

A3.28 - Letter from Jabez Dean DeWitt of Virginia City Nevada to Andrew Jack, 6 November 1872. Transcribed 31 January 2016 by Alison Mitchell-Reid. Page one of four

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Virginia City Nevada Nov 6/72

My Dear Brother Andrew,

I was very agreeably surprised this evening (on calling at the Post Office) to receive two welcome & kind letters, one from you bearing the Kingston Postmark & the other from Becca with a note from Chattie enclosed. I am glad that you are all well, also to hear that the Horse disease has not reached you at DeWittville. I thank you for your kind expressions of encouragement & in reliance I trust that you may always enjoy the confidence & esteem of men of intelligence & integrity & that you may secure for yourself & family a comfortable & Happy Home where you an enjoy

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the short intervals between your business times with Happy enjoyment & rest. Please remember me to your Brother John when he arrives, also to all enquiring Friends. I have been very fortunate in getting the place I now have. Indeed it was a piece of good fortune. William Seller is Foreman over the Carpenters Constructing the Hoisting works at shaft No. 1

Sutro Tunnell, and he came up from his station and offered me about 6 months work at \$5 pr day, for which I thanked but declined. I had a conversation with our Foreman (who by the way is a splendid fellow) he said that he liked me to be candid with him and the chances were that would have work at the Hale & Norcross mine for the next two years if

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I chose to remain. I made \$155 in gold coin last month, and have about \$600 saved. I bought 10 shares of Caledonia at \$26 pr share and it went up to \$40 pr share since I made the purchase. I sold 45 shares of Julia at \$7 1/2 pr share & bought again at \$5 1/2. I have 10 shares of Exchequer worth \$20 pr share. I expect to sell out next spring with the help of God & I intend to remain out of Stocks altogether. The developments in the mines in this section has given a <sup>great</sup> impetus to all branches of industry in this state & Virginia City is twice or I may safely say that there are three times as many houses as there was this time a year ago there are some beautiful residences put up lately. James Fair our Superintendant has his place splendidly finished inside and

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furnished. the front doors of his place are of rosewood. Abe Edgerton's house is a very Handsome new residence latest style & Bob Greaves has a magnificent place. Board is \$1 pr day & lodging °50 pr night in High toned circles meals cost °75 each & lodging from \$1 pr night to \$2. We still have an abundance of California grapes in market also Bartlett & other pears. Apples are plentiful. Our markets are well supplied with all the luxuries the world produces for gold. I must say that I like my job & hope to profit by it. I have learned a good deal about working in the wood line since I came to this coast & you can call the way they work here lightening when compared with the way they work in Canada. Hoping to hear from you soon. I remain  
most affection[ately],  
J.D. DeWitt

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I am glad that you received the weekly Enterprise as it contains a great deal of valuable information & is a spicy first-class paper. The Election is now over, but I can assure you the way they fix up here for elections is a caution to all foreigners like myself.

It would do you a great deal of  
good to visit this place and see all  
the mines & mills the great Sutro Tunnell  
and the R.R. trains run now regularly from  
here to Reno on the C.P.R.R. and there  
is a continual tide of migration  
in here. J.D. DW



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10 shares of Caledonia at \$26 pr share  
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45 shares of Julia at \$7 pr share  
& bought again at \$5 pr. I have 10  
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Yours affectionately  
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