



MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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NANSON, N. D.

May 3

1917

To the warden of State
of Minnesota Prison. Will
you kindly inform me
as to the where abouts of
Clare Younger. That is
if he is in the state
of Minnesota or not.
And oblige

Yours Truly,

F. A. Hopson,

Please answer this by return.

~~Lee's Summit~~

ed u

Lee's Summit

RECEIVED

MAY 1

MINN
STAT

May 4, 1911.

Mr. F. A. Hopson,

Manson, No. Dak.

Dear Sir:

We have your letter of the 3rd inst. making inquiry as to the whereabouts of Cole Younger and in reply have to say that the last we heard about him he was in Lee's Summit, Mo.

Very truly yours,

JD.

RECEIVED

NOV 16 1911

MINNESOTA
STATE PRISON

Jacksonville Ill

Nov 12 1911

Mr Henry Wolfer
Warden of Minnesota
State Prison

Stillwater Minnesota
Dear Sir

Please inform me
of the date of the
release of the Younger
Bro's Cole and James
Younger find enclosed
Postal card for return
answer

Yours Respectfully

F.J. Muehlhausen 449 So Clay
Jacksonville Ill. Ark

Nov. 24, 1911

Mr. F. J. Muehlhausen,
449 So. Clay Ave.
Jacksonville, Ills.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of recent date asking the date of the release of the Younger Brothers from this institution at hand and in reply beg to advise you that they were released on parole July 14, 1901 and conditionally pardoned in February 1903.

Very truly yours,

JD

December 14th, 1911.

J. F. Calhoun, Senator,
#500 Oneida Building,
Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Senator:-

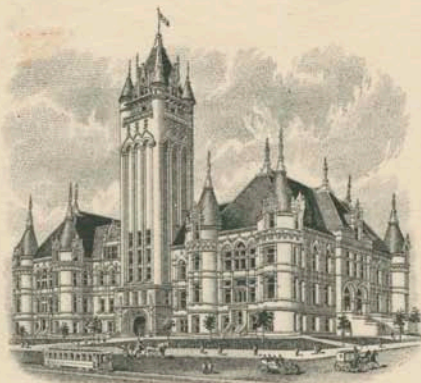
In compliance with your request over the telephone about the time of the capture of the Younger Brothers, Rob, James and Cole, I beg to say that they were captured in the fall of 1876, and were sentenced to the Minnesota States Prison on November 20th, 1876.

Robt. Younger died in prison on September 16th, 1889. Jim and Cole Younger were paroled on July 14th, 1901. Jim Younger committed suicide on October 19th, 1902. Cole Younger was granted a pardon on February 4th, 1903 on condition that he leave the State of Minnesota and that he never exhibit himself in public in any way.

I hope this furnishes you the information desired.

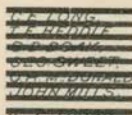
Very truly yours,

HFB

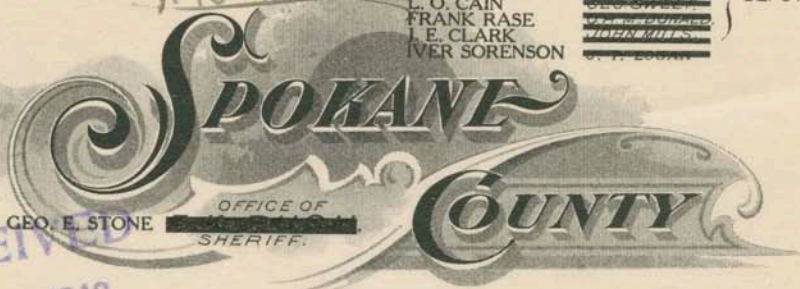


SPOKANE COUNTY COURT HOUSE.

A. H. JELSETT
DAVID HYATT
W. A. LOTHROP
H. A. JARVIS
L. O. CAIN
FRANK RASE
J. E. CLARK
IVER SORENSON



DEPUTIES.



GEO. E. STONE

RECEIVED

AUG 21 1912

MINNESOTA
STATE PRISON

Spokane, Wash. - 8-17-1912

To - The - Warden of Stillwater
min

I would like to get some information in regard
to the Younger Bros in regard to which was
Pardoned, and which one died at the Prison
Thanking you in advance. Your Truly -
F. Rase Depty

August 22, 1912.

Mr. Frank Rose,
Deputy Sheriff,
Spokane, Wash.

Dear Sir:

We have your letter of the 17th inst. in regard to certain information you wish regarding the Younger Brothers who were at one time inmates of this Institution. In reply beg to advise you that there were three of the brothers confined here, Robert, James and Coleman. Robert Younger died in prison and the other two were conditionally pardoned.

We trust this is the information you desire.

Very truly yours,

jd.



GENERAL OFFICE
69 WEST MADISON ST.
CHICAGO, ILL.

RECEIVED

Chicago, Ill. Dec. 17, 1912.

Warden,
State Penitentiary.
Stillwater, Minn.

DEC 19 1912

MINNESOTA
STATE PRISON

Dear Sir:-

You would confer a great favor on me and also put me under deep obligation to you, if you would advise me as to the present address of Frank James; we are very anxious to get into communication with him and also Cole Younger; sincerely trust that you can supply the desired information and take this opportunity to thank you in advance.

Very Respectfully Yours,

A. F. Leades
Secretary.

Dec. 20, 1912.

Mr. C. R. Geades, Secretary,
69 West Madison Street,
Chicago, Ills.

Dear Sir:

We have your letter of the 17th inst. making inquiry regarding the whereabouts of Frank James and Cole Younger and in reply beg to say that Frank James was never an inmate of this institution. Cole Younger when last heard from was located at Lee's Summit, Missouri. Frank James we have heard has gone into Texas but we cannot give you the address.

Very truly yours,

jd

Selleck Nash
Sept. 19-14

Warden Stillwater Prison
Dear Sir: -

Will you kindly tell me which
was the oldest of Jim or B. Younger
and which one died in the prison
and oblige.

Yours very truly

Antony Olson

Selleck

Nash

RECEIVED

SEP 23 1914

MINNESOTA
STATE PRISON

September 24th-1914

Mr. Anton Olson,
Selleck,
Washington

Dear Sir:-

Replying to yours of the 19th about the Youngers, I will say that they were received here on November 20th-1876 on life sentences for the crime of Murder first degree. Thomas Coleman (Cole) gave his age then as 32, James as 28 and Robert as 22. Robert died in prison Sept. 16th-1889. Cole and James were paroled on July 14th-1901. James killed himself by shooting on October 19th-1902. February 4th-1903, Cole was pardoned and went to Missouri where he is said to be still living.

Hoping that I have answered your inquiry, I am

Very truly yours,

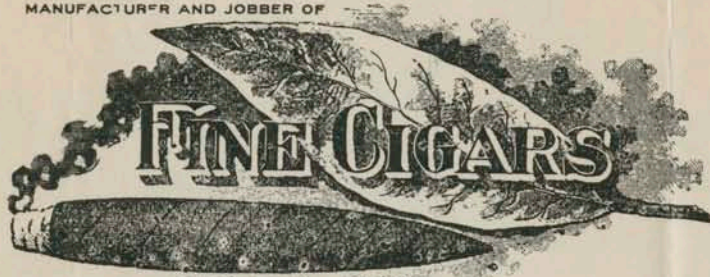
PAW-y

C. E. PARSONS

MANUFACTURER AND JOBBER OF



DOMESTIC AND
CLEAR HAVANA
CIGARS



Kalamazoo, Mich.

Beeville, Texas,

Oct. 9th.

1914

Warden Stillwater Prison,
Stillwater, Minn.

Dear Sir:-

Will you kindly inform me whether it was Cole Younger or Bob (his brother) that was pardoned from the prison there, and which one ~~of~~ died in prison?

Thanking you in advance for this information, and trusting to receive an answer in due time, I remain,

Yours truly,

C. E. Parsons,

514 Potter St.,

Kalamazoo, Mich.

RECEIVED

OCT 12 1914

Minnesota State Prison.

October 12th, 1914.

699

Mr. C. E. Parsons,
514 Potter Street,
Kalamazoo, Mich.

Dear Sir: >

Answering your inquiry about the Younger Brothers, I will say that these three men were received here on November 20th, 1876 on life sentences for the crime of Murder in the first degree. Thomas Coleman, known as Cole, was at that time 32 years old, James was 28 and Robert 22. Robert died in prison September 16th, 1889. Cole and James were paroled July 14th, 1901. James killed himself by shooting in St. Paul October 19th, 1902 and Cole was pardoned on February 4th, 1903 and as far as we know is still living. The last report that we had was that he was somewhere in the State of Missouri, not far from Kansas City.

Yours very truly,

FAV
hfb

Do not address any business correspondence to individuals.

Separate sheet must be used for each department.

When replying to letters always state date and initials of writer.

Swift & Company

Town

Mnott

State

W.D. & H. L. Ryer

Dept.

H. L. Ryer

Date

10/22

1914

Dear Sirs:

Subject

Will you please advise me the dates
that the Younger Bros were paroled and later
paroled out of Duluth hoping to hear from
you soon I remain

Yours Truly
J. H. Spang

PS You will find inclosed self addressed Envelope

Jas

RECEIVED
OCT 24 1914
MINNESOTA
STATE PRISON

80 N. S. Fowler

699

October 24th-1914

Mr. J. P. A. Sparsen,
c/o Waverley Hotel,
Minot, North Dakota

Dear Sir:-

Replying to yours of the 22nd about the Youngers, I will say that they were received here on November 20th-1876 on life sentence for the crime of Murder in the first degree. Thomas Coleman (Cole) gave his age then as 32, James as 28, and Robert as 22. Robert died in prison September 16th- 1889. Cole and James were paroled on July 14th-1901. James killed himself by shooting on October 19th-1902. February 4th-1903, Cole was pardoned and he went to Missouri where he is said to be still living.

Hoping that I have answered your inquiry, I am

Very truly yours,

FAW-w

Chokio Minn

2/19/15

Stillwater Minn

Dear Sir

Could you give me
the dates as to when the
youngest Bros began
their sentence and when
they were released as
I would like to know.

and oblig

J. P. Lawler

Chokio

RECEIVED

FEB 23 1915

MINNESOTA
STATE PRISON

March 2, 1915.

Mr. J. P. Lawler,

Chokio, Minn.

Dear Sir:

Replying to yours of recent date about the Youngers I will say that they were received here on November 20th, 1876 on life sentence for the crime of Murder in the first degree. Thomas Coleman (Cole) gave his age then as 32, James as 28, and Robert as 22. Robert died in prison September 16, 1889. Cole and James were paroled on July 14, 1901. James killed himself by shooting on October 19th, 1902. February 4th 1903, Cole was pardoned and he went to Missouri where he is said to be still.

Hoping that I have answered your inquiry, I am,

Yours very truly,

FAW
jed

Le Ray Ill.

✓ 74-15

Suppl. Shillman
Pete Shillman

Dear

Dear Sir, did one
of the younger boys
die in the fight at
war Cole #1308

Pardoned Ray

Received Ray

RECEIVED

MAY 6 - 1915

MINNESOTA
STATE PRISON

May 6th-1915

Mr. Ross E. Parker,
Le Roy,
Illinois

Dear Sir:-

Answering your inquiry about the Younger Brothers,
I will say that these three men were received here November 20th
1876 on life sentences for the crime of Murder in the first de-
gree. Thomas Coleman, known as Cole, was at that time 32 years
old, James was 28 and Robert 22. Robert died in prison September
16th-1889, Cole and James were paroled July 14th-1901. James
killed himself by shooting in Saint Paul October 19th-1902 and Cole
was pardoned on February 4th-1903 and as far as we know he is still
living. The last report was that he was some where in Missouri
not far from Kansas City.

Very truly yours,

hbw-

RECEIVED

JUL 26 1915

2 Youngers (2 young)

Minnesota State Prison.

Corona Cal July 19-1915
Warden State Prison

Stillwater. Minn

Dear Sir Will you be so kind
as to answer a few questions
viz how many of the
Younger Boys were in Prison
there and what were their
Given names. and how
long were they in Prison
and what become of them
were any of them killed
in the Road on the Northfield
Bank. Trusting you can give
me the above information
and thanking you in

2

Advance

I am, H. H. Russell

P. S. address in
in exo citrus Belt Land co
corona Cal
H. H. Russell

July 29, 1915.

Mr. R. H. Russell,
Citrus Belt Land Company,
Corona, Cal.

Dear Sir:

Replying to your recent inquiry regarding the Younger brothers have to say that there were three Youngers confined here, namely Coleman Younger, James Younger and Robert Younger. Robert the youngest died while in prison after having served a few years. Cole and James were both released after serving something over twenty years. Shortly after their release James Younger committed suicide. Cole Younger the last we heard was living in Missouri.

None of the Youngers, as you will notice above, were killed at the time of the raid on the Bank at Northfield. Some of the other members of the gang, however, were killed.

Yours very truly,

CSH
jed

HARRY B. WANDELL, JR.,
3636 COOK AVENUE,
ST. LOUIS, MO.

SELLING CLOTHING FOR

PHONES:
BUSINESS, MAIN 3243
HOME, LINDELL 2753-W

CARLETON CLOTHING CO.

1125 WASHINGTON AVENUE

ST. LOUIS, MO.

July 30, '15.

To the Warden of the Penitentiary,
Stillwater, Minn.,

Dear Sir---Pardon my intrusion if my offense is not too rank, and if you can consistently do so, please comply with my request.

I would like to have the official prison record--the dates and authoritative incidentals of the entrance of Cole Younger into the prison; length of service; time and conditions of release. Also, same concerning those who were connected with him. Dates are what I most need; also, what kind of prisoners were they. I want to use the dates and other material in a book in which the Youngers and associates will figure. After the official record, anything about the men that you will be kind enough to write me will be greatly appreciated. This does not mean that your name will appear as having supplied the data, but I do want to say the dates, &c., are official.

Please let me hear from you in this connection at your earliest convenience, and you will place me under obligation. It is not impossible that at some time in the future, I as a newspaper man may find a way to do you some small service in return.

Most respectfully yours,

H. B. Wendell

3636 Cook avenue,
St. Louis, Mo.

RECEIVED

AUG 1 - 1915

MINNESOTA
STATE PRISON

August 3, 1915.

Mr. H. B. Wandell,
3636 Cook Ave.,
St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Sir:

Answering your inquiry of the 30th ult. beg to say that the Younger brothers, i.e.; Thomas Coleman, known as "Cole", James, and Robert were received here on November 20th, 1876 to serve a life sentence for the crime of Murder in the first degree. Cole was at that time 32 years of age, James 28 and Robert 22. Robert died at the prison September 16, 1889. Cole and James were paroled July 14, 1901. Later on October 19, 1902 James killed himself by shooting in Saint Paul. Cole was pardoned on February 4, 1903.

The three Youngers were the only members of this gang that were sentenced here and the others we know nothing about. All of these men were good prisoners while here.

We have no knowledge of Cole very recently, but the last we heard he was living at Lee's Summit, Mo and reported to be in poor health.

Hoping this answers your inquiry, I am,

Yours very truly,

FAW
jed

THE WIDMANN

Liberty Mo

Mitchell, South Dakota.

Sept 13th 1910⁵

Warden State Penitentiary
Stillwater

Minn

Dear Sir will you be kind
enough to ask a few questions
in regard to the younger
Bry-

RECEIVED

MINNESOTA
STATE PRISON

How many of them were
captured at Kitchpau
Madeline and please give their
given names. how long they
served and when were
they paroled
I claimed in statement I
made that Jim Yeenger
died in the penitentiary and
that Cole Bob were paroled
together and that

THE WIDMANN

Mitchell, South Dakota,.....1910

Bob Younger was to be
married to a woman
that run a newsstand
but he found out he had
no legal identity that he
was legally dead and
when he found this out
he killed himself
Am I right? Wasnt
Bob Case younger both
paroled at the same
time — by answering
these questions you
will greatly oblige

Yours

Irvin Ritchey.

Liberty mo.

Sept. 15, 1915.

Mr. Irvin Ritchey,
Liberty, Mo.

Dear Sir:

Answering yours of the 13th inst. making inquiry regarding the Younger Brothers have to say that there three of the gang captured at Northfield, namely Cole, James and Bob (Robert) Younger, all of whom were committed to this institution on November 20, 1876. Robert died at the prison on September 16th, 1889. Cole and James were paroled July 14, 1901. Later on October 19, 1902 James killed himself by shooting in St. Paul. Cole was pardoned on Feb. 4, 1903.

Trusting we have answered your inquiry, we remain,

Yours very truly,

CSR
jed

WESTERN UNION

Form 2289 K

NIGHT LETTER

THEO. N. VAIL, PRESIDENT

RECEIVED AT

38-104
M.B. New York 10/8/15

Warden State prison
St. Louis, Mo.

Please let me know if Cole
Younger has been out of the
State of Minnesota in the last
14 years to your knowledge
answer by letter

3 830 AM

10/9/15

A. Wright

388-East 136th Street
Brooklyn

New York

Oct. 9, 1913.

Mr. H. Wright,
388 East 136th, Bronx
New York, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

Answering your telegram of the 8th relative to
Cole Younger beg to say that he was paroled from this
institution on July 14, 1901. Later on Oct. 19, 1902
he was granted a pardon by our State Board of Pardons
and has not been in the State of Minnesota since that time.

At last accounts he was living near Springfield
Mo. and was in a more or less critical state of health.

Yours very truly,

jd

Lutherland Ia 12/18/5
Warden Minn State Penitentiary
St. Paul Minn
Dear Sir -

How many of the
younger Bros were in
the penitentiary of Minn &
did any of them die
while in confinement -
an answer will oblige
Thanking you in advance.
Yours truly.

J B Hayes

RECEIVED

DEC 20 A.M.

MINNESOTA
STATE PRISON

Jan. 3, 1916.

Mr. J. B. Hayes,

Sutherland, Iowa.

Dear Sir:

Replying to your recent letter have to advise that there were three of the Younger Brothers confined in this institution, namely; Coleman, James and Robert. Only one of them died while in prison, Robert, the youngest. The other two were paroled and later pardoned.

Trusting this gives you the information desired,

I am,

Yours very truly,

GSH
jed



THE BURLEY
KILMER & CLARK
PROPRIETORS

BELLE PLAINE, IOWA,

2/5/1916

Warden:

Stillwater Minn.

Dear Sir:

Was Frank James
ever an inmate of Stillwater
or any other prison?

Any light on this
question will be very much
appreciated.

Thanking you very
kindly.

Yours respectfully.

Robert Wilson.

Belle Plaine,

Iowa.

To Burley Hotel.

RECEIVED

FEB 7 - PM

MINNESOTA
STATE PRISON

February 10th-1916

Robert Wilson,

c/o The Burley House,

Belle Plaine, Iowa

Dear Sir:-

Answering your letter of February 5th I have to say that Frank James never served a term in this prison or any other that I know of. The only men in this prison in connection with the Northfield affair were the three Younger brothers, Cole, James and Robert. Robert died in prison, Cole and James were both paroled, James committing suicide some time after in Saint Paul. Cole was subsequently pardoned on condition that he return to his home in Missouri and he is there at the present time so far as I know.

Hoping this answers your inquiry, I am

Very truly yours,

faw-w



Mrs. Maud Ballington Booth
Known as "The Little Mother"

GEN. BALLINGTON AND MAUD B. BOOTH
COMMANDERS IN CHIEF

The Volunteers of America
(INCORPORATED)

FLORIDA HOPE HALL AND INDUSTRIAL FARM
FOR RELEASED PRISONERS

HAMPTON, FLA. P. O. BOX NO. 5.



The State Cannot Dispense with
the Economic Value of a Single
Citizen

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A. A. FUTCH
HAMPTON STATE BANK
Treasurer

Montgomery, Ala.
Oct. 31st, 17

Warden Minnesota State Prison,
Stillwater, Minn.

Dear Sir:--

If either of the Younger Brother are living
I will appreciate the favor if you will give me their
address.

It is my understanding that Bob and Cole Younger
were paroled from your prison some fifteen years ago
after serving 27 years. Hence you will likely know of
them if either of them are living.

I am enclosing a little booklet entitled
The Florida Hope Hall and Industrial Farm, which
I will appreciate if you will hand to the Editor of
the Mirror with the request that he give us a notice
through the columns of his publication.

Very respectfully,

Lt. Major *L. A. Odom*
State Superintendant



699
Nov. 10, 1917.

Lt. Major L. A. Odom,
317 Whitman St.,
Montgomery, Ala.

Dear Sir:

Answering your recent inquiry beg to say that none of the Younger Brothers are now living, Cole, the last survivor having died recently in Missouri. Robert, the youngest of the brothers died while in prison and James committed suicide while on parole from this institution.

Trusting this gives you the information desired,
I am,

Yours very truly,

CSR
jed

Warden

EXPERT BALLOON PILOT
—PARACHUTE JUMPER.



Full



WORLD'S RENOWNED
PROFESSIONAL MOTORCYCLIST

HUBERT "GUN BOAT" KITTLE
PROFESSIONAL AERONAUT

Los Angeles, Cal. Nov 25th 1918.

Warden,
Still Water Prison,
Still Water Minn,

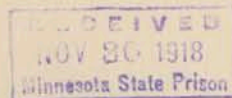
My Dear Mr. Warden,

I am taking the liberty of writing you in regard to photos of Cole and Jim Younger, and am informed that you have the same taken from life in their late years, or some taken in the early days. My people knew the boys very well and have told me so much of them that I would like very much to hang their pictures in my home. I will appreciate it very much if you would forward me a set of what ever pictures you may have of them or any one connected with them, what ever the expense is I will forward same to you upon hearing from you, Thanking you in advance for your kindness I beg to remain,

Yours Very Respectfully

Hubert M. Kittle

315 So Workman St, Los Angeles Cal.





EXHIBITIONS

COMPETITION

HUBERT "GUN BOAT" KITTLE
PROFESSIONAL AERONAUT

EXPERT
BALLOON PILOT
PARACHUTE JUMPER
PROFESSIONAL MOTORCYCLIST

LOS ANGELES, CAL.

Dec. 9, 1913

Mr. N. J. Fallon,
534 Fuller St.,
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir:

I have to confess that I have forgotten to write you as I agreed to about the Youngers. These men were arrested in September, 1876 and pleaded guilty in the district Court of Rice County on Nov. 20th and were all three sentenced to the State prison for life being received here Nov. 28th, 1876.

The youngest brother Robert died in prison on September 16th, 1889. Cole and Jim were paroled July 4th, 1901. Jim committed suicide October 14th, 1902. Cole was still on parole at that time and was finally discharged on Feb. 4th, 1903 at which time he was living in Lee Summit, Mo where he lived until some time in the summer or fall of 1917 when he died there.

desired, I am

hoping this conveys the information

Yours very truly,

State parole Agent.

A. R. HOLSTON REAL ESTATE

88 PIER AVENUE
HERMOSA BEACH, CALIFORNIA

2-2-1922

Warden State Prison
Stillwater
Minn.

RECEIVED
FEB - 7 1922
Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Sir:- In order to settle the
question between myself and a
gentleman here who was a
former deputy sheriff in Minn.
Will you please inform me
which of the Foran Brothers
was wounded in the North-
field Bank raid and afterwards
died in prison at Stillwater,
and which brother was
finally paroled along with
his brother Cole?

You may answer on this
sheet if you will - I enclose
stamped envelope for reply.
Thanking you for the information
Yours truly
A. R. Holston

649-710
Feb. 9, 1922

Mr. A. R. Holston,

Hermosa Beach, Calif.

Dear Sir:

I have your letter of recent date making inquiry regarding the Younger brothers, formerly inmates of this institution. Answering your questions, beg to say that the brother wounded at Northfield was Robert, the youngest of the brothers, and he later died at the prison. James and Cole were both paroled and finally discharged.

Yours very truly,

JJS
jed

Warden

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



EDUCATIONAL AND
WELFARE ACTIVITIES

1-7

1924

Dear Sir

I am a veteran of W. W.
I am a patient at this hospital
was shell shocked in World War
Will you give me following
information

What employment did the
Younger Bros work at while
in your institution

Did they all work in one
room or was they separated
& what did each do

Where they under special
guard & what did they do
then & what did they do
after the special guard was
taken off

Can you tell me where
Bob died was it in the Pen.
or in some hospital & can
you tell me the exact date

of their release, & what Cole
& Jim did for a livelihood when
released, did they stay in
Minnesota & if so, where?

Thanking you & hoping
you will give me this in-
formation I remain

Respt

Jos. J. Breun

V. Hospital # 94

American Lake
Wash.

700
Jed
Jan. 14, 1925

Mr. Jos. J. Brennan,
Veterans Hospital #94,
American Lake, Wash.

Dear Sir:

Answering yours of the 7th inst. making inquiry regarding the Younger Brothers who were inmates of this institution, have to advise that these men did not work in the same room. Bob Younger the youngest of the three died at the Prison Hospital here. The other two worked as all other inmates worked, one being employed for a long time in the prison library and the other in the hospital department. They were not under special guard and both were very well behaved while in prison. After their parole they were both employed in the Twin Cities. Jim committed suicide shortly after his release. Cole remained in Minnesota until he was pardoned and something over a year ago died at St. Joseph, Mo.

Trusting this gives you the desired information, I am,

Yours very truly,

JJS
jed

Warden

FEB 26 1924

Franklin, Tenn

Feb 23 - 1924

State Penitentiary
St Paul Minn

Dear Sir:

Please
give me the
following infor-
-mation viz.
When did the
Younger Boys
(of the James Gang)
get pardoned or
paralled from the
Minnesota Penitentiary
& can you tell me
whether any of the

2

Youngs Boys
are still living
Enclose stamp
envelope for reply

Yours & oblig
Geo. E. Boyd

February 26th, 1924.

Mr. John E. Boyd
Frankling
Tenn.

Dear Sir:-

Replying to your inquiry of the 23rd in regards to the Younger Boys will say that none of the brothers are now alive. Robert Younger the youngest of the three, died September 16th, 1889, James Younger was paroled in July 1901 and Committed suicide in St. Paul in the year 1902. Cole was also paroled with James in 1901 and sometime later was granted a conditional pardon in 1903. He died in St. Joe, Missouri about 1922.

Hoping this supplies you with the information desired, I am

Yours very truly,

J. J. Sullivan, Warden
Per _____

June 18th, 1924.

Mr. J. A. Lawrence
Northfield
Minnesota.

Dear Sir:-

I am in receipt of your letter of June 16th and in reply will say that after the Younger Brothers were paroled for a time during the first summer they were out, Cole Younger continued to spend a portion of each Sunday at my house. While I did not particularly favor this, I did not forbid him to come there but his coming and sitting on the porch would attract the boys and girls of the neighborhood and I finally suggested to him that perhaps it would be well for him and others that his Sunday visits be discontinued.

Cole as you know is a dreamy sort of a fellow and in many ways somewhat interesting to talk to for the reason that he gave you a fairly good insight into life in Missouri and the South and on these visits he would tell these stories or yarns. He told me the story of the Northfield raid many times and especially do I remember asking him how it came about that they selected the Bank at Northfield and he had no hesitancy in telling me it was to even up an old grudge of war time.

He claims that General B. Butler in command of the Union Forces was sent into their country to subdue lawlessness and especially to capture if possible bands of raiders that were operating there, that in one of the fights that Butler's troops had with these raiders, the property of the James Brothers was destroyed by fire and old Mrs. James, mother of the brothers and an old Aunt of the Younger brothers, was shot resulting in the lost of her arm the same being amputated at or near the shoulder. Because of this he says the James Brothers swore vengeance against Butler and for many years lived in hopes that Butler would come into the West or Southwest and had he done so and they knew it, they would have evened up the thing with him personally. Butler as you know lived in Lowell, Mass., and Cole claimed that through the newspapers they learned that he was related to the Hames Family, someone of them coming to Northfield and going into the milling business and became connected with the Northfield Bank. He claimed to that they had information that Butler was a large stockholder in this Bank and it was rumored that he visited Northfield about this time of the year that the raid was made, that being the time of the year when wheat was largely marketed and they hoped to meet Butler on one of his visits to Minn., and if not they were to get even with him in a measure by raiding this bank which they did.

Cole repeatedly told me that was the reason the Bank at Northfield was singled for their operation. I remember to that in one of his talks, he said that no doubt the shooting of Mr. Heywood in the bank was prompted by the James Brothers being determined to get even with Mr. Butler and they

assumed that Mr. Heywood was a relative of the Butler family or the Ames family. Cole always condemned the action of the James Brothers in killing Heywood saying that it was unnecessary and uncalled for and would not have taken place had he been entirely sober but they being partially drunk and with the old feeling of vengeance, the shooting was more or less impulsive act.

Now you will understand that this is given only as one of Cole Younger's yarns. I never made any investigation to determine whether or not it was true but presume that there is at least an element of truth in it to the extent at least that they were attempting to even up a fancied wrong in this somewhat long range fashion. In a talk with Dr. Cruttenden at my house where he visited, I accidentally told this to him and have no objections to repeating it only that I want to be understood as repeating only a story of Younger's and in no way vouching for its truthfulness.

The Younger Brothers as you know are all dead and if this has any interest to you or your people or the people of the town, I have no objections to its being made public.

Yours very truly,

faw m.

State Parole Agent.