, I'll be glad to have you look out for any of the books on your list which in the K.C. book stores and get them for me. I saw "Vigilante Pays and Ways" -- Langford in McClurg's in Chicago last fall but didn't buy it so I'm sending for it now to have it when I want to use it. Of the list you sent, I think I'd rather have any or all of the books about the Daltons, Life of Pat Garrett, Under the Black Flag -- Kit Dalton and Beyond the Law -- Emmett Dalton.

Here's luck

Sincerely,

*Elmo Scott Watson*

P.S. I expect to have that six-gun which was carried in the Coffeyville raid and which I now own photographed soon to get prints to accompany the affidavit of its authenticity. Would you care to have one of the prints -- or do you collect photographs of famous guns? I do. I have one of a gun and hunting knife once owned by Kit Carson and the spurs worn by Espinoza. Saw in Outdoor Life some time ago the reproduction of a photograph of the gun, a Winchester, once carried by Belle Starr. Present owner now lives in K.C.

Forgot to tell you that I also have a cartridge which Jim Cook took from his belt when he was ~~captured~~ in Muskogee and gave to the <sup>a</sup> prisoner

man from whom I got the Dalton siishooter. This man has a lot of interesting reminiscences of the wild old days down in Oklahoma.

*E.S.W.*

## E. P. Lamborn correspondence and research papers

From "Bandit Hunters of the West"  
By Denver Correspondent of the New York Sun, Dec. 5, 1919

About the only men who essayed train robbing in the West and got away with it are Butch Cassidy and Harry Longabaugh, leaders of the so-called Hole-in-the-Wall gang of Wyoming. Cassidy and Longabaugh are now in Argentina where they bought ranches with some of the thousands that they took from trains and banks in this West. Some day they may be brought back to this country and if they are it is almost certain that the man who will do the bringing is a quiet-spoken, sharp-eyed citizen of Cheyenne Joe Le Fore, the man who trapped Tom Horn, one of Wyoming's most noted gunmen.

Le Fore's exploits in the Hole in the Wall country were made the subject of a novel which had a big sale but his capture of Tom Horn never got into fiction. Horn was formerly a scout in the Arizona campaigns against Geronimo. He was packmaster in Cuba and was known as one of the greatest riders, surest shots and implacable of foes. He was suspected of many killings in the cattle and sheep country in southern Wyoming and northern Colorado. Horn had been hired by some big cattle outfits that were having trouble with homesteaders and sheepmen and it was suspected that he was using heroic measures to rid the range of his employers' enemies. Finally Willie Nickell, the son of a homesteader in southern Wyoming, was found on the range shot dead. A stone was under the boy's head, something which had been noted in other cases where ranchers or sheepmen had been killed.

Le Fore knew that at the first intimation he was suspected Horn would kill. He caught Horn off his guard when the gunman was drunk. A stenographer was planted near at hand by a capable district attorney and soon the state was in possession of Horn's own statement that he had killed young Nickell and that the stone under the head was the bad man's method of identifying his victim. Horn was arrested and duly hanged, though certain cattle interests made a hard fight for his life.

A few years previous to the appearance of the Cassidy gang in the western theater of action a train robber known as "Black Jack" Getchum had the



## E. P. Lamborn correspondence and research papers

officials of several states considerably worried. Unlike Carlisle Black Jack never worked alone. He had a numerous and straight-shooting gang including his brother, Sam Ketchum, Bob McInnis and others. Black Jack seemed to have *had* a spite against the Colorado and Southern railroad in particular. He and his gang held up one C. and S. train after another.

They had beautiful opportunities to work because the C. and S. runs ~~thru~~ through an unfrequented part of northern New Mexico after crossing the Colorado line. That part of the country is pretty well settled by dry farmers now but in Black Jack's day it was a train robbers paradise. When it became evident that a strong gang of robbers had picked the C. and S. for its prey, members of the train crews began to go heels. Special detectives were put aboard the trains and among these was one W.H. (Billy) Reno. Likewise among the train crews, there was a conductor named Harrington who proved Black Jack's undoing.



## E. P. Lamborn correspondence and research papers

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

March 8, 1922

Mr. E.P. Lamborn  
Leavenworth, Kans.

Dear Mr. Lamborn:

I've been a bit swamped with work the last week or so, wherefor you'll have to pardon my delay in answering your last letter. I'm enclosing my list of books, from which you see that I have many of the books you mentioned as sources for information on scouts. But I appreciate your kindness anyway in taking the trouble to write out the suggestions. If I had been more prompt in writing out this list of mine it would have saved you that work.

I was very glad to have the addresses of those companies from which I can secure the bandit books ~~about~~ about which I asked. I didn't suppose they could be secured at such a low cost, and that makes the information all the more agreeable. As you may realize no one has ever yet become rich on the ~~average~~ salary of a university faculty member and I am no exception. So I have to plan my expenditures on books carefully and make my money go as far as possible.

Because I have had so much to do ~~lately~~ lately, I haven't had a chance to copy those articles for you which I promised you I would, so I'm sending them to you under separate cover. You may, read, make notes or copy what you wish from them and return them to me when you are through. I am enclosing a print of the photograph of the Dalton gang Six Shooter which I now own. It's isn't much of a photograph -- I took it myself so as to have a print to paste on the affidavit as to the gun's authenticity to identify the weapon. But perhaps you'll care to have even such a small reproduction of the gun which went through such scenes of "battle, murder and sudden death" in what Hough calls "the hottest street fight in the history of the West". I am also enclosing a feature article from the Denver Post about a Colorado bad man, which may interest you, and which you may keep if you wish, since I have duplicates. The author Josiah Ward for a long time had a feature article every Sunday in the Post on various events connected with the history of the West and its noted characters. I can't doing it now, I regret to say, for a lot of it was good stuff. Some of them were about the James, Youngers, Daltons, but as I recall the articles there wasn't anything especially new in any of them -- at least, I doubt if you would find anything in them that you don't already have in your library.

In re the subject of historical guns, I have a clipping from Outdoor Life showing a photograph of the Winchester once owned by Belle Starr, now the property of a man in Kansas City. I've always intended to write to him and try to get a print but have neglected to do so. It gave just his name but not street address, but I fancy he could be reached anyway. Also in one of the Campfire sections of Adventure there is a letter from a man who had just visited Bill Tighlman and written a yarn about his collection of historic weapons, many of them carried by noted outlaws. If you'd care to see this article I'll send it to you too.

It's time for me to hike for a class, so I'll be saying Adios for the present. Hope to hear from you again

E. S. Watson



## E. P. Lamborn correspondence and research papers

### Books on Frontier History in the Library of Elmo Scott Watson.

#### American Fights and Fighters Series by Cyrus Townsend Brady 6 volumes

Colonial " "  
Border " "  
Revolutionary " "  
Indian " "  
Northwestern " "

#### Story of the West Series - 6 volumes

Story of the Indian - Grinnell  
Story of the Trapper - Laut  
Story of the Soldier-Forsyth  
Story of the Cowboy - Hough  
Story of the Railroad-Warman  
Story of the Mine - Shinn

#### Winning of the West - Theodore Roosevelt 6 volumes

The Wilderness Hunter - Roosevelt  
Ranch Life and Hunting Trail - Roosevelt  
The Rough Riders - Roosevelt

Story of the Outlaw-Hough  
Story of the Pony Express-Bradley  
Famous frontiersmen, Pioneers and scouts - Cattermole  
Daring Deeds and Thrilling Adventures of our Pioneer heroes - Mason and Ridpath

Daniel Boone - Thwaites  
Boys book of scouts - Fitzhugh  
Boys Book of Indians - Sabin  
Boys book of Border battles - Sabin  
Life and daring Deeds of Buffalo Bill - Cody  
Memories of Buffalo Bill - Mrs. Cody  
Last of the Great Scouts - Wetmore and Gray  
Last of the Plainsmen - Grey  
Life of Billie Dixon of Adobe Walls - Mrs. Dixon  
Adventures of Indian Fighters, Hunters, Fur Traders - Grinnell  
Pathfinders of the West - Laut  
Vigilante Days and Ways - Langford  
Beating Back - Jennings and Irwin  
Thirty-one Years on the Plains and in the mountains - Drannan  
Thirty Years on the Frontier - Moreynolds  
Reminiscences of a Ranchman - Bronson  
The Red Blooded - Bronson  
Clay Allison of the Washita - Clark  
Dodge City the Cowboy capital - Wright  
Log of a Cowboy - Adams  
History of Kansas - Prentiss  
On the Border with Crook - Bourke  
Campaigning with Crook - King  
Wapath and Bivouac - Finerty  
Absaraka - Carrington  
Army Life on the Plains - Carrington  
Boots and Saddles - Mrs. Custer  
My Life on the Plains - Custer  
Custer's Immortality - Webb  
The Boy General - ed. by Mary E. Burt  
George A. Custer - Pellenbaugh



## E. P. Lamborn correspondence and research papers

Lives of Famous Indian Chiefs - Wood  
 A Century of Dishonor-Jackson  
 Indian Heroes and Great Chieftains ~~Wester~~ Eastman  
 Book of Indian Braves -Sweetser  
 Famous Indian Chiefs I Have Known - Howard  
 Geronimo's Story of His Life- Ed. by Barrett  
 Taming of the Sioux - Fiske  
 Indians of the Pikes Peak Region-Howbert  
 Wild Indians and Their Daring Deeds- Stratton  
 Indian Horrors and Massacres by the Red Men - Northrop  
 Life Among the Piutes - Hopkins  
 Wi-ne-ma - Meacham  
 Tahan - Griffis  
 Indian History of the Modoc War-Riddle  
 Soul of the Indian - Eastman  
 Indian Love Letters - Ryan  
 The Fighting Cheyennes- Grinnell  
 My Friend the Indian - McLaughlin  
 Manitou- Smith  
 Indian Wars of the United States - Ellis  
 Personal Recollections of Gen. Nelson A. Miles - Miles  
 Handbook of North American Indians - Bureau of American Ethnology 2 volumes  
 History of the Sioux Indians - Robinson  
 The Vanishing Race - Dixon  
 The Flute of the Gods -aRyan  
 The Ghost Dance Religion - Mooney  
 The Calendar History of the Kiowa Indians - Mooney  
 Army Register and Dictionary of the United States - Heitman 2 volumes  
 Crooked Trails - Remington  
 John Ermine of the Yellowstone - Remington  
 Conquest of the Missouri - Hanson  
 The Sunset Trail-Lewis

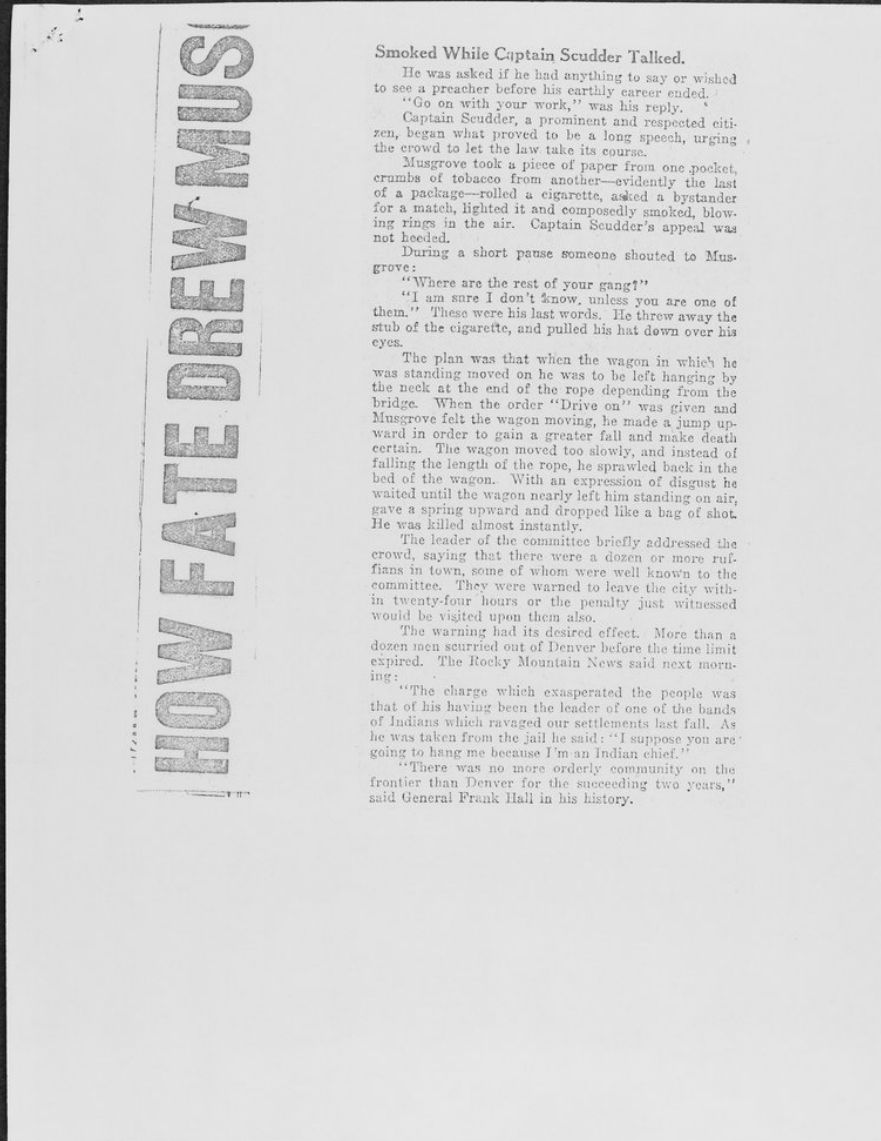
### Poetry with Some Frontier Historical Value

Cowboy Songs - Lomax  
 Songs of the Cattle Trail and Cow Camp - Lomax  
 Cowboy Lyrics - Carr  
 Trail Dust of a Maverick - Brininstool  
 Frontier Ballads - Hanson  
 Sun and Saddle Leather - Clark  
 Grass Grown Trails - Clark  
 Songs of the Outlands - Knibbs  
 Riders of the Stars - Knibbs  
 Whar Th' Hand O' God Is Seen - Capt. Jack Crawford  
 Out Where the West Begins - Chapman  
 Spell of the Yukon - Service  
 Ballads of a Cheechako-Service  
 Rhymes of a Rolling Stone - Service.  
 Rhymes of the Rookies - Christain  
 Pomes of Ohio - Ohio Arch. and Hist. Soc.

About 50 volumes of historical fiction by such authors as Wister, White, Beach, Rhodes, King, Mulford, Garland, Hough, Connor, Chambers, Churchill, Parrish, Catherwood, Major, and London.



## E. P. Lamborn correspondence and research papers



### HOW FATE DREW MUS

### GROVE INTO ITS COILS

#### Smoked While Captain Scudder Talked.

He was asked if he had anything to say or wished to see a preacher before his earthly career ended.

Captain Scudder, a prominent and respected citizen, began what proved to be a long speech, urging the crowd to let the law take its course.

From a pocket of tobacco, a piece of paper from one pocket, of a package—rolled a cigarette, asked a bystander for a match, lighted it and composedly smoked, blowing the air. Captain Scudder's speech was not heard.

During a short pause someone shouted to McGrover:

"Where are the rest of your gang?"

"I am sure I don't know where you are one of them," those were his last words. He threw away the rest of the cigarette, and pulled his hat down over his eyes.

The plan was that when the wagon in which he was standing moved on he was to be left hanging by the neck at the end of the rope depending from the top of the wagon. McGrover, however, drove on as if nothing had happened. McGrover felt the wagon moving and made a dash for it. The wagon moved too slowly, and instead of being left hanging by the neck, McGrover was left in the back of the wagon. With an expression of disgust McGrover watched until the wagon nearly left him standing on air, gave a spring upward and dropped like a bag of shot.

He was the last of the gang to be hanged. The leader of the committee briefly addressed the crowd, saying that there were a dozen or more fugitives in town, some of whom were well known to the community. McGrover was the only one who would be visited upon them also.

The warning had its desired effect. More than a dozen of the crowd, who were well known to the community, were seen to leave McGrover's side and move toward the jail. The Rocky Mountain News said next morning: "The charge which suggested the people was that of his name being a leader of the band of Indians which ravaged our settlements last fall. As McGrover was not the jail he said: 'I suppose you are right. There are no more orderly communities on the frontier than Denver for the preceding two years,' said General Frank Hall in his history."



## E. P. Lamborn correspondence and research papers

### WILD LIFE IN THE FRONTIER TOWNS OF THE UNION PACIFIC

Ed Franklin's Fight With 17 Soldiers—His  
Death in Golden—Executions of Sanford  
And Musgrove in Denver Incidents That  
Led Up to Final Scene on Cherry Creek

Dougan exhibited pitiful cowardice. As the wagon was driven toward a big cottonwood on the banks of Cherry creek, he was ordered to stand up. Seeing his end approaching, he pleaded abjectly for life. He asserted that he killed the quartz hauler in self-defense. "The man in the Black Hills was killed by another," he claimed. "I never stole anything from anybody."

Taxed with the robbery of Judge Brooks, he said, sobbing like a child: "I did assist in robbing him, but I was nearly out of money and had to do it or starve. I have been a very bad man, but I have done nothing to be hanged for. Spare my life; any other punishment. Oh, my poor mother! It will kill her."

While he was talking, a rope had been thrown over a limb of the tree and the loop fastened around his neck. He cowered and was only prevented from falling by men who held him up.

#### Dougan Dances in the Air.

"Drive on!" some one ordered. The wagon moved from under him and Dougan fell. The fall was only eighteen inches, but Dougan weighed 205 pounds and his neck was broken. His body hung there till 10 o'clock next morning as a warning to all evil-doers. The people living nearby cut down the tree to remove this blot upon their neighborhood.

All minds now turned to Musgrove, who was still in prison, awaiting trial. The Vigilance committee personally took this matter in charge. Musgrove had been talking about his men tearing down the jail and freeing him. He talked too much.

At noon of Nov. 23, 1868, the committee formally decided to act. The news spread like wildfire. At 3 o'clock the people, headed by the committee, marched down Larimer street. No masks or other disguises were used. In the committee and in the crowd were seen and recognized the best citizens of Denver—lawyers, doctors, business and professional men of all callings; but no officers of the law.

In front of the jail a halt was called. A speaker asked: "The question before you is, shall Musgrove be taken out of jail?"

A unanimous "Yes!" was the response.

"The next question is, shall he be hanged when taken out?"

"Yes," was the thunderous response.

The jail was entered without opposition. Musgrove in his cell, had heard the questions and answers and made ready to fight to the last. He had a large pine knot and, brandishing it above him, cried "Come on! I am ready for you." Several shots were fired over his head as a hint that the crowd did not propose to enter into a combat. He agreed to surrender on condition that he would not be shot down.

"I suppose you are going to hang me because I'm an Indian chief," he ventured, but the crowd gave him no information. In dead silence he was hustled out of the jail to Larimer street, and thence under the bridge over Cherry creek. He was absolutely cool, even nonchalant, without braggadocio, to the last. No man could have met death with more imperturbability. Standing in the wagon he asked for pencil and paper with which he wished to write to his brother and his wife. The writing material was supplied and he wrote two notes of about seventy-five words each with a perfectly steady hand and without a trace of nervousness. He handed the notes to R. W. Woodbury, with a polite request that he put them in the mail.