

3859 Potomac Avenue
Dallas, Texas
Nov. 8, '49

Dear Miss Gilpin,

I regret that I was unable to write you before leaving for Laredo where I have spent the last ten days. Previous to my departure I had enjoyed a whole week with THE BOOK and wish to state that I don't know of any one thin volume that has offered me so much information, beauty, and pleasure. It has surely lived up to my highest hopes and I trust that you are permitting yourself the pleasure of a task well done.

When it came to writing my review I realized quite fully just how much the term omission had plagued you. I only hope that the strict limitations of space didn't leave the review with a superficial ring for I found THE RIO GRANDE anything but that.

It was a real pleasure to carry the volume along on my trek to the valley and personally exhibit it to the few interested residents including a Mr. Cardenez, the only book dealer in Laredo, who promptly wrote out his order to Deull, Lean, and Peake before I left the shop. Mr. Virgil Lott in Roma was especially happy to see it.

My trip was rewarding in many ways, especially in the uncovering of the wonderful old Spanish archives in the court house at Laredo. If ever you go there again I hope you avail yourself of seeing and handling these remarkable documents. Never have I seen such wonderful paper, totally unyellowed by two hundred years of age. The intriguing water marks alone offer a distinct and separate pleasure. I only digress in this manner so that you may be warned that I am at present living in the past. It will help you, I trust, to overlook any discrepancies of your eager hostess.

We are all looking forward with real pleasure to your coming visit and will expect to hear before too long, the date of your arrival. Jerry B. feels that you will want to arrive a few days before the opening on Dec. 4th so please be assured of a welcome on any date that you may choose.

Since you are more or less venturing into the unknown I think it only fair to add another note of warning - I am not interested or rather gifted in the field of social graces and will forego the pleasure of entertaining in favor of Mrs. Rogers who has already indicated that she plans a party for you. I can assure you that we will both enjoy it to the fullest as she is a charming hostess.

If there are any further matters that concern you over the exhibit don't fail to let me know and I'll see what can be done. Jerry B. agreed to take up the matter of the exhibit in Houston and Austin, and has no doubt written you to that effect.

Would it be too much to ask you to bring me a copy of the Centennial issue of the Santa Fe New Mexican if such is still available? I have been totally unsuccessful in obtaining one for my files. I'd also love to see your press notices in same.

Looking forward to the date of your arrival
Ruth Morgan.