

March 2nd 94
out of the
+ Pasco
El Fuerte, Feb. 3rd 1894

Dear friend Owen:

I came up here yesterday with the paper, also to examine the record and forward telegram. I will inclose a copy of the last telegram to Don Martin from the Secretary. It seems that the Secretary will not sustain us in demanding that all Colonists shall keep their contracts with the Concessionaire. The Secretary has instructed the Governor to appoint an administrator for the water to divide it according to the contract you made with Governor Canedo and the Governor has appointed Ochoa to fill that place, but I have not learned yet whether Ochoa will accept or not. Ochoa has received instructions but I do not know what they are yet. Witherspoon is here in Fuerte and says that he has been examining the records since the year 1870 and that you have not recorded right nor never did have to any lands here. There are the stories that he is circulating. He is paid for his work here by the enemy. Claims to have the whole City Site in his hands for sale, which he will sell at \$4. per acre. He is making wholesale defamations of your character and is no doubt assisted by nearly all the big men of Fuerte. They are doing us all the damage possible and are capable of doing a great deal of mischief.

Of course I need not urge upon you the necessity of our getting organized as soon as possible. It looks as if it would be impossible to hold the people together much longer

in suspense. Some of our ² best people talk of leaving
if matters are not settled soon. If the friends in the
North are able to do anything now is the time to
take hold. I sincerely hope that your trip to Eng-
land has been as successful as you hoped for, and
that you are now in shape to establish your rights
as Concessionaire and to refute the lies of these con-
spirators. It seems to me that decided action with
considerable means is all that can save us. The
enemy is exciting the envy of Speculators in the
Valley and it looks as if they had joined hands to
destroy us.

Do not understand that I am in the least
disheartened, but I wish you to know the worst.

The Contract between Rice and Hoffman was
not registered in the year 1891. Will look in years
'90, '92 & '93. I have difficulty in getting access to
the records. I have to await the leisure of the officials.
The Judge is the same that issued the Charter to the
Loveland Company and does not seem inclined to
favor us much.

All well at the farm when I left.

Yours fraternally

Geo L. Page.

in suspense. Some of our best people talk of leaving if matters are not settled soon. If the friends in the North are able to do anything now is the time to take hold. I sincerely hope that your trip to England has been as successful as you hoped for, and that you are now in shape to establish your rights as Concessionaire and to refute the lies of these conspirators. It seems to me that decided action with considerable means is all that can save us. The enemy is exciting the envy of speculators in the Valley and it looks as if they had joined hands to destroy us.

Do not understand that I am in the least disheartened, but I wish you to know the worst.

The Contract between Rice and Hoffman was not registered in the year 1891. Will look in years '90, '92 & '93. I have difficulty in getting access to the records. I have to await the leisure of the officials. The Judge is the same that issued the Charter to the Fairland Company and does not seem inclined to favor us much.

All well at the farm when I left.
 Yours fraternally
 Geo L. Page.

Copy

City of Mexico, Feb 6th 1894

Mr. A. K. Owen
New York.

Yesterdays mail brought me two documents, addressed to Mr Fernandez, by Mr Law, and by Mr Patten, relative to the troubles with the Plat people. These documents have been duly handed to Mr Fernandez.

I suppose you have received copies of these papers.

Ed. S. Herrera.

No communication received with the above.

Em H.

Feb 12/94

Traduccion.

Villa de Choix, Sinaloa, Febrero 12 de 1894.

Sr. Geo. W Simmons.

Boston, Mass.

Muy Señor mio:

Hace pocos dias por casualidad, ví en el diario Oficial del Gobierno de este Estado, el aviso de una venta hecha por Mr. H.A.Hart, como apoderado de la Compañia Kansas Sinaloa Investment, de 8.000 acres de terrenos en "Los Mochis", por \$8.000, á Mr. Chas D Streeter; y tambien el aviso de una venta hecha por la Sra. de Retes, esposa de Carlos S. Retes, de todos sus derechos, en los terrenos de "Los Mochis", por la cantidad de \$18.720 (en oro americano) al mismo Mr. Chas. D. Streeter; y creyendo que esto pudiera interesar á Vd., he cortado dichos avisos, y se los incluyo en la presente.

Con fecha de 25 de Febrero, recibí una carta del Sr. Carlos S Retes, preguntándome á quien habia yo remitido, ó entregado, los 13 títulos del terreno de "Los Mochis", cuyos títulos me entregó, en 1883, para la Compañia del Ferrocarril. Le he dicho que los entregué al Sr. Rodgers, quien era á la sazón el apoderado de dicha Compañia.

He remitido aviso de las ventas á que hago antes referencia, al Sr. Antonio V. Gastélum, el abogado que he aconsejado á Vd. que emplee para defenderle en el negocio de "Los Mochis", y le he encargado me diga si será necesario dar pasos desde luego para impedir la venta de los terrenos de "Los Mochis" por la Sra de Retes. Espero carta de él dentro de pocos dias. Si opina por que debe procederse inmediatamente, telegrafiaré á Vd. para que remita poder en forma; y si él no puede encargarse del negocio, diré á Vd á quien ha de mandar el Poder. En caso de que halla que ir al juzgado del Fuerte con este negocio, será bueno que pida Vd al Sr Owen consiga cartas de recomendacion para algunos de los principales funcionarios, de los personajes de la politica en Mexico. Puede hacersele ver al Presidente que Retes vendió "Los Mochis" á la Compañia, para colonizar, y ahora, pretestando cosas inadmisibles, pretende que aquella venta sea considerada como nula, despues de haber recibido, y gastado el dinero. Ademas los colonos han estado en posesion de esos terrenos, los han cultivado y mejorado—y esto, por mas de diez años No dudo que podran conseguirse buenas recomendaciones para el Juez del Fuerte y tampoco dudo que Retes perderá el negocio.

Deseando á Vd un buen resultado, me repito su afmo a amigo y S.S.

Wm.V.Lamphar

COPY.

vq
dup

London, England, March 5, 1894.

Gen. Porfirio Diaz,
President of Mexico.

Dear President Diaz:

You have asked me to write direct and to be frank in case of danger to my colony, hence, this petition; for I feel that my colonists are in more danger at this time than at any other since we began to make habitable the deserted and waste places in and around Topolobampo Bay.

First, Mr. President, I beg to refer you to my private letter dated Dec. 6, 1893, and particularly to the last paragraph but one, in which I show my appreciation of the kind words of Governor Canedo, in his letter to me of Sept. 21, '93, but in which I intimate that there are certain persons in the Rio Fuerte Valley, whom Governor Canedo trusts, who are in one way or another, but always secretly and with studied shrewdness, protecting and urging the conspirators and discontented colonists to break up my organization by demoralizing the industry, peace and order of my law abiding and good colonists.

I am in receipt of a communication from the Directors of The Topolobampo Colony and of a letter from Mr. George L. Page, translations of which I herewith enclose; and by the information therein given, Mr. President, you will see that I am confirmed in my previously expressed suspicions, and that I have not appealed to you, Mr. President, by telegram, in person, and by letter, since June last, without having great and special need of your protection under the extraordinary circumstances which have taken place in Sinaloa, and I am just now in receipt of information by which I see that my greatest fears have been realized, for the Government has removed Senor Don Martin Vega as "Encargado" and replaced this one man in the Rio Fuerte Valley, who lives near the Colony and who is outside of the control of Don Francisco Orrantia, by a person who is in every way obligated to do as Senor Orrantia wishes; and who will certainly cause my Colonists the gravest mistrust of the Government's intentions and the greatest alarm for their properties and lives; for, Mr. President, these Colonists know full well and sadly that the Fuerte City influences are determined to demoralize and ruin them.

Mr. President, I know that I must not take much of your time, hence, I will be brief as I can, trusting that you will admit me to your presence

As soon as I can go to your good Capital, that I may explain in detail the intrigues which now are actively and determinedly at work in Sinaloa to tumble into one ruin all that I have for twenty-two years, patiently, at great cost of money and life built up in Northwest Mexico. I entreat, I implore you, Mr. President, to understand that Senor Orrantia will destroy my Colony if not prevented by the strong hand of the Federal Government; for in that entire state of Sinaloa every influence will be used to discourage my Colonists and to misrepresent their every act at the Mexican Capital, and it is impossible, under the condition of things such as they exist in that far out of the way State, for any statement to be made which would conflict with the purposes which such a man as Senor Orrantia might have in view. My concessions, both Colony and Railroad, are to be destroyed, the ditch, "demesias", cleared lands, etc. are to be seized and put into the control of such persons as the Fuerte City influences can dictate to, and I am to be sued and imprisoned or ^{ass}assinated as soon as I go ^{back} again to take charge of my Colony. This is the open declaration of those people in Enterprise, on the "Plat" and in the Rio Fuerte Valley, and I know full well by what took ^{place} there in June last encouraged by the Fuerte City authorities and what has since been done, that that is their plan; and again I ask you Mr. President, to please protect my Colonists, my concessions and my properties in your Republic.

Senor Orrantia has the full confidence of Gov. Canedo; and Senor Orrantia controls absolutely every man who is in any responsible office in the Fuerte District, and he can and he does and he will continue to insinuate against, molest and annoy my Colonists in every way that can be devised that they may be worried and tormented and forced to do some act of violence that the local authorities may have some excuse to get them under their direct authority and from under the protection of my concessions and the Federal Government. And, Mr. President, can there be any mistake of how we would fare if once deserted by the Federal Government, can there be a doubt but that every work we have done would be seized, my Colonists forced into peonage or to leave, and all the money and labor invested by them, and all the Money invested by English and United States Citizens under my concession granted by Mexico to ~~build~~ build "a model Colony" in Sinaloa, would be lost, and

hence, I appeal again, Mr. President, to you to save us from so direful a calamity.

Mr. President, I am not at liberty to make any suggestions to you as to what is necessary under the circumstances; but to show the confidence my Colonists and myself feel in the Federal Government, we would certainly prove to you, Mr. President, that we were worthy of your trust, and confidence if we had an "Encargado" from some of the Southern or Central States of Mexico--a person who was only accountable to the Federal Government and who could advise with us and report to Mexico City just how we employed and conducted ourselves. We could then go forward in our Colony work and organization and not fear the attacks from persons in and out of Sinaloa, who have started a crusade against me personally and against the Colonists who are peaceful, industrious and law-abiding. And Mr. President I wish to say now that there has been no act or word on my part except encouragement and kindly assistance to every man, woman and child who has gone, at any time to Mexico under my concessions, all I have asked is that every one work together under the plan each and every adult agreed to in a written contract before he or she got permission from me to work upon the ditch and to settle upon the "Mochis" and all that I have asked from the Federal Government is that I be assisted to assist those who fulfil their contracts with me to the possession and to the full enjoyment of the Ditches, the lands and my concessions, and I wish to add that in no way and at no time has any Colonist been asked to pay me a cent for my expenses, for my services, or for the rights under my concessions, and at no time have I labored to build up a Colony at Topolobampo from mercenary motives and I offer my published letters, pamphlets and books and my every act for ten years in proof of these statements.

In regard to just why Senor Orrantia is determined to destroy my Colony I can mention this; Senor Orrantia rules the Fuerte District and he does not wish any great industry to grow up there which he does not control, but, more than this he has roused up to wreck my efforts to open Topolobampo and to develop "Mochis" because he learned that Senor Jose M. Ortiz, while in New York last Spring, assisted me in some Spanish translations. When I was questioned concerning my relations with

Senor Ortiz, in July last, by Gov. Canedo, in the presence of Senor Or-
 ranza, I replied that "Senor Ortiz has been socially known to me during
 two years and has made translations for me on several occasions, that
I had no other business relations with him." But this answer did not
 give satisfaction, and hence the same plan of protecting Mr. Hart and
 all others who would do me and the Colony the most injury has been con-
 tinued in, as it had been done in June when I had first to ask your pro-
 tection by telegraph from Fuerte. As another instance in the plot to
 destroy us in Sinaloa, I refer you ~~to~~ Mr. President, to the act of Senor
 Retes who in 1881, as the Agent and Attorney of Dr. Carman, Blas Ybarra,
 Fred G. Fitch and myself (I having sent the \$5,600. to pay for the sur-
 vays and the papers etc which gave possession of the entire Mochis tract)
 transferred the Mochis lands to Mr. George W. Simmons, of Boston, in
 trust for Mayor Prince, U. S. Grant, E. O. Buck, W. C. Gibson, A. K.
 Owen, et. al. in January just passed, sells again the said "Mochis lands
 to Streeter, publishes in the United States papers that he has bought
 the same--that I or the Colonists have not any rights in the Mochis-- that
 therefore, am a fraud and a swindler, and said Streeter will now sell
 these valuable lands with water at very reasonable prices; and Senor
 Alvarez and Senor Retes have in the same spirit and for the same purpose,
 and in the fraudulent way encouraged Wotherspoon to report that he has
 bought Pacific City Site--that I have not the control of a foot of ground
 on Topolobampo, that I am swindling every one and that he will sell
 Pacific City Site and lands on the Bay for \$4. per acre to any one who
 wants to buy; and in perfect keeping with this Senor Alvarez has had
 the "plat" Colonists to report that he is going to take possession at
 our landing at Topolobampo and begin to sell and build etc., so as to
 molest my Colonists who are there in peaceful possession; and these
 are some of the odd ways by which I am now confronted because there is
 only one controlling influence in the Fuerte District, and that influence
 is moving with a determined plan, day and night, to destroy the work
 to which I have consecrated my life.

I wish you, Mr. President, to know that I have not by voice or mes-
 sage had any communication from or to the "plat" Colonists after they,
 against the laws of Mexico and in violation of the contract they made
 with me, organized "The Freeland Company" upon lands owned in part by

me personally and held in part by me under written contract, but I have written to the Directors of the Topolobampo Colony TO ADMIT TO FULL privileges in the Colony any of the "Plat" Colonists who should make ^a request to be reinstated in the Colony proper and who would again sign the contract required of every adult person before he or she is permitted to settle in my Colony, and this was in perfect accord with what I understood to be the purport of your communication, Mr. President, in August last, to Gov. Canedo when I was last privileged to speak with you upon the subject--that is that you would suggest to Gov. Canedo that he should write a letter as Governor of Sinaloa to be read in public at the "Plat"--a kind, friendly letter in which those disloyal colonists were to be told that they had acted in violation of the laws of Mexico in organizing a company contrary to their contract with the Concessionaire who had assisted them to come to Sinaloa; that the Federal Government and the State authorities could not sustain them in their unlawful proceedings and that he, as Governor of Sinaloa advised them as their friend to either to return to work under the concession by which they were assisted to enter Mexico and to settle upon the "Mochis" lands or that they should go elsewhere and leave the law-avoiding colonists unmolested to carry out their plan to build up the model colony for which they came. And, Mr. President, I know full well that the Directors of the Topolobampo Colony have acted in the spirit of what I reported was your wishes in the premises.

I trust that my efforts, almost single handed, in behalf of Topolobampo and the "Mochis" lands during the entire term of your control, Mr. President, over the destinies of Mexico will not be against what I may now say and do in trying to keep that locality free from the disorders and criminal, drunken life which have characterized every other modern city which has been founded in North America. I ask you, Mr. President to assist me to build upon Topolobampo Bay a model city, free from speculators, rum, prostitution and other vices; and not allow the only successful colony that has been planted on that coast to be crushed by local greed, avarice and rapine.

For the progress of our movement in interesting good people in all parts of the world, I refer you, Mr. President, to our four papers published every month--two at the colony and two in New York City--copies

of which are regularly mailed to you, Mr. President, Senor Fernandez, Senor Cosio and others at your Capital; and I have the pleasure to report that since coming to London six weeks ago, I have signed a business contract with Hon. Harry H. Marks of Loudoun Hall, London, who is the proprietor and editor of The Financial News and The Evening Post of London, and was the founder of The Daily Express, San Antonio, Texas, and I have called upon Senor Don Cazetano Romero, Charge de Affairs of Mexico and offered him the columns of these papers to protect Mexico's Credit here and on the border--two places of most importance. Mr. Marks and his friends are ^{now} organizing a syndicate to furnish money to build the railroad from Topolobampo eastward, and I hope within a few days to have progressed sufficiently to be ready to report to Gen. Cosio upon the subject. Certain it is that here I have associated influences, in my Colony and railroad, which will go far to assist the Charge d' Affairs of Mexico at this Capital to put Mexico before the financial world as the Government has never before been placed.

Asking your pardon, Mr. President, for w^riting so long a letter and thanking you many times and kindly for your past attentions, believe me to be with high esteem.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) Albert K. Owen.

P. S.

I will send this letter to my Secretary in New York, to copy in his own plain hand so that it can the better be read, but further than that it is strictly confidential.

(Signed) A.K.Owen.

Albert K. Owen.

COPY.

Villa de Obis, Sinaloa, Mexico, Mar. 25rd. 1894.

Geo. W. Simons Esq.,

Boston.

Dear Sir:-

Your favor of the 1st. is received. Mr. Castelus (the lawyer I recommended to you) was not my attorney when the deeds were executed; I employed no attorney as I was only instructed to receive the deeds from Mr. Retes, the purchase of the property having been made before by yourself and Dr. Carmen; the judge of the court at that time was a friend of mine and I requested him to see that the deeds were properly executed; he told me they were, so I considered them all right. Mr. Castelus's ^{last} letter I sent you explains ^{what} the trouble is; it appears that Retes made an agreement with several persons holding claims to the "Zochis lands" to buy their rights; he sold to you, but failed to carry out his agreement with the other parties, so he sold that which he did not have, thereby acting the part of a swindler, for which he is criminally responsible and ought to be put in prison. I am satisfied Retes alone is responsible for all the trouble, no one has been connected with him in this business.

I don't think Castelus is engaged by Retes in this business; I know Retes came to Castelus to engage his services but Castelus refused to serve him under the conditions proposed by Retes; then Retes put the business in the hands of Dr. Gregorio Delgado (a relative of his). I know the agents of the K. S. I. Co. here solicited the services of Castelus, but do not know if he accepted their propositions. I do not believe him capable of serving you and your enemies at the same time; but perhaps it will be better for you to employ some other attorney to attend to this business, who would be entirely independent of the ties of friendship etc. in which Castelus is with the family of Don Blas Ybarra of which Retes is a member. In case you can get the head officials of Mexico City to recommend this business to Gov. Canedo of this state, perhaps it will be well to ~~get~~ get him to recommend some attorney, there being several good ones in Culiacan the capital of this State.

At any time I can be of any service to you in this or any other business please command yours truly,

(Signed) Wm. V. Lenhar.

COPI.

Villa de Choix, Sinaloa, Mex. April 9th. 1894.

Geo. W. Simmons Esq.,
Boston.

Dear Sir:-

Your favors of the 14th. & 16th. of Mar. were duly recd. and contents noted.

I have read with interest what your correspondent from 41 Broadway, N. Y. has to say. I believe with him that Retes is originally liable in case he has disposed of any of the lands he sold to you, it may be possible, as he says Retes wife sold only her right in the lands her husband holds, and those she received as her part of the estate of her father, the late Don Blas Ybarra. But as to Gastelum I cannot believe he would being attorney for Retes and the T. S. I. Co. make a proposition to serve you in the same capacity. I know (as I told you before) that Retes made propositions to him which he refused to accept, then Retes employed Don Gregorio Delgado; and Retes so stated to you in a letter, that Delgado is his attorney. Honest lawyers are very scarce in this section of this country; but I have had some dealings with Gastelum, and have always found him straightforward and honorable; he may not be the same with others.

I hope you will push this business to the end, for if Retes has tried to swindle you I ~~will~~^{shall} be glad to see him punished. In case I find out any new moves of your enemies, you can rest assured I will communicate them to you immediately.

Yours truly,

(Signed) Wm. V. Lanphar.

P. S. I enclose the letter you sent me.

y

Villa de Choix, Sinaloa, Mexico, March 23d. 1894.

Geo. W. Simmons, Esq.,
Boston.

Dear Sir,

Your favor of the 1st. is received. Mr. Gastelum (The lawyer I recommended to you) was not my attorney when the deeds were executed; I employed no attorney as I was only instructed to receive the deeds from Mr. Retis, the purchase of the property having been made before by yourself and Dr. Carman; the judge of the court of that time was a friend of mine and I requested him to see that the deeds were properly executed; he told me they were, so I considered them alright. x x x x x x x x x x x x

In case you can get the head officials of Mexico City to recommend this business to Gov. Cenedo of this State, perhaps it will be well to get him to recommend some attorney, there being several good ones in Culiacan the capital of this State.

At any time I can be of any service to you in this or any other business please command Yours truly,

Wm. V. Lanphar.

Villa de Choix, Sinaloa, Mexico, Dec. 11th. 1893.

Geo. W. Simmons, Esq.,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Sir:

Your two favors of the 16th of Nov. are received; one being No. 34434 and containing copy of letter from Mr. Charles Retes of Fuerte, to you, concerning the title to "Los Mochis" lands. I remember when the deed for those lands was executed. I consulted the Judge of first instance of the court of Fuerte, as to the correctness of the deed and he said it was in due form according to the laws of this country; afterwards, Mr. Rogers, a lawyer, was sent out here by the Company and I turned the deed over to him and requested him to examine it to see if it was in due form. He had a translation made of it and after examining it thoroughly said it was all right. I do not remember if Mrs Retes signature is on it or not. This trouble comes from the failure of the K.S.I. Co. to make the payments on the land to the owners as per agreement.

x x x x x x x x

Wishing you health and prosperity, I remain,
Yours truly,

Wm. V. Lanphar.

Traduccion.

Villa de Choix Sinaloa México, Marzo 23 de 1894.

Sr. George W Simmons.

Boston, Mass.

Muy Señor mio:

La apreciable de Vd. del primero del actual obra en mi poder. El Sr. Gastelum (el abogado que recomendé á Vd.) no era mi abogado cuando las escrituras fueron otorgadas. No ocupé abogado alguno, porque mis instrucciones se reducian á recibir las escrituras del Sr. Retes, pues que la compra de la propiedad habia sido hecha, antes, por Vd, y el Dr. Garman. El Juez del Juzgado, á la sazón, era amigo mio, y le recomendé que viera que las escrituras estuvieran en regla. Me dijo que so lo estaban, y por lo mismo dí por hecho que estaban bien.

La última carta del Sr. Gastelum, que remití á Vd., explica en que consiste la dificultad; parece que Retes hizo un convenio con varias personas, que tenían accion á los terrenos "Los Mochis" vendió á Vd.; pero dejó de cumplir su convenio con esas personas; así es que, en definitiva, vendió lo que no tenía, cometiendo una verdadera estafa, por la que se le puede perseguir criminalmente, y debería ir á la cárcel.

Estoy convencido de que el único responsable, en todo esto, es Retes, y nadie mas; porque nadie ha estado de acuerdo con él, ni interesado con él, en esta operacion.

Yo no creo que Gastelum haya sido empleado por Retes, para este asunto; sé que Retes fué á ver á Gastelum para que este se encargara del negocio, pero sé tambien que Gastelum se negó á servirle por lo que Retes le ofrecia; así es que Retes encomendó el negocio á Don Gregorio Delgado (que es pariente suyo).

Sé que los agentes de la Kansas Sinaloa Investment Co., aquí, han solicitado los servicios de Gastelum; pero ignoro si este ha aceptado sus proposiciones ó no. No le creo capaz de servir á Vd. y á sus contrarios al mismo tiempo; pero, talvez será mejor para Vd. el que ocupe á algun otro abogado para este negocio, otro abogado que esté completamente libre y que pueda obrar con entera independencia, sin estar ligado con compromisos, lazos de amistad, etc. etc., que es lo que pasa con Gastelum y la familia de Don Blas Ibarra, de

la que es miembro Retes.

En el caso de que llegue Vd. á conseguir que los "Cope-tones" en el Gobierno, en México, recomienden el negocio de Vd. al Gobernador Cañedo, de este Estado, será fácil conseguir que Cañedo re-comiende á algun abogado, pues los hay, y buenos, en Culiacan, la Capital del Estado.

Si en alguna ocasion pudiere yo ser de alguna utilidad á Vd, en este ó en cualquier otro negocio, tendré mucho gusto en servirle, quedando á sus ordenes como su atto.S.S.

Wm V. Lamphar.

Traduccion.

Villa de Choix, Sinaloa, Marzo 23, 1894.

Sr.

Geo. W. Simmons.

Boston, Mass.

Estimado amigo:

La apreciable de Vd., de lo. del actualm obra en mi poder. El Sr. Gastelum (el abogado que he recomendado á Vd.) no fué mi abogado cuando se otorgaron las escrituras; no ocupé abogado alguno, pues mis instrucciones fueron solamente de recibir las escrituras del Sr. Retes, pues la compra de las tierras habia sido hecha, antes, por Vd. y el Dr. Garman el Juez entonces, era amigo mio, y le supliqué viera que las escrituras estuvieran debidamente otorgadas; él me dijo que si lo estaban, y consideré que todo estaba en regla. La última carta del Sr. Gastelum, que remití á Vd., explica en que está el mal; parece que Retes izo un convenio con varias personas, que tenian accion á "Los Moshis" para comprarle sus derecho; vendió á Vd; pero no cumplió con el convenio con los otros; así es que vendió lo que no tenia, cometiendo una estafa por la cual puede perseguirse criminalmente y debe de ir á la carcel. Estoy seguro de que solo Retes es el responsable de todo este enredo; nadie mas que él, ha tenido participacion en él.

No creo que Gastelum se halla comprometido con Retes para este negocio. Sé que Retes vió á Gastelum para que se encargara de ello; pero Gastelum se negó, no aceptando las proposiciones que Retes le hacia. Entonces este encomendó el negocio á Dn. Gregorio Delgado (pariente suyo)

Conozco á los agentes de la Compañia Kansas Sinaloa Investment y sé que han solicitado los servicios de Gastelum, pero ignoro si este aceptó ó no sus proposiciones. No lo creo capaz de servir á Vd. y á sus contrarios al mismo tiempo; pero tal vez será mejor para Vd. emplear á algun otro abogado, para que se encargue de este negocio— alguno que esté-completamente independiente, sin ligas de amistad á otras, como acontece con Gastelum, que está muy intimamente relacionado con la familia de Don Blas Ibarra de la que es miembro Retes.

En el caso de que consiga Vd. de que personas influyentes de México recomienden su negocio, al Gobernador Cañedo, quizá sea bueno que el mismo Gobernador recomiende quien deba ser el abogado que deba encargarse, habiéndos varios muy buenos en Culiacan, la capital del Estado.

Sabe Vd. que puede mandarme en todo tiempo, para cuanto á Vd. le ofrezca.

De Vd., afmo. S.S.

Wm. V. Lamphar.

Traduccion.

Villa de Choix, Sinaloa, Abril 9 de 1894.

Sr. Geo. W. Simmons.

Boston, Mass.

Estimado amigo:

He recibido las apreciables de Vd. del 14 y 16 de Marzo habiendo tomado buena nota de su contenidos.

He leído con interes, lo que dice á Vd. su corresponsal, del No. 1 Broadway, New York, y creo con él que Retes es criminalmente responsable en el caso de que haya dispuesto de los terrenos que ya habia vendido á Vd. Es posible como dice, que la esposa de Retes haya vendido solamente su parte ó sus derechos en los terrenos que administraba su marido, y los que recibiera de la testamentaria de su padre Don Blas Ibarra.

Respecto á Gastélum, no puedo creer, que, siendo apoderado de Retes y de la Compañia Kansas Sinaloa Investment, se propusiera para servir á Vd., tambien como apoderado. Yo sé y ya lo dije á Vd. que Retes le hizo proposiciones, que Gastélum rehusó. Entonces Retes empleó á Don Gregorio Delgado y así lo dice Retes á Vd., en una carta que Delgado es su apoderado.

Son muy escasos los abogados honrados en esta parte de esta República; pero yo he tenido varios negocios con Gastelum y siempre se ha manejado conmigo con absoluta lealtad y honradez, por mas que su comportamiento haya podido ser distinto con otros.

Espero que activará Vd., la terminacion de este asunto, porque si Retes ha tratado de estafar á Vd., veré con gusto que se le castigue cual lo merece.

Si llego á saber algunos planes de sus contrarios, puede Vd. estar seguro de que se los comunicaré en el acto.

De Vd. afmo. amigo y S.S.— Wm. V. Lamphar.

Traducción.

Villa de Choix, Tinalandia, Marzo 23, 1894.

Señor Geo. W. Simmons.

Boston, Mass.

Estimado amigo:

La apreciable de V.^a, del 1.^o del actual, obra en mi poder. El Sr. Gastelum (el abogado que he recomendado a V.^a) no fue mi abogado cuando se otorgaron las escrituras; no ocupé abogado alguno, pues mis instrucciones fueron solamente de recibir las escrituras del Sr. Retes, pues tal compra de las tierras había sido hecha, antes, por V.^a y el Sr. Carman. El Juez, entonces, era amigo mío, y le supliqué que las escrituras estuvieran debidamente otorgadas; él me dijo que sí lo estaban, y consideré que todo estaba en regla. La última carta del Sr. Gastelum, que remite a V.^a, explica en qué está el mal, pues que Retes hizo un convenio con varias personas, que tenían acción a "los Mochis", para comprarles sus derechos; vendió a V.^a; pero no cumplió con el convenio con los otros; así es que vendió lo que no tenía, cometiendo una estafa por la cual puede perseguirsele criminalmente y debe ir a la cárcel. Estoy seguro de que solo Retes es el responsable de todo este enredo; nadie, mas que él, ha tenido participación en él.

No creo que Gastelum se haya comprometido con Retes, para este negocio. Sé que Retes vio a Gastelum para que se encargara de él; pero

Gastelum se negó, no aceptando las proposi-
ciones que Retes le hacía. Entonces éste encomendó
el negocio a Don Gregorio Delgado, (parente suyo.)

Conozco a los Agentes de la Compañía
Kansas Sinaloa Investment, y sé que han solici-
tado los servicios de Gastelum, pero ignoro si éste
acepta, ó no, sus proposiciones. No le creo capaz
de servir a Vd. y a sus contrarios al mismo tiempo;
pero tal vez será mejor para Vd. emplear a algun
otro abogado, para que se encargue de este ne-
gocio - alguno que esté completamente indepen-
diente, sin ligas de amistad u otras, como acontece
con Gastelum, que está muy íntimamente rela-
cionado con la familia de Don Blas Ibarra,
de la que es miembro Retes.

En el caso de que consiga Vd. que per-
sonas influentes de México recomienden su ne-
gocio, al Gobernador Cañedo, quizá sea bueno
que el mismo Gobernador recomiende quien deba
ser el abogado que deba encargarse, habiendo
varios muy buenos en Culiacán, la capital del
Estado.

Sabe Vd. que puedo mandarme en todo tiem-
po, para cuanto a Vd. se le ofrezca.

De Vd. afo. S. P.

Wm. V. Lamphar

Traducción.

205. Mining Exchange Building,
Denver, Colo., julio 22 de 1894.

Dr. B. A. Wheeler.

Denver, Colo.

Estimado amigo:

Como ya está V.^d al tanto, me propongo salir de aquí, mañana, rumbo a la capital de México. Voy bien provisto de cartas de recomendación, de ocursos, de documentes, y de constancias, todo relativo a los asuntos de Topolobampo, la Colonia del Estado de Sinaloa (México) y a Alberto K. Owen muy particularmente. Con relación a la conversación que tuvimos ayer, sobre estos asuntos, y para borrar toda duda que pudiera V.^d abrigar, como Agente de la Compañía Credit Foncier, y para que este V.^d al tanto de la línea de conducta que me propongo seguir así como de las miras que tengo respecto de los colonos de la Bahía de Topolobampo, diré a V.^d lo siguiente: Deseo que sea una cosa bien entendida que no estableceré ni bomba ni maquinaria en la boca del Canal de irrigación (construido por la Compañía de Invasiones Kansas Sinaloa) hasta que esta Compañía consiga la posesión legal de dicho canal, posesión que supongo habrá obtenido ya. Entonces será cuando plantee yo la bomba y la máquina de vapor. Y entonces, tendrán que pagar, por el agua, los dos grupos de colonos, de la Compañía Credit Foncier y Friesland; y tendrán que pagar en efectivo, pues no será admitido en pago el "papel del Canal", ni el de "Mejoras". Todos tendrán que pagar el mismo precio por el agua que consuman; y todos serán tratados por igual, sin hacer caso ni tener en cuenta pasadas distinciones.

El costo del agua no excederá de lo necesario para conservar la bomba y la máquina, reparaciones y gastos de vigilancia en la distribución del agua, además,

de los créditos y seguros, etc., en 12% al año.

Es de desearse la buena voluntad y la cooperación de todos los colonos; y yo los sabré apreciar debidamente. Tráteme mal daré por resultado el que yo los trate mal, también. Sin embargo, yo me propongo ser bueno y tratar como amigos á todos; y espero la recíproca de parte de los colonos. Y, en este supuesto, me será muy grato contribuir liberalmente al establecimiento de escuelas, de iglesias, y de otras mejoras públicas. En una palabra, hasta donde yo pueda, procuraré la prosperidad de los habitantes del Valle del Fuerte. Y seré mejor amigo de aquellos habitantes que lo que lo ha sido A. K. Owen para con ellos. Desde luego, no los robaré, ni me apoderaré de su dinero ni de sus propiedades sin compensarlos con su equivalente, "ni estorsionaré á nadie sacándole dinero para un permiso para ir allá".

El Valle del Fuerte es una maravilla por sus ventajas naturales, y llegará á ser uno de los distritos agrícolas más ricos del Oeste.

No deseando, absolutamente, ser egoísta, los que me conocen saben que el haber alcanzado un buen éxito en mi vida, es debido principalmente á mis empresas agrícolas; lo que prueba que debo conocer la manera de adelantar y prosperar en esas empresas; y tendré mucho placer en aconsejar, ayudar, y cooperar al adelanto de los colonos de aquel Valle, haciendo de ellos gentes contentas y felices.

No tengo confianza alguna en las teorías comunistas con arreglo á las cuales se fundó la Colonia de Topolobampo. Y según tengo entendido, tal sistema ha fracasado completamente. Aquella Colonia es preciso que vuelva á los viejos y bien conocidos principios de propiedad individual y de empresas,

Propiamente, sin embargo, dejar á la Compañía del Crédit Foncier que siga probando, por mas tiempo, su peculiar forma de gobierno y administracion, al lado del sistema de propiedad individual; y que aquellos Colonos decidan cual de los dos sistemas es mejor.

Alberto K. Owen es un teórico visionario. Masido el mal genio de la Colonia de Topolobampo, de modales suaves y amables, fácil de palabra, falta completamente de habilidad financiera para administrar bien, aun sus propios negocios, fundó la Colonia de Topolobampo como aventurero. El fracaso de ella lo predijo hace algunos años. Owen, con palabras halagadoras y pretendiendo hacer creer que era dueño de grandes extensiones de terrenos en torno de la Bahía, y en el Valle del Fuerte, que podía dar libremente á la Colonia (de cuyos terrenos no poseía ni un solo acre), logró captarse la confianza de los colonos; les sacó cuanto dinero pudo, y ha vivido como un gran señor. Despues, no ha hecho caso de la Colonia, á la que ha sumido en la mayor miseria; y ahora, antes procurando vender unas concesiones, que obtuvo del Gobierno Mexicano, á fin de revivir esa empresa aventurera de Topolobampo.

Esperando que se consolidarán mas y mas nuestras amistosas relaciones, y que pueda yo ser de alguna utilidad á Vd., y á los Colonos que Vd. representa, me ofrezco á sus órdenes, como su muy atento S. S.

A. J. Streater

205 Mining Exchange Building. 13

Denver, Colo, July 22d 1894

Dr B.A.Wheeler

Denver, Colo.

My dear Sir:-

As you are already aware, I expect to leave here to-morrow for the City of Mexico, in the Republic of Mexico.

My gripsack is well filled with letters of recommendation, petitions, legal documents and exhibits all concerning the affairs of the Topolobampo Colony in the State of Sinaloa in Mexico and of Albert K Owen in particular.

In connection with our conversation yesterday on the above subject, and to remove all doubts in your mind, as the Agent of the Credit Foncier Colony.

Concerning my policy and purpose touching the Colonists at Topolobampo Bay, I beg leave to submit to you the following.

Let it be distinctly understood that I will not put pump and engine plant at head of ditch constructed by the Kansas Sinaloa Investment Company until that Company has a legal possession of the Ditch (which I suppose they may have at this time); then it is understood that the pump, headgate and steam plant will go in.

Then the two wings of Colonists the Credit Foncier and Freeland Cos will have to pay for water in cash, Ditch or Improvement Fund scrip will not be taken: all will be required to pay the same price for water. All will be treated alike without regard to past differences.

The cost of water will be no higher than necessary to maintain the plant, necessary repairs, oversee distribution of the water and pay interest on cost of plant, maintenance and insurance at 12% per annum.

The good will of all colonists is desired and will be appreciated by me. To treat me badly might lead to treatment in kind.

It will be my desire, however, to be friendly with all and hope such friendship may be reciprocated. In which event I will be pleased to contribute liberally for schools, churches, and other public purposes.

In short, I will to the best of my ability promote the prosperity of the people in the Fuerte Valley.

I will try to be a better friend to the people there than A. K. Owen ever was. At least I will not rob them nor take their money

or property without an equivalent, nor demand money "for a permit to go there".

The Fuerte Valley is marvelous in its natural advantages, and will be one of the richest agricultural districts in the West.

Not desiring to be in the least egotistical, those who know me best will say that my success in life has been mainly in agricultural pursuits, and in which I ought to know the ways and methods that lead on to success in that business.

I will be happy to aid and encourage all colonists in that Valley to become a prosperous, contented and happy people.

I have no confidence in the communistic theory of government, on which the Topolobampo colony was started, so far as I know, such efforts as in this case have been failures.

That colony must and will go back to the old and well established principles of individual ownership and enterprise.

It is my purpose, however, to let the Credit Foncier Company have a fair and further opportunity to test their peculiar form of government and management, side by side, with individual ownership and let all determine for themselves which is the better way.

Albert K Owen is a visionary theorist. He has been the evil genius of the Topolobampo colony. Suave in manners, plausible in speech lacking in financial ability to successfully manage his own affairs, he started the Topolobampo Colony as an adventurer. It is a failure, as I predicted it would be years ago. Owen by plausible speech and pretending to own large tracts of land around the Bay and in the Fuerte Valley which he would freely give to the Colony, (of which he did not own an acre), by such means wormed himself into the confidence of the colonists, got their money and lived like a lord. He has left the Colony stranded and in poverty, and is now trying to sell some concessions that he obtained from the Mexican Government to make this last raise in the Topolobampo venture.

Hoping that friendly relations may obtain between us, and that I may be of service to you and the Colonists you represent.

I am,

Yours very truly,

A.J. Streeter.

18
Palmarero Mining Company, Limited.

Zapote, Chihuahua, Mexico.

Chinipas, Aug. 10. 1894

Mr Templer L. Down,
3 Popes Head Alley,
Lombard St. London, E. C.

Dear Sir:

Your favor of
June 27th was received about July 25th and has
remained unanswered, due to the many atten-
tions that demand my time here. Having
the Charge of the Mexican Mineral R. R. and
the Ditch, as well as the engineering of the
mines to attend to, and it being the rainy
season, I have my hands full; for which
cause, even now, I will be unable to give the
detailed attention to your letter that I would
like.

I am happy to see that there is even a
slight prospect of Col. Owen succeeding at
last in constructing even a section of the
Mexican-Western; as the Country to be de-
veloped is well worthy of such development; and

in time, will amply repay the projectors. I only regret that it will be impossible for me, at this time, to lend a hand; as nothing would be more to my taste.

The Palmarero Mines are situated about thirty miles, nearly due west, from Santa Barbara, a point in the Septentrion Arroyo, on the line of your R. R., that would be the station for these mines; as well as for Temoris, 3 miles, and the mining town of Guazapares, 15 miles, all nearly due west. The Palmarero mines are very large ledges of, as a general thing, low grade ore.

The average assay, for some time past, running about 32 ozs. per ton of 2,000 lbs. The bullion carrying about three milligrams of gold. These mines are at the North-Western extremity of a belt of big ledges in which are included the twenty odd ledges in the very rich district of "Huerfipa", and the equally rich mines of the "Higuera"; one of which, is a continuation of our "Blanca" Lode. For a general description of these (Palmarero) mines, I will

refer you to the reports to be obtained at the Company's offices, 4 Copthall Buildings, London.

The mines are connected with the fifty Stamp Mill at Zapote, 12 miles away and two miles down the Chiripas river from the town of that name, by the Mexican Mineral R.R.. The road to connect the Palmarero end of the "Mexican Mineral" would have to be a narrow gauge. At present there is nothing to warrant the outlay necessary to construct it. Santa Barbara would necessarily be the station for the places I have mentioned and the difference in mule packing will be about 110 miles in favor of the R.R. Station at Santa Barbara.

The Mining Claims of this Company are about 250 acres, which are within the boundaries of its lands; which amount to about 100 square miles.

All the ledges carry more or less gold; the rich ores being equally rich in gold. Besides this, there are several that can be classed as gold ledges. One of them, the famous "Hundred's"

Mine being within half a mile of the line of the Mexican Mineral, across the arroyo.

The Palmarajo Mines are a good property. The average expenses are about \$30,000.00 per month, Mexican silver; and the average output 50,000 ounces of silver.

The local management is good but has been much hampered; on the one hand by the most defective construction of Ditch, R. R. and Mill. Reformation and maintenance of these being a constant, as well as heavy expense; at the same time yielding low results. On the other hand hampered by the Board of Directors in London; who, knowing that the Company has spent excessive sums in the construction of these properties, cannot imagine why these should not give the acme of results, and demand such; and, not receiving them, naturally decide the local management defective. You can readily see that, notwithstanding the heavy expenses, the proportionate gain is very good, were the Company not so heavily loaded with debt.

And, that such being the case, there would be ample to place the Company in good standing, were silver not at its ebb tide.

North of Chinipas there is a mining district that can be classed as gold; as the ores carry from 45% to 300% of that metal in proportion to the silver they contain.

I take charge of one of these properties as Superintendent and Manager, in October.

The San Jose de Gracia is eminently a gold district; but will not be on the line of the Mexican-Western, as it is situated in the Country drained by the Sinaloa river. However, it will be only about 70 miles (over the mountains) in a direct line, from the R. R. at Fuerte.

You can get an idea of the District from the reports of the Anglo-Mexican Company's Superintendent in the London Mining Journal, for March, April, May, June and July.

Topolobampo is bound to be the Port for

This District, but must be reached by the City of Sinaloa.

The Mexican-Western Company should contemplate building down the Coast to the Southern boundary of Sinaloa, at the earliest possible date. The Realto mines are within 15 miles N.E. of Fuerte. The Yecorato district is about 15 miles farther.

Both are good gold sections but virgin, as yet. It has been a long time since I have heard anything about the Sonora Coal fields. From what I have gathered, I judge the coal to be of a fair quality. I believe the properties will have to be developed by means of shafts, though there are surface croppings of low quality.

Regarding location of settlements: I would refer you to my report made to the Company after my reconnaissance in August and September 1891. This, Col. Owen can furnish you. The timber industry will be the mainstay of the road and can be de-

-veloped up to a gigantic scale. No cars need go empty either way from the summit. Steam Saw Mills can be placed at desirable spots in the pine belt and connected with the main line, either by railroad or wagon roads; as either are practicable on the "Mesas" (table lands) of the "Sierras".

The Lumber business is virgin in the whole Republic, and its development is almost without limit.

Wishing you every success in your Cooperation with Col. Owen, in this enterprise, I beg to remain,

Yours very respectfully,

E. A. H. Jays.

Address:

Chimipas,
Chihuahua,
Mexico.

New York, August 31st. 1894.

My dear Owen:-

Mr. Hussey has just been in with your letter to Mr. Ball in which you ask him to send copy of letter Retes to me in which he offered to take \$5,000. for his wife's interest in Los Mochis. I do not find such letter among the papers though I have some recollection of such an offer having been made by him, or by someone suggesting that it could probably be settled for that amt.. I send you quite a lot of papers bearing upon the case, which you will please return to me. Among them is a long letter in Spanish from Retes to Simmons and (I) in which he asks \$11,070.65 etc. and claims that the title he agreed to give was a sham and a fraud. You will find my opinion in the matter in the manifold copy of my letter to Mr. Simmons, and I also enclose several letters from Mr. O(r)tiz, Lamphar, etc. bearing upon the subject that may be of value in consultations in re title to Mochis. You will notice that first Retes claimed that his deed was void or voidable, but that now he has come down to his wife's claim by virtue of her marital rights. He is made an instrument in the hands of the conspirators to gobble up the Mochis as well as every thing you have in Mexico. You have matters in good shape now if you can keep the Colonists alive, and show some financial strength in London.

In great haste, etc.

(Signed) John H. Rice.

I, H.R.Frost, a Notary Public, duly commissioned and sworn, , residing in the City, County and State of New York, do hereby certify that I have carefully examined and compared the foregoing instrument with the original thereof, which is now in the possession of Albert K. Owen, Esquire, and that said instrument is a correct copy of said original.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF I have hereunto subscribed my name, and affixed my seal of office this third day of September, 1902.

H.R. Frost.

Notary Public, 81,
N.Y. County.



New York, August 31st. 1894.

My dear Owen;-

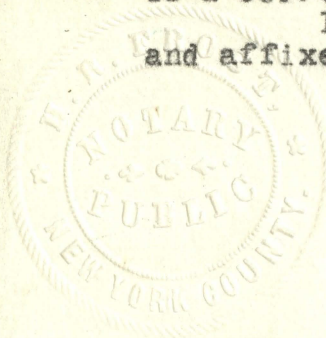
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H. R. Frost,

Notary Public, St,

N. Y. County.



COPY.

Fuerte, Sept. 10th. 1894.

Mr. John H. Rice,
New York.

Dear Sir:

I inclose you copies ~~of the~~ of the summons that has been published in the State paper here. The first is a summons to the T.T. and P.R.R. Co., or rather to its legal representative, citing him to appear within thirty days from the last publication of the notice, to answer in a suit brought by the K.S.I. Co. for the nullification of the contract made March 3, 1890, between the P.R. Co., through John H. Rice, and the The K. S. I. Co. and for the return of \$13,500. in gold, together with costs and damages. The second is a summons to the R.R. Co., The K.S.I. Co., and Charles D. Streater to appear to answer in a suit brought for the nullification of certain contracts upon the Mochis. The heirs of Blas Ibarra are also cited and Virginia Ibarra y Cuevas, executrix of Leonardo Ibarra. This suit is based on the claim that the sale to the R.R. Co. is not legal on account of the failure to secure the signature of Retes' wife. When Retes made the sale he represented himself as a single man. He was married but his marriage had not been recorded. He was afterwards married again to the same woman. A short time ago the old certificate was found. Now he seeks to establish his first marriage and nullify the contract. I do not know whether they allege any other reason for the nullification of the contract or not.

The Power of Attorney already sent to Mess. Wilber & Free is a special Power of Attorney, not general and cannot be used to appear in Court here. Our Lawyer advises that a general Power of Attorney be sent immediately and to the end that it may arrive here with less delay he suggests that you come before an authorized official within the Republic of Mexico to make the Power of Attorney, which should be accompanied by the documents verifying your official position, which should be translated, and the signature of the official making the document should be verified by the officials of the district and the Governor of the State where document is made. If the Power of Attorney be made before the Mexican Consul in New York, it will have to go to Mexico before it can be used in Court here, thus losing much time, and incurring a great deal

more expense. You can make the power to whom you think best, but perhaps it would be well to make it to Pedro Quinones, our Lawyer, as he is living in Fuerte and would be at hand to attend to the case without the necessity of any one of us being present. In the opinion of the Lawyer they have no case, but of course it will have to be defended.

He asks me to have you secure answers to the following questions:

What conditions are necessary in the U. S. for the execution of a decision in Mexico against person or property in the U. S.?

What are powers of Mexican Consuls in the U. S. and especially, have they the right to act as translators of documents for Mexican Citizens or to act as interpreters or translators?

According to the Laws of Mexico, whoever brings an action for the nullification of a contract must prove as the base of the action, that he has fulfilled the obligations of said contract, consequently, if the K. S. I. Co. has failed to complete any of the conditions of the contract it will lose the suit and cannot collect the money which it has paid.

We ask for information;

What are the conditions of the contract which the K.S.I.Co. have not fulfilled?

These cases will probably be called in about six weeks. Let us know as soon as possible what action you will take.

Yours very respectfully,

(Signed) George L. Page.

Copy

(Estimates in Mexican Silver.)

Guanajuato, Nov. 14th - 1894.

Col. Albert K. Owen,
Mexico.

My dear Sir: I take pleasure to enclose the papers I mentioned to you while in Mexico a few days ago.

The reports in yellow paper covers refer only to the Parral line; these reports please return to me at your convenience.

The tracing is taken from my different plots made in 1887 while on the journey of reconnoitering the route.

As to the general report I have not had time to prepare an extract from it, but will gradually carry on this work to send it to you whenever practicable.

The following may give you an idea of the kind of line I have found, after three months prospecting in every possible direction of the Sierra Madre:

1. Grading & Masonry. Chihuahua to Cuiteco:

17 Kilom @ \$2500

5 " " 6,000

15	Kilom	2.50
17	"	3.500
44	"	2.500
22	"	.500
60	"	.250
20	"	1.000
3	"	1.500
52	"	5.000
12	"	8.000
3	"	.500
42	"	.750
23	"	5.000
12	"	9.000
30	"	12.000
163	"	20.000
540	" (more or less)	

The 540 kil. I estimate to Cuiteco, the line to cross over from this place to the Fuente Valley, will probably cost \$50,000. per kil. for grading and masonry for about 30 to 35 kilometers.

As the Tuxpam Railway is the best line to go down to the Atlantic from the City of Mexico, so is the Topolobampo route the only line to descend to the Pacific Coast within reasonable limits in cost of construction.

The Mexican Central Railway will for a great many years not build the San Blas line, because

the work is too costly, much more than the Tampico line - now in operation. I have done work on this line, where f. i. Kit 27 of the Mountain Division (Tamasopo Canyon) cost \$175,000. for grading alone!

The National Railroad with its Mangamilla line, is in the same condition, and so is Huntington with his extension from Durango to Mazatlan.

From Chihuahua to Presidio del Norte, the work is very light on the whole, save some Canyon work at the Sierra de la Cuesta Grande where the Conchos breaks through this range. Then on to practicable lines as shown on the sketch. The "low grade" line marked in dotted lines is the I would prefer to maintain a low ruling grade East of Chihuahua.

However, a careful study will tell at once what to do.

This line - knowing that it will not present any serious difficulties - to overcome - I have not looked over as carefully as the Cuiteco line.

The line will surely not cost more than the first 200 Kilom. west of Chihuahua.

I shall put my report in shape for future reference.

I also inclose you a photograph of the great falls, - the place is marked on the tracing, near Pinos Altos, - it is too bad this place is not shown in your book.

Hoping your affairs are getting on satisfactorily. I remain,

My dear Sir,
Very faithfully Yours,
Alfred v. Rosenzweig.

N. B. Bear in mind, please, that Yoquiabo must be reached at any cost, - which however will be within reasonable limits - it is a place from which all large Mining Camps can be reached easily by mule and in the future, even wagon traffic.

(over)

Copy
 Guanajuato, November 14th - 1894.
 Col. A. K. Owen,
 Mexico City.

Dear Sir: I take pleasure to enclose the papers I mentioned to you while in Mexico City, a few days ago. The reports in yellow paper covers refer only to the Carral line. These reports please return to me at your convenience. The tracing is taken from my different plots, made in 1887. While in the journey of reconnoitering the route.

As to the general report, I have not had time to prepare an extract from it, but will gradually carry on this work, to send it to you whenever practicable.

The following may give you an idea of the kind of line I have found, after three months prospecting in every possible direction of the Sierra Madre:

1. Grading & Masonry.		Chihuahua to Cuiteco.	
17 Kilom.	@	\$ 2,500	The 540 Kilom. I estimate to Cuiteco, the line to cross over from this place to the Fuente Valley will probably cost \$50,000
5 "	"	6,000	
15 "	"	250	
17 "	"	3,500	
44 "	"	2,500	
22 "	"	500	
		over	over

		\$	<u>2.</u>
60 Kilom.	@	.250	
20 "	"	1.000	
3 "	"	1.500	
52 "	"	5.000	
12 "	"	8.000	
3 "	"	.500	
42 "	"	.750	
23 "	"	5.000	
12 "	"	9.000	
30 "	"	12.000	
<u>163 "</u>	"	<u>20.000.</u>	

Mexican Money.

per Kilom., for grading and masonry, for about 30 to 35 Kilom.

540 Kilom., more or less.

As the Tuxpam Railway is the best line to go down to the Atlantic, from the City of Mexico, so is the Topolobampo route, the only line to descend to the Pacific Coast within reasonable limits in cost of construction.

The Mexican Central Railway will, for a great many years, not build the San Blas line, because the work is too costly, much more than the Tampico line - now in operation. I have done work on this line, where for instance, Kilom 27 of the Mountain division (Tamasopa Canyon) cost

\$175,000 for grading alone.

The National Railroad with its Mangamillo line is in the same condition, and so is Huntington with his extension from Durango to Mazatlan.

From Chihuahua to Presidio del Norte, the work is very light on the whole, save some Canyon work at the Sierra de la Cuesta Grande, where the Conchos breaks through this range. Then on, to practicable lines, as shown on the sketch. The "low-grade" line, marked in dotted lines, is the one I would prefer to maintain a low ruling grade East of Chihuahua.

However, a careful study will tell at once what to do. This line - knowing that it will not present any serious difficulties to overcome - I have not looked over as carefully as the Cuiteco line.

The line will surely not cost more than the first 200 Kilom. West of Chihuahua.

I shall put my report in shape for future reference. Bear in mind, please, that Yoquibe must be reached at any cost, which, however, will be within reasonable limits. It is a place from which all large Mining Camps can be reached easily by mule, and, in the future, even by wagon traffic. Yours truly, Alfred von Rosenberg.

Copy

Guanajuato, Mexico, Nov. 28th 1894.

Col. Albert K. Owen
Mexico.

My dear Colonel:

I have been very busy for the last six or eight days and consequently have not been able to send you the papers you desire. I expect to do so in 2 or 3 days, as I shall sit down to night to look up my copying books and extract the information in question.

Hoping you are well, and everything going on all right.

Sincerely yours

Alfred v Rosensweig.

Copy

Guanajuato, Mexico, Nov. 28th 1894.

Col. Albert K. Owen-
Mexico.

My dear Colonel:

I have been very busy for the last six or eight days and consequently have not been able to send you the papers you desire. I expect to do so in 2 or 3 days, as I shall sit down to night to look up my copying books and extract the information in question.

Hoping you are well, and everything going on all right.

Sincerely yours

Alfred v Rosensweig.

Copy. (Estimates are in Mexican Silver.)

Guanajuato, Mexico, Dec. 1st, 1894.

Col. Albert K. Owen
Mexico.

My dear Colonel:

The following is an extract from my general Report and Estimate of cost of construction. Gross Earnings and Operating Expenses of proposed railway line from Presidio del Norte to Cuiteco a total distance of 980 Kilometers or 607 miles:

I. Cost of Construction.

Presidio to Chihuahua, 440 Kil. @ \$7,954 - \$ 3,500,000

Chihuahua to Cuiteco, 540 " " 13,333 - 7,200,000

Total 980 " " \$ 10,700,000

Average Cost per Kil. \$10,920. or about \$17,500 per Mile.

II. Gross Earnings, per Annum.

1. East bound traffic, Mountain to Chihuahua

3100 Car loads of wood, @ \$50. - \$155,000

930 " " " lumber " 100 - 93,000

3100 " " " Ore " 180 - 558,000 - \$806,000

Over \$806,000

1907

2

Over \$806,000.

2. West bound traffic Chihuahua to Mountains.

310 Car loads of grain @ \$120.	\$ 37,200	
31 " " " general supplies @ \$120.	37,200	74,400.

3. Passenger Traffic.

25,000 Passengers @ \$8. average rate - - - 200,000.

4 Through Traffic East and West bound, between the United States and the Pacific Coast.

12,500 Car loads @ \$70. - - - 875,000.

Total per Annum - 1,955,400.

Average per Annum per Kil. Day \$2.000 per Mile \$3.200.

III. Working Expenses.

1 Maintenance of Way	26%	\$ 231,400.
2 Motive Power	31%	\$275,900-
3 Repairs & Maintenance Cars.	9%	80,100
4 Train Expenses	8%	71,200
5 Station Expenses	12%	106,800
6 General "	14%	124,600
		<u>\$890,000</u>

Total per Annum 100%

Average per Annum per Kil \$908 per Mile \$1450-
45.4% of Gross Earnings.

The cost of Construction includes all Buildings and the necessary Equipments, as set forth in detailed general estimate.

The estimate of Gross Earnings and operating Expenses has been made with the greatest of care, and can be considered as very conservative. This is necessary in calculations of this kind, because in this Country the development of Business is a matter of considerable time as you know yourself. You cannot say as you do in the United States, "The Railway makes the Country". This is true to a certain extent everywhere, and has also taken place in this Country but never in a way comparable to the United States.

When I made the traffic estimates for the Mexican Central Railway in 1880 and 1881. I estimated the Gross Earnings per Annum for an average of 20 years, at \$7,000,000. In 1890 the Gross Earnings were \$6,416,000, and in 1891 they were \$6,775,000. Before 1890 they were less than \$6,416,000, and around 1900 they will be a little more than \$7,000,000. You can see, thus, that I am not much out of the way in traffic

estimates.

You must not expect for the Topolobampo line more than the \$3,200 per mile I have estimated. The earnings of the Central are from \$4,000 to \$4,300 per mile, with a well established through business.

The through traffic will be an important item on the "Mexican Western Railway", because all the business which now goes over the Sonora Railway to Guaymas, and from Guadajara to San Blas via Tepic, will naturally go to Topolobampo.

I expect to be in the City of Mexico in a few days and shall be glad to talk over these matters with you.

I have read in the "Two Republics" that the Central intends to build a line to the Sierra Madre, be sure they do not build it over our route, because then we are frozen out. Any other line will cost much more than the proposed one.

Very truly yours

Alfred von Rosenzweig.

copy

dm

Guanajuato, December 1st 1894

Col. A. K. Owen
Mexico City.

My dear Colonel:

The following is an extract from my general report & estimate of cost of construction, gross earnings and operating expenses of proposed railway line from Presidio del Norte to Cuiteco, a total distance of 980 Kilometres or 607 Miles.

1. - Cost of Construction.

Presidio to Chihuahua	440 Kilom.	@ \$7,954 =	\$3,500,000
Chihuahua to Cuiteco	540 " "	" 13,333 =	7,200,000
<u>Total 980 "</u>			<u>\$10,700,000</u>

Average Cost, per Kilom. \$10,920, or \$17,500 per Mile.
(Mexican Money.)

II. - Gross earnings per Annum.

1. - East bound traffic. Mountains to Chihuahua.

3100 Car Loads of Wood	@ \$50. =	\$155,000
930 " " " Lumber	" 100 =	93,000
3100 " " " Ore	" 180 =	558,000
		<u>\$806,000.</u>

2. - West bound traffic Chihuahua to Mountains.

310 Car loads of grain @ \$120 = \$37,200

310 Car loads of gen. supplies @ \$120 = 37,200 = \$74,200

3. - Passenger traffic.

25,000 passengers @ \$8. average rate - - - 200,000

4. - Through traffic, East & West bound,
between the U. States & the Pacific Coast,

12,500 Car loads, @ \$70. - - - - - 875,000

Total per Annum - - - \$1,955,400

Average, per Annum, per Kilom. \$20000 per mile \$3,200
(Mexican Money)

III. Working Expenses.

1	Maintenance of way,	26%	- - -	\$ 231,400
2	Motive Power,	31%	- \$275,900.	
3	Repairs & Maintenance, Cars.	9%	- 80,100.	
4	Train Expenses,	8%	- 71,200.	
5	Station "	12%	- 106,800.	= 534,000
6	General "	14%		124,600
				<hr/> \$ 890,000

Average per ann. per kilom. \$908.4 per mile \$1,450.
- 45 4/10% of gross earnings.
(Mexican Money.)

The cost of construction includes all buildings and the necessary equipment, as set forth in detailed

3.
general estimate.

The estimate of gross earnings and operating expenses has been made with the greatest care, and can be considered as very conservative. This is necessary in calculations of this kind, because, in this country, the development of business is a matter of considerable time, as you know yourself. You cannot say, as you do in the United States, "the railway makes the country." This is true to a certain extent, everywhere, and has also taken place in this country, but never in a way comparable to the United States.*

When I made the traffic estimates, for the Mexican Central Railway, in 1880-'81, I estimated the gross earnings per annum, for an average of 20 years, at \$7,000,000. In 1890, the gross earnings were \$6,416,000, and in 1891, they were \$6,775,000. Before 1890, they were less than \$6,416,000, and round 1900 they will be a little more than \$7,000,000. You can see, thus, that I am not much out of the way in traffic estimates. You must not expect for the Topolobampo line more than \$3200 per mile —

* Engineer Rpsengueig does not take into consideration that I have, together with the railway, all Concessions, Concessions to Colonias, Anglo-Saxons along the entire line and branches. Again, Mineral and timber roads always pay best.
H. K. Owen.

— which I have estimated ^{4.} The earnings of the "Central" are from \$4,000. to \$4,300. per mile, with a well established through business.

The through traffic will be an important item on the "Mexican Western Railway," because all the business which now goes over the Sonora Railway, to Guaymas, and from Guadalupe to San Blas, via Tepic, will naturally go to Topolobampo.

I expect to be in the City of Mexico in a few days, and I will be glad to talk over these matters with you.

I have read, in "The Two Republics," that the "Central" intends to build a line to the Sierra Madre; be sure they do not build it over our route, because, then, we are frozen out. Any other line will cost much more than the proposed one.

Very truly yours,
Alfred von Rosenberg.

The Report, estimates, map and profile are complete and will be forwarded when required. The highest grades are $2\frac{1}{2}\%$ - but this is only in the Mountains. The other grades are 1 and $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

A. H. O.