RAILROAD TIMETABLE – DECEMBER 1893 Santa Fe Route: St. Louis and San Francisco Railway and Branches

In 1893 the Frisco Railroad operated out of Fort Smith. At the time it was under the control of the Santa Fe. The timetable below shows the route between St. Louis, Missouri, and Paris, Texas. Fort Smith was included on this route.

When Judge Parker wrote his letter on September 8, 1892 to Argile Langston, the son of a juror, it was most likely sent by train to West Fork, Arkansas. The letter was received in West Fork on September 9, 1892. The Railway Post Office train car was a very reliable method to carry the mail. Roads were not always passable, but the railways were usually able to continue their operation, even through inclement weather. There were two daily trains running both directions between Fort Smith and West Fork. While this timetable is for 1893, the train schedule was most likely the same in 1892.

Calculate how long it took by train to travel from Fort Smith to West Fork.

Fort Smith – North to West Fork:

Leave Fort Smith 1:05 a.m. Arrive West Fork 3:32 a.m. Leave Fort Smith 1:45 p.m. Arrive West Fork 3:55 p.m.

West Fork – South to Fort Smith:

Leave West Fork 11:37 a.m. Arrive Fort Smith 1:45 p.m. Leave West Fork 11:02 p.m. Arrive Fort Smith 1:40 a.m.

ST. LOUIS	AND	SAN	FRANCISCO	RAILWAY	AND	BRANCHES.
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