



1888-01-25

Letter from John Reid to John Muir, 1888 Jan 25.

John Reid

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Spring Valley Ranch
Colley Kansas Jan'y 25th 1888

Bro: John

Dear sis

I am here on the ranch attending
to the stock. Rec a letter from
Waggie stating that Bro: Dan
could not raise the money. I wrote
to him twice he paid no regard
to my letters till Waggie went for
him asking him to say something
about the money whether he had
it or not. Bro: Walter got the
time extracted for how long I do
not know. If the land was all my
own I would not care so much but
as it is only half I feel somewhat worried
about it. My business is very un-
settled at present. I do not know
hardly how I am coming out. I am
all alone. The firm of Reich & Foster

is dissolved. I have been trying to
 get out ~~that~~ several years ago. I
 have taken the colts in Kansas. &
 Now I do not know whether I am
 above the dam or going over the dam
 or under the dam. If I had my own
 I would be all right but when we
 settled up we found about 4000.
 indebtedness against the firm & it
 seems that I have to pay it or go
 under by right I ought not to
 pay any as I had about 3500 ^{or}
 in the firm. ^{the other had no money} I have got to lose that
 besides paying the other. What it
 is more than I can do. all I have now
 is the half of that land in Kansas
 & my home which is about 8000 -
 It is so fixed that I cant get any money
 to pay on the land. & how it will
 be in a few years from now ^{I dont know} as there
 is indebtedness against the colts all that
 they are worth when we got the colts
 I suppose they were a class of horse
 that would meet about 1200 [#] but

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instead of that there are lots of them
that will not reach 800⁺ so I have
been deceived in them. The fact of the
matter I have been deceived all the way
along. Therefore I am going along after
this. I will be obliged to sell those colts
I have on hand & start again. Harry
has got to be a man grown man & is
able to do a man work. I would
like to get about 50 or 60 good
wrens to raise colts for I am certain
there is lots of money in the business.
The land that I have got here in
Kansas is well fixed for raising horses
I have 8 miles of a fence good sheds &
well watered ~~and~~ springs enough to
water a 1000 head. The best little ranch
in the State of Kansas. If I can hold the
I think the time is not far distant
when the lands here will sell for
15 or 20 per acre. There is about 3500[±]

against to be paid in the next 4
years & Sarah has no money I have
none I may be obliged to sell it.
The land is worth 16000⁰⁰ now.
& some are holding for 10 per cent.

If you have got one thousand at
present I would ^{like} to get it for a few
years do not know when I will be
able to pay. I presume when the
land is sold. I will pay you 10 per
cent that is 2 per cent more than
property is loaning money at present.

Have you got what is called
the Cal. Evergreen Millet if so please
write & let me know about it & what
it can be got for per bush.

Please let me hear from you
Wagner & family were all well
when last heard

Your Bro
John Reid
Attorney
Trego Co
Kansas

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