

A3.30 - Letter from Jabez Dean DeWitt of Virginia City Nevada to Andrew Jack, 6 December 1872. Transcribed 13 February 2016 by Alison Mitchell-Reid. Page one of two

Virginia City Nevada Dec 6/72

My Dear Brother Andrew,

You will excuse my silence, yet I think that you owe me an answer to my last. however, please write soon and let me know how you all are. I have a notion in the spring to start for Mexico as I have a prospect of a year's job guaranteed for a year at \$5 pr day ^{^gold coin} & expenses paid from here. I have invested pretty heavily in mining stocks in anticipation of a rise in spring & if I can succeed pretty well I will sell out & pay you a flying visit God willing & then settle in the west, perhaps Kansas or Iowa. I left the Hale & Norcross and am working at the celebrated Sutro Tunnell Shaft No. 1 W Seller Foreman. Wages \$5 pr day

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in gold. You would be delighted with a visit to this state. every thing is so strange & different to what you are accustomed to in Canada Viz! prospecting for digging for and crushing quartz rock containing gold & silver, making Tunnells, Shafts & air shafts, running drifts at from 100 to 2000 feet below the surface of the earth, allowing the tailings to stand the action of the atmosphere for about a year

and then running them through
pans perhaps three or four times
with acids, quicksilver & copper as
sand &c to extract silver &
gold that escaped in very fine
particles in the first operation.

I send you a photograph of
my humble self in my working
clothes for which please excuse.

Most affectionately

Your Brother J.D. DeWitt

P.S. Love to all. J.D. DW

Virginia City Nevada Dec 6/44

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P.S. Your Brother J. D. Bennett
love to all from