

THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON

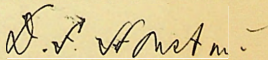
April 18, 1917.

Dear Sir:

I have your letter of April 14. I greatly appreciate the invitation to attend the Third Convention of the Old Spanish Trail Association and regret that it will not be possible for me to accept. The pressure of official work here will make it impossible for me to make a trip to Florida at the time of the meeting.

Regretting that I can not give you a favorable response, I am,

Very truly yours,


Secretary.

Mr. F. R. S. Phillips,
First National Bank Building,
Tallahassee, Florida.