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Letter from A.T. Patterson and Joe T. Patterson to Sam H. Smith; April 3, 1930.

A. T. Patterson

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*April 1930 Letter to Sheriff Smith
numerous references to Wild Cat*

PATTERSON & PATTERSON

court matter

Hatgers

CALHOUN CITY, MISS.

April 3rd, 1930.

Hon. Sam H. Smith, Sheriff,
Pittsboro, Miss.

Dear Sheriff:--

Your expressions and manifestations of appreciation of our feeble efforts at the recent term of the Court are to our drooping spirits as the cooling showers are to the sun-parched flower.

Our spirits droop not at the persecution of the saints, for the Good Book taught us while yet at our mothers' knees that this would always be so here on earth. But being, as we are, commissioned, sworn and charged by the laws of the United states, and of the state of Mississippi, to "Never reject, for any consideration personal to ourselves, the cause of the defenseless or oppressed", and to hold high the majesty of the LAW- That rule of action prescribed by the supreme power of state, that writers of old have said- "Has its seat in the bosom of God- Its voice the harmony of the world- The greatest not exempt from her power, and the lowest and weakest shall feel her tender and protecting arms", we have censured ourselves for not being more zealous and more effective against the said Wild Cat----some time enforcer of this great law, and seemingly, some-time violator thereof, regardless of its Holy source, from Carroll and Grenada counties and elsewhere, who came to us with such bad repute among those with whom he has lived and labored heretofore.

We shall hope and trust, however, that his personal and social contact, if any he had, with the JUDGE-(Shannon) and the saints named in your favor to us, while in our good county, and his official association with our splendid and efficient, and always kindly and sportsman-like Sheriff, will touch the better angels of his nature, if any he possesses, and will cause him to return to us, with the ides of September, improved in the esteem of those with whom he has resided heretofore. In the mean time, the wreck of the recent past shall be enveloped and lost to memory in the floating, curling smoke of the delightful cigars, and the same shall be eschewed and spit out with the juices of the bitter weed-(chewing tobacco), and the friendly faces and the kindly deeds of old friends will continue to cheer us on our way to a better and happier day, and to greater efforts for ALL those who rest their cause and repose their trust in us.

Your friends,

A. T. Patterson
W. O. Lawrence
E. J. Luman