

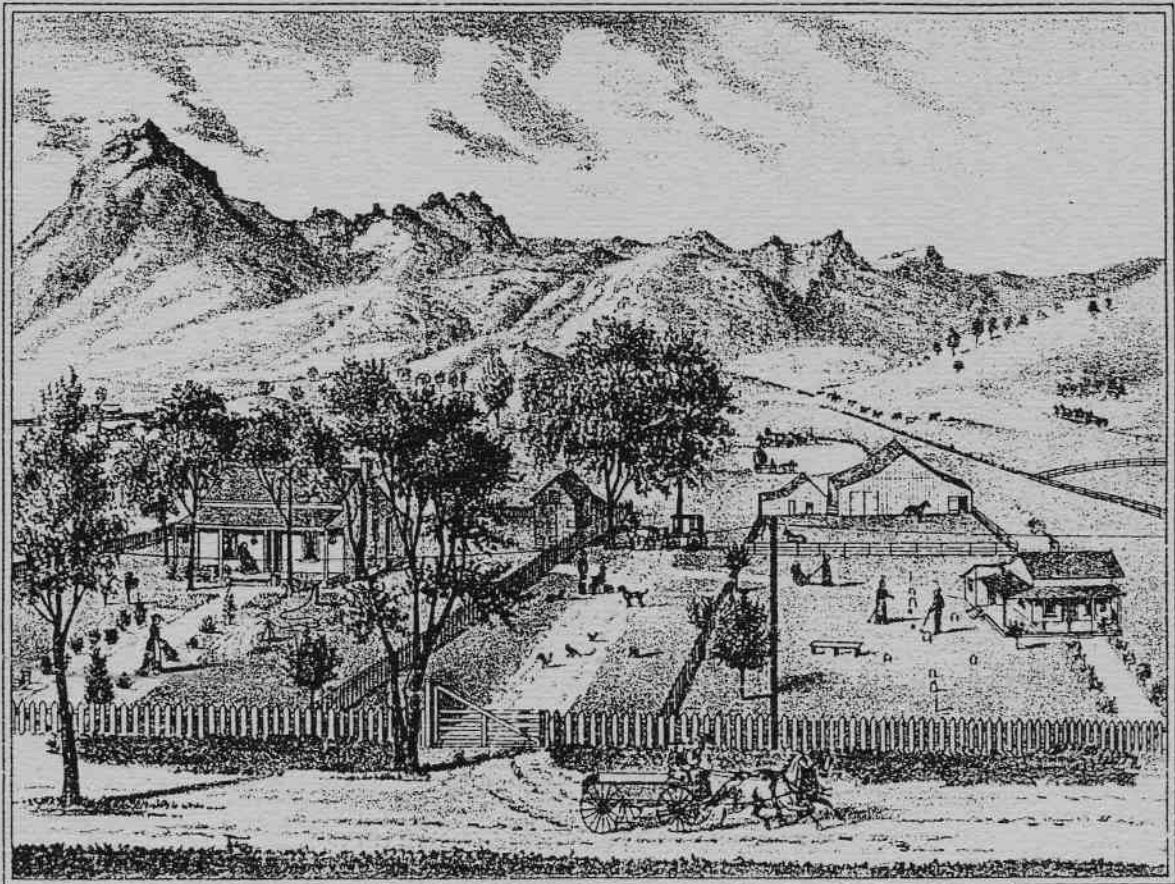
SUTTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWS BULLETIN

Vol. XXIV, No. 2

YUBA CITY, CALIFORNIA 95992

April, 1985



VIEW ON THE RANCH OF J.T.C. DE WITT, IN SOUTH BUTTE PASS,
11 MILES NORTH WEST OF YUBA CITY, SUTTER CO. CAL.

SUTTER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWS BULLETIN

Vol. XXIV, No. 2

April, 1985

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY

Randolph Schnabel, President
Edward F. Eden, Vice President

Wanda Rankin, Treasurer
Dorothy Huggins, Secretary

DIRECTORS

Helen Stineman
Celia Ettl
Evon Gilstrap
Dewey Gruening
Elaine Tarke

Wanda Rankin
Edward F. Eden
Ronald Ross
Fred Covell
C.C. Epperson, Jr.
Randolph Schnabel

NEWS BULLETIN EDITORIAL STAFF

Raona Hall, Chairman
Winifred Greene
Earl Ramey
Catherine Ingvaldsen, Typist

Jean Gustin
Randolph Schnabel
Wilbur Hoffman

The NEWS BULLETIN is published quarterly by the Society at Yuba City, California 95991. The annual membership dues includes receiving the NEWS BULLETIN. JANUARY 1985 dues are payable now. Your remittance should be sent to Sutter County Historical Society, P.O. Box 1004, Yuba City, Ca. 95992. To insure delivery of your NEWS BULLETIN, please notify the Treasurer of any change of address. Dues are \$7.50 per person, \$10.00 per family, \$5.00 if over 70 years.

The NEWS BULLETIN is not copyrighted. Use of the material is invited, unless copyrighted by others. Mention of the source will be appreciated.

An index and file of all the past issues of the NEWS BULLETIN may be found in the Sutter County Library, the Marysville City-County Library, and at the Community Memorial Museum. Extra copies of the Bulletin may be purchased at the Museum for \$2.00.

**
** ANNUAL DINNER MEETING **
**
** Date: April 17, 1985 Time: 6:30 pm **
** Place: Yuba City Methodist Church on "B" St. **
** Speaker: Ted Meriam **
** Menu: Roast Beef Dinner **

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As a Historical Society what do we want? We worked for and achieved our goal of a Community Museum. This is just a good start. The future goals should include developing the Park Complex; it's trails and paths and plantings of specialty gardens, roses, chrysanthemums, etc.

Another goal must be the building of a structure dedicated to the preservation of our agricultural history. This structure could be so arranged that space for performing arts could utilize it's shelter; an open air theatre concept being one idea.

As the Park is developed and people utilize it's facilities rest rooms will be needed. Just another use for a wing of the Agriculture Building. Various kinds of farm shops, smoke houses, harness repair rooms, as well as a farm kitchen with all of it's home canning equipment should be on display.

Enough for materialistic goals. How about pleasurable pursuits? Group tours to various points of interest should be promoted. Sutter's Fort and Indian exhibition, Crocker Art Gallery, Oakland Museum, Golden Gate Park and all of it's numerous points of interest, Shasta Dam, Weaverville, James Lick Observatory, a narrated tour of points of historical interest around the Sutter Buttes is just a beginning of suggestions.

According to our by-laws we are to hold quarterly meetings of the membership. These meetings should have a speaker of interest and they should be open to you and your friends. They should entertain as well as enlighten. The business of the Society and the reports of the Board of Directors should be discussed.

The annual dinner meeting is held in April each year. A speaker of note and a good meal is the order of the day. We try to hold these annual dinner meeting at various locations throughout the county. This year on the 17th of April the meeting will be held at the Yuba City Methodist Church on "B" Street. A dinner of Roast Beef will be served at 6:30pm. Our Guest Speaker will be Mr. Ted Meriam of Chico. His topic, "Fascination of the History Books of California," I'm sure will be of interest to us.

Your ideas and suggestions are sought.

Randolph Schnabel, President

COMMUNITY MEMORIAL MUSEUM NOTES

Mary Allman, Director/Curator

New construction, new events and new exhibits await the Community Memorial Museum this spring, as we look forward to a new parking lot, a membership party, and more concerts and exhibits.

The Public Works Department of Sutter County has begun the task of expanding the Museum's front parking lot to accommodate two rows of parking. The new, expanded parking area will allow space for 38 automobiles, as compared to room for only 14 now. This has been made possible by the Sutter County Board of Supervisors, who saw fit to appropriate almost \$6000 toward the expansion and renovation of the Museum's front parking area. We are grateful to the County and the Board of Supervisors for their continued support.

The Museum will be holding its First Annual Membership Gala, at the Museum, on Saturday, May 18, 1985, from 1 to 4pm. The afternoon will feature food and beverages and live entertainment. The party is open to all Museum and Historical Society members and their guests.

Also in May, the Museum will feature its Fifth Annual "Wine and Posies," on Friday, May 3, from 6 to 8pm. Wine will be furnished by the Charles Krug Winery, and, as always, May baskets will be furnished by local businesses and individuals, and raffled at the event. Also, the Museum Commission and Auxiliary Dollhouse will be given away at the Wine and Posies. Tickets are still available at the Museum for \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00, so be sure to have your tickets before May 3rd.

The Mini-Arts Concert Series continues to bring the community superb concerts and performances featuring local artists. Sunday, April 21st, the Museum will feature Christie Estabrook, Alison Hasty, and John Cage in a concert of vocal, violin and clarinet selections. On Sunday, May 5th, John Bresnahan will present his clarinet quartet in concert. Perhaps the best concert of the year will be on Sunday, May 18th, when we feature the Young People's concert. All concerts begin at 2pm. A \$1.00 donation is requested at the door.

Beginning April 19th, and continuing through May, the Community Memorial Museum is featuring the Young People's Art Exhibit, featuring two and three dimensional works of art from students in Kindergarten through the Eighth grade. During the summer months, the Museum is considering an exhibit in remembrance of the 30th anniversary of the 1955 Yuba City flood. If you have access to any memorabilia concerning the flood, including still photos and home movies, please contact the Museum.

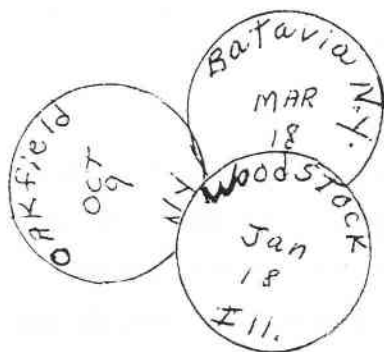
LIST OF DONORS TO THE COMMUNITY MEMORIAL MUSEUM
TRUST FUND AND BUILDING FUND

Mrs. Helen Brierly	In memory of Cecilia Gilpatric
Ed and Jean Gustin	In memory of Howard & Norma Harter
Eleanor Holmes	In memory of Edward C. Silva
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Butler	Outright Gift
Eleanor Holmes	In memory of Assumption Coats
Bee and Dick Brandt	In memory of Assumption Coats
Maude K. Roberts	In memory of Vera M. Taresch
Mrs. Loyd E. Hewitt	In memory of Assumption Coats
Dan Hewitt	In memory of Assumption Coats
Maude K. Roberts	In memory of Mudioson Williams
Maude K. Roberts	In memory of Assumption Coats
Norman and Loadel Piner	Outright Gift
Marion Hankins	In memory of Alberta Watson
Gavel Gerties - B.P.W.	In memory of Margaret Fields
Patricia Del Pero	In memory of Mr. and Mrs. George Stam
Mr. and Mrs. Gene Lonon	In memory of Starr Poole
U.E. Frye	In memory of Starr Poole
Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Speckert	In memory of Starr Poole
Eleanor Holmes and Family	In memory of Starr Poole
Yuba City Wednesday Club	In memory of Starr Poole
Bill Auradon	In memory of Starr Poole
Mrs. Loyd E. Hewitt	In memory of Franklin Starr Poole
Dan Hewitt	In memory of Franklin Starr Poole
George and Dottie Post	In memory of Starr Poole
Mr. and Mrs. Abner D. Sneed	In memory of Starr Poole
Bev. and Bette Epperson	In memory of Starr Poole
Richard Epperson	In memory of Starr Poole
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Roberts	In memory of Starr Poole
Ed and Jean Gustin	In memory of Starr Poole
Twin Cities Riding Club	In memory of Starr Poole
Fred and Helen Covell	In memory of Starr Poole
Sally and George Herr	In memory of Starr Poole
Mr. and Mrs. Roger Chandler	In memory of Starr Poole
Lorrie Ramsdell	In memory of Starr Poole
Norman and Loadel Piner	In memory of Starr Poole

Norman and Loadel Piner	In memory of Assumption Coats
Joseph and Judith Fairbanks	In memory of Starr Poole
Mr. U. E. Frye	In memory of Starr Poole
John and Judy Schnabel	In memory of Starr Poole
Gladys Estep	In memory of Starr Poole
Roy and Stella Anderson	In memory of Starr Poole
Rsoemary Redhair	In memory of Assumption Coats
Rosemary Redhair	In memory of Starr Poole
Marian Behr	In memory of Starr Poole
Bud and Carmen Frye	In memory of Starr Poole
Bruce and Virginia Harter	In memory of Starr Poole
Claudine B. Rolufs	In memory of Eugene Michel
Leonard and Mary Henson	In memory of Earl Rogers
Leonard and Mary Hensen	In memory of George Zerkovich
Louis and Betty Tarke	In memory of Starr Poole
Alice S. Wheeler	In memory of Starr Poole
Mr. and Mrs. O. Clyde Harter	In memory of Starr Poole
Tierra Buena School Club	In memory of Earl B. Rogers
Bill and Jane Thomas	In memory of Assumption Coats
Randolph and Shirley Schnabel	In memory of Elizabeth Joy Vegedes
Caroline S. Ringler	In memory of Assumption Coats
Bill and Wanda Ranklin	In memory of Starr Poole
Caroline S. Ringler	In memory of Starr Poole
Connie Cary	In memory of Starr Poole
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Ullrey	In memory of Assumption Coats
Master Series Ski Racing Far West Div. fo U.S.S.A.	In memory of Starr Poole
Bill and Mildred Jones	In memory of Starr Poole
Bee and Dick Brandt	In memory of Starr Poole
Mr. and Mrs. R.A. Bryant	In memory of Franklin Starr Poole
Mr. and Mrs Burwell W. Ullrey	In memory of Franklin Starr Poole
Pete and Margit Sands	In memory of Starr Poole
Randy and Shirley Schnabel	In memory of Starr Poole
Jack and Helen Heenan	In memory of Starr Poole
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Ullrey	In memory of Starr Poole
Mr. and Mrs. Howard Brownstein	In memory of Starr Poole
Mr. and Mrs. Bert Ullrey	In memory of Starr Poole
Julianne Ullrey Large	In memory of Her Godfather, Starr Poole

Dr. and Mrs. Joel Daven	In memory of Starr Poole
Walter and Lois Sterchi	In memory of Dorothy Hodges
Randolph and Shirley Schnabel	In memory of Dorothy Hodges
Jack and Helen Heenan	In memory of Dorothy Hodges
Bee and Dick Brandt	In memory of Jack Ramirez
Bill and Mildred Jones	In memory of Dorothy Hodges
Delta Chapter-Alpha Sigma Sorority	Outright Gift
Mrs. Virginia Pierce	In memory of Dorothy S. Hodges
T.S. Madden Family	In memory of Dorothy Stoker Hodges
Loretta and Burwell Ullrey	In memory of Dorothy Hodges
Iva F Ritter	In memory of Agnes Ritter Sorensen
Mrs. Virgil V. Walton	In memory of Mrs. Arthur Coats
Mr. and Mrs. Harland Ware	In memory of Leona Trimble Richards
Adah R. Borchert	In memory of George Bihlman
George and Kathleen Briick	In memory of George Bihlman
Delta Chapter-Alpha Sigma	In memory of Mrs. Dorothy Hodges
Luella Briick	In memory of George Bihlman
Leila Winship	In memory of Mrs. Richard Hodges
Bogue Country Club	In memory of Dorothy Hodges
Ernest and Beverly Speckert	In memory of Dorothy Hodges
Mr. and Mrs. Guy Davis	In memory of Billie Teja
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Allen	In memory of Annie Micheli
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald R. Harrington	In memory of George Bihlman
Mr. and Mrs. Edgar W. Stanton III	In memory of George Bihlman
Mr. and Mrs. Randolph E. Schnabel	In memory of Starr Poole
Jack and Helen Heenan	In memory of George Bihlman
Burwell and Marcia Ullrey	In memory of Dorothy Hodges
Geri and Marty Brownstein	In memory of Dorothy Hodges
John and Connie Cary	In memory of Billie Teja
Carmen and Jayne Durso	In memory of Annie Magdalena Micheli
Robert and Jan Schmidl	In memory of Annie Magdalena Micheli
Robert and Jan Schmidl	In memory of John Marshall Waller
Mr. and Mrs. John Heenan	In memory of George Bihlman
Mr. and Mrs. Ray Schneider	In memory of Maude Darrach
Robert Schmidl Family	In memory of Meghan Christina Filter
Robert Schmidl Family	In memory of Sharon I. Zeka
Pat and Henry Lamon	In memory of Richard H. and Dorothy Hodges

Pat and Henry Lamon	In memory of Starr Poole
Pat and Henry Lamon	In memory of Assumption Coats
Maude Roberts	In memory of George W. Hayes
Beta Omega Chapter	Outright Gift
Maude K. Roberts	In memory of Violet Rushing
George and Sally Herr	In memory of Billie Ann Teja
Mr. and Mrs. R.E. Berry	In memory of Billie Teja
Lee Hampson	In memory of Starr Poole
Barbara L. Frith	In memory of Maud Darrach
Hattie L.E. McCune	In memory of Maud Darrach
Roselie Hackett	In memory of Maud Darrach
Ruth Hackett	In memory of Maud Darrach
Bruce and Virginia Harter	In memory of Billie Teja
Adah R. Borchert	In memory of Francis Blakeman, Jr.
Mrs. Edwina R. Robbins	In memory of Carl Tamblyn
Mrs. Edwin R. Robbins	In memory of Helen Gregg
Mr. and Mrs. H.W. Menth	In memory of Francis Blakeman, Jr.
George and Kathleen Briick	In memory of Francis Blakeman, Jr.
Beatrice O. McKeehan	In memory of S. Stwood McKeehan
Joe and Jane Roberts	In memory of Earl Rogers
Joe and Jane Roberts	In memory of Billie Teja
Joe and Jane Roberts	In memory of Starr Poole
Luella Briick	In memory of Francis Blakeman, Jr.
Richard and Elaine Tarke	In memory of Donald Kuster
Richard and Elaine Tarke	In memory of Franklin Starr Poole
Richard and Elaine Tarke	In memory of George Zerkovich
Bogue Country Club	In memory of George Hayes
Mary and Ray Crane	In memory of George Bihlman
Mr. and Mrs. W.A. Greene, Jr.	In memory of Starr Poole
Mr. and Mrs. W.A. Greene, Jr	In memory of Billie Ann Teja
Mr. and Mrs. Harold McNally	In memory of Lurline Jones



LETTERS TO COUSIN "MARKY"
1862-1877



Cousin Marcus Theodore Buchannan arrived in California in 1863. He was born August 18, 1845, in New York to John and Clarissa Buchannan. Some of his family members remained behind for a number of years with some of them living in Northern Illinois. Probably because the earliest DeWitts of Sutter County, namely Golder and Josephine, were first cousins to Marcus, it is understandable how these interesting letters found their way to DeWitt's attic trunks and remained there for several generations. Letter writing was about the only way of communicating. Often, cousins and "best friends" were one and the same.

This article includes numerous letters from Marcus's three DeWitt cousins, Josephine, Alphonso and William "Golder" in New York State. A cousin, Mary Hughes, a "school ma'am," and an aunt Hannah wrote him from Woodstock, Illinois. His uncle "Lon," Alonzo Concklin, lived in nearby Sacramento but without other means of communicating, he too often took pen in hand to write Marcus.

Marcus's life and activities are sketchy at best. He was about seventeen years of age when he arrived in Northern California, but we wonder even if at that tender age he had not been involved in some type of gold prospecting. His Aunt Hannah, in 1864, a year after his arrival, wrote to Marcus stating that she wanted him to send her "that gold ring" that he was going to send her when he got rich. Bits and pieces of information put together from letters and receipts indicate that his earliest mail was directed to French Corral, Nevada County, California. (His father may have preceeded Marcus and his mother to California as a receipt to a Mr. Buchannan, in French Corral, was found dated as early as 1859.)

An entry in the Great Register of Suttter County, 1867, lists Marcus, age twenty-two, as a laborer in South Butte. At age twenty-five, another entry states his occupation as hotel keeper. We know he followed his father as postmaster in *South Butte upon his father's death in 1877. However, the official appointment appears to have been made in 1882.

*(South Butte's name later was changed to Sutter City and later yet to present day Sutter.)

Thompson and West's, History of Sutter County, 1879, reveals that Marcus was also engaged in farming in South Butte area during this same period of time. In 1886, Marcus was cancelled from the Sutter County voting register and transferred to Marysville. We have evidence that during the next few years he was engaged in farming in Oregon House, California. The Oregon House venture apparently did not go well for his mother and him. Notices of long overdue bills were found. Around 1890, he returned once more to the South Butte area.

No photographs of Marcus is known to exist but the voter registry notation when he was forty-eight years old described some of his physical characteristics. It gave his height as five-foot-eleven, his eyes were blue, his hair was brown, and he had a scar on his left index finger.

From the late 1890's until his death on July 7, 1926, little is known about Marcus. His burial site is in Sutter Cemetery beside his mother and father.

Two of the New York DeWitt cousins moved to Sutter County in 1872, with their parents, Clinton and Mary DeWitt. (Alphonso died at age eighteen in New York.) William "Golder" DeWitt was to marry, so as a result, the many DeWitt families are descended from him. Josephine, the eldest child of Clinton and Mary, apparently never married. According to a 1924 edition of a museum reference source, she made her home with her mother.

A compilation of letters dating back to the Civil War days gives us some insight into life at that time. The earliest letters are interesting because reference is made to, "War Meetings," comments about Lincoln and about the fact that their family preferred, "Little Mac," General McClellan, over Lincoln in the 1864 election. Other letters contain the usual trivia of the day. A common thread running through many of the letters was the cousins' interest in "Marky's" lady friends and when he was to marry. (There is no evidence that Marcus ever married.)

The portions of the letters that will be shared with you will be kept as close to the original style and content as possible. Many are very difficult to decipher due to the lack of education of these young writers and also because time has taken its toll on the paper and ink.

It has been a fascinating project delving into these letter. Reading and examining letters written so many years ago, makes one feel as if he is peering into their private lives. One can get a bit more familiar with cousin Josephine by viewing one of her gowns on display at the Sutter County Memorial Museum. Now that you are somewhat prepared by this introduction, we will get on with the letters.....

From your cousin Josephine!

ABOVE-JOSEPHINE'S SIGNATURE
 RIGHT-FACSMILE OF JOSEPHINE'S GOWN
 BELOW-COPY OF MARCUS'S SIGNATURE



375

Marysville, April 12th 1880

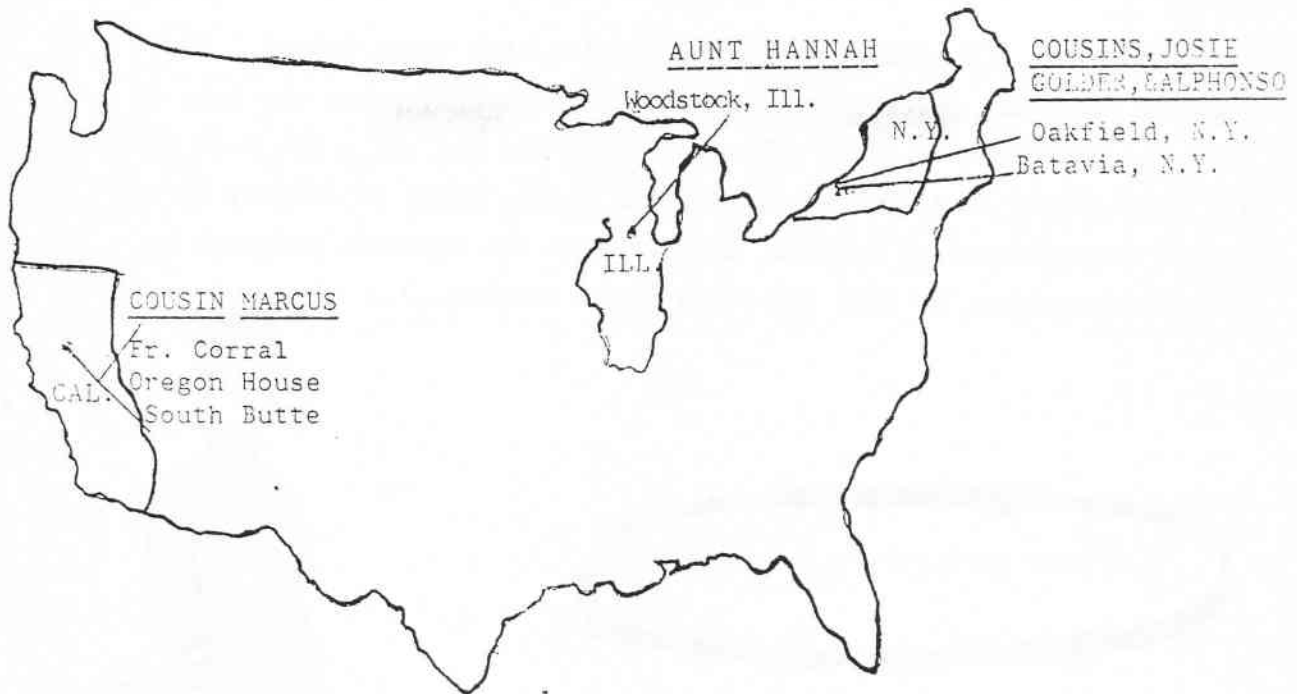
Ninety days after date, without grace I promise to pay to the order of Wm. J. Buchanan

Twenty five Dollars

for value received, with interest at one percent per month from date until paid, both principal and interest payable only in United States Gold Coin.

C. J. Buchanan
W. J. Buchanan

NR



LETTERS OFTEN TOOK AS LONG AS THREE MONTHS TO REACH CALIFORNIA.



1862
 IF ANYONE WAS TO BE MADE A HEROINE IN THIS SERIES OF LETTERS, IT PROBABLY WOULD BE JOSEPHINE. SHE WROTE SEVEN OF THESE LETTER DATING FROM 1862-1871. "JOSIE" IS ABOUT FOURTEEN YEARS OF AGE WHEN SHE WROTE THIS FIRST LETTER. SPELLING PERHAPS WAS NOT HER BEST SUBJECT, BUT SHE DID KEEP MARCUS AND HIS FAMILY INFORMED. SHE STATES THAT SHE IS AFRAID THAT HER "PA" WILL BE DRAFTED AND SHE CAN NOT DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT.



THE ELDEST DEWITT COUSIN
 JOSEPHINE DEWITT
 B. AUG. 10, 1847

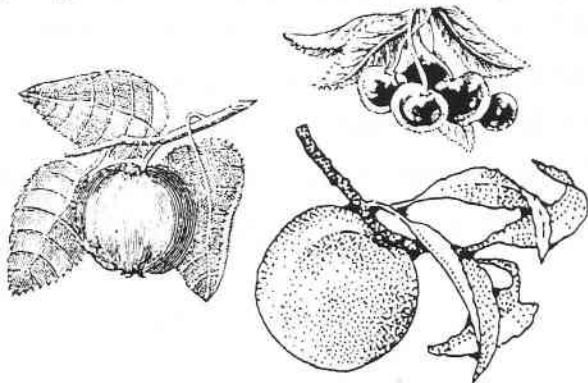


JOSEPHINE'S
LETTERS

Oakfield th 24 18.2 (1862)

Dear Cosen

I take my pen in hane to let you noe that we are all well att prasant
Pa hase ben vary sick bot he is giten beter now he hade the chill feaver
tell yore muther that ma is going to write to heare when she get tine
she dont goe nowhere the boys & I goe to school we have a good school
tell aunt haner that i wood like to see hare have writing I spose you are
going to see yore Fatherthis fale I want you to come heare before you goe
way I wish youWoode come before the Charys & Peeches & Aples are gone
Ore foakes are cuting gren to day with the weper Pa dont doe moch yet I
ame in hary (hurry) fore them to get don so I can go to aunt huldah saturday
My Drake is gone with me I ame in school not I hant got ing thing to do
so i thot I wood let you now that I dow play some time in school I wish
you wold send me yore picer when you write to me I dont wont you to wat
fore ever like I have I did not think that I ode you a letter after I
thot I ode you a letter I set done to let yo now that I wase in the world
(world) yet I spose you hant going to the war are you if you doe you will
be sorry it makes a grat time here now I dont like to here it iny more
I have got tared of it i am fred that pa will de (be) drafted and that
i cant doe inthing the men they drink like evere thing so that thy nidnot
(need not) goe to wore i cant thiank iny (any) more now so write when
you gt time dont wat fore ever like i hav i am sham so good by Cosen



Frome Josephine DeWitt

Josephine

1862

Exchanging letters was all important to the DeWitts and their relatives in California. It was the the sole means of sharing news. Often, letters took up to three months to reach California. In this letter, Josephine tells of her parents attending a war meeting and says that six have enlisted already. She attends a school called a seminary in nearby Caryville. After reading this letter, we can believe her closing sentence.--"well i must stope now be cose i must get my leron now" Josephine is about fourteen or fifteen years of age.



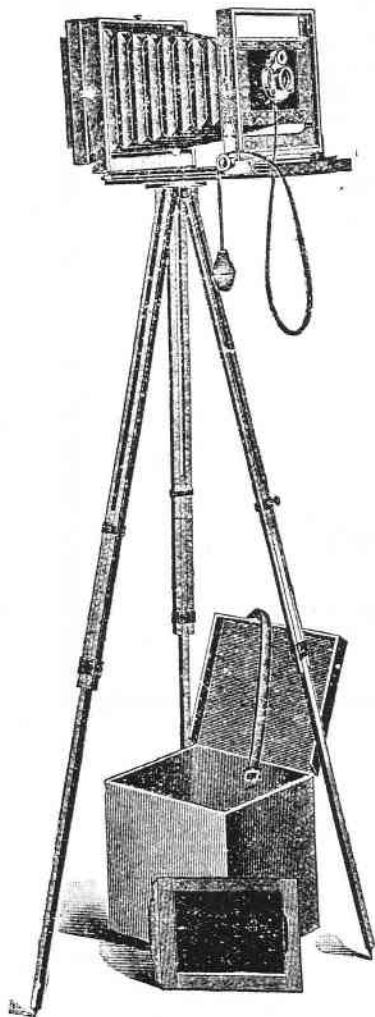
December 1862 th/₁₂

Dear Cosen

I take my pencil in hand to let you noe that we are ol well at prsent
igot yor leter an glad to here frome you I thught that you wasent not a
going to write to me it is lonsome here now be cos granma & Eellen is
gone I cant goe ther so often now I hope that you are a going yore selfe
ther is it plesent ther now it ise her we hant had any snow her yet
to next to inthing (anything) yet ore (our) fokse went to wore meting last
night thy sed that thre wase (were) sen (six) that inrist (inlisted)
Charly trip he inlist to tell yore mother that i want her to write to me
when she get time to & tell her that i sent here a pease of ma & mine nue
draase (dress) to here in yore leter I wish you wase here now to et some
papcorne with me & some Alpes to & drink some sider to i spose you wont
to noe how the boyse are a geting long to thy goe to school we hant got
avry god school thiss winter I goe to the semnary to Caryvile & Alice
Norton romes with me we hav fune ther i tell you we had a sosable ther
lest week & we are agoind to have a new year ther fro the scholers & they
are a going to halve a Carsmas (Christmas) tree to the Carch (church)
Alfhsos ses that if you dont write to him he will schol (scold) you when he
sese you Ellen is to Aunt Clerly she is agoing to school ther she ses
that she like it there have you hade yore fortagraft taking yet you

sed that you wood send me one I have got that knife yet that you give me
have yore nother got herse yet uncler bill & aunt holdy is well They
wase her (here) last weake ond day pa and me are a writing to grandpa
and grandma today we hat a leter from uncler Lonso he said that he was
sick with the liver plant (complaint) when you write agine i want you to
tell me aothing (everyting) abute the country & how you like it there when
you wrote you did not say wether you did like it are not it is vary drye
here now are weales (wells) are dry and are sistern tell yore mother
that ma ar aloking fore a leter frame youre mother every day and she sese
that she wont a good long one to pa sese that he wont yore pa & ma to
write to him and to write a long one to i cant write inthing more thiss
time you must excuse my pore writing be case icant write wiath (worth)
shucks to day write backe and tell yore pa & ma that i wont them to
write to me i wood be glad to here from them well i must stope now
becose i myst get my leron (learning) now write me

From Josephine DeWitt



JOSEPHINE'S, ALPHONSO'S, AND
GOLDER'S PARENTS, CLINTON AND
MARY DEWITT

DATE?? THIS LETTER PROBABLY FOLLOWS THE DECEMBER, 1862, LETTER BY A YEAR OR TWO. EVEN THOUGH JOSEPHINE HAS HAD MORE "SCHOOLING" BY NOW, HER WRITING IS STILL EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO DECIPHER. (MAPLE) SUGAR PARTIES SEEM TO BE POPULAR. OTHER ACTIVITIES INCLUDE DANCES, CRACKING BUTTER NUTS AND CHURCH GOING. HER TWO YOUNGER BROTHERS ARE LEARNING TO DANCE NOW SO WE ASSUME THAT JOSEPHINE COULD BE SIXTEEN OR SEVENTEEN YEARS OF AGE WHEN THIS LETTER WAS WRITTEN. THIS COPY OF THE SEMINARY BROCHURE WAS IN THE ENVELOPE WITH THIS LETTER.

Cary Collegiate Seminary,

OAKFIELD, GENESEE COUNTY, N. Y.

This Institution will re-open on Monday, the 24th of April. It is the purpose of the Principal, as well as of the Board of Trustees, who have appointed him, to make it in every respect a first class school, thus realizing the design of its Founder, whose name it bears. Facilities for instruction in the various departments will be furnished as fast as the wants of the pupils shall require, and the patronage bestowed shall warrant.

The arrangement of Sessions and of Studies will be announced hereafter, the design being that the school year shall commence in the Autumn, and continue with little interruption until the Summer vacation. Suffice it for the present to say that the Spring Session will commence as above stated on the 24th of April, and will continue twelve weeks. The rates of tuition will be as follows:

For the Common English Branches.....	\$5 50
" Higher English Branches.....	7 00
" Latin and Greek Languages.....	10 00

These rates are to be in advance, and will cover the incidental expenses. Necessitous students of good character and habits will be instructed free of charge.

All pupils will be required to observe a gentlemanly deportment and to abstain from all irregular and disorderly habits.

The Primary Department will be continued as heretofore at the rate of \$2 50 per Session for tuition.


Inquiries may be made before the opening of the Session of the Rev. MORELLE FOWLER, or G. B. WORTHINGTON, Esq., at Batavia, or of either of the following gentlemen at Caryville:—CLIFFS WOLCOTT, Esq., L. H. OLCOTT, Esq., A. C. DODGE, Esq. The undersigned may be addressed at Stockport, Columbia County, N. Y.

JAMES R. COE, Principal.

Stockport, February 7, 1864.

Sugar Buckets.
With Wood Hoops.

No. 16721. Holds 10 lbs.	
Each.....	\$0.28
Per doz.....	2.75
No. 16722. Holds 25 lbs.	
Each.....	.32
Per doz.....	3.50
No. 16723. Holds 50 lbs.	
Each.....	.36
Per doz.....	4.00



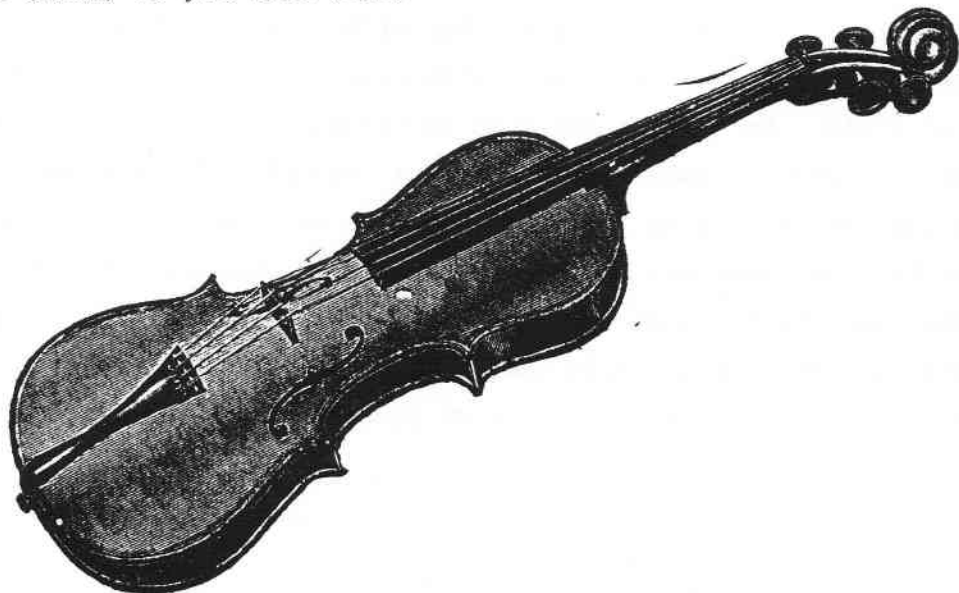
Deare cosen

I take my pen in hand to let you noe that we are well at present and hope you are the same I goe to school yet it hasa (has) out in till 3 weakes and then the spring terme camanes (commenses) I dont noe fore carten (certain) where i shell goe then ore not I spect (expect) pa will make me goe if ma is well enofe to doe the warke it is bade going here now the snow is going ofe now and it hase made bade warke with the warter it hase spold some farmes and it hase floate losed of briges way well i gess i will change the subget ore foakes are maken shoger (maple sugar) now I wish that you code come and eate some with me I hava (haven't) hade iny yet I ame a going to a shoger party this weake to mr. Dumlapes I am spect that thy (they) wase a going to have it least weake bot they posteponet on Julia Drake count hare grandma stilwell wase sick and she died ons theardy (Thursday) morning I have ben to alose (a lot) of partyes thiss wenter there hase ben good many sprise partys Thy had one here thy thot thy wood come and sprise me bot thy did not come it thy brot there fiedles with them thy stade till 3 oclocl and danse Alphso has larnt how to danse and Golder has larnt how to Alphso as (has) ben to good meany danceys thiss winter Annt Holday and auncal Bial as ben heare to day thy are oale well auncal Bial is fool of his trikes as ever he is toaremense (torments) my life out of me thy toake (talk) of realing (selling) out i bleave and if he dose i dont noe what he doare (dares) lalates (later on) to doe he sead (said) that he want to stay heare with ore (us) cuple montens (months) Ellen is to aunt Clisty and grandme is ole lone now Golder has to stay with heare now and when I come home she wont (want) me to stay with here (her) and I cant stay home a tol (tal) Pa sese (says) that is seames that he did not have a girle a to (either) I come home along anof (enough) to get something to eat and goe way a gine I got yure leter safe and sond I was vary glat to heare from you Marky it seame vary long time sense I harde frome you it takes so long times fore a leter to go that we think ththat we hant got iny body there I wont you to anser thiss leter post quick as you can that pictyr you send to me it made me think i

wood like to stepe in to see you who is that sterne on (one) on the stope
(stoope) wee think that it wase Uncle Jhon it loskes plasent there
that hill loakes so that I wood like to goe one (on) it and looks of (off)
i have my albunse haleffole (half full) I will save a place fore Uncle
Jhone and Aunt Clarey pictheres tell Aunt Clarey that ma want hare to
write to hare tell here (her) that I will send hare thiss leter tell
hare that it is not vary nice bot i thot it wood be beatre and none a
toal (at all) we hant fone whether Jimmy Mahony got home ore not he
is not in Cary (Caryville) bot when wee fine where is he we will tell you
i spect you will get Golders leter before you will mine I will trie to
write one (on) thiss sid(e) pa and ma are craking boter (butter) notes
(nuts) to nite I hope that you will get redy to come back a gine bot
I spose that you are satisfy there now I wish that I cod see that nice
yong lady that you shind (shined) around i spose that you have one
there now bot never mine that bot come out here agene it wood seem good
to see you agine it semese that we do not have iny bod (body) iny more
well I gues i will cange (change) the subiget I cant think of monch
more I wont you to excuse my writing and spelling Alphso hase gone
to charc (church) to nite with Scote Gardner i bleve well I gess I
will close my leter I ill send my love to yore mother and i wonte (want)
hare to reade here (her) boek (book) well good bay (bye)

frome yore cosen
Josephine

write enich (much) as you cane (can)



 FEBRUARY, THE 28, YEAR ?? THIS LETTER CONTAINS QUITE A BIT OF NEWS ABOUT
 NEW BABY BORN TO UNCLE BILL AND AUNT HULLDAH BLISS, LATER ON RESIDENTS
 OF SOUTH BUTTE. SHE IS VERY MATTER OF FACT IN STATING, "AUNT CLEALYER
 BABY IS DED," (NOTE THE HIGH PRICE OF PHOTOGRAPH ALBUMS IN THE 1860'S)

Feabry, ^{the} 28

Dear cosen

I take my pen in hand to let you noe that we are old well at present and hope it will fine you the same I got yore leter and wore glad to here fram you and I am glad that you likt it there If you like it you wont get lonsom ther and I spose you will be here fore long and I hope that aunt Clarey hant mad at ore If she dont write before long i will think so ma she wrot a leter to her the first of September and she hant anser it yet and ma she dont noe what to think of it my school hant out yet it will let out in too weakes and we have too weakes vachion and i spose that I will hafta comense agine then I spose you want to her the newore well I will tell you aunt holdy hase a litte boy they think it is the nice little thing that ever wase uncle bill coler it ever thing that he can thing of I hant seen it yet ma ses it lokes like aunt holdy and it can scime (scream) to it makes nofe (enough) woyer (worry) fore them I gess we hant hade vary goo slaing (sleighing)thiss winter it is vary mody (muddy) here now Whe hant tepe (tapped) yet bot i spose it is ole most time to I wish you code be here then and et some worme shoger with use you sey that you dont care mock (much) fore yore comrey (country) ther that is vary bat (bad) i whis (wish) you wore here and goe to ore (our) parties we have one a wouck (week) a while a rone here I will tell you a bote ore (our) leape year wride ther wase a bote 13 cople of ose (us) went on a leape year wride and hade a soper (super) and a dance we had a good time i ame (am) tell you it snode (snowed) and blode (blowed) ole (all) the time while we wore gone it cost (caused) we girles a fere (fear) that nite wose that a nofe (enough) fore wonce (once) aunt clealyer baby is ded & ole Mrs briton is to grandma hant got back yet but we spet she will come fore long we had a leter frame unckle lonso he ses that thy are ol well but him he ses that he hant vary well thiss winter

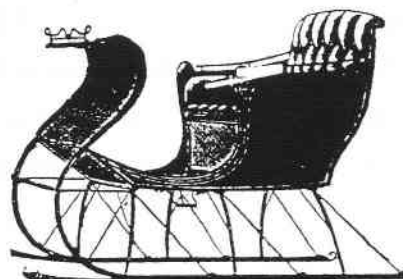
he rent aunt Susen forty graft to you she lokes vary natral Alphonso
 ses that he will write to you when you write to him and i bleve that
 golder ses that he will write this time tell yore mother and father that
 I want them to write to me before long i think thy hant vary cine (kind)
 to me if thy wase thy wood write well i cant think moch more to write
 this time well I gese I will fill this side to nowe(now) so that you
 cant say that I neve wrote you a fool (full) leter thiss time ma & pa
 are writing to unchel lonso to day and thy wont you to write to them
 before lond (long) i ame a going to rome (room) with July Drake thiss
 term i gess we will have big times we had a newyear trep (trip) to
 ore scholl and aot (got) soe trarent (tired) on it or (us) girles bot
 a nice fortygraft (photograph) albom fore are teacher Miss webeter it
was \$6½ and the boys dot (bought) Mr. Gardner a morning gone (gun) is
 was \$9½ I want you to send me the firit (first) pese (piece) of gold
 you dic (dig) and dont fore get yet ether if you doe i will pool (pull)
 yore yeres (ears) fore you the mex (next) time i see you and i hope that
 want be long eithr if i cod see you now i wood hope (hop) hy (high)
 has (as) the hose (house) and the boyes wood be so glad that they wood
 not noe what to doe with them self thy wood eat you up to I gess well
 i must stop my nonsense now write some from yore friend.

Josephine Dewitt

tell yore mother that i wont her to write and send me a pease of
 her silk dres (fress) to me I wont her to sen a pese (piece) of all of
 here new dresy (dresses) to me i have hade 5 pesy (pieces) of then now



the
 Feabry, 28



the end i gess

DATE?? ELECTION YEAR, 1864??
HISTORICALLY SPEAKING, THIS IS THE BEST LETTER. JOSIE
HAS VERY STRONG FEELINGS AGAINST "OLD ABE." SHE WISHES
THEY WOULD KILL HIM AND SHE WOULD LIKE TO HERSELF IF SHE
COULD GET NEAR HIM. HER FAMILY APPARENTLY FAVORED GENERAL
MC CLELLAN OVER LINCOLN IN THE UPCOMING ELECTION. THE
YEAR WOULD HAVE TO BE 1864. THE PHOTO BELOW SHOWS LIN-
COLN INSPECTING HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC ON
OCTOBER 1. GENERAL MCCLELLAN IS THE SHORT MAN, SIXTH FROM
THE LEFT. THE YEAR IS 1862.



* The above photograph reproduced from The American Heritage Picture History of the Civil War, published by American Heritage Publishing Co., Inc., New York, p. 246.

Dear Cosen

I take my pen in hand to let you noe that wee are awl well at present and hope thy will fine you the same I got yore leter ole safe and sond we have wet wether here now it tryes to snow some ore foakes hant got ther Corne host (husked) yet Unckle Wiall and aunt Hena & the Children have ben done here thiss fole & stade here 7 weakes thy wood stade longer but unckly Wiall want to get back to vote fore litte mack. I tell you thay have hy times here but the ware thy ses that Eade hase inlisten (enlisted) Be case (because) he was frade of being drafte I ame a frade he will make a pore Solder thy hant many boyes left here thy take them ole in the war to be shol i dont care iff they dont take my pa I wish that thy wood kill Ole Abe I wood if cod get nere him will that is a nofe but (about) the war

I ame a going to school before long to Cary & Alphonso (Alphso) is a going to & Golder is agoing to the this school home thy are a lady teacher a going to teaches us unokle (uncle) Will & aunt Holday is a going to Ilanose (Illinois) to a visit they are a going to be there to Crismase (Christmas) they say thy are a going to stay on that place that hay (they) wase (was) on when you wase here hant moch (much) a going on here was a pigpen dance here lest weake I not goe Alphso ses that he is a going to learne to dance this winter thy have a dancin achool to Pine hill wee wood goe to it but i cant goe to school and there to i went to the Forth a July to a dance with aunt Holday & unckle Will well i will speak but (about) yore Mother now we hant hade a leter frome here in a yeare ma dont doe in thing yelce (else) bot think but (about) it we nod (know) that it wase a lice (lie) when I got them bookes & when you rote you did not say a ward abut hare (her) & nore abut yore father yether (either) you tell aunt Clarey tha i wont har to write to me & send her photograph & unckle Jones (Johns) I hace (has a) album of photograph pa giae (gave) me I thankyou fore yores you have change much sens you wase here bot you lock (look) toler (taller) then your dad I will send you a pame (Peom) to let you see iff you noe it it hand (aint) a veay (very) good one bot you can see it when i have some photographs taken i will send you one well i must close my leter i dont want you to wate so long as i have (yore Traly M.F.B.)

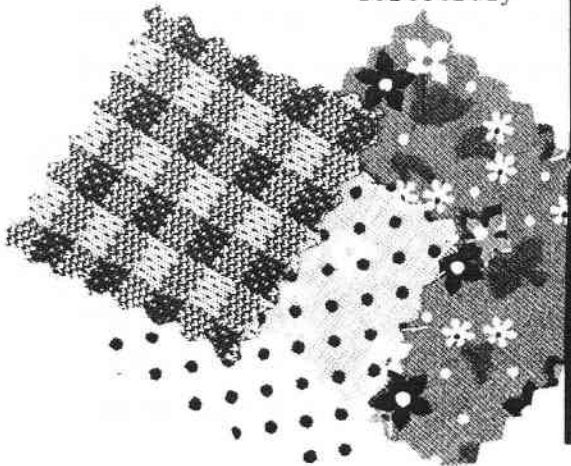
(yore Cosen Jose)

the
October 8 1865

Deare Cosen

I take my time to write to let you noe that we are al well and hope that you are the same I be gine to think that you have for got me. I hant for got you iny how and hope you hant me did you get my last leter tell yoe ma that we got hare leter ole safe and ma thinks a much of hare present and i wase to plese of my present. I have gote ole the nomber (number) now and the god deale of them to I are a going to have them bonnd (bound) the wribon. I dont noe what you want me to doee with it yet so i hant done ing thing with it yet it is vary nice in dead (deed) Lise Golder hase ben here she wase hire 3 weaks she nant (went) way friday Wel I hat a going (was going) to write moch mor i write this to se why you dont write to me and you hant anser Golder leter ether & if you dont write now & dont noe what i shad (shall) doe with yoy Alphso is a big boy i gess that he is bout as big as you wase when you wase hre ing way he is a big anofe to goe to see the garles & i spose that yoe doe to I wont (would) like to see what akind of a gril you have when you write send a shadow (Photograph) of hare Alphso wont you to write to him he iss a going to Cary to school thiss winter well i most close I have wrote mor and i thot i wood bot when i getwriting i cant never stop now anser this time I will send Aunt Clara a pease of my dres & ma Well goodby frome yore trye (true) frend Josephine D

Yorestruly



AUGUST 6, 1871, JOSEPHINE'S SEVENTH AND LAST LETTER. SHE HAS NOT BEEN
VERY WELL AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY HAVE BEEN ILL ALSO. AT "24"
YEARS OF AGE, SHE CONSIDERS HERSELF TO BE AN "OLD MADE."

Oakfield August ^{the} 6 1.71

Dear, Cose Marky. .

I will try to write you a few lines to leat you noe that I havent fore gotten you I hardly now how to write to you it hase ben soe long sence I wrote to you last it hase bene nerly 5 years sence I wrote you last. I hope you will find time to write often now we have comense agane. I hope these few lines will find you well, & ole of the foakes. We are ole usely (usually) well Golder isent well this sumer bot he workes ale of the time & myself my helth is vary poor I am a doctren now hope to be beter some time it is vary warme her now & we ned rane Ore foakes are vary bisy to geat ther somer work don. I spose you have got throe work fore thiss sumer. O I wish that I wase ther now to have a good viset a with youe ole if I cood see you I cood talk a grate dele more than I cane write. Golder & I went to churk (church) to day. I spose you goe to charch I wish you had a sister to goe with you Golder & I take confrent (Confirmation) together O how I wood mise hime when he gose a way fore, iss selph, he is ole most twenty one & he ses then he is a going fore iss selph (himself) we got a letter from Aunt Houldy & Aunckle Bill it seme fony (funny) to get a letter from then (them) from ther tell them we wase glad to hear from them tell them that Auncke Theodore lives in Caryvill, in Mr. Chaplens house A.(uncle) ^(Theodore) The is sick thy hant bot iny plase yeat & tell yore mother & A. (Aunt) Holdy thy nost (most) thing (think) of ma & write often ma felt trible (terrible) bad whes A— H— (Aunt Holdy) went away she feles so she wase left alone when we seal (sell) out & runed (ruined), be (don't be) sprise if we come out ther Golder wont (want) to & I think we will see euch (each) other agane (again) bot ther is a grate change in as (us) oll (all) now we hant Chelder (Children) in more (anymore) how merry I think of the time you & yore mother stared (started) a way frome Betavia I cane see you now how you look in the cares (railroad cars), 8 yeares a goe I wase 18 year old then, & thiss mont, I will be 24 yers old see that I ame geting to be

an old made tell yore foakes that Pa & Ma will write sune now thy work vary hard & dont write a tole & tell A—H— & A—Bill that I dont wont them to foregeat ole Joe. Well most stop writing four this time give my love to yore Mother & Father & Aunt & Aunckle Bill & a good shar for yore self Write sune Golder will write before long & Pa & Ma will write sune

Frome yore Fevtert (favorite)

Cosen Josephine De Witt

Oakfield



GOLDER'S LETTERS

WILLIAM "GOLDER" DEWITT
B. JAN. 15, 1851



MARCH 11, 1865

WE ARE ASSUMING THAT THE "GRAT KILL", REFERRED TO IN THIS LETTER, IS THE GRIZZLY BEAR. IN A LATER LETTER DIRECT MENTION IS MADE ABOUT HUNTING THE GRIZZLY. GOLDBERGER SAYS, "IT IS SNOWING LIKE FUN." GOLDBERGER HAS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF DOING THE MILKING FOR THE LAST THREE YEARS...



Oakfield th Mar 11 1865

Dear Cosen i take my pen in hand to Wright a few lines to let you now that We are all Well I hav not Wrote to you that i dont now how to Wright to you it is prety cold hear to say the wind is blowing prety hard i hav had the toothach today i have been to school all the winter but it dont keep only one more weak but we hav a Exibision (exhibition) next week We have not tap (tapped) (trees?) yet Josephine resev (received) your letter yesterday Alphonso just com home fron cervill (Caryville) father is sawing wood down to Mr. Gardner to day i have bin to one of party this winter to Mr Dunlap and to Mr Drakes and to quite good my others paces (places) Josephine saad that you had a gan that cost \$100 dorlers i wish that i was thair to go hunting with you and go hon (hunt) that grat (great) kill with you and see off as as fa (far) as i cood (could)

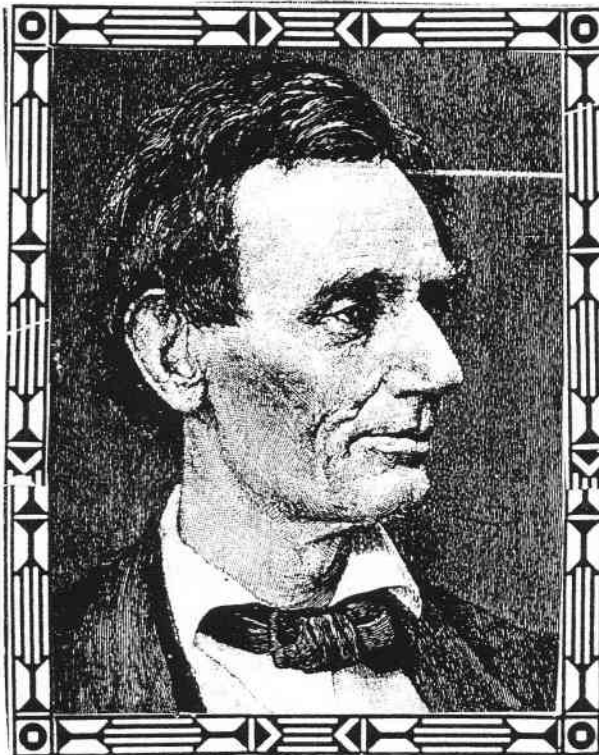
I hat got a lam that i giv father ten shiling for it Wen it was only day and half old is is now about five muts (months) old now and unce bill ofored me five doles for it it is a buck i hafto feed thee (three) of them you must tell your father and muther thay must Wrigt to themm all for thay air (are) gruling like dogs with sorer heads they all say

thay hav Wrote them last it is snow ing like fun and the winds bloed
(blowed) like fun to so that them boath to geather maes (makes) it pety
(pretty) bad you Was say that you hadto ten (tend) livery i in sed
(instead) of ten (tend) ot (of) that i hafto milk i hav milk for the
last three years Alphonso has to take kare (care) of the hores We
hav got Sevon hores now that is all for this tim Wrigt soon

Wm G. Dewitt

* GOLDR TELLS OF THE PRESIDENT'S DEATH *

Oakfield the 18 1865



Dear Cosen i siting doon to write
a few lines to let you now that We
ar all Well i received your letter
recent on June and Jonshine got the
Book Just a Week after i got your
letter and a got son (some) ribbon
and she hant no ribbon like that
yet We planted it nine acers it
is not time to harrest hear yet but
next time i Write to you it will be
all harvest Alphonso ses that he
will not write to you him iff you
do not never Write to him he will
not never Write to you Alphonso
and i be gont to Work in the corn
to marrow We ar gont to poot in
twenty acers of Weat this year

We poot in thirty acers of Spings crop this year So you can see that we dont
hav much time to pay (play) Alphonso and i poot in a bout to acs of beens
that is for us to tend to when we hav play tine that is if we get it i
whish that you weed (would) get som Wild Flowers seed and send then to me

get four or fiv knes (kinds) I sart pose (suppose) that you hav herd
 that old abe is dead the old pesdond (President) it is so warm hear
 that i can not half write i hant got now pictur to Send you had bette
 Send me one of yors for yours is getting White som We hav got Wheat as
 tall as i am i Wish you Send me som of your kind of muey (money) for i
 hant seen eny of it in so long atime that i culd not tell it fron the penes
 (pennies) that we hav hear if thay did hav one cent on thay ar boring
 (borrowing) for sault (salt) sown north at carvil (Caryville) faher has
 fore share in it i gues that thay Will hav good luck in it fur thay
 ust to bee one thair in old times i Wish that you would get your fther
 to get his pictur for aunt Clacy picture to geting so it look good With
 out some bodd (body) in With her you may think this letter is rather a
 beging lttter you hav got to hav som boddy punch you up or you forget
 you hat (had) any frenes a ront hear it takes all of you to watch them
 big waggons you our (ought) to be hear to see the bugges(buggies) go
 bvhear som Sunday Just before dark Wm. G. DeWitt Write Soon

dear cosen I have
 set down to Wright
 a few lines to
 you I hope you
 wold excuse me
 for not writing
 so long Jofeen Wonts
 I shold tell you
 that she is gon to
 singingschool Will
 you tell me wher
 it is your sled is
 we hav rast eighteen
 ducks we hav kill
 them of and sold
 them

← Oakfield th 7
 Dear cosen I have set down
 to Wright a few lines to you
 I hope you wold excus me for
 not Wright so long Jofeen
 Wonts I shold tell yoe that
 she is gon to singingshool
 Will you tell me wher A is
 yours sled is We hav rast
 (raised) eighteen ducks We
 have kill them of & sold then
 William Golder DeWitt

William Golder DeWitt

JUNE, 20, YEAR IS AROUND 1871.
IN THIS DISSECTED LETTER FROM GOLDER, HE STATES, "JAKE SAYS YOU HAD A
HIRED GIRL SCARE YOU OUT." NEARLY ALL THE FAMILY APPEARS TO BE INTER-
ESTED IN MARCUS'S ROMANTIC LIFE. A FOLLOWING CARTOON OF A MAN ATTEND-
TO AN INFANT IN THE NIGHT WAS SENT TO MARCUS...

Oakfield. June th 20.

My Dear friend and Cosen.

. . . I do wish you would come down here and see us it will not take you
long to come down her and I get a yong lady that her Father is worth over
3.50 acors of land that is in the County and buildings to mach it a lot
timber land do not talk to me a bout your fine youg Lady. thair way
off in one coneer (corner) of the wourld (world) to me I haf got a nuf
(enough) to come over thars but is not where I can quit it but do not
be in a swedt (sweat) for i will come over thair yet Jake says he will
come over thair just as soon as he can sell out his farm he wants me to
go to I told him I would if I could he wants to seel out fo us to come
this fall I suppose you know he is marred and has got one to commence
wih like all other duchman Jake says you had a hired girl scare you out
is that so (?), do not let them scare you out I talked of going East
this winter to make a visit You will hafto scuse me for pa is quitting
in a hurry and my eyes hert me so that can not wrte any more so good
by my only true friend, for I am like an old coach (couch) all taterd and
torn left in this wide wourld to weap and to morn and berayed (betrayed)
by a maidon in her teen. to forgie and for get
from your true frien Wm. Golder DeWitt

Write soon do not as I did to pleas your friend rember our fohappy
(for happy) day that is gon that was spend in Ill

No more this time give my respects to all it hard to part but the best
of much part some time



“DAYS OF EASE AND NIGHTS OF PLEASURE.”

Matrimonial joys are delightful,
But I say old fellow is it not frightful,
To jump out of bed on a cold winter's night,
To quiet the baby and set matters right.

Oakfield

Aprél, th, 16 1871

Dear Lost and most forgotin Cosin and forlorn Cosin left on one side of of this wide wourld to weap and to morn. I wrote you to try and Console you but you pay no heed but rush on but your race will soon be wran and then you turn a wround to look back but you see no one and you stand bewilderd and try to remember from whence you came, Dewitt We are all well at presant and hope theas few lines will find you the same we re-seaved your Father & Mother, letter the day we herd from the west the other day and thay said that Grammother was failing all the time she was so that thay had to wack her all the time. The weather is quite nice here now the Roads are nice now we hav not plowed any yet and we do not now yet what we will do the people is all plowing now I wrote to you a year a go find out what I could do but you never answer i my self I am twenty one this winter and I would like to find out wher I came to do the best iff you will be so kind as to tell me what wages are a moth on a farm and tell me how much a good lit carrag cost tharr and whater eny money could be maid on them to bring them from hear. Wages are from twenty dollars up to 25 per month hear do you think that you could make more money a morning than you could a Blacksmithing. Jake Miller calculated to come to that county this spring he sold part of his farm (Portry, Lovely tender friend of a way thou art always to us dear it makes us allmost shiver for a forging spirit thair but that music now seems sweetest from thy provised land) pleas answer this

Wm Golder Dewitt



BLACKSMITH

ENLARGEMENT
OF A DESIGN
TORN FROM A
PIECE OF
STATIONERY.



Union and Liberty.

ALPHONSO'S
LETTERS



ALPHONSO DEWITT
DIED IN NEW YORK
STATE AGE 18



Alph
I am down to ~~an~~ write a few
lines to you. Near all ~~the~~
at present is at school
I would like to see you and ~~maybe~~
tell you some things that I would
like to see here and you may
tell me about it later if you
I would like to see him
I tell you I will that I would
like to see him and ~~am sure~~
and the day when you
and I ~~will~~ meet there you
I know that it would
mean so much at ~~some~~
time to be

I would like to see Larry
we have got today.
I have got a new pen holder
to write to you
I would like to see if you
can do it later if don't
for all it says so that
I would like to have
you come to see me.
I tell you I will not
if he comes down let
that he is coming
I know
I know if you
will as day as I did
I will be there for you
I will be there for you
I will be there for you
I will be there for you

CAN YOU FIND WHERE HE IS TELLING
THAT HE HAS A NEW PEN HOLDER?

Oakfield

dear Cosen

We are all well at the present

i hope these few lines will find you oke i hav wish fur my slead
a good merry times i am four foot 9 inches tall We eat the maple
sugar fast as weget it almost We have got a dog that would sleaer (scare)
you so see him coming tell aunt hannah that i would like to see her baby
tell maddy that i would like to see him but keep out of the well tell
uncle Will that i would like to pool his ears Marcus i would like to
see you have you got any moer steers

Good by J A DeWitt aser this letter

Oakfield the dear Cosen
 we are all well at present
 i hope these few lines will find you oke
 i hav wish fur my slead
 a good merry times i am four foot 9 inches
 tall we eat the maple sugar fast as we
 get it almost we have got a dog that
 would scare you so see him coming
 tell aunt hannah that i would like to see her
 baby tell maddy that i would like to see him
 but keep out of the well tell uncle Will
 that i would like to pool his ears
 Marcus i would like to see you
 have you got any moer steers
 good by
 J A DeWitt

MARCH 27, 1864.

ALTOGETHER, WE HAVE THREE VERY GOOD LETTERS FROM COUSIN MARY HUGHE'S. HER'S ARE ALL POSTMARKED FROM WOODSTOCK, ILLINOIS, IN 1864. SHE TOO, IS SURPRISED THAT MARCUS IS NOT MARRIED YET. MARY IS INTERESTED IN MARRYING BUT NOT AS CONCERNED ABOUT THE MAN BEING YOUNG AS SHE IS CONCERNED ABOUT HIM BEING RICH....

COUSIN MARY HUGHE'S
LETTER

Woodstock Ill. March 27 '64

Dear Cousin Mark,

I was very much pleased by the receipt of your letter and take advantage of the first opportunity to answer it. My school has been out three weeks but I have hardly got settled yet. I commence teaching this summer about the first of May I think it will be much pleasanter to be at home than off among strangers though I had a very pleasant District.

We are all as well as usual. Son & Son & their little girls are up to your Grandfather's. I saw them a little while last evening.

We have not had so far a very pleasant Spring and have no grain

#

in yet, when I make a move from these "diggins" I believe I shall aim for a warmer climate. California for instance. Mark I am surprised

that you are not married yet. You have not done as well as Sarah Watson she went about the time you did and is married very wealthy so they say

I wonder if I could do as well. You just look around and pick out a rich spruce looking young man and send for me and I will take the first steamer

By the way, I am not so particular about the young as I am about the sick. Mat Merritt was here Thursday and he & I went to the Methodist Donation. We had a very pleasant time there was a great many there and they took in over \$200. Ellen was up a little while she has been sick and is going home in about two weeks. Linnæa Palmiter has been very sick this winter, caused by too much

52

dissipation. She has been to a great many parties and well excited herself. She is slowly recovering. Their house is just "gag" and we have had some pretty high times there this Winter. I have not seen Dan Dacey only as he has passed this Winter. I have heard he was rather playing the agreeable to one of the Forrest-girls, Anna Smith is going to teach this summer in the Woodstock District School. I assure you I have become very dignified & sedate since I have taken upon myself the responsibility of "teaching the young idea ffr. school". though sometimes I get as wild as ever. Christmas I had a splendid time. We had just one of the best-dances in town I ever attended but I have necessarily been a little steady for it will not do for school ma'ams to get too wild. I went up to see Katy Burston, or rather Miss Sam Hale, a short time ago.

They board at the Woodstock House in a
great deal of style. I presume you have
heard that Cassius Kimplin has been
home & Gov. Groat is home now on
Fairbough. I have not seen either of them.
Caroline & I visited at the Watsons yesterday
and I read a letter from Kate. He appears
to be very happy & prosperous.

As I have some more writing to do
today I shall have to bring this to a
close. My love to your parents.

Hoping to hear from you
again soon & remain

Your friend & cousin

Mary A. Kierke

P. S. I forgot about your question
as to when I am going to marry
Charley Thomas. You will have to
wait & let time tell its own
story as I am not aware as I ever
shall. Mary

* This letter to Marcus Buchannan from *
* Aunt Hannah (wife of uncle Wm) is *
* postmarked Woodstock, Ill, and Marcus *
* is in Fr. Coral. She is telling him *
* that she has three nice boys! Maddy, *
* Eddie, and Thedie. She is looking *
* for "that gold ring" he was going to *
* send her when he got rich. "How about *
* the girls?" inquires his aunt... *

AUNT HANNAH'S LETTERS

Hartland May 1 1865

Well Marcus I have waited a good while for a letter from you so I thought I would write again Grandpa got a letter from your mother last week so we know you were all living once more.

I have got three nice boys Maddy & Eddie are quite large boys they go to school Thedie just beging to think of walking he is most ten months old

We are having a good deal rain just now but every thing grows we have a very nice garden but I suppose you have all kinds of vegetables to eat now Mary Hughes has just came from Delevan the folks are all well I shall try and go there this spring I have not been there sence you went away

I am looking for that gold ring you was going to send me when you get rich so when you want me to think you are rich send it along I will send Uncle Bill & my picture and I want you to have yours taken and send to me I want you to sit down and I will make a fram for it out of cones and shells I have made some handsome ones, two large ones

There I can't write any more this time My love to you all Now please write soon How is it about the Girls have you found the pretty one yet or be you going to wait till you come back here I would like to see you all very much and hope I shall have the privelage some time

From your Aunt Hannah

I dont know whether Uncle Bill will write any or not he is just as bad as ever about writing I have to do it all

UNCLE LON'S LETTER

OFFICE OF

Jones, Givens & Co.,

GROCERS,

AGENTS FOR THE
Enamelled Steel Barb Wire Fence.

10th and K Streets.

Sacramento, July 13 1876

Marcus

What in the deuce
has become of you all up
there we have not heard a
word from any of you since
your folks were here

We looked for you & Josey
there. At the best we were disappointed
in that I felt anxious to hear
how your mother got along from
her hurt but presume she has
got well from it as we hear
nothing from them

We are well as usual
Minans & Charly went East the
8th of June we expect Minans
back next week

ms

I have had to work very hard
no time to breathe & think I
cant tell now when I shall
get up there but perhaps the
last of this month I want
to get to the Coast Range this
Summer if possible I heard
from them a few days ago
all well there

I wish you would try and
sell some body those two
Bales of Wires if you cant get
but 20[¢] lb I would rather
do that than to ship it
back here for it would be
his trouble that way
let me hear a word from
you regards to all
The Folks

Yruly
Your Uncle
Lover

For those who may be interested in reading these letters in their entirety, they are available in permanent printed form in the library of the Sutter Community Memorial Museum.

A special thank you to several DeWitt families. Ariel (DeWitt) George loaned the museum twenty-three letters. The remainder of the letters used this series came to the museum through Carl DeWitt and Mr. and Mrs. Lee DeWitt.

Marysville, Oct 12 1885

Mr. & M. J. Buchanan

IN ACCOUNT WITH

THE HAMPTON HARDWARE COMPANY,

(Successors to Wightman & Hampton). Importers and Dealers in

Hardware, Iron, Steel and Coal,

WAGON AND BLACKSMITHS' MATERIALS,

STOVES, CROCKERY, GLASS AND TINWARE.

MASONIC BUILDING, THIRD STREET.

Interest @ 4 per cent. after sixty days.

*To Amount
of A/c.*

17 00

Juvid Buchanan

*was not most of this
money loaned? I think you
must have forgotten me*

Yours truly

Charles Hampton



W. G. DeWitt



Florence DeWitt

WILLIAM GOLDER DEWITT AND FLORENCE ARMSTRONG WERE MARRIED IN THE SUTTER BUTTES VICINITY ON JULY 14, 1875. WILLIAM GOLDER DEWITT BECAME A VERY EXTENSIVE AND SUCCESSFUL GRAIN AND STOCK-RAISER, AND ACQUIRED A LARGE RANCH, ON WHICH HE SET OUT ALMOND ORCHARDS. THE DEWITT RANCH IS ONE OF THE HISTORIC LANDMARKS OF CALIFORNIA. WHEN GENERAL FREMONT MARCHED HIS TROOPS THROUGH THIS AREA, HE CAMPED ON WHAT IS NOW THE DEWITT RANCH, IN THE SOUTH BUTTE PASS, FROM MAY 30 TO JUNE 8, 1846.

*History of Yuba and Sutter Counties---California, Peter J. DeLay, Historic Record Company, 1924, p. 341.