

Grand Canyon, Arizona, Sept. 22nd. 1917.

Hon. Carl Hayden,

Washington, D. C.

My Dear Sir:- I see that you are liable to get back to Arizona for a short stay and I write to urge you to arrange to come out to the Canyon to see for yourself just how business is managed here and also to run over the section I dont want you to include in your Park Bill. There is too much of our very best farming land to be taken away from us in this County and I am sure you dont know it or you would not recommend any such a scheme. It will not take only a few hours to do this and you can arrive here on the 7,30 A. M. train and leave at night at 7,40 the same day. I want 160 Acres of this land for my Homestead and it is four miles from the nearest Rim of the Canyon and there is no reason you should include it at all. The local Forest Officer here has gone over it several times and has recommended that I be permitted to put in a crop there this fall and I am going to sow winter grain for hay. The Supai Indians are farming the same land close by and if you will come out and see the Potatoes and other eatables they produce I know what your decision will be. I have strived to impress on your mind that the Santa Fe is behind the present plans and also that one of giving all concessions to the highest bidder. As they are not on the proposed Park and attempt to keep us all off of their present holdings I should like to know what will be the result if Ashursts plans prevail. How did that same arrangement work out in Yosemite with Desmond. Parties from Yellow Stone Park were here only last week who operated an independent outfit there last spring just before it went into effect and if they told the truth you will find a very strong protest will be made next time your bill comes up. As it now is these Parks are not for the benefit of the Public but only a scheme to make money for the Government. Nothing but a Monopoly under a new name. Now do come and let me show you what I have objected to and what will remain with you as long as you live if you take this opportunity to correct a threatening evil. The thousands of Tourists in Automobiles that are visiting the Canyon now and will continue to do so indefinitely will praise the name of Carl Hayden if you rid them of this outrageous condition prevailing here at present. Henry has succeeded in creating no end of comment on his proposed amendments to his Park Bill. Some of his best friends have taken the offensive and he will hear from them in no uncertain tones if he persists in promoting such features when it comes to be considered. I wish he would come with you and see just what is brewing here now. The embargo placed on our mining in the Canyon is also a subject for future consideration. Why we should not be permitted to locate and develop the extensive Copper and Asbestos deposits lying on the west of Long' 112'15" is more than I can understand. These are not any of the Cameron bogus properties but are miles west of Bright Angel in part of the Canyon that never will be developed unless it is by working them. Hoping I have not wearied you and with kind personal regards I am,

Cordially yours,

W. H. Bass.