

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

The University of Oklahoma

Norman, Oklahoma

January 29, 1934.

December

Lieutenant-Colonel George P. Ahern, U.S.A. Retired,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Colonel Ahern:

On this happy anniversary of your birth it gives me great pleasure to pay tribute to your great services to your country and to the race of man, and to bear sincere witness to the great respect, admiration, and affection which I bear to you. Soldier, scholar, philanthropist, you have stamped your ideals and your virtues upon American civilization--and all who knew you or your work are the better for it. Yours is a great heart, a great spirit, and nobody knows it better than I do, though I have never known you except through correspondence.

Once the friend of Sitting Bull, always the friend of the Indians--and of all unfortunate people--you have helped and guided multitudes to better things, you have labored --not in vain--to save the forests of your native land, you have done your part as a soldier and a gentleman. Yet, with all these great responsibilities, you were never too busy to help individuals who wished your advice and your aid. I personally owe much to your kindness in helping me in my research in Indian history.

Therefore, in gratitude and love, I wish you a happy birthday, and many of them.

Yours sincerely,

"STANLEY VESTAL"