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Letter from Jas [James] A. Venable to J.H. Reynolds, 1906 April 14

Jas A. Venable

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Elm Springs, Ark.
April 14, 1906

Prof. J. H. Reynolds,

Jayetleville, Arkansas.

Dear Sir:- An item of a little historic interest has just come to my knowledge, and as I do not know whether it is generally known I write to you concerning it.

The point is in regard to the trunnions of the cannon now standing in the state house yard at Little Rock. Of course, you are acquainted with the history of the gun. Mr. F. F. Webster who was in Little Rock in 1862, says that the Federals broke the original trunnions off, and afterwards the Confederates took an axle or journal from a steamboat, split it, and worked it down over the gun, forming the present trunnions. Felix Miller, who was a blacksmith at this place for years after the war, was in charge of the shops, and superintended this job which took several days to accomplish. If your attention has never been called to the trunnions on this gun, look at it next time you are in Little Rock. Very respectfully, Jas. A. Venable