

{ Copy for }  
{ Translator. }

Jan 4<sup>th</sup> 1888.

Gen<sup>l</sup> Wayne P. O. P. A.  
U. S. America.

To His Excellency,  
President General Porfirio Diaz.

Sir;

Your courteous reply, and invitation to specify the wishes of the Sinaloa Colonists, command our grateful thanks.

Your Excellency promises a thoughtful consideration of all such suggestions as may accord with the spirit of the Mexican colonization laws. Primarily then, we would beg you to take immediate action; to remove the difficulties at the Custom Houses; to give our colonists permission to go freely at all times to Topolobampo, and that any vessel carrying our colonists or their effects, be permitted to go direct to Topolobampo without necessarily reporting at Mazatlan or elsewhere. We

do not go to Sinaloa with an idea of taking more things than we need for our own use. We are ready to give any and every kind of guarantee that we will not sell anything that we take into Mexico; but we do wish our colonists to be encouraged to take all things necessary for their own comfort and usefulness. This cannot be done if Mexico detains these things, and charges up fines and duties. We do not desire "head-money," but simply the right to go to Mexico with all our possessions; to settle down there with the feeling that we are "at home" and among friends. For notwithstanding the friendly concessions of your Government, actual difficulties are encountered by immigrants to Sinaloa. An adverse influence has found means to hamper the colonists to such an extent that instead of being assisted, they have had positive disadvantages created for them, in addition to those natural and inevitable hardships which pioneers expect.

2 free, and as much more as he desired to purchase - to a limit of 1500 acres - at about 75 cents of our money. Or the settler may acquire 1500 acres free, after 5 years, by planting 200 acres to grain and 24 acres to timber. Free transportation from Buenos Ayres to the place of location is granted to all settlers and their families; exemption from taxation for ten years; and colonization societies are organized which issue bonds guaranteed by the Government, the proceeds of which are loaned to the settlers in sums not greater than \$1,000. for 5 years, with interest at 6 per cent, upon the cultivation of a certain amount of land and the erection of a certain amount of improvements." As a result of these beneficent laws, the population of the Argentine Republic has increased 154 per cent. to 79 per cent. <sup>increase</sup> in the United States during the same period, and the city of Buenos Ayres grows faster than Minneapolis or Denver, receiving last year 124 thousand immigrants from Europe, while the natural increase is very large. In 1886 nearly 900,000 acres of wild land were ploughed and planted. One firm in Buenos Ayres sold 1200 reapers manufactured in the United States, and other firms a lesser

number. Elevators are being erected upon the banks of the rivers, to load wheat into vessels for Europe and Brazil and the average crop of wheat was 22 bushels per acre. (See No. 1. herewith.)

The latest news from Paraguay, as announced by the American press, is that "the Government will supply land, provisions, houses, stock and everything necessary for the making of comfortable homes, and will give the colonists ample time to reimburse the State, without interest, for the actual money expended in giving him a start." (See No. 2. herewith.)

Nor are these distant and undeveloped States alone in competition for colonists. The State of Texas has just called a convention of 600 delegates selected from her best citizens, scarcely more than a score of whom are habitual politicians, that they may raise an immigration fund, draw <sup>up</sup> plans for local organization for immigration purposes, and consult with State and Railroad authorities as to the best means of attracting immigrants, both by cheap rates of transportation and other inducements. (See Nos. 3 and 4 herewith.)

It is thus apparent on all sides that the broader Statesmanship of today, practically and efficiently recognizes

the interest of Mexico, making Topolobampo the Baltimore of the new era, and carrying fruits grown there, as well as our industrial manufactures to all parts of the world. A U. S. Steamship has just touched at Topolobampo and her Commander reports the colony in excellent condition and "the harbor one of the finest; its capacity very great." (See No. 6.) With these fast sailing vessels plying to all parts of Asia and Oceania, Mexico could compete with the Steamship companies of England, and divert a large part of that huge commerce which now goes elsewhere. As to fruits, they would find a speedy market in the United States, for although orange growing is one of our rising industries, recent statistics show that the home product cannot do more than half meet the home consumption, while for lemons we must still look to Italy. (See No. 7.) This industry would bring in a speedy revenue. Many others might be instanced; but these suffice to show that we only need encouragement and those inducements which the practical political economy of the day recognizes as absolutely necessary to the development of internal resources, in order to make a success of our colony, and to repay Mexico in ample measure for whatever assistance she may give to our mutual interests. Let your Govern-

ment but once meet us in the co-operative spirit, and we shall find it easy to justify your action and make good all expectations.

Perhaps you will ask why we should be the favored ones.

1<sup>st</sup>. Because Tapolobampo is the point at which the stream of progress (in the wisdom of natural selection) has first touched Mexico, and because there is already a fine industrial basis established there.

2<sup>nd</sup>. Because the situation and other advantages of Tapolobampo, favor a variety of commercial, agricultural and industrial enterprises, so that each would assist the other.

3<sup>rd</sup>. Because we are especially the friends of Mexico, and ardently desire to co-operate with her in building up a diversification of home industries. We have put up a large stake; the stake of our lives and principles, and our whole future, moral and financial, is bound up in this matter.

4<sup>th</sup>. Because to this end, a united colony of skilled artisans is more competent and more valuable than <sup>a much</sup> ~~an even~~ greater number of scattered immigrants, many of whom would be without education, or industrial training.

5<sup>th</sup>. Because it is more to your ad-

vantage to encourage our united production than that of separate competitive companies.

Our social principles give you a guarantee of a beneficial order. Our main interest is the consolidation and diversification of State industries; the establishment of comfortable homes and of schools; the development of natural resources and the inauguration of a system of domestic production and exchange, all as a unity, as one entire progressive interdependent undertaking. On the other hand, the interest of competitive companies is to kill out all other enterprises which may divert the public money from them, and to accumulate capital which is spent out of the country in foreign luxuries and travel.

It is our interest to make a future for Mexico: it is their interest to make their future out of Mexico. They sequester capital; we keep capital in circulation, and this is the great factor of industrial success. They ~~try~~ <sup>try</sup> to confine industry to a single point. Our effort is to open up as many directions to it, as can be discovered.

The first step towards a revised colonization policy would give an impetus to a new industrial era for

Mexico, and even those persons at first disappointed in their private interests, could soon find that the change, in enlarging national resources, had also included their own. But time passes, and those countries who first enter the field will, (like the Argentine Republic) reap the first advantage. Colonists cannot hold on against odds.

Wherefore I submit these facts, and would respectfully urge that your Excellency promptly consider the case, and take the colony under your especial protection, and that you let us have a letter from you which may reassure our people and stimulate them to move without further delay and to assist in building up the homes, schools and industries of Sinaloa.

With renewed thanks for your Excellency's most generous hearing, I beg to offer the assurance of my profound consideration.

(Senora)

Julia Campbell VerPlanck

the necessity of liberal encouragement to immigration, in order that national resources may be developed, not by corporations whose interest begins and ends with the profits they may acquire, — but by individuals who will settle upon the land, form industrial communities, permanently increase the population and build up and consolidate the State industries.

We ask your attention to the contrast between these invitations and welcomes to immigrants, and the perplexities assailing them at Sinaloa.

Ours are not ordinary immigrants, but persons of intelligence, education; masters in all cases of one or more trades and, generally speaking, possessed of some means. Their first act on reaching the colony, was to open schools under competent teachers, where the children continue to make excellent progress, and are steady attendants, as shown by regular school bulletins. The needless disadvantages to which they are subjected react most unfavorably upon our stock-holders, and also upon all intending investors and immigrants. They argue that these facts adduce that the international and industrial spirit of our progressive era, has not yet taken hold

upon Mexico.

It is easily within the power of your Government to restore this wavering confidence. There is an immense amount of industrial energy stored up in the Colony and in those 5000 stockholders who now await your action in their behalf. Why should not Mexico at once utilize this energy in to her own advantage and to ours? Why should not your Excellency, in the interests of Colonization, have Governor Canedo visit the colony, and ascertain these facts for your information? But prompt action is urgently required.

It has been the policy of your Government to offer "head money" for every colonist shipped to Mexico through money making contractors, and to offer subsidies for the starting of new industries. Why should not such subsidies be offered to our Colony? Many industries

could be rapidly built up there. The Government of Columbia offered \$10,000 in silver to any one who would discover a new merchantable article of export, and two such discoveries were claimed.

(See No. 5. A.) In our State of Pennsylvania, glass workers out upon a strike last week determined to establish co-operative factories of their own, and a capital stock of over \$80,000 has been already established. (See No. 5. B.) Why should not Mexico offer inducements to such skilled persons to begin the manufacture of finished articles in glass at Sinaloa? Or again, why should not Mexico build her own ships? If we were encouraged we could build sailing vessels of 800 or 1000 tons at Topolobampo, and revive the clipper service in the

The supplies sent out to them in May last are still held at La Paz; the supplies of June were held at Mazatlan until the middle of July; those of August until September. The sum of \$722, deposited at Guaymas, was seized without any notice, and at a time when the balance due the colonists by the Mexican Government was at least \$4000 or \$5000: this money is still held. Then again, the concessions provided that the Port of Topolobampo should be open to foreign commerce. It is true that the Department of Public Works asked the steamers of the Mexican International Steamship Line to stop at Topolobampo; but it is also true that the Secretary of the Treasury has prohibited colonists to go upon the said steamers without getting a specific permission each time from the said Secretary, and although President E. L. Wells has given positive orders

for the steamers to touch at Topolobampo  
on their regular trips, the fact remains that  
they have not as yet done so. These im-  
pediments amount to a prohibition of  
immigration, and <sup>your Excellency will observe that</sup> through the unfriendly  
influence of California land speculators,  
and organized Companies interested in  
killing every enterprise not controlled by  
themselves, our colonists are in practi-  
-cal respects placed in the position of  
enemies to Mexico, at a time when other  
countries are outbidding each other in the  
effort to secure even the ordinary class of  
immigrants, and when your Government  
has officially declared in favor of such  
colonization.

I would <sup>also</sup> beg to call your attention to  
the marked advance in the policy of  
other Governments in respect of coloniza-  
-tion laws. The Argentine Republic has  
enacted land laws even more liberal  
than ours, (U. S.) to tempt immigrants  
into agricultural districts. "Each head  
of a family is entitled to 250 acres

San Blas, August 1st, 1888.

A. K. Owen, C. Ez, X X X

Room 708, 32 Nassau Street,  
New York City.

Dear Colonel:

Yours of July 1st reached me yesterday  
(31st), just one month on the road.

X X X X

The person I worked for was Mr. Huller; he had the  
concessions for the "Sonora Southern," and had the reconnois-  
sance surveys, maps, profiles and general estimates made; on  
the preparation of which I was employed.

The concessions called for a line from Guaymas south, via  
Alamos to Agaibampo and a branch to Topolobampo if desired.  
Seeing the advantage to your R. R. schemes the line would be,  
built direct to "Topo," I used every effort to leave Agaibampo  
out and get the report to favor Topolobampo. I succeeded so  
well that I was allowed to write at least half of the report,  
showing that the entire line along the coast, leaving out Alamos  
and Agaibampo, though 54 kilometers longer would cost one  
quarter of a million dollars less than the line via Alamos to  
Agaibampo, etc. Showed that "Topo" was a harbor that would  
hold the ships of the world, while Agaibampo was little better  
than an estero, and no harbor at all, etc. The result was  
that Huller got his concessions renewed, thus: From Guaymas  
south to Topolobampo with branches, if needed, to Alamos and  
Agaibampo; a line from "Topo" via Fuerte across the Mts. to  
Guerrero on the M. C. in Chihuahua. I saw this in one of the



Mexican papers last month; Don Roberto Orrantia sent it to me.

X X X A. K. Owen, Esq.

Room 708, 32 Nassau Street,  
Sincerely your friend,  
New York City.

Dear Colonel:

Yours of July 1st reached me yesterday

(3rd), just one month on the road.

X X X

The person I worked for was Mr. Huller; he had the

concessions for the "Sonora Southern," and had the reconnaissance

and general estimates made; on

the preparation of which I was employed.

The concession called for a line from Guaymas south, via

Alamos to Aguilera and a branch to Topolobampo if desired.

Seeing the advantage to your R. R. scheme the line would be

built direct to "Topo," I used every effort to leave Aguilera

out and get the report to favor Topolobampo. I succeeded so

well that I was allowed to write at least half of the report,

showing that the entire line along the coast, leaving out Alamos

and Aguilera, though 24 kilometers longer would cost one

quarter of a million dollars less than the line via Alamos to

Aguilera, etc. Showed that "Topo" was a harbor that would

hold the ships of the world, while Aguilera was little better

than an estero, and no harbor at all, etc. The result was

that Huller got his concessions renewed, that from Guaymas

south to Topolobampo with branches, if needed, to Alamos and

Aguilera; a line from "Topo" via Puerto across the Mts. to

Guaymas on the N. C. in Chihuahua. I saw this in one of the

48

Mexican papers last month; Don Roberto Orta sent it to me.  
San Blas, August 1st, 1888.

x x x x x

A. K. Owen, C. E.,

Room 708, 32 Nassau Street,

New York City.

Dear Colonel:

Yours of July 1st reached me yesterday  
(31st), just one month on the road.

x x x x

The person I worked for was Mr. Huller; he had the concessions for the "Sonora Southern," and had the reconnoisance surveys, maps, profiles and general estimates made; on the preparation of which I was employed.

The concessions called for a line from Guaymas south, via Alamos to Agaibampo and a branch to Topolobampo if desired. Seeing the advantage to your R. R. schemes the line would be, built direct to "Topo," I used every effort to leave Agaibampo out and get the report to favor Topolobampo. I succeeded so well that I was allowed to write at least half of the report, showing that the entire line along the coast, leaving out Alamos and Agaibampo, though 54 kilometers longer would cost one quarter of a million dollars less than the line via Alamos to Agaibampo, etc. Showed that "Topo" was a harbor that would hold the ships of the world, while Agaibampo was little better than an estero, and no harbor at all, etc. The result was that Huller got his concessions renewed, thus: From Guaymas south to Topolobampo with branches, if needed, to Alamos and Agaibampo; a line from "Topo" via Fuerte across the Mts. to Guerrero on the M. C. in Chihuahua. I saw this in one of the

Mexican papers last month; Don Roberto Orrantia sent it to me.  
San Blas, August 1st, 1888.

X X X X X  
A. K. Owen, C. E.

Sincerely your friend,  
Room 708, Broadway

New York City.

Dear General:

Yours of July 1st reached me yesterday

(31st), just one month on the road.

X X X X X

The person I worked for was Mr. Miller; he had the  
concessions for the "Sonora Southern," and had the reconnais-  
sance surveys, maps, profiles and general estimates made; on  
the preparation of which I was employed.

The concessions called for a line from Guaymas north, via  
Alamos to Aguilera and a branch to Topolobampo if desired.  
Being the advantage to your R. R. schemes the line would be  
built direct to "Topo." I used every effort to leave Aguilera  
out and get the report to favor Topolobampo. I succeeded so  
well that I was allowed to write at least half of the report,  
showing that the entire line along the coast, leaving out Alamos  
and Aguilera, though 84 kilometers longer would cost one  
quarter of a million dollars less than the line via Alamos to  
Aguilera, etc. Showed that "Topo" was a harbor that would  
hold the ships of the world, while Aguilera was little better  
than an estero, and no harbor at all, etc. The result was  
that Miller got his concessions renewed, thus: From Guaymas  
south to Topolobampo with branches, if needed, to Alamos and  
Aguilera; a line from "Topo" via Puerto across the Mts. to  
Guerrero on the M. G. in Chihuahua. I saw this in one of the

San Blas, August 1st, 1888.

A. K. Owen, C. E., x x x

Room 708, 32 Nassau Street,  
New York City.

Dear Colonel:

Yours of July 1st reached me yesterday  
(31st), just one month on the road.

x x x x

The person I worked for was Mr. Huller; he had the concessions for the "Senora Southern," and had the reconnoissance surveys, maps, profiles and general estimates made; on the preparation of which I was employed.

The concessions called for a line from Guaymas south, via Alamos to Agaibampo and a branch to Topolobampo if desired. Seeing the advantage to your R. R. schemes the line would be built direct to "Tope," I used every effort to leave Agaibampo out and get the report to favor Topolobampo. I succeeded so well that I was allowed to write at least half of the report, showing that the entire line along the coast, leaving out Alamos and Agaibampo, though 54 kilometers longer would cost one quarter of a million dollars less than the line via Alamos to Agaibampo, etc. Showed that "Tope" was a harbor that would hold the ships of the world, while Agaibampo was little better than an estero, and no harbor at all, etc. The result was that Huller got his concessions renewed, thus: From Guaymas south to Topolobampo with branches, if needed, to Alamos and Agaibampo; a line from "Tope" via Fuerte across the Mts. to Guerrero on the H. C. in Chihuahua. I saw this in one of the

Mexican papers last month; Don Roberto Orrantia sent it to me.

X X X X X

Room 508, 22 Nassau Street,  
Sincerely your friend,  
New York City.

Dear Colonel:

Yours of July 1st reached me yesterday.

(Sist), just one month on the road.

X X X X X

The person I worked for was Mr. Miller; he had the  
concessions for the "General Government," and had the resources  
since surveys, maps, profiles and general estimates made; on  
the preparation of which I was employed.

The concessions called for a line from Guaymas north, via  
Alamos to Aguilera and a branch to Tepic. Being the  
best of the country for your R. R. scheme the line would be  
built direct to Tepic. I made every effort to leave Aguilera  
out and got the report to favor Tepic. I succeeded so  
well that I was allowed to write at least half of the report,  
showing that the entire line along the coast, leaving out Alamos  
and Aguilera, through 24 kilometers longer would cost one  
quarter of a million dollars less than the line via Alamos to  
Aguilera, etc. Showed that "Tepic" was a harbor that would  
hold the ships of the world, while Aguilera was little better  
than an cadero, and no harbor at all, etc. The result was  
that Miller got his concessions renewed, that from Guaymas  
south to Tepic with branches, it needed, to Alamos and  
Aguilera; a line from Tepic via Puerto Blanco to Alamos and  
Guaymas on the R. R. in Chihuahua. I saw this in one of the

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San Blas, August 1st, 1888.

A. K. Owen, C. E.,        x        x        x

Room 708, 32 Nassau Street,  
New York City.

Dear Colonel:

Yours of July 1st reached me yesterday  
(31st), just one month on the road.

x        x        x        x

The person I worked for was Mr. Huller; he had the concessions for the "Sonora Southern," and had the reconnoissance surveys, maps, profiles and general estimates made; on the preparation of which I was employed.

The concessions called for a line from Guaymas south, via Alamos to Agaibampo and a branch to Topolobampo if desired. Seeing the advantage to your R. R. schemes the line would be, built direct to "Topo," I used every effort to leave Agaibampo out and get the report to favor Topolobampo. I succeeded so well that I was allowed to write at least half of the report, showing that the entire line along the coast, leaving out Alamos and Agaibampo, though 54 kilometers longer would cost one quarter of a million dollars less than the line via Alamos to Agaibampo, etc. Showed that "Topo" was a harbor that would hold the ships of the world, while Agaibampo was little better than an estero, and no harbor at all, etc. The result was that Huller got his concessions renewed, thus: From Guaymas south to Topolobampo with branches, if needed, to Alamos and Agaibampo; a line from "Topo" via Fuerte across the Mts. to Guerrero on the M. C. in Chihuahua. I saw this in one of the

Mexican papers last month; Don Roberto Orrantia sent it to me.

x x x A. E. Owen, Esq.

Room 708, 35 Nassau Street,  
Sincerely your friend,  
New York City.

Dear Colonel:

Yours of July 1st reached me yesterday

(31st), just one month on the road.

x x x

The person I worked for was Mr. Miller; he had the  
concessions for the "Sonora Southern," and had the reconnais-  
sance surveys, maps, profiles and general estimates made; on  
the preparation of which I was employed.

The concessions called for a line from Guaymas south, via  
Alamos to Aguila and a branch to Topolobampo if desired.  
Being the advantage to your R. R. schemes the line would be  
built direct to Topolobampo, I had every effort to leave Aguila  
out and get the report in favor of Topolobampo. I succeeded so  
well that I was allowed to write at least half of the report,  
showing that the entire line along the coast, leaving out Alamos  
and Aguila, though 50 kilometers longer would cost one  
quarter of a million dollars less than the line via Alamos to  
Aguila, etc. Showed that "Topo" was a harbor that would  
hold the ships of the world, while Aguila was little better  
than an estero, and no harbor at all, etc. The result was  
that Miller got his concessions renewed, times: from Guaymas  
south to Topolobampo with branches, if needed, to Alamos and  
Aguila; a line from "Topo" via Puerto Libertad to  
Guaymas on the R. R. in Culiacan. I saw this in one of the

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San Blas, August 1st, 1888.

A. K. Owen, C. E., x x x

Room 708, 32 Nassau Street,  
New York City.

Dear Colonel:

Yours of July 1st reached me yesterday (31st), just one month on the road.

x x x x

The person I worked for was Mr. Huller; he had the concessions for the "Sonora Southern," and had the reconnaissance surveys, maps, profiles and general estimates made; on the preparation of which I was employed.

The concessions called for a line from Guaymas south, via Alamos to Agaibampo and a branch to Topolobampo if desired. Seeing the advantage to your R. R. schemes the line would be built direct to "Topo," I used every effort to leave Agaibampo out and get the report to favor Topolobampo. I succeeded so well that I was allowed to write at least half of the report, showing that the entire line along the coast, leaving out Alamos and Agaibampo, though 54 kilometers longer would cost one quarter of a million dollars less than the line via Alamos to Agaibampo, etc. Showed that "Topo" was a harbor that would hold the ships of the world, while Agaibampo was little better than an estero, and no harbor at all, etc. The result was that Huller got his concessions renewed, thus: From Guaymas south to Topolobampo with branches, if needed, to Alamos and Agaibampo; a line from "Topo" via Fuerte across the Mts. to Guerrero on the M. C. in Chihuahua. I saw this in one of the



Mexican papers last month; Don Roberto Orrantia sent it to me.

X X X X X

Room 708, 32 Nassau Street,  
Sincerely your friend,  
New York City.

Dear Colonel:

Yours of July 1st reached me yesterday

(31st), just one month on the road.

X X X X X

The person I worked for was Mr. Miller; he had the  
concessions for the "Bonora Gebayn," and had the reconnaissance  
maps, profiles and general estimates made; on  
the proposition of which I was employed.

The concession called for a line from Guaymas south, via  
Alamos to Aguilera and a branch to Topolobampo if desired.  
Seeing the advantage to your N. R. scheme the line would be  
built direct to Topolobampo. I used every effort to have Aguilera  
cut out and get the report to favor Topolobampo. I suggested so  
well that I was allowed to write at least half of the report,  
showing that the entire line along the coast, leaving out Alamos  
and Aguilera, through San Kilometer longer would cost one  
quarter of a million dollars less than the line via Alamos to  
Aguilera, etc. Showed that Topolobampo was a harbor that would  
hold the ships of the world, while Aguilera was little better  
than an cove, and no harbor at all, etc. The result was  
that Miller got his concession renewed, from Guaymas  
south to Topolobampo with branches, if needed, to Alamos and  
Aguilera; a line from Topolobampo via Tuxtepec across the RR, to  
Quetzere on the N.C. in Guatemala. I saw this in one of the

vy  
dup

State of New York )  
                          ) s.s.  
County of New York)

Albert K. Owen being duly sworn, says:

That the accompany-  
ing letter, dated Fuerte, November 7th. 1888 by Carlos S. Retes  
to George W. Simmons is a translation made by Edward S. Herrera  
of Mexico City; that the original letter was in Spanish and  
was sent to him (Owen) from Boston, Mass. by George W. Simmons  
and it was handed by him (Owen) to lawyer Ramon Obergon, at Mex-  
ico City together with 24 other letters and documents in order  
to meet the "conspiracy" of Streeter, Hoffman and Retes when  
they first attempted to break up the Topolobampo Colony, to seize  
Los Tastes Ditch and to grab Los Hochis lands, and the said letter  
was used by lawyer Obergon before the Courts of Mexico in winning  
that case, but it has not yet been returned to him (Owen).

*Albert K. Owen.*

Fuerte Nov.7th 1888

Mr. G.W. Simons

Boston, Mass.

My dear Sir:

After many years of not corresponding with you I send you this with two purposes, besides presenting my respects to you, your family and your brother James.

Firstly I wish to tell you that the widow of the late Mr Fitch is very heart broken as a consequence of her isolated condition and of her scanty means, without more friends than her brother in law Mr A. Hubbard and myself, and neither this gentleman nor I can do anything without your help and to the effect that the percentage that her dead husband represented in the Mochis lands be acknowledged to her. I beg you, who know her share is included in the  $83 \frac{3}{8} \%$  to send to her a document for her protection. I request this of you, as it was to you, as representative of the Company, to whom I transferred  $83 \frac{3}{8} \%$  of the 100 parts in which the Mochis lands were divided, in as much as I only sold to the Company which you represented 50 %, namely 50 alternated lots as is expressed in the X clause of the contract. As there is a difference of  $30 \frac{3}{8} \%$  that does not belong to the Company, you better than any one else know to whom it belongs and may give his share to every party. I have told this to Mrs Fitch and she told me that her only hope is in you and that she is pretty sure you will send her a document to show and justify her share (or representation)

My knowledge of the ownership of the remaining 50 % which does not belong to the Company is as follows:

Mr Owen 10 %  
Mr Carman 10 % -

5 % for some parties in Mexico and given by me at the time, which is now expired.

II  $5 \frac{1}{8} \%$  Mr Blas Ybarra. - 4 % Mr Leonardo Ybarra. -  $5 \frac{3}{8} \%$  Mr Fitch. - 4 % Myself; instead of 9 %, as 5 % of it was devoted as a commission to some big party in Mexico, in order to obtain a successful result.

My second purpose is to tell you that as you probably know the parties representing the excess of  $30 \frac{3}{8}$  that together with the 50 % referred to in the contract drawn in your favor, and whereas the 5 % which was put apart for some party in Mexico could not be used on account of the concessions having expired, I beg you to acknowledge to me said 5 % (which) as

the original and only owner that appears in the excess of 30 3/8 %.

As the opinion that I formed of you in the short time I knew you and corresponded with you is, that of a gentleman of good judgment, honest and just, so I doubt not but that you will acknowledge the justice of my request.

You are also aware that I was the only one that worked to obtain the titles from the Mexican Government, and he who surveyed the lands was Mr Fitch; that it did not cost Mr Owen to obtain the 10 % he represents, nor Mr Carman his 10 % and therefore you will find in your just conscience that 5 % given by me conditionally, for that party in Mexico, who have received nothing, ought to return to its original owner.

Mr Fitch and I request of you an answer, at your earliest convenience.

Yours respectfully

Carlos S Retes