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## Letter to Mr. L.O. Snell, January 12, 1895

John Marshall Stone

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January 12th, 1896.

Mr. I. O. Snell,

Coldwater, Miss.

My dear Sir:-

Your letter of the 11th. instant has been received, and I read it with great interest. No learned disquisition couched in classic terms could more strongly convey the genuine emotions of deep and sincere gratitude than does your plain, perspicuous and earnest letter now before me. It reads like an honest, truthful and spontaneous outburst of soul-felt gratitude, and as such I accept it as an ~~uncommon~~ ~~expression~~ coming from an injured and innocent boy upon whom executive clemency is not improperly bestowed. All I ask in recognition or remuneration of this act of mine, which has restored you to liberty and independent citizenship, is that you show to the world, by your exemplary deportment hereafter, that I made no mistake in extending to you that favor to which, in my opinion, your patient and ever commendable conduct as a prisoner, as well as the overpowering conviction in my mind of your innocence of any intentional crime, you were justly entitled.

With my best wishes for your success in life, I am

Very truly yours,