

Mattes

National Monuments

April 21, 1949

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Mr. Merrill J. Mattes  
U. S. Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
Region Two  
Omaha, Nebraska

Dear Mr. Mattes:

I was very happy to get your kind letter and its enclosures which I look forward to reading with high anticipation of pleasure. I hope you will send me any other things of the kind which are coming along. I shall look for that item in the Brand Book.

I expect to be in Chicago in July for a writers' conference and hope to see some of the gang then.

One cannot always depend on the monuments erected by historical societies. Thus there are two monuments on the scene of the Wagon Box Fight, as you probably know--one in one county, one in the other--one erected by the State Historical Society and W.P.A., the other (the correct one) a small brass plate erected by Gatchell and others, local men, who know where the fight occurred.

Likewise the monument to the Battle of the Rosebud is on the wrong side of the hill. They put it there, I was told, so that the tourists could find it.

One old gentleman at the State Historical Society at North Dakota proposed that all the monuments on historical sites in the State be gathered together at the state capitol "so the tourists could see them."

I do wish I could get up into the Northern Plains again this summer, but my duties and my grandchild are pulling me eastward.

Cordially yours,

W. S. CAMPBELL  
("Stanley Vestal")

WSC:m