Virginia City Nevada July 6/72 Dear Brother Andrew

It is so long since I wrote to you that I was beginning to get grieved at my silence. It has been a dull spring for carpenters but times are better now & every thing is lively. There was an awful tradgedy committed here a short time ago a man named Ryan shot his wife & then himself, his dead body falling partly over hers. She had left him to avoid him as he was a gambler and a worthless character, while she was a very amiable woman. The Ladies made a collection and had her body interred in the Episcopal Seminary. He left a letter requesting to be buried along with her, which request was not carried out. Another man, who had

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sold short ore savage and lost all he had, if he had lived three days longer would have come out all right 'shot himself'. His brother paid the ballance of his debts & financial expenses. There is great activity in all branches of the mining & milling interests in this State & the extension of the Virgina & Truckee on the line of the central P.R.R. is being pushed rapidly to a state of completion. There has been a

large influx of People to this place this spring and lodging has been scarce and dear. Some have had to sleep in sagebrush and side walks. I have always been fortunate enough to get a bed whenever I wanted one. They had a good time out here on the 4th rather better than last years the fire company's miners union

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the military (except the National Guard who had gone to San Francisco by special request), the Masonic and I.O.O.F &c made a good time out accompanied with bands of music, flags flying & cannons booming &c &c &c. Stocks are low at present but there is every prospect of a rise before November as the great competitors for the representation of this State as U.S. Senator are great Stock Bulls & intend running stocks kiting befor the November elections.

Trusting that I shall
hear from you soon
I remain
Yours Most Sincerely
J.D. DeWitt

Inginia City Menuda July 6/12 Dear Brother Audrew It is so long Once I brake to you that I was by mining to get of newed at my believe, It has been a due Mring for Carpenters but times are lietter now Yevery things lively. There was an auful Fradzedy Committed here a shoot hime ago, a man hams Myan Shal his wife I then hurself, his dead body fully partly over hers. The had light home to avoid him as he was a Gambler and a worthless Character. While the was a very annable Comen, The Ladies made a Collection and had her budy nitered in the Opercopal lemman he left a letter requesting to be hund along with her. Whill request was hot

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