

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY
AND
AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL COLLEGE
BATON ROUGE, LA.

January 26, 1928

Mr. Harral Ayres
Gunter Hotel
San Antonio, Texas

Dear Mr. Ayres:

Research in Indian place-names is so difficult that I prefer to be held solely responsible for any statements I may make about them.

It was my suggestion, I think, that Apalachicola signifies "allies." This translation I now know to be erroneous. I can state positively that it means "people on the other side" (of a shore or river). The word is derived from the Hitchiti dialect, in which apalui means "on the other side," xtchi--x here is equivalent to the German "ch"-is an adjective suffix, and okli means "people." You may rest assured of the accuracy of this interpretation.

I do not think that Neches and Natchez ~~have~~ have anything to do with each other.

Among your California names is Jacumba. This is Indian and is said to signify "hut by the water."

I expect to publish shortly a supplementary list of the Indian names in Louisiana.

I also note that you class Teche and Sabine as unknown. I am inclined to think that I have solved the origin of these names; but I do not feel sure enough of my ground to make any statements about their meaning until I have made further investigations.

On the history of the name California, see Ruth Putnam's California: The Name, in the University of California Publications in History, December 19, 1917.

The origin of Yuma has never been explained.

Hodge, Handbook, II, 832, derives Tucson from the Papago Tu-uk-so-on, "black base," the term having reference to a dark volcanic stratum in an adjacent mountain. I see no reason for not accepting this interpretation.

Very sincerely yours,

William A. Read

William A. Read

*California's name
"California" on my
library in Dept. of
A.*