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Dear Mr Cutlip,

I at last have a report on your manuscript, Fort Smith. Our reader does not recommend publication by us both because he feels that it is a type of book the Press should not publish due to its scholarly restrictions and partly because it is not in the strict sense of the word a contribution to the field. It is in parts a compilation of 'outlaw books already written.' The reader feels that from an artistic standpoint as well as a scholarly standpoint, there is too much moralizing. The reader also feels that the book would gain if better organized. He says that you have the facts but their value is vitiated to some extent by their presentation.

It would seem to me that the book should be thoroughly reorganized. My own feeling about your manuscript is that it is not sufficiently definitive to warrant publication, and also it lacks unity through being neither a complete history of Fort Smith nor yet a complete history of Judge Parker's court. It probably should be one or the other.

If you propose to revise the manuscript, I should be very glad to see it again and I am very sorry indeed to have to report in this fashion, but we are limited in acceptance by the reports of our readers, and the readers who report on your manuscript have made an extensive study of the region.

Cordially yours,

Joseph A. Brandt
Joseph A. Brandt.

JAB:MM

Judge C. Guy Cutlip,
Seminole, Oklahoma.

Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their