

Boston. 2/1, 09.

Mr. L. B. Thomas,

Richmond, Va.

My dear Sir:

I'm really
in a sadder plight
than you are, for
people in Boston
although they call
them selves cultured and
learned & etc. they in
reality have much to

learn about their own
 country — the West, and
 along with it the cows.
 "Bar Diamond Bar" is
 my own private brand.
 McDonald still has
 a controlling interest
 in the W and is
 manager, with Pete
 Johnson as range boss.
 I notice you have
 reference to the "Turkey
 Tracks" (Ψ) in New Mex.
 It is the old "Turkey

"Track" brand in Texas
which I have worked
with. The brand is
no longer run in
Texas.

you seem to be
familiar with the
Arizona cow country —
do you know
anything about the
Greene Battle Co's ranch
near Bisbee?

I plan to be with
that outfit this coming

summer
7

4.

in the interest of
my art work.

What I wish to know
is do you think
they could supply
good subjects —
genuine old brand
of cowpunchers?

You see my time is
valuable and I wish
to make the best use
of it by being with
outfits that can furnish
the best subjects.

I expect to publish a book containing some 500 of my best photographs inside of four years.

The pictures used will constitute the most characteristic types from Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Old Mexico, Wyoming, Montana, Oregon and Canada. If you have any suggestions to offer in

regard to the outfit in
Arizona that would
more likely have the
material I'm after,
would be glad to have
your assistance.

I have never worked
west of the Rio Grande
so know little of the
range conditions in
Arizona.

Yours sincerely,
Erwin C. Smith

Museum of Fine Arts.