

Spanish History Research Library,  
St. Mary's Academy Building, 112 College St.

San Antonio, October 23, 1933.

Col. W. B. Tuttle,  
San Antonio, Texas.

Dear Mr. Tuttle:

There is a rich and fallow field for historical research and for the ultimate formulation of a wonderful history literature right here in this Spanish South Texas of which San Antonio is the heart and he who will underwrite that work will leave an imperishable name in the books and art and intellectual understandings that will follow.

Bancroft did this for California. Stetson is doing it for Florida. South Texas is an almost untouched field, rich in values. In many parts of South Texas are men with documents, information, and understanding, who can be drawn into a well coordinated movement, and the old Spanish story can be laid down for posterity to build on.

For ten years I have been accumulating Spanish history knowledge and geographical knowledge, embracing the country from Florida to California. I have here a library workshop, well furnished, and with indexes, maps, files, and records. But no single individual can carry such work thru, nor is that method wise. I have however made it possible to glimpse the richness of the history research that is possible, and to develop that work without extravagant expense.

I have wanted to talk with you about this for a long while. There is much that can be shown, not merely talked. The development of this world will find appeal in the hearts of many people. You may or may not be interested but this letter serves to introduce the subject and I can more easily phone and make appointment if you are willing to grant it.

Until this work is properly organized this San Antonio and South Texas Spanish history will keep on dying. I assure you that in and around here there were imperial activities equal to California or Santa Fe or many other sections.

Sincerely,

Harral Ayres