

Hugh H. Gordon Letterbook, September 1887 to March 1888

Gordon's copies of outgoing business letters concerning The Mutual Reserve Fund Life Association, and mining and other business ventures. Gordon was attorney for the Mutual Reserve Fund Life Association (M.R.F.L.) and a lobbyist for the insurance companies.

August 1, 1887

Gordon to Henry J. Reinmund, Comptroller, Mutual Reserve Fund Life Association. Gordon draws up resolutions for the Legislature to assist Mutual Reserve. Will have it introduced in Finance Committee by personal friend. Resolution would be reported out of order. Gordon assured of a passage. Gordon promises concurrence by both Houses and the Governor's signature in 8 weeks. Gordon asks Insurance Co. to submit annual statements along with license fee.

Gordon to William Miller, President July 26, 1887

Gordon agrees to reinstate New York insurance company in state through legislative action. Also \$500.00 fee for his influence in the passing of the measure.

August 4, 1887

Gordon to Taylor and Parker, Attorneys for M.R.F.L. and Association., New York. Gordon will investigate the circumstances surrounding the death of a client for the M.R.F.L. and Association. Promises to speedily reinstate the insurance company in Georgia.

August 29, 1887

Gordon informs Reinmund that he has personally attended to the relicensing of the New York insurance company. He requests a payment for this arduous task.

August 30, 1887

Gordon to Taylor and Parker, Attorneys for Mutual Reserve Fund and Life Association New York.

Gordon verifies the legitimacy of a claim made against the M.R.F.L. He finds that the policy holders in question did not die by his own hands.

September 5, 1887

Gordon to Captain W.T. Heyward, Cartersville, Georgia.

Gordon discusses the possible receipt of capital from the Chicago "parties" for the promotion of local mining interests.

September 17, 1887

Gordon to Reinmand

Gordon justifies his remuneration from the company for services rendered.

September 21, 1887

Gordon to Honorable J.B. Merrill?, Alabama

Gordon asks Judge Merrill to undertake operations to determine quantity of gold in an undisclosed location. Discusses possibility of acquiring capital for prospecting operations.

September 24, 1887

Gordon to William Miller

Gordon agrees to retrieve a particular letter from a party in Alabama that is vital to a case undertaken by the New York Insurance Company.

September 26, 1887

Gordon to Honorable James R. Randall, Anniston, Alabama.

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Gordon requests a letter from Randall written to the latter by one T.W. Matthews. Matthews had filed suit against the New York company previously, and the company officials desired to ascertain his allegations.

September 29, 1887

Gordon to Captain J.M. Brasius

Gordon and Associates agree to include Brasius in a partnership (Brasius manufactures a railroad coupler) provided he contributes capital and personal assistance.

September 29, 1886

Gordon to Brasius, Birmingham, Alabama

Brasius authorized to form a company for the manufacture of the "Iowa Automotive Safety Freight Car Coupler."

October 5, 1887

Gordon to Heyward (?)

Gordon discusses the hiring of someone to make numerous tests for gold down the Etowah river. Person hired would rent a small boat, take samplings on both sides of the river and sell the craft at the end of the journey.

October 5, 1887

Gordon to T.H. Bell, Auroria, Georgia.

Gordon instructs Bell, who is to conduct the tests for gold deposits, on how to proceed, Tests run on the Annalala, the Little and the Etowah rivers.

October 5, 1887

Gordon to Miller and Reinmund

Gordon promises to try and defeat a bill in the Legislature to tax branches of the New York insurance company in all Georgia Counties.

October 5, 1887

Gordon to Henry J. Freimund, New York

Gordon informs Reinmund that the State of Georgia owes his insurance company some \$112.00 for overpayment. He suggests that since the company has made no attempt to reclaim the sum, he will attempt to acquire the money himself as partial payment for services rendered.

Gordon to Taylor and Parker, Attorneys for M.R.F.S.A.

Gordon requests payment for his investigation of an insurance claim.

October 8, 1887

Gordon acknowledges receipt of payment.

October 3, 1887

Gordon to Ben F. Perry, Decatur, Georgia.

Gordon objects to the fee of this Decatur editor for printing the application of charter for the Amicalola and Etowah Mining Company.

October 31, 1887

Gordon to Taylor and Parker

Gordon pays local claim for the M.R.F.L.A.

November 1, 1887

Gordon to General E.P. Alexander

Gordon requests that General E.P. Alexander, who is President of the S. So. R.R., Macon and Western and Muscogee R.R.'s, turn over the latter's claims against the Federal Government to him for collection. These claims stem from the government's alleged overcharging in the sale of rolling stock. Gordon requests 50% commission.

November 4, 1887

Gordon to Alexander

Gordon promises to push Alexander's claims if he is granted the commission. Boasts of his contracts with congressmen and his father's influence as Governor (John B. Gordon).

November 11, 1887

Gordon to Reinmund

Gordon explains how the legislative enemies of the New York insurance company passed a bill proposing the taxing of that corporation in Georgia. He promises that influence will be brought to bear to kill the measure.

November 22, 1887

Gordon to Reinmund

Gordon forwards Reinmund a pamphlet explaining the tax laws in Georgia as pertaining to insurance concerns.

November 22, 1887

Gordon to Reinmund

Gordon notifies Reinmund that he has credited his account for \$112.00 for overtaxes due the New York insurance company. Money due for personal services.

November 28, 1887

Gordon to Henry Find

Gordon solicits job of retrieving claim for southern railroads from Washington.

December 1, 1887

Gordon to Minter Wilabesley

Gordon gives recipient instructions concerning the proper chartering of the Ochulgee Land and Livestock Co.

December 29, 1887

Gordon to John H. Sands, Roanoke, Virginia. General Manager, N. & W. R.R.

Gordon has volunteered to present claims against the federal government for the Virginia and Tennessee Central in the sale of rolling stock. Gordon informs Sands that he is representing railroad lines all over the South.

December 29, 1887

Gordon to Wm. C. Wickham, Richmond, Virginia, second Vice President, N.W. & M.V. Co. Contents of the letter from Gordon identical to that above.

December 29, 1887

Gordon to E.P. Alexander, President, C.R.R. Savannah, Georgia.

Gordon pushes his services for the collection of claims against the federal government.

January 6, 1888

Gordon to Col. A.C. Hutchinson General Manager of the San Antonio and Mexican Gulf R.R. and the Indianola of Texas

Gordon tells Hutchinson that his line is due \$85,000 for rebates, purchase of supplies, rolling stock, etc. Offers his services for claims against the federal government.

January 24, 1888

Gordon to J.C. Hall, Cincinnati, Ohio

Gordon discusses the sale of land holdings.

January 28, 1888

Gordon to James Heyward

Gordon refuses to accept a fee for an undisclosed accommodation.

January 31, 1888

Gordon to Joseph H. Sands, Roanoke, Virginia.

Gordon reminds Sands of his offer for the collection of claims against the federal government.

January 31, 1888

Gordon to Wm. C. Wickham, Richmond, Virginia, Second V.P., N.N. & W.V. Co.
Gordon reminds Wickham of his offer to collect claims against Washington.

February 3, 1888

Gordon to J.C. Hall Cincinnati, Ohio
Gordon presses Hall for his commission in connection with claims he recovered for Hall's line.

February 8, 1888

Gordon to Thomas L. Frazier, Opelika, Alabama.
Gordon promises to undertake mining operations soon. Tells Frazier that he has been raising capital to undertake wide-spread gold prospecting on Frazier's land.

Gordon to Reinmund, New York Comptroller of the M.R.F.L.A.

Gordon tells Reinmund that he has filed the latter's semi-annual corporate report.

February 24, 1888

Gordon to George S. Scott, Washington, D.C., President, R. & D. R.R. Co.
Gordon informs Scott that he is coming to Washington to press for claims of various Southern lines against the federal government. Requests free travel pass.

February 24, 1888

Gordon to Major Peyton Randolph, Washington, D.C., General Manager, R. & D. R.R. Co.
Gordon reminds Randolph of his initial requests of Scott for a free pass.

February 24, 1888

Gordon to S.H.H. Clark, St. Louis, Missouri, General Manager of the Missouri Pacific System
Gordon reminds Clark of his offer to represent his line in a claims petition in Washington.
Requests Clark's decision.

February 29, 1888

Gordon to Col. O.B. Thompson, Gainesville, Georgia.
Gordon informs Thompson that Ala. parties have put up capital in order to "cut the Canal."

March 1, 1888

Gordon to Wm. Oakman, V.P., 2 Wall Street, New York
Gordon settles with Oakman his commission on the claims issue. Requests free pass for traveling on company business.

Gordon to Wm. Oakman

Gordon complains that their agreement called for 40% of claims money received and a free pass.
He charges indirectly Col. George S. Scott of bad faith.

March 5, 1888

Gordon to Col. O.B. Thompson Gainesville, Florida.

Gordon discusses plans to go to Washington with a Mr. Howe and lay their plans for a mining enterprise before Sen. Jones of Nevada. Gordon says that unless Howe really has Alabama backers for the mining venture, he will go to New York for financial aid.

Gordon to J.C. Hall Cincinnati, Ohio March 7, 1888

Gordon takes Hall to task for not coming by to see him when the latter was in Atlanta. Requests that Hall accompany him to Washington to fight for southern railroad claims.

March 14, 1888

Gordon to Hugh H. Colquitt, Washington, D.C.

Gordon requests of Colquitt capital in the proposed Chestatee Gold Mining and Dredging Co. He asks Colquitt for \$10,000 investment in the proposed firm for one-fourth interest.

March 14, 1888

Gordon to Col. O.B. Thompson, Gainesville, Georgia

Gordon will talk to Mr. Sloss of Birmingham, Alabama for capital in digging a canal. Will offer liberal terms to anyone with money to invest.