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Letter from J. F. Lanier to J. D. Banks

J. Fisher Lanier

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LANIER & VOTAW
LAWYERS
AMERICAN NATIONAL BANK BUILDING

BEAUMONT, TEXAS.

March Twenty-Two-Nineteen-Thirteen.

Mr. J.D. Banks,
Kirbyville, Texas.

Dear Dan:

I received your letter a few days ago and herewith return Mrs. Williams' letter to you. I had another conversation with Judge O'Fiel and he believes it will be impossible to break the Douglass will and I agree with him for several reasons, among others, the courts at Liberty would be largely influenced by local feeling and in addition to this about all we could prove would be that Douglass was a man of changeable ideas, erratic, peculiar; subjected to those surrounding him to a greater or less extent. As a matter of fact he was a man who changed his views about people very frequently and was in the habit of falling in and falling out with people continuously. The proof of peculiarities and idiosyncrasies do not constitute in law such insanity as would avoid or nullify a will. In the latter days of Douglass' life he seemed to bring around him people only interested in sports or their relations, and especially horse-racing and I might add poker-playing but for the last two or three years the Legislature enacted laws prohibiting it to such an extent that he gave that passtime up.

I believe it would be a waste of time and money both to make an assault on his will.

Yours truly,

