

If it be Quakerism to enforce the momentous distinction between the vital influencing spirit of Christianity and the nominal & formal profession of Religion, I have ever been preaching Quakerism, & God grant I may live & die a Quaker!

But instead of entering into certain discussions, in which I might not express a difference of sentiment with the same politeness, or to give it a more honourable name, with the same spirit of meekness, that you have done, I at once plead guilty, & acknowledge that no Religious Sect should ever be generally included in any one invidious appellation. Had I received your favour before the Octavo Edition was printed off, the Expression should not have continued in it. I must take the first opportunity in my power of correcting it.

Farewel, my Dear Sir, & believe me very gratefully & respectfully

Your obliged & affectionate Servant,

THO LELAND

Nov^r 23. 1773

The Value of a Cook Stove

“ While the Collins party were spending the few days in Denver on the way to the mines, they became acquainted with a man by the name of Brown. This man owned a forty-acre plot of ground taking in the new camp and extending beyond, and had built a cabin on the bank of Cherry Creek. Mahlon and his wife had brought a cook stove all the way from Iowa. Such stoves were evidently scarce in the camp for Brown offered to trade the forty acres for the cook stove.

“ Mahlon gave the man a withering look, and said, ‘ Do you see any green in my eye ? ’ Then he continued, ‘ I guess not. ’ ‘ Trade you a perfectly good cook stove for your forty worthless acres of sand hills. ’ He left Brown with indignation.

“ Forty years after this incident, Mahlon Collins spent some days in the city of Denver. Looking about, he finally came to the conclusion that the forty acres which had been offered him for a cook stove lay in the heart of the city and that the cabin site had been approximately where the Lorimer Street viaduct now spans the bed of Cherry Creek.”

From the life of Mahlon Day Collins, a Friend, printed in the *Iowa Journal of History and Politics*, Jan., 1930. Iowa City, Iowa.