



MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
Board of Public Improvements.
ST. LOUIS.

May 7, 1898.

Hon. Geo. M. Bennett,

#9
Dear Sir; In response to yours
of the 2nd inst I submit the following
statement of the obligation conferred upon
me by Beale Younger in 1862.

On August 15. of that year I was placed
in Command of about 740 Federal Sol-
diers, sent by General Jas. Totten, to
check a confederate force, supposed to
be moving on Lexington Mo. or Sedalia
Mo; said to be 1600 strong and located
near Lone Jack, in Jackson County
Mo. I was ordered to attack this
force wherever I might find it, and
hold it until General Warren, moving
from Clinton Henry County Mo. could
join me. I was at that time Major

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of the 7th Cavalry Missouri State Militia.
Ten regiments so designated were must-
tered into the U. S. Service, on the same
footing as Volunteers. I marched from
Lexington at sunrise, and struck the
Confederates, half a mile south of
Lone Jack about 9 o'clock on the
evening of the same day August 15;
The Confederate force was scattered.
but I learned from prisoners captured
that another and larger force of Con-
federates under Col. Bockersell was
encamped about three miles north
west of Lone Jack. Expecting
that Genl Warren would join me
that night or early next morning, I
ordered my men to sleep in line in
Lone Jack. About 3 o'clock

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on the morning of August 16, my pickets came in, reporting that 3000 Confederates were marching on Lone Jack. I awaited them, and about 40 minutes after my pickets had been driven in they attacked us. The battle continued over five hours, most of the time across a village street not more than sixty feet wide.

During the progress of the fight my attention was called to a young Confederate riding in front of the Confederate line, distributing ammunition to the men from what seemed to be a "split" basket. He rode slowly, under a most galling fire from our side, the entire length of the Confederate line, and when he at last disappeared, our

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boys recognized his gallantry in ringing
cheers. I was told by some of
our men from the western border of the
state that they recognized the daring
young rider as Cole Younger.

About 9:30 am. the Confederates
captured our artillery - two pieces. I led
a charge and recaptured the guns, and
was shot down. The Confederates
at this time ceased firing, and soon after
were in retreat.

The wounded of both forces were
gathered up ~~and~~, (among them myself, with
my brother, both supposed to be mor-
tally wounded), ^{and} were placed in houses.

I and my brother were placed in the
same bed, in a small house in the
southern part of Lone Jack. Many others

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were in the same room, badly wounded.

About an hour after the Confederates had left the field, the officer who by reason of his rank took command of the Federals when I became unconscious, gathered his men together and returned to Lexington.

Soon after the Confederates returned. The first man who entered my room was John ^{Smith} ~~Smith~~ a guerrilla, followed by a dozen or more men who seemed to obey him. He was personally known to me and had been my enemy from before the war. He said he and his men had just shot a Lieutenant of a Cass County Company, whom they had found wounded, and that he would shoot me and my brother. While he was standing

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over us, threatening us with his drawn
pistol, the young man I had seen
distributing ammunition along the front
of the Confederate line, rushed into the
room from the west door, and seizing
^{the fellow} ~~the fellow~~ thrust him out of the
room. Several Confederates fol-
lowed, ^{the young Confederate into the room,} and I heard them call the young
man Cale Younger. Younger
sent for Col. Bookrell, (in command
of the Confederate forces.) ^{He} stated the case
to him. He also called the young
man Cale Younger, and directed him
to guard the house, which he did.

My brother had with him about \$300
and I had about \$700. This money
and our revolvers, were with the
knowledge and approval of Col.

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Younger ~~were~~ placed in safe hands
and they were finally delivered to
my mother in Warrensburg Mo.

Bole Younger was then certainly
a high type of manhood, and every
inch a soldier, who risked his
own life to protect that of wounded
and disabled enemies. I believe
he still retains those qualities and
would prove himself as good a citizen
as we have among us if set free.
and would fight for the Stars and
Stripes as fearlessly as he did for
the Southern flag. I know
much of the conditions & circum-
stances under which the Youngers
were placed after the war, and
knowing this I have great sympathy

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for them. Many men, now prominent and useful citizens of Missouri, were like the Youngers unable to return to their homes until some fortunate accident threw them with men they had known before the war, who had influence enough to make easy their return to peace and usefulness. If this had occurred to the Youngers they would have now good homes in Missouri.

I owe my life and that of my brother to Cole Younger, and I hope this statement may help to set him free.

Give him my best love when you see him

Very truly yours
Emory S. Foster

See Vol 13 Series 1 page 238 MO Official
Rebellion records for Foster's official report

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ST. LOUIS
Board of Public Improvements
OF THE
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
ROBERT M. MATHIAS
SECRETARY

for them. Many men, now prominent
and useful citizens of Missouri, were
like the foreigners unable to return
to their homes until some provisions
were made for them with men that
had known before the war, who had
efforts enough to make ready their
to leave and depart. If this
occurred to the foreigner they would
have found homes in Missouri.
I am sure that of my father
to Colonel Younger and I hope this
statement may help to get him free.
I am sure you will have
for our time.

John P. White

Very truly yours
Clemens J. Green

Mr. Col. is given 1 page for the office
of the Board of Public Improvements

United States Senate,

WASHINGTON, D. C.,

July 4, 1898.

Judge Charles M. Start,
Board of Pardons,
St. Paul, Minn.

My dear Judge:—

#10
Hearing that an application for the pardon of the
Younger brothers may be made to your board, I beg to submit
the following statement:

I have read the letter of Col. Henry S. Foster, dated
May 7, 1898, hereto attached, and can verify some of the
statements set forth therein. I witnessed the close of the
battle at Lone Jack referred to and know that Colonel Foster
commanded on the Union side and fought the battle until he
was wounded. I did not see Cole Younger but I heard that he
was present. Quantrell's band, as I am informed was not in
the fight.

I knew Cole Younger when we were boys, and also his
parents. They were good people and among the pioneers on the
western border of Missouri. The Younger brothers maintained
a good reputaoun in the community where they lived and were

United States Senate,

WASHINGTON, D. C.,

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well esteemed, as were their parents, for their good conduct and character. At the breaking out of the war Cole Younger joined the rebel forces in Cass County.

In the spring or summer of 1862 I was taken prisoner by Quantrell's men and brought into his camp by the pickets who had me in charge. On reaching the camp the first person I saw whom I knew was Cole Younger. He did not seem to be a member of Quantrell's command, but was in the camp. When I was taken prisoner I expected to be shot without ceremony, as that was the rule with Quantrell's men in those days, especially if they wanted anything the prisoner had, and from the remarks I heard when being taken into camp the men composing the picket divided my possessions, one saying he would have my horse, another my boots, and another thought my coat would fit him,--but for some reason they did not kill me. Naturally I talked the best I knew how to entertain and please them until I could get into the camp. As soon as I saw Cole Younger I felt a sense of relief because I had known him and his parents long and favorably, and as soon as I got

United States Senate,

WASHINGTON, D. C.,

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a chance I told him frankly what I feared and that I hoped he would manage to take care of me and save me from being killed. He assured me he would do all he could to protect me.

I was in Quantrell's camp perhaps an hour, Quantrell himself taking a look at me, simply asking who I was. Cole Younger told him that my father and brother were in the rebel army and good fighters, and that I had remained at home to take care of my mother; that I was a good fellow and a non-combatant. This occurred just before I entered the Union army, and it was generally known, and I am sure Cole knew, that I was strongly for the Union and about to enter the army.

Quantrell left me and I do not know what was said beyond this, other than that Cole Younger talked with Quantrell and his leaders in my behalf. Cole Younger stayed by me until Quantrell broke camp assuring me that if he could save my life he would do so and that he thought I was safe. After Quantrell's command had moved Cole Younger remained with me and told me what to do to make good my escape.

Without going into further details as to what happened,

United States Senate,

WASHINGTON, D. C.,

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which are unimportant, I felt at the time and have felt since that but for Cole Younger's intercession in my behalf ~~that~~ I would have been killed and that I owe my life to his kindness. Naturally, under the circumstances I feel grateful to him and would like to do him any service I consistently can.

I do not want to argue the merits of the case of the Youngers. The only appeal I can make is on the ground of gratitude that I have always felt towards Cole Younger for what he did for me on that occasion. From what I knew of him and his people I believe that if he should be pardoned he would make a peaceable and law-abiding citizen.

Very truly yours,

J. B. Elkins.

Duplicate

Handed me by Senator Elkins July 4/99
at his house on Washington St.
Geo. W. Bennett

L. B. Collins

Pastor

1871
L. B. Collins

1871

E. F. ROGERS,
 REAL ESTATE AND LOANS,
 27 AND 36 BEALS BLDG.,
 N. W. COR. 9TH AND
 WYANDOTTE STREETS.
 TELEPHONE 1846.

Kansas City, Mo., Jan. 24th, 1901. 189

Geo. M. Bennett, Esq.,
 Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear:

Replying to your inquiry as to whether or not I was with Major Emory S. Foster at the battle of Lone Jack, Mo. which occurred on the 16th day of August 1862, I would say Yes, I was an aid to Maj. Foster, was wounded and lay in the same house in the village of Lone Jack with him and a number of other wounded officers and men, during the afternoon and evening of the 16th while the Confederates were occupying the place.

During that time there were several attempts made by a gang of ruffians to enter the house and kill some of the wounded; Maj. Foster being a special object of their hatred, (some of them having been his personal enemies before the war) and their efforts were persistent and determined.

I recollect one incident not mentioned by Maj. Foster in his letter written under date of May 7th, 1898. He may not have been conscious of it, as he was desperately wounded and supposed to be in a dying condition.

Some of the Confederates, were ruffians, gained entrance to the house and began abusing us wounded and Cole Younger, being present on guard, drew his sabre and rushed for the men, ordering them to get out quick and declaring they were cowardly fiends and that he would slaughter every one of them if they did not leave; adding that we were wounded prisoners and should be protected even over his dead body and if they entered again they would not get out alive. The room was cleared very quickly. Without doubt our lives were saved by Cole's honest bravery and determination to protect the wounded at the risk of his own life. I cannot and do not believe that the inherent manly qualities he then possessed were ever destroyed by the terrible experiences which in after years he passed through and I would now trust him anywhere with my life, honor and property in his exclusive keeping.

I know much of the vindictive persecution that followed him, driving him into the Confederate army and which assailed him even more bitterly after the close of the war (the trouble having been caused by the jealousy of a Federal officer) and knowing these facts and in view of his long imprisonment, I would be glad to hear of his being permitted to be a man among men again.

As to my politics, I have been a Republican ever since the party was organized whose teachings prompted the immortal Lincoln to embody in his message "with malice toward none, charity for all".

Very truly,

E. F. Rogers

#11

[March 5, 1896]

State of Missouri

County of Clay.

Gideon W. Thompson an
old and reputable citizen of Barry in
the County of Platte and State of Missouri
upon his oath says that he left Little
Rock Arkansas on or about the 5th of
July 1862 under orders of Major General
Hindman to come to Missouri on
recruiting service with a Colonel's
commission in any possession in the
Confederate States Army & I proceeded
at once to the northern part of the
State of Arkansas and there enlisted
one hundred privates and started
for the Missouri River and arrived
in Jackson County Missouri on the
8th day of August 1862 and commen-
ced recruiting at once, recruited within
the next ten days nine hundred men
and organized them among the number
was Coleman Younger who I swore in
to the Confederate service as a private
soldier on the 14 day of August 1862
and assigned to duty. I left Jackson
County Missouri about the 20th of August
and reported to General Hindman
in the northern part of Arkansas

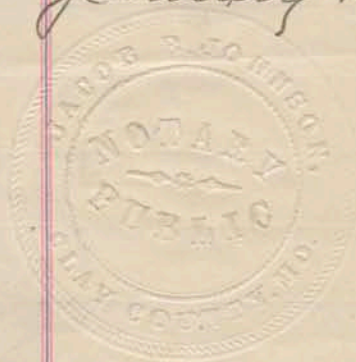
And further the affiant saith nothing
Walter at Barry
This March 5-1898

Gideon W. Thompson

Subscribed and sworn to before me
a Notary Public in and for Clay
County This March 5-1898.

My term expires
January 10th 1903.

J. B. Johnson
Notary Public



Cal Gid Thompson



County of Dallas



Dallas, Texas, April 25th., 1898.

George M. Bennett, Esq.,
Minneapolis,
Minnesota.

Dear Sir:-

#13
I know that Cole Younger was not in Missouri in the year 1864 at any time. In the latter part of 1863 while Shelby's Brigade of Missouri Cavalry, C. S. A., were in winter quarters on the Ouachita River near Camden, Ark., a part of Co. G, Gordon's Regt., who were Californians and whose term had expired, left the command and went to Bonham, Tex. These men came from Cal. with Gen'l Albert Sidney Johnston at beginning of the war and were determined to return to the place from whence they came. Among them was my Brother, Capt. W. R. Bower. I never saw them afterwards until long after the war. Capt. Cole Younger went with them, as I understood it, to engage in some movement in Southern California in the interest of the C. S. A. They left Western Texas in the Spring of 1864 and proceeded in a southwest direction through Texas, to the Rio Grande river, thence through Old Mexico to Guaymas on the Pacific Coast and thence north into California.

This was the route agreed upon before they started, and I



County of Dallas



Dallas, Texas.

learned years afterwards from Cole Younger and also from my Brother that it was the route traveled by them. Cole returned after the war, and in 1868 probably, came to Dallas County, Texas, with his brothers, Jim, John and Bob, and their then little sister, Henrietta. We met and the friendship and intimacy of former years were renewed. I was then a young, practicing lawyer and on his frequent visits to the town, Cole usually slept in a room adjoining my office. No man stood higher in the estimation of the citizens of the county who knew ^{him} ~~him~~ than Capt. Cole Younger, until during his absence from the county his brother John while under the influence of liquor killed Col. Charles Nichols, a deputy sheriff and an old soldier comrade and friend of Cole's. This was a sad blow to Cole Younger and shortly afterwards he left the country and I have never seen him since. I know that he was a Confederate Soldier and a good one; that in 1863 he was in command of one or two companies of Confederate soldiers near Bonham, Texas; that he was sent to the Mississippi River in Northern La. under Gen'l E. Kirby Smith, then returned to Bonham, Texas, in the Spring of 1864, and went on the California trip.

I was in the same regiment and a messmate with Cole,



County of Dallas



Dallas, Texas.

Were under Gen'l Joe Shelby and knew him as well as any man could, knew his kindly nature, his warm friendships, his entire truthfulness and heroic gallantry; on the battle-field, he is as calm, thoughtful, sober, cool and intrepid as any man that ever lived. There was never a charge of wrong-doing in Texas against him, he was on the side of law and order. The boys were often called on by the Sheriff to assist in the arrest of desperate characters and always responded. Jim and Bob sang in the choir of the Baptist church; and they assisted in taking the scholastic census of Dallas in 1870.

Should it be regarded a matter of interest as to who I am, I was District Attorney of the 14th District of Texas, counties of Dallas, Ellis & Tarrant from 1874 to 1876; was County Judge of Dallas County from November, 1884, to November, 1892; was Chairman of Democratic Executive Committee of Texas, 1878 to 1880; was Grand Master of Masons in Texas, 1879-80, and Grand Commander of Knights Templar, 1875-76.

If there is any further information I possess, I will gladly furnish it, believing that these unfortunate friends of mine may be ~~trust~~



County of Dallas



Dallas, Texas.

trusted to take their places among us and carry their part as good and true citizens.

E. L. Bower

#13

E. J. Bowel

Price appraised.

Expressed to this field places among us and with their unit as good and

Dr. J. H. Bowen

Kansas City, Mo.

April 9th 1898.

Geo. W. Bennett Esq. }
Minneapolis Minn. }

My Dear Sir.

In answer to your favor concerning Younger Bros. now in Stillwater prison, would say, that I knew Cole and Jim Younger in the Confederate army, two as brave chivalrous soldiers as the Confederate (or any other army) had. Cole Younger and I were sworn in to the Confederate service at widow Ingraham farm Jackson County Mo. about 14th day of August 1862 by Col. Gid Thompson for three years or during the war. Cole was in Hayes Regiment, fought in the battle of Lone Jack, in which battle Maj Emory Foster Commander of Union troops was severely wounded and captured, and, except for the bravery, and firm stand of Cole Younger, would certainly have been murdered by ruffians. Early in 1864 there being a reorganization of the troops, Cole Younger, who had for some months been acting as Captain, was, in my presence, mustered in as a Lieutenant

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and assigned to duty in Elliott's or McD=onalds Battalion, soon after which he was ordered, and did report to Lieut. Gen. E. Kirby Smith, then in Command of Trans Mississippi Dept. for secret service, and was ordered to the Mississippi River in La, where he saw very severe service, about May 1864. Cole Younger with his Command was ordered to Bonham Texas, from whence he was sent with Col Geo. S. Jackson on Expedition through old Mex. to Pacific Coast, and into California, where he remained, (still in Confederate Secret Service), and did not return to Mo. until fall of 1865. He did not, nor could not have been in the raid into Mo. in 1864, and did not, nor could not have taken part in battles on the Blues or anywhere else in the state in the year 1864. No man conversant with the facts ever truthfully charged Cole Younger while in the service of conduct unbecoming a soldier or gentleman, he was strict in orders, and there may be found men who he was compelled to punish; and who might say unkind things of Cole, which is liable to be the case with officers in any army, but I find the real soldier, of either army, have a warm place in their hearts for Cole Younger, many of these conceding they owe their lives to his bravery and big heartedness.

Wm. W. Gregg
Subscribed and sworn to before me this
9th Day of April 1898.
Jno. H. Thomson, Clk. Crim. Ct.
By W. C. Nagan D.C.

[Aug. 6, 1898]

Boys Appraiser

STATE OF MISSOURI,)
)SS.
COUNTY OF JACKSON.)

I, Marshall P. Wright, being duly sworn and on oath depose and say: I am forty years of age, most of my life having been spent in the State of Missouri, and am now established in mining in old Mexico. My father was judge of the Circuit Court, living at Clinton, Missouri, during these years. In 1873 I was living at Clinton, Mo., and was there at the time,- about July 21st. of that year - when a railroad train was robbed in Iowa west of Des Moines. The Younger brothers, including Coleman and James, were charged with the robbery, the newspapers spreading the reports to that effect. I knew all of the boys well and had known them for years. On the day after said robbery, early in the morning, I met the boys at Monegaw Springs, St. Clair County, Missouri. I had with me a copy of the early morning paper giving an account of the robbery. Cole and Jim Younger were both there and read the newspaper containing the account of the aforesaid train robbery attributing the act to the Younger brothers. I read the article to the boys and remarked their ability to be in so many places at the same time. The place where the robbery was committed, at Adair, Iowa, was more than two hundred and fifty (250) miles from where I found them in St. Clair County, Missouri, which distance (if guilty) they must traverse in much less than twenty four hours on horse-back. It was then stated by people living there whom I knew that the Youngers' had not been away. There were then no cross lines of railroad making it possible for them to cover the distance by rail.

I have every reason to believe, and do believe, that the charges of that robbery to the Youngers' was the work of their enemies

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who were seeking to drive them out of Missouri.

And further deponent saith not.

Marshall B. Wright

State of Missouri,)

County of Jackson.)

The foregoing affidavit was subscribed and

sworn to before me this 6th day of August 1898.

My Commission expires Feby 15th 1900

John I. Gayha
Notary Public



Handwritten scribble or signature in the bottom left corner.

Wright



And Commission expires April 12, 1890

Richard Phillips
Richard Phillips

sworn to before me this 20th day of August 1888.
County of Jackson.)
State of Missouri.)

The foregoing affidavit was subscribed and

Wm. Paul G. Wright

and further deponent saith not.

who were seeking to drive them out of Missouri.

While the crime for which the Younger brothers are being punished cannot be atoned, it seems to me that in view of the many years of their imprisonment, and their advanced age, it would be both proper and wise in the board of pardons to fix upon a time not far in the future when their confinement shall be deemed sufficient to answer the demands of justice, and commute their sentences to expire at that time.

Dec. 28th 1898.

A. R. McGill

Sedalia, Mo., July 2, 1901.

Gov. S. R. Van Sant,
St Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir:

We the undersigned bankers, doing business in Sedalia, Mo., write this letter in the interest of the Younger Brothers, now in the Stillwater penitentiary, and most earnestly request that a parole be granted them. Their punishment has been long and severe, and we believe if given their liberty, they would make good citizens.

Very respectfully,

ER Blair Cashier Sedalia Bank

John W Dalby Pres 3rd National Bank

THIRD NATIONAL BANK,
SEDALIA, MO.

W. J. Hall Cashier

OFFICE OF
WM. D. STEELE,
ATTORNEY AT LAW.
ROOMS 105 AND 106 KATIE BUILDING.

SEDALIA, MO., July 2, 1901.

Gov. S. R. Van Sant,
St Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir:

We the undersigned attorneys at law, living in Sedalia, Mo., write this letter in the interest of the Younger Brothers, now confined in the State Prison at Stillwater; and knowing their punishment has been long and severe, we now ask that mercy be extended to them and their parole granted.

Very respectfully,

Bruce Barnett, W. D. Steele
W. D. Steele, John S. Bohling,
D. E. Kennedy, A. L. Shortridge
C. J. Wilson, Lee Livingston
A. K. Beete, R. H. Sangree
J. H. Brown, R. A. Higdon
J. H. East, J. H. Dow
H. H. Main and O. M. Barnett, Henry Lamm
J. M. Montgomery, Henry P. Hoy
C. C. Lusk, Montgomery Montgomery
W. Ryle, Geo. Barnett
George F. Long, Louis Hoffman
John C. Ashman, J. O. Hick

W. J. STONE,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
SUITE 915,
UNION TRUST BUILDING.

ST. LOUIS, MO., July 6, 1901.

Hon. S. R. Van Sant,
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Governor Van Sant:

Some years ago while I was Governor of this State I wrote a letter to the then Governor of Minnesota in which I asked favorable consideration of the application of Cole and James Younger. That was some eight years ago, and since then I have watched with interest the progress of the effort made to secure the release of these prisoners. I have no personal acquaintance with Cole or James Younger, but I have known, and still know, members of the Younger family in this State, relatives of the prisoners, and in a general way I am familiar with the history of these men. I do not hesitate to say to you, as I think I did to your predecessor, that the Younger people in Missouri are good people, and as far as I know they deserve to have the respect of those who know them. I am in no sense an apologist for the misdeeds of these prisoners, nor do I deem it necessary to undertake to lay before you what might be considered the extenuating circumstances which started these men, when they were yet young, on a wild career. I have no doubt that the whole history of their lives has been fully laid before you. From what I know of their history, and from my personal knowledge of their people in Missouri, I am as sure as I can be of anything that at heart and naturally the Younger boys so-called are good men. They did wrong, but they have suffered grievously, and I am told that their prison life has been so exemplary, and their suffering has been so long and painful that it seems to me they are in the highest sense deserving

ST. LOUIS, MO.,

S. R. V S. ———— 2.

of executive consideration and clemency. I believe that fully ninety-five per cent of the people of Missouri would like to see these men pardoned. I state this strongly, but I do not believe I overstate it. Missouri is, as you know, a cosmopolitan and representative State. It has filled up rapidly since the war, and the thousands who have come here have come in almost equal numbers from the North, East and South, and thousands even have come from the farther West. Our population therefore is a representative population, and the sentiment in favor of clemency towards the Younger's is not in any sense sectional, partisan or the result of prejudice. It is simply the result of that broad generous American sentiment characteristic to our people wherever they live. Of course there are some scattered here and there over the State who take a cold, calculating view of the subject — who look wholly upon the judicial side, and never upon the merciful side of the subject. I am confident that those who think executive clemency should be withheld in this instance are few in Missouri. I have heard the subject discussed off and on, as such a subject is usually discussed, during the last ten years, and I could not name more than two or three out of the hundreds I have heard speak of it who would oppose the granting of a pardon to the Younger's. I was at French Lick Springs, Indiana, about two weeks ago, and while there it was reported in the newspapers that the application for pardon had been denied, and among the guests about the hotel I heard many express regret that the authorities had reached that conclusion. These people were from many States, and I gathered

W. J. STONE,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
SUITE 915,
UNION TRUST BUILDING.

ST. LOUIS, MO.,

S. R. V S. ————3.

from them in the conversations following the report alluded to, that the sentiment in their several states, so far as they knew of it, was almost universally in favor of the pardon. This, I believe is the general sentiment. I have no doubt that if these unhappy men were given their liberty they would make good citizens and strive in every way to redeem the past. As I now understand that the pardon application has not been denied, but is still pending, I write this letter to your excellency to express once more my hope that you and your associates will take the merciful view and give back to these unfortunate men their liberty, and with ^{it} a chance to prove to the world that they go forth from your State Institution thoroughly upright men, determined to devote the few years left to them to good and useful work. I have the honor to be,

Very truly yours,

Wm Stone

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA.

July 7th, 1901.

TO THE HONORABLE BOARD OF PARDONS OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA.

ST PAUL, MINNESOTA.

Gentlemen:

After careful deliberation, and without solicitation, or suggestion, I desire to add my name to the petition for the pardon of the Younger brothers, which I understand is before your board at this time for consideration.

I am familiar with the character of the offense for which these men were sentenced to prison for life, and also with the fact of their previous criminal career. Because of these things, public interest has been directed to the question which is before you for disposition, and those who concern themselves for or against the granting of the petition of these men that after their long service in the prison, they may be permitted to again taste the comforts of personal freedom; should give the reasons for their opinions.

In this behalf, and in common with many other disinterested petitioners, I would say that we believe that the proper office of the prison in the administration of justice, is, First:- The protection of society from the injurious conduct of those who neglect or defy those laws which are adopted for the common welfare; and, Second:- The reformation of those who are amenable to the appeals to their manhood, and who give unmistakable evidences of corrigibility.

Retributive justice forms no part of a right conception of the purposes for which prisons exist, and in so far as individual, or social vengeance enters into a determination of the policies for their government, it hinders correct judgment, and serves to defeat justice in its noblest aims. It may also be observed that hard and fast rules for the measurement of the deserts of prisoners en-masse, are not practicable; but each man in his place, and in careful study of all the elements which enter into his history, and all the promises of good which may be verified in his behalf, should have fair hearing of his fellows.

I understand that the prison record of the petitioners during the long term of their confinement has been of a character to deserve the commendation of the prison managers, and that in all which has been

recorded of their conduct there is no evidence of a rebellious spirit, or of the defiance which is so often noticed in those who are given over to crime. Also that there has been abundant evidence of a desire to be able to give some substantial proof of a willingness to amend the past so far as possible, ere the grave shall rob life of the opportunity.

If these reports be true, and your honorable board so find, I will vote to grant the prayer of these old men by saving to them a little of the liberty which they have forfeited, bid them to look up to the Christ who regards them in mercy, and to strive with the remainder of time and strength to exhibit the fruits of manly endeavor.

Minnesota has given to the world some object lessons in humane philanthropy worthy of an improving civilization. May she not add to these credits by setting her prison methods in better alignment with the justice which saves, but never destroys.

Thus there may be erased from prison entrances the miserable motto: " Let those who enter here leave hope behind," and in its stead appear the cheering token of faith:- " Opportunity will never be permitted to forsake those who seek its privileges with upright purpose."

C. E. Faulkner

Minneapolis Minn. July 10th 1901

To the Hon. The Board of Pardons

Saint Paul Minn.

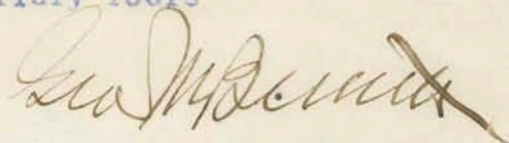
Gentlemen : In the matter of the employment of the Younger Brothers, in case you should consent to their parole, I have to say.

There are numerous positions open to them which will not be open to the objection of undue notoriety, and such as would be unobjectionable to you; employment fitted to the physical condition and capacity of the men.

Assuring you that I wish to avoid seeming officiousness in the matter, but to get the case into practical shape, I offer in conjunction with Hon. E. J. Shurmeier and State Agent Whittier to find and provide suitable business or employment for the men, and to submit the same to you and to the Board of Managers, also the Board of Control if desired, for approval before making such arrangements final. The men cannot ~~of course~~ under the rules, leave the prison until such employment is provided.

The State agent is competent of course to attend to this business and will cheerfully perform it, but as he has a considerable amount of work on his hands, I simply make this offer

Very Truly Yours



617 Guaranty Loan

Minneapolis

Phone 816 Main



MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., July 10-1901

Hon A. R. Van Sant Governor
St Paul Minn

Sir, My attention has been called to an article published in this morning's "Minneapolis Times" stating that one of our employees had telephoned you offering work to the Younger Bros if pardoned, in our shops at Hopkins. I beg to inform you that such offer, if made, was wholly unauthorized. My Company would under no circumstances have these murderous thieves in its employ in any capacity. They are in the only place proper for them to be, and the writer sincerely hopes that the Hon Board of Pardons will use its best backbone at all sittings when this subject is under discussion.

Yours truly
F. E. Kenaston
Pres't

WARDENS OFFICE
MINNESOTA STATE PRISON,

HENRY WOLFER, Warden
J. S. GLENNON, Deputy Warden
H. W. DAVIS, Clerk
WILLIAM SMITHSON, Steward.

Stillwater, Minn. July 10, 1901.

James E. Martin, Clerk,
Board of Pardons,
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir:-

Enclosed please find letter from C. E. Faulkner, which
you will kindly file with other papers in behalf of the Younger
Brothers.

Very truly yours,

MINNESOTA STATE PRISON,
Henry Wolfer
WARDEN

THE WASHBURN MEMORIAL ORPHAN ASYLUM.

ENDOWED BY GENL CADWALLADER C. WASHBURN.

OFFICERS

HON. WM D. WASHBURN, PRESIDENT.
MRS. FRANCES A. PRAY, VICE PRESIDENT.
COL. C. J. MARTIN, SECRETARY.
MAJOR WM D. HALE, TREASURER.
C. E. FAULKNER, SUPERINTENDENT

MINNEAPOLS, MINN.
STATION D.

July 9th, 1901.

Dear Mr Wolfer.

I deemed it a duty to take notice of the appeal of the Younger Brothers for a release from Prison, and the approval of the prison authorities, and have requested that my name might be added to the petition.

It seems to me that the decision in their cases will have a far reaching influence in prison management in this country, and I sincerely hope that the Beard of Pardons will grant the Prayer.

I have confidence in the judgment of those who are acquainted with these men, and must trust the discretion of those appointed to administer the affairs of the Prison. If we can destroy the idea of retributive justice in prison management, there will be a better showing of advance in the cures of reformation.

Sincerely Yours.

C. E. Faulkner

RECEIVED

JUL 10 1901

Minnesota State Prison.