

Alejandro Juarez

Juarez-1

Mr. Harvey

U.S History

3/26/15

Journal Entry

January 13, 1885,

At this point of my life I am mourning the death of my beloved son Leland Stanford Jr. I feel as though my heart has been broken, and I have lost a part of myself. He was a great young man, and I saw so much of myself in him. He was taken by the lethal typhoid fever at only the age of fifteen while we were in Italy("History of Stanford" 1). My wife Jane is not taking his passing easily either, and we want to make sure his life and legacy may live on. We have decided to stay strong and move on from this tragedy that has been put upon us. We can no longer care for our son, so we have decided, "The children of California shall be our children"("History of Stanford" 1). I have decided to create an institution for higher learning in the state of California. I have purchased land and we will be starting construction on the building very soon. We plan to have this future building complete and ready to open at the end of 1891. It will not be an easy task to accomplish, but I believe it is a feasible task. This will be the last resting ground for my son's soul, and his name will live on for the rest of time. I am very optimistic that this University will strive and become a prestigious university like Harvard and Princeton Universities. It will be located near my home, so I will stay close to the resting ground of my son. He will be a guardian

angel, watching over his university to make sure it stays away from danger and will protect it from tragedy and any future disasters.

February 5, 1887,

We have been planning the design and layout of the university. I have finalized most of the plans for the institution. It will be coeducational and a non-denominational school. (“History of Stanford” 1). I will very soon place the first cornerstone, and we will begin construction soon after (“To Be Laid To-day” 4).

June 14, 1889,

I am glad to say that,” The main building is now ready to be partitioned into classrooms” (“Stanford University” 1). I am sure Leland Jr. would be proud of what progress we have made. My wife Jane was speechless as she entered the main building for the first time, as was I. We predict that the university will be open in only a couple of years.

October 1, 1891,

I have been waiting for this day for six years now. The construction of Stanford University is now complete. We have recruited a total of five hundred and fifty-five students to take classes at the new university (“Stanford University” 1). My dream has finally come to fruition. I will never forget my son and what he stood for, and now the rest of World will not either.

Works Cited

"History of Stanford." *Stanford University News RSS*. Stanford University, n.d. Web. 27 Mar. 2015.

"STANFORD UNIVERSITY." *NY Times*. New York Times, 5 Aug. 1889. Web. 28 Mar. 2015.

"TO BE LAID TO-DAY.; THE CORNERSTONE OF THE LELAND STANFORD, JR., UNIVERSITY." *TO BE LAID TO-DAY*. New York Times, 14 May 1887. Web. 28 Mar. 2015.