

December 4, 1951

Mr. J. B. Eakin  
Box 283  
Cheyenne Wells, Colorado

Dear Jess,

I have in my hand a good letter from you written April 10, 1947. I think probably I have answered same, but in checking up on my correspondence, I thought I would write you again.

We are all getting along in years. I don't recall whether you are older or younger than I. I think that your brother, Ed, was older and he may not be living. I remember that he married one of the Armstrong girls, but if I am 80 years old, he is at least five years older than I and maybe more. I know that he bought up a lot of land including some that we had formerly owned, and I wonder who owns the land now. Ownership of land seems to be so permanent and yet so fleeting.

"Billy" W. C. Edwards, formerly of Learnard and at one time post master at Wichita, was an early friend of mine. I haven't heard from him for years and presume he is no longer living; but he and some of his brothers were interested many years ago in buying up a great deal of land adjacent to Pawnee creek. The thought has come to me that he must have passed on and the land that he had acquired has probably been divided up among many others.

I think of the verse from Shakespeare, which was somewhat as follows: "He who steals my purse, steals trash; 'twas mine, 'tis his, but he who filches from me my good name, robs me of that which does not enrich him, but makes me poor indeed". And so the Edwards family will be remembered kindly by me as long as I live, but the lands they acquired doubtless will be divided up among many others, and the same will doubtless be true of the vast holdings of your brother, Ed.