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Jan. the 19th, 1909

Mr. L. B. Thomas
312 North Harrison Street
Richmond, Va.

Dear Sir:-

I was glad to get your letter of January the 12th which showed that you had read my article in the January World's Work with some interest. The fact that you have disagreed with me in my conclusions indicates, I think, that it is a matter of personal opinion as to how long it will be before all the larger ranches vanish. I am, myself, familiar with the ranges in Texas.

I called your letter to the attention of Mr. Erwin E. Smith, the man whose photographs were included in my article, and he says that he has personally seen many striking cases where land of no particular value has been gobbled up in a surprisingly short time.

However, speaking of the West in general, it is largely a matter of speculation as to the amount that will become valuable for cattle farming and the time necessary to expend on clearing it.

By the way, you mention the Turkey Tracks of New Mexico. The Turkey Track outfit on which Mr. Smith's pictures were made was the old Witherspoon outfit in Texas. He made them many years ago; but since then the brand is no longer run in Texas.

Sincerely yours,

Peyton Stiger.

PS/CK

I read this
King