

July 18/72

Virginia City Nevada  
Dear Andrew,

Yours of June 30  
came to hand today from St.  
Thomas Ont. I am glad to hear  
from you, also that you are  
rid of wiles. I trust that with  
so little care, Becca, the girls &  
the little ones will be happy &  
contented. We had an awful ex-  
plosion of a boiler at the Peta-  
luma Mill, Gold Hill on Monday  
four lives lost, and a Pyute squaw  
had her skull torn off not expected  
to live. We are almost daily shock-  
ed with news of some shocking  
and atrocious murder taking  
place. There is unusual activity in  
mining & milling operations here  
this season but owing to disastrous  
fires & the constantly increasing  
demand for lumber, timber is

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still scarce & dear and it is being  
worked up as fast as it comes in.  
They rush carpenters through like  
lightning here times were dull  
here on a/c of scarcity of lumber  
this spring & I have been shifted  
round at short jobs, not paying  
expenses. I could have got out with  
\$3500 in spring but was unfortunate  
enough to take advice from others  
& made unprofitable investments  
so that it left me about where  
I started in. I have 45 shares of

Julia mining stock worth 8 pr share  
today & 5 shares of Ophir worth  
\$40 with a rising market. I am  
better posted than I was last year.  
Stocks are firm with a strong upward  
tendency. The last job I worked on  
I got \$5 ½ pr day in gold coin & I had  
promise of more work as soon as  
the man can get it. I wrote to you  
about two weeks since and have not

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A3.23 - Letter from Jabez Dean DeWitt of Virginia City Nevada to Andrew Jack, 18 July  
1872. Transcribed 31 January 2016 by Alison Mitchell-Reid. Page three of four

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had time for receiving an answer  
yet. Park & Bowie Mill in Six Mile  
Canyon was burned last Sunday  
night & they are going to rebuild.  
The Petaluma Mill Gold <sup>Hill</sup> (torn  
to atoms by the explosion buildings  
surrounding riddled the steam driver  
driven 200 yds in the air fell through  
a building instantly killing a man  
in bed) is to be rebuilt immediately.  
New hoisting works for the Julia &  
Senator mines, also other work  
whereby I expect to get work. the  
State is crowded this year with  
carpenters & men who last year  
got \$6 pr day cannot get employment  
this year. I trust that prospects  
will be more encouraging than  
they are at present & than they  
have been for some time back.  
Give my kindest regards to all your  
Mother's Family. I wrote to your  
brother John the same time I

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A3.23 - Letter from Jabez Dean DeWitt of Virginia City Nevada to Andrew Jack, 18 July  
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wrote my last letter to you and

expect soon to get an answer.  
I directed to Augusta Butler County  
Kansas. With regard to our markets  
water & muskmelons are in &  
the black & raspberries season is  
over & the grapes are just coming  
in. I am heartily tired of this  
sage brush country & would like  
to be back in green fields & civi-  
lization. I believe that California  
is a beautiful country & I would  
like to see it before I left the  
coast. I intend to send you  
some newspapers shortly so  
you may look out for them.  
I am afraid that some of the news-  
papers were not sufficiently stamped  
that were sent me from DeWittville &  
that the distributing office at San Francisco  
discontinued forwarding them to me.  
With love to all

I remain

Your Affectionate Brother  
J.D. DeWitt

July 18/72

Virginia City Nevada



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