

5-23-1887

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Villa de Chois, Sinaloa, Mexico May 23^d 1887,

Mr. Geo. W. Simmons,
Boston,

Dear Sir:

Your kind favor of Mar. 19th came to hand after some delay and in reply I have to say; I am sorry to inform you that in my opinion the Topolbampo Colony is a sad failure - I will not undertake to say who is to blame, nor what are the causes of the failure - I believe with you that you will never visit "Lanphers hot-springs" on a railway car; I am very sorry to say it but all hope of such things has now vanished, and we will have to continue on at our old pace on mule back and resign ourselves to our lot.

The colonists came in here under very unfavorable circumstances, we have had no rain since Sept., and this has been the driest season known for many years, and the idea of sustaining a colony at the Bay before providing that place with a ditch of water from the Huerte river was impracticable and impossible - The R.R. and ditch scheme ought to have been pushed forward and Colonies would soon follow after of their own accord. The R.R. enterprise is becoming more and more feasible every year, as business here is increasing rapidly and the necessity for quicker transportation and communication more urgent. all of the best mines in these mountains are falling into the hands of English & American capitalists, land is also being bought up and improved by them and there is a noted advance in every branch of industry - I am fully confident that the R.R. will have to be built some day as it is the natural

Lanpher's
Mexico's

outlet for all of this rich and fertile sections - and this Gulf and Pacific coast, but I fear it will not come in our day.

The Setentseon (mine which you probably remember) is owned by an American Co. they have a 10 stamp mill on it and are working successfully; new & rich mines have also been discovered in that section all being along the line of the proposed R.R.

I am still at my old place, I have increased my business largely since you was here, I now have to keep a pack-train of 50 mules running to the mining camps in the mountains to pack off my surplus mescal, and still I have large quantities stored in my vaults waiting the arrival of the R.R. for exportation, but I expect by the time the R.R. comes along it will be a prime old article.

I will be unable to make my visit East this year on acct of the press of business I have on hand, but if nothing transpires to prevent I shall go on next spring and in case I do I shall surely make you a call.

Please remember me to Mr. Price and all inquiring friends and I remain yours respectfully

Wm. Sanphar.