

Virginia City Nevada April 23rd 1873

Dear Andrew,

It is some time now since I wrote to you still you are in debt for my last. I shall send you a paper and that will give you some information. I have been at work for about a week but work is very scarce and hard to get, hundreds are here out of employment. Mining stocks have broken down and a great many have been ruined. I lost about \$1400 and have to take a new start. A great many have committed suicide between last year & this. This is a strange country take it altogether. Men who were worth \$60,000 last year without one dollar this year, and

have to go to work with pick and shovel. Mining stocks are raising again, but will not go nearly as high as they did last spring. The Crown Point and Belcher mines are taking out \$50,000 pr day in Gold & silver and sold about 27 months ago for \$2½ o \$3½ pr share and run up to from \$1900 to \$2000 pr share, so that it is no wonder that people will

speculate. There again Savage
stock last spring sold for
\$200 pr share & this spring
sales went as low as \$36½
pr share now again, she is
up to 52 and was as high
as \$57½ . Savage is one old
favourite and has paid
over \$3,000,000 in dividends
Crown Point & Belcher are
each paying \$500,000 pr month

A3.38 - Letter from Jabez Dean DeWitt of Virginia City, Nevada to Andrew Jack, 23
April 1873. Transcribed 15 February 2016 by Alison Mitchell-Reid. Page three of four

just now in dividends, so
that you will perceive
at a glance the immense
profits in mines that have
actual merit. The worst
feature in it is that the
stock is manipulated
by sharpies in San Francisco
who make money by bear-
ing & Bulling the markets.
Then the expense attending
the working of mines that
may possibly never have
merit and which costs
just as much as non-
paying mines or mines
without merit. The risk
to life encountered by men
besides there is a very ex-
tensive body of men, who
have formed a miners
union & who will not
allow a man to work
below ground for less

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than four dollars pr
day in gold. For wages
if men got constant compli-
ment I think without ex-
aggeration that this is the
best city in the world be-
sides that it is generally
very healthy. The light air
suits a good many in
fact there are several
living here who could
not live elsewhere ex-
cept in a place like it
of high altitude. Then
again, the air is so dry
that the tendency of a good
many is to erisypelas
some get so subject to it
that if they did not leave would
certainly die. You will please
remember me to all enquiring
friends and give my love to Becca
yourself & the little ones.

I remain

Yours most affectionately,

J.D. DeWitt

23 1873

Virginia City Nevada April

Dear Andrew

It is some time now since I wrote to you. Still you are in debt for my cash. I shall send you a paper and that will give you some information. I have been at work for about a week but work is very scarce and hard to get. Hundreds are here out of employment. Mining stocks have broken down and a great many farms have failed. I lost about \$400. and have to take a new start. A great many have committed suicide between last year & this. This is a strange country take it all together. Men who were worth \$10,000 last year, without one dollar this year, and

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per share once again one is
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C. D. D. Will