

A3.13 - Letter from Jabez Dean DeWitt of Virginia City Nevada to Rebecca DeWitt Jack, 16 Sept 1871. Transcribed 20 September 2015 by Alison Mitchell-Reid. Page one of four

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Virginia City Nevada Sept 16/71

My Dear Sister Becca,

I have left Messrs  
Park & Bowie & worked two or three  
days for Messrs Webb & Kaneen  
Builders Virginia City & the place  
not pleasing me & having an offer  
from the General Superintendant  
of the Bank of California in Virginia  
City to work on a new and extensive  
job on the Carson River, building  
a new dam, mill, and flume  
to be called the Eureka Mill,  
I commenced to work yesterday  
and the foreman is greatly  
pleased with me, but unfortunately  
I cut my leg with an adze  
about 2 ½ O'clock in the afternoon

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and had to leave off, indeed  
the foreman oblided me to go  
and gave me full time for my  
day. the cut is but a slight one  
and I will not commence work  
a gain before Monday. that will  
be day after tomorrow. I am taking  
great care of it. my wages are \$5  
pr day, and the foreman told me  
that my place would be kept for  
me whenever I chose to commence  
again. so you see that all is not  
briers & thorns for me. I wrote to you  
all a short time ago requesting you  
not to write to me, as I had no  
permanent place fixed upon.

I will not however have the same chances of communication with you that I have had. But you may continue writing to the same address, as the superintendant told me that my

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place was good for six months. Board is \$7 pr week and I have had to buy blankets and tools as my outfit was hardly sufficient and the earnings duly deposited in the Bank of California and I have the certificate. I am sorry to have to add that, I shall not be at liberty to keep the Sabbath but it will be a greater incentive to save my earning and leave the country for the east. I continue to enjoy good health, and never felt better able to work. It was a matter of wonder to me when I left V. City for Mound house, our nearest station on the Virginia & Truckee railroad. the grade is from 80 to 100 feet pr mile and we keep winding round mountains or else going through them in

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tunnels and over chasms on immense tressle works and we continue our snake like course until we reach Mount House. There is no post office at the latter place and some one or another is always coming or going

to or from the mill. the mill  
will be situated on the Carson  
river 10 miles from V. City by  
waggon road and 16 or 20 by  
rail. I wrote Andrew that I  
would be satisfied that he  
should act for me, and I  
trust that it will be satisfactory  
to him. I shall make arrange-  
ments to have my letters & papers  
taken down to me at the mill  
from here. I got a ride back here  
by the butcher Mark Strouse  
waggon. give my love please to all  
at the old place & compliments to  
inquiring friends. I know that you  
would like the climate here as we  
have little or no rain. Diarrhea  
is very prevalent here, but you  
would be delighted with this  
beautiful climate. Affectionately

yours,  
J.D. DeWitt

Virginia City Nevada Sep<sup>r</sup> 16/71

My Dear Sister Anne,

I have left Mosses  
Park & Rowie & worked two or three  
days for Messrs Webb & Hansen  
Builders Virginia City & the place  
not pleasing me & having an offer  
from the General Superintendent  
of the Bank of California in Virginia  
City to work on a new and extensive  
job on the Carson River, building  
a new dam, mill and flume  
to be called the Eureka mill.  
I commenced to work yesterday  
and the foreman is greatly  
pleased with me, but unfortunately  
I cut my leg with an adze  
about 2 1/2 o'clock in the afternoon

and had to leave off, indeed  
the foreman obliged me to go  
and gave me full time for my  
day, the cut is but a slight one  
and I will not commence work  
a gain before Monday, that will  
be day after tomorrow, I am taking  
great care of it, my wages are \$7  
per day, and the foreman told me  
that my place would be kept for  
me whenever I chose to commence  
again, so you see that all is not  
bribs & thorns for me, I wrote to you  
all a short time ago requesting you  
not to write to me, as I had no  
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I will not however have the same  
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-tendant told me that my

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the country for the East, I con-  
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continue our snake like course  
until we reach Mound House  
there is no post office at the lat-  
-ter place and some one or an-  
-other is always coming or going  
to or from the mill, the mill  
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inquiring friends, I know that you  
would like the climate here as we  
have little or no rain, Diarrhea  
is very prevalent here, but you  
would be delighted with this  
beautiful climate Affectionally  
yours  
Wm. H. Smith