

**John H. Page & Company**

SUCCESSORS TO

**M. E. Tenerich & Company**

PUBLIC LAND SPECIALISTS

GUARANTEED SCRIP

STATE LANDS

P. O. BOX 117

Phoenix, Arizona

December 19, 1917

Hon. Carl Hayden  
Member of Congress  
Washington

Dear Carl :

Referring to Acting Forester Potter's letter to you of December 8, which you enclosed in your letter of December 12, I am greatly surprised that the Forest Service could not have furnished you complete and correct information in this matter.

The map of definite location of the railroad right of way has been on file with the Forest Service for over five years. I am sending you under separate cover a blue print of this map for your full information.

My company applied to the Forest Service for this special use permit about the year 1908, or before, and the matter finally came up for action by Forester Pinchot. The record of the case at that time was very voluminous. Neither my company, myself, nor any of my associates ever endeavored to obtain a grant of a right of way from Congress. Undoubtedly Mr. Potter has confused our matter with the project of some Cleveland capitalists who made a railroad survey directly upon the Canyon rim and caused to be introduced in Congress a bill for a right of way. No right of way application was made by our company under the Act of 1875, for the reason that such procedure was not possible in view of the National Monument withdrawal of the lands involved.

I take exception to Mr. Potter's statement as to the avowed purpose of our road for no exploitation was intended, our company simply desiring the privilege of securing transportation facilities in order to conduct our business of running a hotel and operating a mine, which hotel and mine were upon our own lands, and the investment in which amounted to a considerable sum, the entire investment being in jeopardy by reason of the possibility that the government would attempt to restrict our means of ingress and egress to our own property.



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The Forest Service never refused to take favorable action upon the company's application as far as I have been informed. The status, as far as I know, is that of a pending application which we have not pressed for several years and upon which no action has been taken.

Mr. Potter further states in his letter to you that the Forest Service cannot approve the issuance of the permit following the route applied for by me, and yet in the first paragraph of his letter he shows that he has no knowledge of the location of this right of way. As a matter of fact, the Forest Service has never taken serious exception to our definite location, the survey of which was made after a full understanding with Forester Pinchot. The record of the correspondence is voluminous, but I enclose a few copies of letters so that you will have some understanding of the matter.

I enclose copy of Mr. Pinchot's letter to me of November 1, 1909, which followed a full hearing before him. I enclose copy of my letter to the Forester of August 9, 1910, and copy of Assistant Forester Potter's acknowledgment of August 15, 1910.

The Forester's directions as to the route were carefully followed, as you will note from the map, the line being generally far back from the rim, and this survey was of such route as was to be expected would receive the approval of the Forest Service by reason of its prior instructions. There was only one exception taken to the map of survey and this was as to the point near the quarter section corner between Sections 3 and 4, T. 30-N., R. 3-E., where the line came within a few hundred feet of the canyon rim, which was necessary, however, by reason of the topography, a deep draw starting from the rim at that point and running southwesterly.

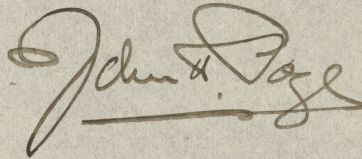
We are not now pressing action upon this application, but when we do we will expect the Forest Service to continue from where the matter rested. The important matter is not that we desire to construct a railroad at this time, but that we may be certain that such railroad can be constructed when it shall be necessary for the operation of our mining property (we have sold the hotel property to Mr. Hearst), and



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it is protection in this that we desire to be provided  
in your bill for the creation of a National Forest.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "John A. Page". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

P:F

P. S. We are in receipt of advice from  
Mr. John W. Keener today that the  
Secretary of the Interior has re-  
ported favorably upon the Senate  
bill for the relief of Albert O.  
Brown. In view of this action, it  
would seem that this measure might  
be passed at an early date.