REGULAR PACKET,

KATIE P. KOUNTZ

Received, *in apparent good order, from* John Gowey *on board the good Steamboat* **KATIE P. KOUNTZ,** *the following articles, marked as below, to be delivered without unavoidable delay, (the dangers of the river and navigation, fire, explosion and collision only excepted), on the wharfboat or landing, at the Port of* Sioux City Iowa *where carrier's responsibility shall cease, with the privilege of lightering, storing, towing and re-shipping, unto* F. L. Gowey *or assigns, he or they paying freight for said goods at the rate of* 75 Cts per Bale to Sioux City *and charges as below.*

The Boat is not responsible for breakage of Castings or Glassware, Leakage or Breakage of Liquors, decay of Perishable articles, nor for unavoidable accidents to or escape of Stock, wet by rain, old damage, mud, repairs, torn bagging, missing ties or injured cotton.

In Testimony Whereof, *the Owner, Master or Clerk of said Boat hath affirmed to* four *Bills of Lading, all of this tenor and date, one of which being accomplished, the others to stand void.*

Dated at Ft Benton M T *this* 27th *day of* June 1877

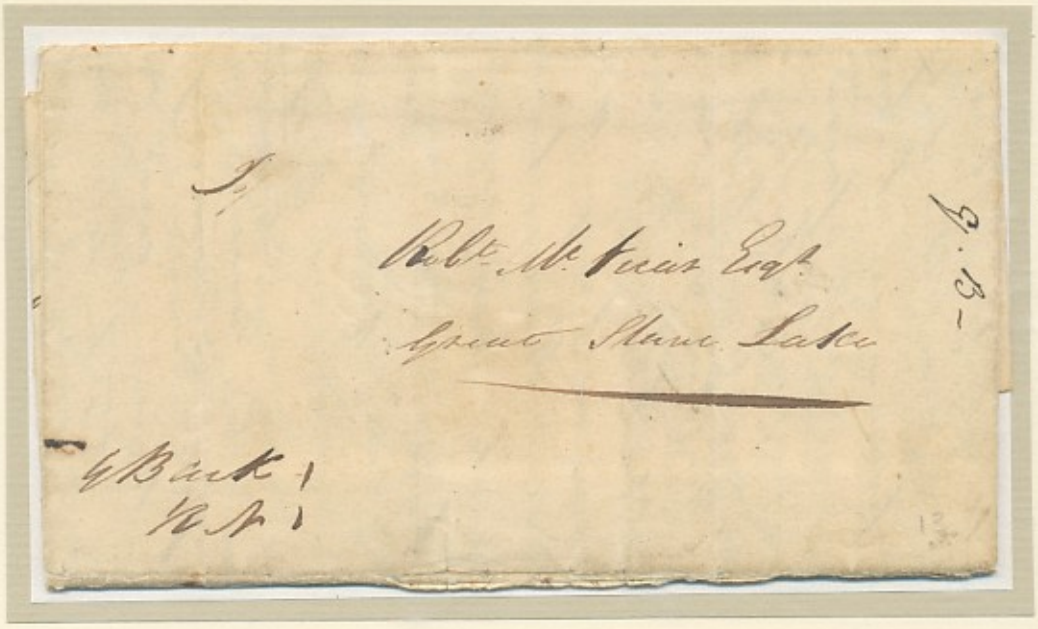
J. S. Rivers, Stationer and Printer, 74 Camp St., New Orleans.

MARKS.		ARTICLES. Condition and Cooperage excepted, and Contents unknown.	CHARGES.
Gowey & Co Sioux City Iowa	57	Bales Buffalo Robes	W. S. Atkin Clk
To Jos A Boskowitz 246 Lake St Chicago			
Care F L. Gowey Sioux City			

York Factory - July 16th 1822.

YORK FACTORY,HUDSON BAY "July16th,1822. George Back writes to Robert Mc VICAR,the Hudson Bay Co. factor at Fort Resolution, Great Slave Lake regarding his recent travels and reports on the comings and goings of personal:"Williams is going to Moose [Factory]....Simpson[Sir George] is coming in the Athabasca - Peace River and returns by the Saskachiwine[rivers]....Smith is to be at Cumberland,Keith at Isle a la Crosse,Kennedy Columbia [river],Clarke Red River,Smith I'm told Athabasca,and a whole string of others...There is however a Expedition(under command of Mr.Mc Kenzie) going up the South branch of the Saskachiwin etc. ...Geo.Back." Also a list of furs:"435 Martins,31 Beaver, 5_____,2Wolverines"for at total of"181 pounds,19 shillings.".

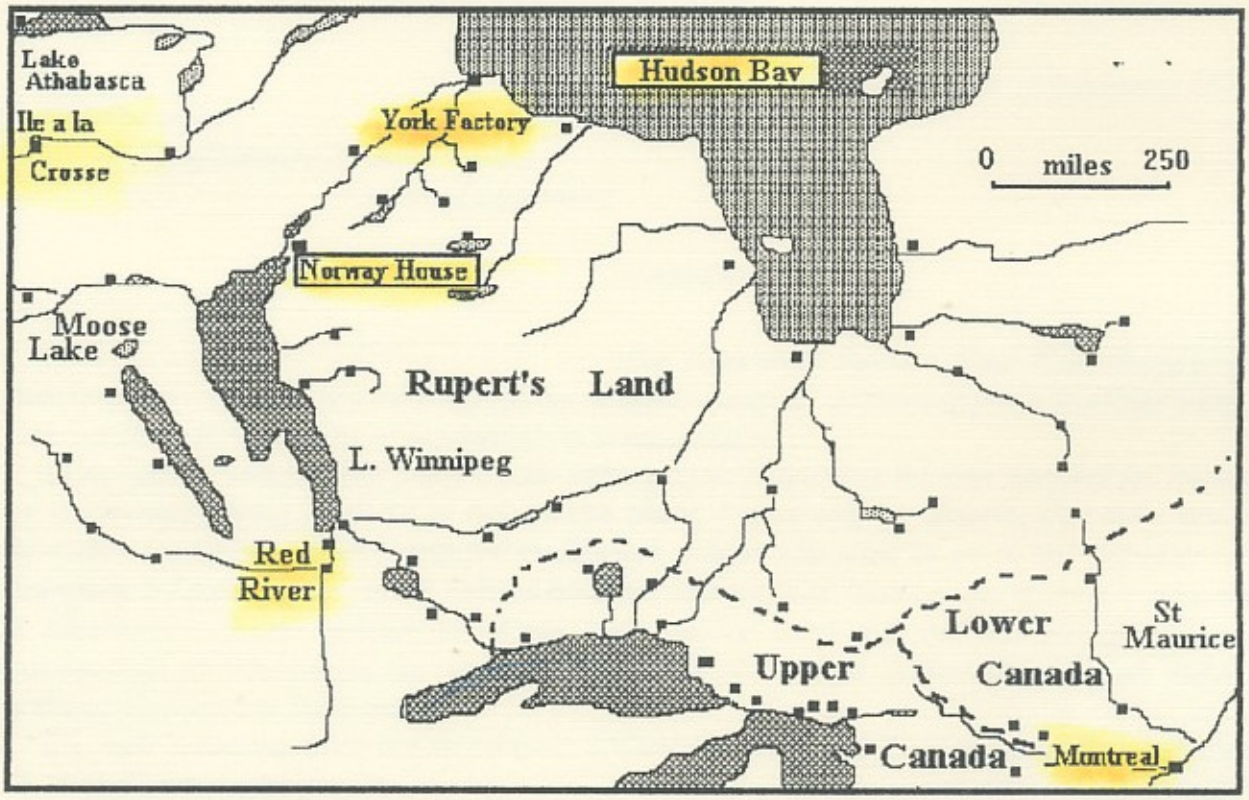
****



Folded letter above was carried by a fur brigade or express from Fort York to Norway House thence N.W.to Cumberland House and thence to Fort Resolution via Lake Athabasca. SEE map on opposite page.

Admiral Sir George Back.1796-1878. He was a midshipman on the 1st and 2nd Franklin expeditions and commanded the 1833-34 -35 expeditions in search of Sir John Franklin after he disappeared in the Arctic and was never found.

NORWAY HOUSE 1830.



The World of John MacLeod.

Hudson's Bay Company posts, ca 1830, are indicated.

John MacLeod, the author of this letter, was born in 1788 and entered the Hudson's Bay Company (HBC) in 1811. He served at several posts in the Red River at the time of the troubles with the North West Company (NWC). For much of the period from 1816 to 1827 he was at Ile a la Crosse. Appointed a Chief Trader (CT) in 1821 when the HBC and the NWC amalgamated (there were 24 CTs at the time), he served in the Columbia District from 1822 to 1825; at Norway House from 1826 to 1830; finally he was in command of the St. Maurice district from 1833 to 1849. He died in 1849 whilst still employed by the HBC.
He signs as John MacLeod, but he always appears in the records of the HBC as John McLeod.

The Governor of the HBC in Canada at the time, George Simpson, kept a private ' Character Book ' on Chief Factors (25 all told) and Chief Traders. He describes John McLeod, in 1832, as:

"About 46 Years of Age. A correct well behaved well Meaning Man, who is always most anxious to discharge the duties with which he is entrusted in a satisfactory manner and would on no consideration do an improper thing. Very firm when he finds it necessary to make a stand; but not very bright, on the contrary so confused that it is next to impossible to understand what he means to be at either verbally or on paper. Deficient in point of Education and quite a clown in address and should consider himself fortunate in his present situation which is more valuable than a man of his abilities could reasonably aspire to in any other part of the World. "

Norway House 1830.

The letter, from Norway House to York Factory, reads:

Norway House 5th January-1830

To The Governor
Chief Factors & Chief Traders
Northern Department

Gentlemen

The Periodical Packets from York Factory and Red River having again met here affords me an opportunity of addressing you a few lines which I embrace tho' I have nothing of importance to communicate/

As far as the Paragraph in Chief Trader Miles's letter (reporting the men intended for Portage La Loche next Spring) relates to thus to this place, I have only to observe, that there are no steersmen wintering and but very few middlemen, Isham who used to go in the Capacity of a steersman is Lame, and as for the Indians hired for that trip last Summer, one of them is wintering in Mackenzie's River, another at Moose Lake, and a third says he will not go again in consequence of illtreatment he received from some of the men of that Brigade last summer particularly from one Laverdure.

The men wintering here are as follows, 2 Canadian voyagers 2 orkey men, The Carpenter, Blacksmith, and Summer men.

The men sent to winter here having arrived so late on the Season, I had to keep all hands Collecting Boat Lumbers until the Ground was frozen, I however trust the six boats I am ddirected to get Built here will be Complete by the opening of the navigation,

Our Fall fishing was not so productive as usual owing partly to the ice having set in 20 days earlier than I have seen it since I came to Norway House So that we must again have recourse to the little winipic. Having the most of the wood required for 6 Boats to haul from, 2, 3 & 4 miles Distance I am under the necessity of Keeping a few Dogs about the place for that purpose.

So to the trade I have no reason to think it will be less than usual, the period when the Indians at a Distance used to come in has not as yet arrived, Some of them are wintering at the Grand Raapid and at Moose Lake.

Our Stock of provisions now in hand is as follows
viz
90 Large Bags of Pemican
17 Small do
41 Bags Greas
12 Kegs flour -

John McLeod C. T.
for H.B.C.Co.

I have only to that a few Canoe Cedar timbers and Splinters will be required as usual in Spring.

I remain Gentlemen
Most respectfully
Yr mos. obt. & faithfull servant
John MacLeod. C. T. for H B Coy.

Norway House 5th January 1830

To the Governor
Chief Factors & Chief Traders
Northern Department

Gentlemen

The Periodical packets from York Factory, and Red River having again met here affords me an opportunity of addressing you a few lines which I embrace tho' have nothing of importance to communicate. —

As far as the Paragraph in Chief Trader Miles's letter respecting the men intended for Portage La Loche next Spring, relates to that to this place, I have only to observe, that there are no steersmen wintering and but very few meddlemen, I know who used to go in the capacity of a steersman is Lame, and as for the Indians hired for that trip last Summer, one of them is wintering in MacKenzie's River, another is at Moose Lake, and a third says he will not go again in consequence of illtreatment he received from some of the men of that Brigade last Summer specularly from one Lourdure. —

The men wintering here are as follows, 2 Canadians Voyagers 2 orkey men, the Carpenter, Blacksmith, and Summer men

The men sent to winter here having arrived so late on the season, I had to keep all hands Collecting Boat timbers untill the Ground was frozen, I however trust the 6 Boats

G. Sohon del. J. Bien N.Y. lith.

FORT VANCOUVER. W. T.


SKIN LODGES OF THE DOGRIBB IN IN FRONT OF H.B.Co'S FORT.
GREAT-SLAVE LAKE

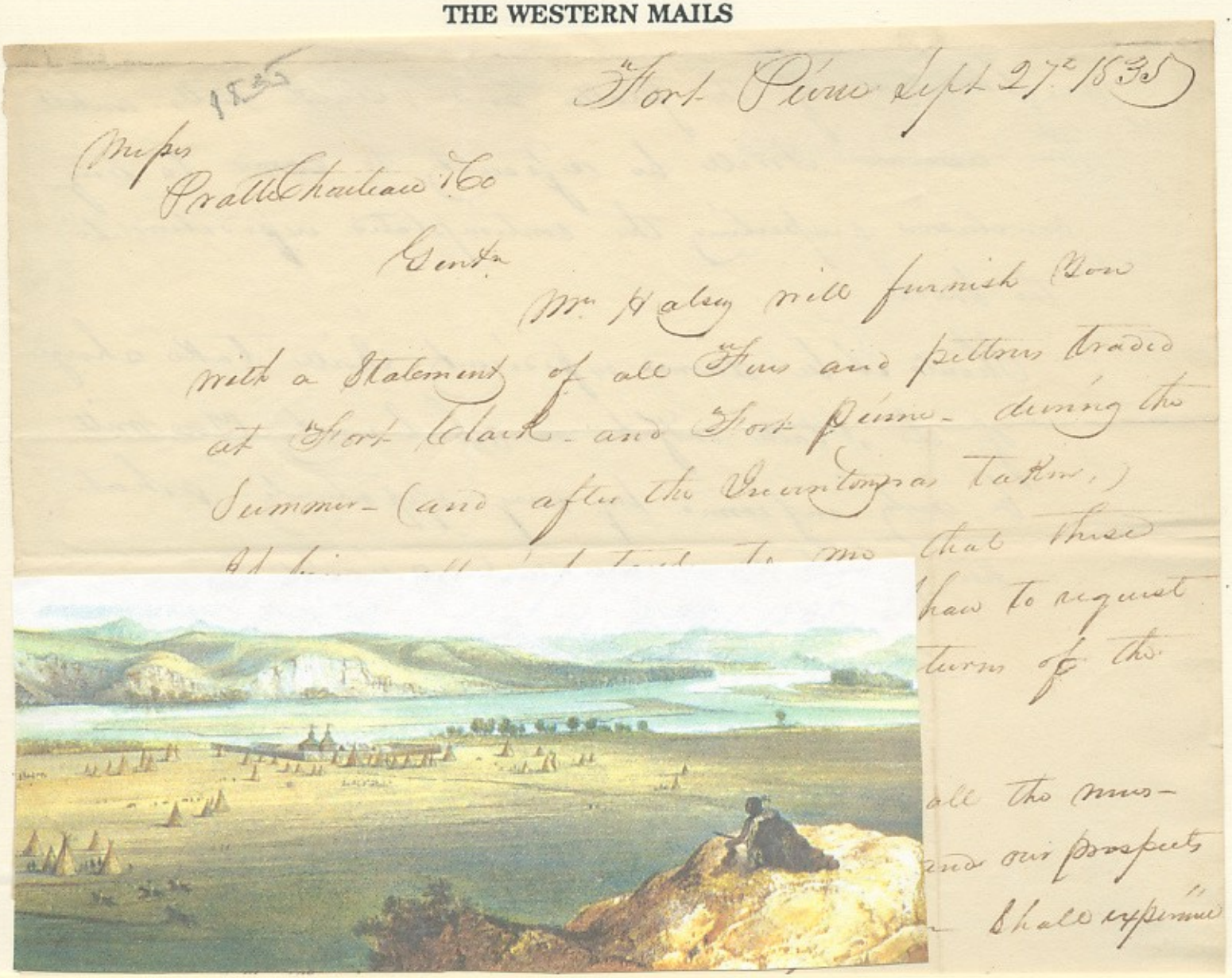

INDIANS PACKING GOODS UP FROM THE SHORE OF
GREAT SLAVE LAKE AT RESOLUTION

ROCKY MOUNTAIN RENDEZVOUS 1837

Fort Vancouver 14th March '38, ...In the past summer I paid a visit to the Snake Country* and according to instructions again visited that Sweet Place the American Rocky Mountain Fur Company's Rendezvouse, where for 18 days I pitched my camp in company with from 2 to 300 of the Scum of all nations;but to describe to you the scenes committed at that place would be beyond description,suffice to say,many of them are of a most henious nature,but what can be expected from such a set of lawless vagabonds as assembles at that place. You will have no doubt been made acquainted with Mr.Hutchinsons[John,H.B.Co.clerk]complete failure in his attempt to Establish Deasis Lake[post]summer '36[of 1836],but as the particulars will be I presume fully made known to you by some of your corrspondents in Mackenzie River....the whole appears to me a total mystery. I however hope that long ere now Mr.Campbell[Robert,renowned explorer and Chief Factor for H.B.Co.],who volunteered his services,has thrown a more clearer view on the subject,and succeded in accomplishing the desired object.Our worthy Commander in Chief Doctor McLoughlin[John,Chief Factor in charge of Ft.Vancouver]You will have the pleasure of seeing,afew hours conversation will inform you of the news of this quarter....John M.McLeod"

Folded letter originated at Fort Vancouver and was probably carried by a Hudson Bay Co's ship to England where it entered the mails as per DEAL SHIP LETTER,Arriving in London OCT 18,1838 after 7 months in transite. It was rated 1 shilling 4 pence.

*The Rendezvous of 1837 was held near the junction of Horse Creek and the Green River,on the west side of the Wind River Range,of the Rocky Mountains, in what is now Wyoming. John M. McLeod was an explorer and Chief Trader for the H.B.Co. *McLeod had discovered the Dease River in 1831 and then led an expedition to its source at Dease Lake in 1834. In 1836 Hutchinson was ordered to erect a post at Dease Lake,but the project failed due to an attack by an Indian war party.McLeod and others doubted this as only an excuse to avoid spending a winter in that wild country,Thats why he calls it a "total mystery".Campbell led an expedition to Dease Lake in 1837 and erected the post. John Stuart,to whom the letter is addressed,was a Chief Factore,who retired to Scotland in 1835,after 36 years with the H.B.Co.



1835

Fort Pierre Sept 27th 1835

Messrs Pratte Chouteau & Co

Gentn

Mr Halsey will furnish You with a Statement of all Furs and peltries traded at Fort Clark - and Fort Pierre - during the Summer - (and after the Inventory was taken.) [illegible] that these [illegible] have to request [illegible] returns of the [illegible] all the mus- [illegible] and our prospects [illegible] shall experience

FORT PIERRE 1835

"Messer Pratte Chouteau & Co Fort Pierre Sept 27 1835

Gents Mr. Halsey [Jacob] will furnish you with a statement of all Furs and peltreis traded at Fort Clark - and Fort Pierre - during the Summer - (and after the Inventory was taken.) It being all important to me that these Should be credited to Outfit 1835. I have to request that You will not suffer the returns of the two outfits to be amalgamated. Mr. McKinzie will furnish you with all the news relative to this part of the country - and our prospects for the forth comeing Season. I fear we shall experience Some inconvinienc in consequence of So many Clerks going down, and haveing opposition to contend with over such a wide extent of country. But we will look only on the fair side of the picture, and endeavour by greater extertion on our part, to remedy the evil. We are daily expecting the Sioux from the neighbourhood of the Platte [river] and Black Hills - untill their arrival it will be dificult to come to any conclusion respecting the contemplated expedition to the South. Should it be deemed expedient I will take charge of the Platte outfit, in which event you will be duly informed by every opportunity - what our prospects are in that quarter.

With my best wishes for your/Health & prosperity/I remain....."

David D. Mitchell

Carried to St. Louis by company express -

"Recd Nov. 2"

YELLOWSTONE EXPEDITION 1819
FIRST STEAMBOATS ON THE MISSOURI

St.Louis 11 June 1819

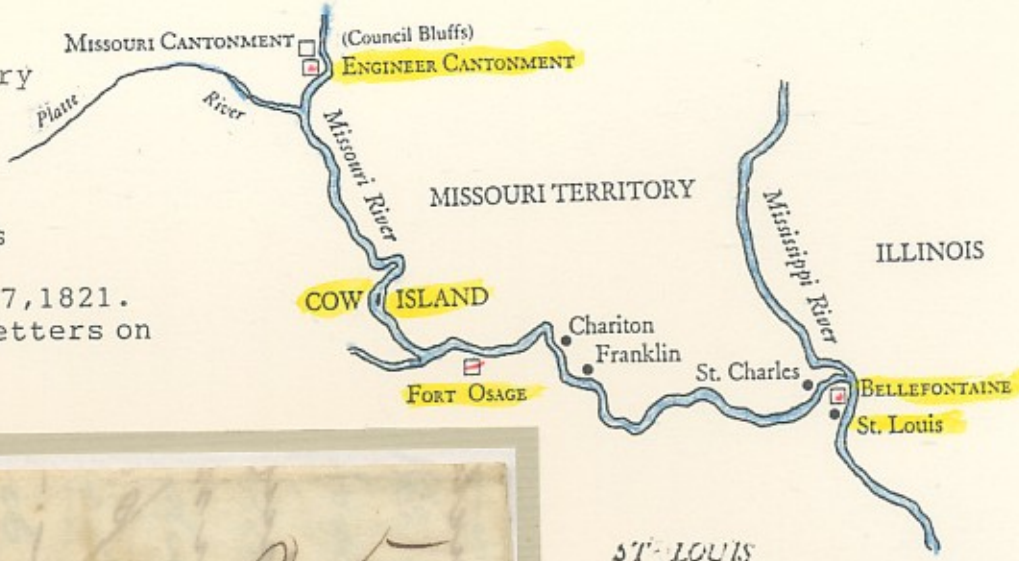
I arrived here on the13th of May since which time I have been constantly engaged in preparing stores for the Missouri expedition, the Agents of government in this quarter have been very dilatory - so much so that not a particle of provisions or stores of any kind were to be found in this place on my arrival destined for that expedition, by running & biding night and day I have succeeded so far in procuring stores as to be able to start the Rifle Regiment, in two days more, the 2nd Regt. will follow in about fifteen days - the Missouri is a grand & noble stream but the difficulty in navigating is almost insurmountable. a current of at least five miles an hour, boats are not able to make more then nine miles a day, the 2nd Regt. will go in steamboats if it is possible to get up, their calculation is to go to Council bluffs this season 250 miles from this & about 400 miles above any settlements - I am now trying to contract for one hundred head of cattle to be drove up to there by the 1st of Sept., the distance by land is about 400 miles, two hundred through the wilderness, I am not able to give a very correct account of the Country, as I have seen no part of it as yet(except) what borders on the River. - This place is the Capitol of the Missouri Territory & has about 5000 Inhabitants of all nations, colours & languages who have flocked here for the purpose of speculation, there are many very good buildings and considerable wealth, it is the most extravagant place to live in the United States and, at the same time live wretchedly. I have been fortunate enough to get into Governor Clarks house for a short time, The weather has been extremaly warm for the week past, the thermometer has been as high as 87d. I shall remain at this place & belle fontaine during this summer Belle fontain is the military post 18 miles from this up the river.- I have had the missfortune to loose most of my clothing on the way, which distresses me some, as it cannot be replaced here, my trunk was broken open by a deserter and the clothing taken out.-..... I.Clark Jr."

****

"Belle Fontaine/ Febry 16 1821

Dear Father.....The country has been almost inundated between this & Vincennes one hundred & Eighty miles. we have not had a mail for six weeks until last evening. The last news we have from Congress convinces me that the Army will be reduced, in the event of its taking place you will most likely see me in Vermont once more - should I be retained I shall endeavor to get on to an eastern station. if I should be left out of service I shall take a trip the way of New Orleans to Vermont. I view this climate as very unfavorable to persons subject to Billous habits and in fact to any person bred in the frozen regions of the North. as for myself it matters little where I am I shall never enjoy good health again, my constitution is destroyed. General Atkinson is my sincere friend. he has placed me in command of this post. there is three detachments of Troops; in all one hundred & 6 men; it gives me double rations and I also draw the additional pay of asst Commissary of Subsistance, which makes my pay eaqual to a Major. I have been entitled to promotion from March last but have not yet seen the Register. [promoted to Captain Aug. 27, 1822]. Should the Army not be reduced I shall leave this in March for the Council bluffs, in command of the Troops now at this post. we shall ascend the river in Boats [kell-boats or bardges] an arduous task 850 Miles against the strongest current in the World, go which way I will, you [may] hear from me again.....I.Clark Jr"

BELLE FONTAINE was a military post at the junction of the Missouri & Mississippi rivers. The covers shown bear the first two types of the handstruck postmarks of the Missouri territory. June 13, 1819 and February 17, 1821. SEE transcript of the two letters on the opposite page.



YELLOWSTONE EXPEDITION 1819

FIRST STEAMBOATS ON THE MISSOURI

This was also known as the Missouri expedition, which was the first attempt to ascend the Missouri to the mouth of the Yellowstone river, while establishing posts and making treaties with the Indians along the way. The steamboats were unable to navigate the strong current and had to turn back at Cow Island. SEE map. However, the steamboat, WESTERN ENGINEER, with Maj. Stephen H. Long and a company of scientists, reached the vicinity of Council Bluffs. Although the steamboats were a failure, Long continued overland with his part of the expedition to the Rocky Mountains. It was not until 1831 that the American Fur company steamboat YELLOWSTONE, made the first trip beyond Council Bluffs, to the mouth of the Yellowstone. SEE cover carried by this boat on its second voyage, in this collection.

Lt. Isaac Clark Jr. was in charge of provisions and stores for the expedition, under overall command of Gen. Henry Atkinson. He became a Major and drowned while in the service in 1844.

THE WESTERN MAILS

JAMES B.BRUFFEE AND THE FATE OF HIRAM SCOTT

"Night Potosi [Missouri] 10th Septr 1829.

On opening a letter on today handed me by_____and glancing at the signature, what a pleasure, yes Even transport did it afford to find the name of my much Esteemed Friend Robert Campbell subscribed. It is therefore my Dear Sir with the utmost satisfaction and pleasure that a correspondance so interesting to me is thus once more attempted to be kept alive, for a remembrance of your Name carries with it a train on the most Sweet and pleasing Reflections which are however better felt than is in my power to describe. I am truly happy when I feel myself assured beyond a doubt that you are once more admitted to return in Health [from the Rocky Mountains] and safety to a land of Friends whose ready and Hearty welcome I hope has in a great degree sunk past toils, past privations and dangers into a sea of Oblivion, and particularly does it gratify me to hear you intimate in your Esteemed favor that you have been prosperous. But my much respected friend are there inducements in that Horrid Region* still sufficient to induce you back? Certainly the Hazzard is more and more increased. It would be to me a circumstance truly p[l]easing to know your Circumstances in a pecuniary point of view, so improved as to justify your stay amongst us. But 'in a Penny in for a Pound is an Old Edage. Consequently I feel disposed to yield to a necessity that may say your happiness and your best Interest calls for farther Enterprize - Certain it is that my own wants, and Even Embarrassments are still of a Character to Venture if it ware to tread the Infernal Confines. Could I gain Cash to justify such a life and such a Voyage, and ware there an Opening I would willingly join you in your Returns, But presume you have no power to dispense with any thing in the shape of an interesting Birth in that dreary and inhospitable Region.-- I have for many months past been filled with thoughts the most perplexing and the greatest degree of solicitude for our frd. Mr.Smith's [Jedediah S.] precarious situation in the Mountains* and now have those feelings reawakened, is truly distressing, yet I still have a hope left me, that a man of his Boldness, prudence, and merit must finally succede. But that he is still safe together with his frds. J & S [partners David Jackson & William Sublette]. I do most fondly Hope,-- Were it within the limits (conveniently) of possibility for my friend Campbell [Robert) to visit the Mines how happy I should be to see him Early this fall. Please to write me, more specially respecting your future Views-- Say whether I may expect you here--Were there not such a necessity for my unremitted application to business I would try to see you Ere a week from this period, But now I cant promise my self that pleasure by a trip to St.Louis unless I can Effect some arrangements to lay in a small stock of Iron & Steel for my winters Business - Times are truly hard with those in debt here without a Capitol Capable of being wielded to advantage - the great fall in the price of Lead coupled with the Natural Barreness of the Country is grievously felt by Mechanics particularly such as stand on the list of late beginning - Be good Enough to mention in your next communication what particular Vestiges you seen of the remains of unfortunate Scott [Hiram], where he made [h]is Exit &c.**

With regard to my own and Family's Health I can say we have Enjoyed pretty uniform health since my return from Little Lake*** The while I was absent I lost a much beloved and promising little son (8 years old) - he was afflicted 5 months and his disease of such a strange Character as to baffle the utmost Care with the united aid of Physicians, he was taken Ill the day after I left home. His death my Dear C. was a severe blow to my Heart - But to that and the like Vicissitude it is our duty to submit Especially reflecting as I am compelled, that he is, and will Remain Happy - I must conclude for the present by returning our thanks and greatful acknowledgements for your polite and kind Remembrance of us, and to solicit yr frequent Correspondance and also to assure you of my highest Esteem and most/Sincere Regard/ J.B.Bruffee"

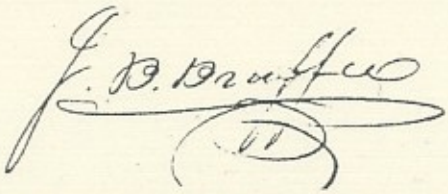
*What is now Yellowstone Park with it's geysers and boiling springs.

** Scotts Bluffs, Nebraska named for Hiram Scott, the site of his death.

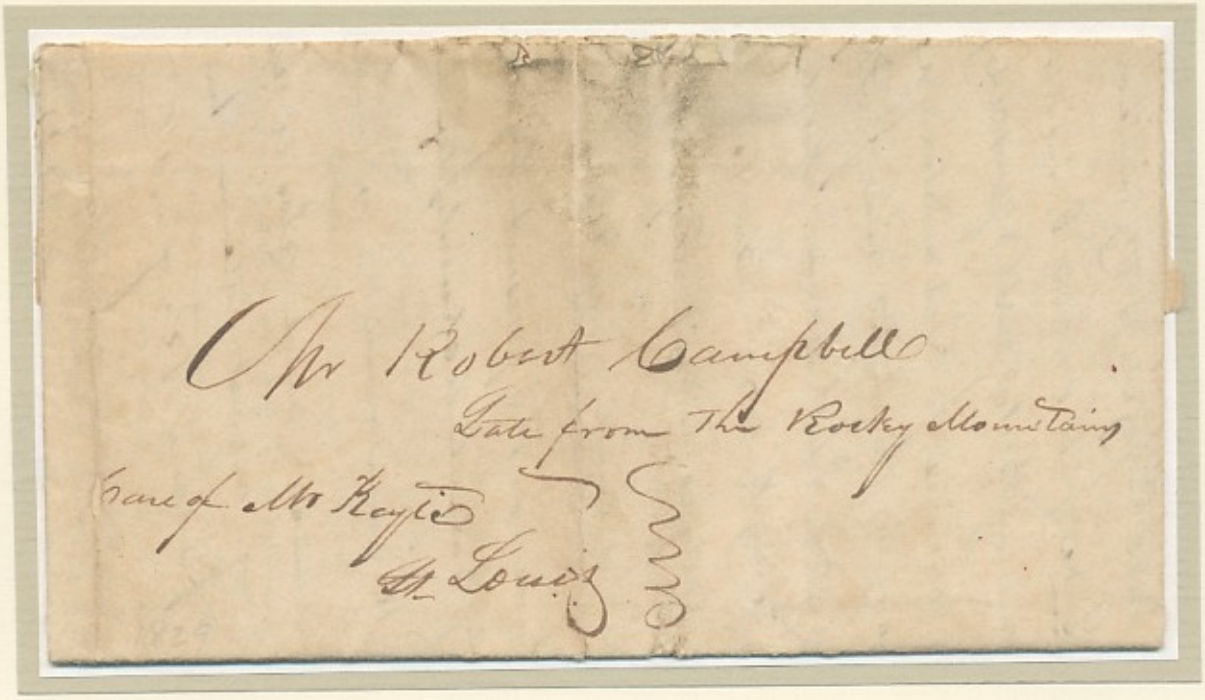
*** Same as Bear Lake in Utah. Flows into the Bear River.

THE WESTERN MAILS

"Be good Enough to mention in your next Communication what particular Vestages you seen of the remains of unfortunate Scott. where he made [h]is Exit &c." Perhaps it is appropriate that a cloak of mystery continues to shroud one of the West's most noted happenings.

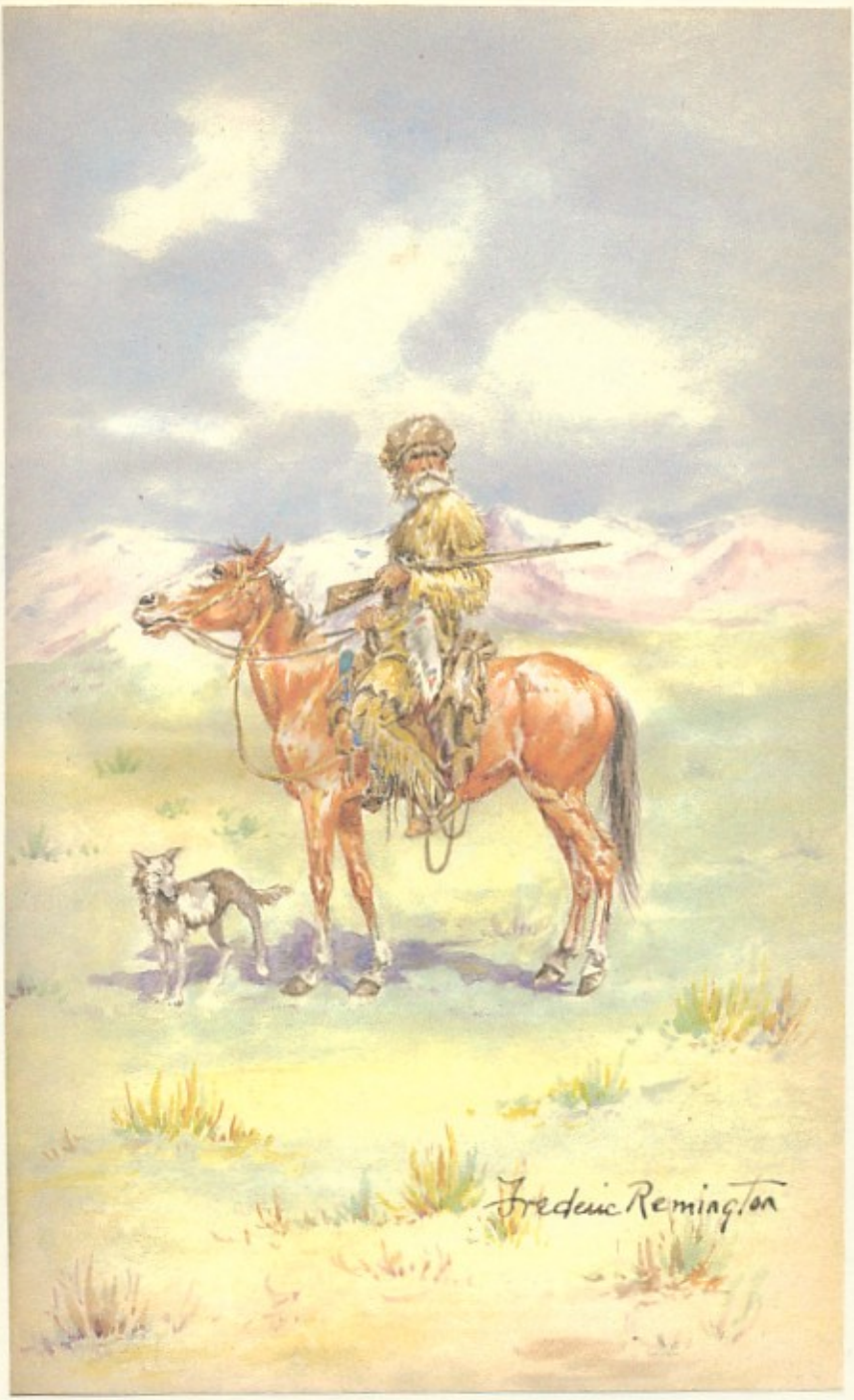


In April of 1827 James B.Bruffee and Hiram Scott left St.Louis in charge of a caravan of 46 men and supplies for Smith,Jackson & Sublette,who were at the rendezvous site on the "Little Lake" of Bear River or Bear Lake as it is known today. On the way out Scott became ill by the time they reached the rendezvous and almost unable to travel. The supplies were turned over to S.J. & S.and furs to the amount of 22,690 dollars were exchanged for the supplies which amounted to 22,447 dollars.The profit would be the difference in the cost of the supplies and the selling price of the furs in the east. Bruffee set out for the return to St.Louis with the promise that he would wait for Scott at the Bluffs of the North Platte River. When Scott and two companions showed up Bruffee was no where to be found.In desperation Scott's two escorts abandoned him because he was near death and unable to continue. So it was that Hiram Scott perished at the foot of the bluffs that bear his name and have become his monument - Scotts Bluffs.



Letter datelined "Potosi [Missouri] 10th Septr 1829".
Carried out of the mails to Saint Louis .

Robert Campbell had gone to the Rocky Mountains with Jedediah Smith in October of 1825 and remained there,hunting and trapping,until the fur rendezvous of 1829.He returned to Saint Louis with 45 packs of beaver,arriving at Lexington, Missouri on August 20,1829.The folded letter shown was Bruffee's answer to a letter Campbell had written on his return from the mountains. Apparently it was from this letter that Bruffee learned of Scott's death.The scattered bones of Scott were recovered and buried by Wm.L.Sublette.Some accounts hold Bruffee accountable for Scott's death. See opposite page for the content of the letter.


Frederic Remington

Dr. Genl Wm. H. Ashley in a/c current with Fredk A Tracy Cr.

1831			1832		
Dec 9.	Accp. yr draft at 15 days sight for Hs Cose Cashr / dun Dec 27 th for	5500 —	July 23	By Nett Sales of 4 Packs Paper due 5/8 December 1832 to your credit when Collected	7232 69
1832 March 26	Accp. yr dft at 2 days st for Isaac Raphael / due 31st March / for	400 —			
	To Int on $5500 from Dec 27th 1831 to Dec 8th 1832 = 347 dys @ 7 p c = 371.09				
	To Int on $400 from 31st March to Dec 8th 1832 = 252 dys = 19.60	390 69			
July 23.	To Balance to N/Sa	942 —			
		$7.232 69			$7.232 69
			July 23.	By Balance Brot down to the credit of W H Ashley Esq when Sales are Collected Dec 5/8th 1832	942 —

New York July 23 1832

Errors Excepted

Fredk A Tracy

Per I S Carpenter

New York July 23 1832

Genl Wm H Ashley

Dear Sir

Yours of 13th Inst I had the pleasure of receiving in due Course. The state of the money market is such at present in this place that the best Notes in the City can be had at from 9 to 12 per ct per Annum discount.— The disease now raging here has deranged business very much, and I am satisfied that as good a sale could not have been made since I closed your lot, as that was sold at.— I have made up your a/c Sales and Acct Current to the time the Sales became due Dec 8th 1832 Nett proceeds Sales to your credit when Collected $7232.69 balance of Acct $942.— which I hope you will find Correct and satisfactory.—

Very respectfully yours

Fredk A Tracy

Per I S Carpenter

Rec'd

Paul Wm & Ashley

Saint Louis

Missouri

Single 3

Sales of 2 Packs Beaver Fur made for and on acc of Bishop & Genl W H Ashley of St Louis

1832							
Jany	19	Sold	22	60 days	$5	110	00
Feby	28	"	75	4 mos	$5	375	
						$ 485	00
		Charged					
		Cash paid for Freight		1	63		
		Advertising		1	00		
		Commission on $485. @ 2½ %		12	12	14	75
		E & O E				$ 470	25

Duplicate

Louisville Ky Feby 29. 1832

I Allison

By John Steady

Genl W H Ashley In acc with I Allisone Dr.

1831			
Dec.	13	For Cash	300 -
		" Note of $2100 cashed & pd $2079 fowd to M. Sublette	2100. 00
1832			
Mar	12	" Charges on 3 Boxes Mdse fowd. M.S.	6. 33
	28	" do " 1 " Gun Bals " "	1 88
	29	" Cash deposited in St Louis $ Order	2500 -
	29	" " " " "	2000 -
		" Exchange & Intst " "	11 25

July 24 " Cash paid you in full 182 22 7 10095

1831 Cr

Nov 30 By Nt. pelts of Beaver as per Sale fow: 6630.73

Feby 29 " " " do as per above Sale 470 25 7 10098

Confirmed E & O E Trills July 24. 1832

I. Allison

By John Meady

Wm H. Collins

Attorney

Bethanfia

Pulaski

4 125

35

Stanley del. J.Bien N.Y.lith.

VICTOR'S CAMP – HELL GATE RONDE.

North, West, Lumber Company for N. F. Baker

In Acct with N. W. Kittson Dr.

1839			
Sept. 7.	To Cash paid the following persons viz		
	" John Hay $31.15. Joseph Brunell $20.68		$ 71.83
8	" Steven Scott. $76.26. Sam. Hayens $31.89		108,15
9	" Anthony Vage $10. S. Hastings $163.		173.—
	" S. Comenford $53.62 T. Evans $115.30.		169 12
	" H. Osgood $132.60. H. S. Brunson $100.10.		232.70
	" Baptiste Yea		3.—
" 10	" 20 Bbls flour $300. 12 Bbl Pork $420.		720.—
" "	1 " Molasses $39. 1 Box Soap 7.66		46.66
" "	5 Box Pipes $3. 1 Sewing Thread $2. 2 dz Peppermint $2.50		7.50
" "	2 pcs. Ink Powder 50. 5 qr Ruled Paper 2.50		3.—
11	" 1 dz Buck Mitts $12. 1 Bed Cord 50		12.50
Oct. 1	" 4 Sal. Crates $1.30 4 yds Calico 9.38		10.38
"	" 6 prs Woolen Gloves 4.50. 6 dz Peppermint 7.50		12.—
"	" 12 Vests $10. 3 prs. C. H. Boots 13.50		23.50
"	" 20 Veal 2.50. 1 Sl. Silk Hkf 1.75		4.25
"	" 1 Blank Book 63. 4 dz Flints $1		1.63.
"	" 1 Box Glass $4. 1 pr Blue Blankets $16.		20.—
"	" 3 prs. Wh. Blankets $33. 1 pr 4 dz Axe Helves 5.62.		38.62
"	" 13 Tea $16.25. 17 4 Coffee $13.50		29.75
"	" 18 Iron 2.25. 1 Gall Lin. Oil $2.50		4.75
"	" 1 dz Playing Cards $4.50		4.50
3	" 2 50 prs Green Blankets. $35. 1 Bed Cord 50		35.50
	Cr		$1762.31

K. McKenzie agent for the Estate of B. F. Baker
In account with Norman W Kittson Dr.

1840 May	4	To Amt of B. F. Baker's private a/c	$ 131.	49
	"	" " " North West Com. Comp'y a/c	1004.	571
	"	" " " Baker & Dillon's a/c	147.	94
	"	" advanced Sundry Minors.	"	"
		Viz. Charles Monjeau	50	"
		William Brown	81.	38
		Wenona Alexander	71.	33
		Jane Samont	54.	64
		Wenona Culbertson	77.	64
		J. B. F. Rufsel	67.	88
		Henry Thompson	74.	76
	"	To H. A. Dillons drft on Mess. Stuart Prot. $900.00		
	"	Interest on d° 37.50	937.	50.
	"	Amt of Sutler account $2755.41	36	31.
			2.755	41
		Deduct amount of N. Kittson's note to B. F. Baker due 6 May 1840 (8 mos date from 3 Sept 1839)	2.293	11
		Amount endorsed as paid on Kittson's note to Baker due January 6. 1841 (16 mos from date 3 Sept. 1839)	462	30

River Saint Peters 9 May 1840 N. W. Kittson

THE WESTERN MAILS

New York 24 Jany 1832

Mr Ro Campbell

Dr Sir

Will you be so good as to Call on Grimsley and hurry him about my Saddle, so soon as you receive this I wish you to Send me my Cloaths bag and all the Summer [?] pant in the trunk at Towns go to Tracy & Whrffs and in my Bureau at ther store you will find more Sumer Clothing which please Send me--that is rent nothing else except two white Round Jackets and the belt of my Sumer overcoat put them all in the Cloths bug and direct them to me Care of E S Tracy ~~xxx~~ New Orleans--do not give Grimsley any peace until you See my Saddle Shipped together with a pair of Holsters and bridle I ordered him to make

I Leave this for N. Orleans in the Ship Talma on the 1st of Febry - from thence I shall ship to Matamorus, from thence travel across the continent to to [sic] Guymas on the Gulph of Caliafornia whence I shall remain for at least 2 years - I have Connected myself with a rich house in this place they furnish every thing to the Amount of One hundred thousand dolls worth of goods &c charge no Int for the adventure and give me one fourth of the profits --

I take about ten thousand dolls worth of goods a cross the Continent to dispose of on my rout,- the ship that takes the goods round the Pasific will leave this about the 1st Mch. the great object you Know is to purchase hides--I will Succeed or perish, and I honestly believe I shall accomplish all

My compliments to Sublett & Fitz and believe me ever Yours

A I Raines

Tell Mr. Terry I will write him soon -

Deposite my trunk &c at T & Wdff

[Addressed:] Ro Campbell Esqr

Care David Kyle

Saint Louis Mo

New York 24 Jany 1832

Mr Ro. Campbell

Dr Sir Will you be so
good as to call on Grimsley and hurry
him about my Saddle, so soon as
you receive this I wish you to send
me my cloathing bag and all the Summer
Pant, in the trunk at Towns go to
Mary Hohoff and in my Bureau
at the Store you will find more
Summer Clothing which please send
me — that is Pant nothing else
except ~~a~~ two white Round Jackets
and the best of my Summer waistcoats
put them all in the cloths bag and
direct them to me care of E L Tracy
New Orleans — do not give Grimsley
any Pence until you see my Saddle
Shipped together with a pair of Holsters

J. Miscellaneous letters. Among these, the greatest interest probably attaches to the somewhat vainglorious letter by A. I. Raines, written to Campbell from New York on January 24, 1832. From this letter it would appear that Raines had been a mountain man during the late 1820's, adding another name to a much too short list of known persons in the fur trade during that period. Raines forecasts to Campbell his big future, financially and otherwise, as the California representative of a firm about to engage in the hide and tallow trade. Parenthetically, it may be observed that he was perhaps merely blowing up his own importance, for the one other known document concerning Raines, an 1835 letter in the National Archives written by Ashley, casts doubt upon Raines' personal fitness to escort an Indian delegation from Missouri to Washington, D. C.

[William L. Sublette to William H. Ashley]

New york January 4th 1833 [overwritten from 1832]

Genl W H Ashly

Dear Sir I have been to see Mr Tracy & Mr Halsey Mr Tracy I find has maid Sale of the furrs left with him & Mr Halsey has those four Hoggshed On hand and I think likely there to remain he has fuer to sell for the american furr Company & furrs for Powell which has Just landed, the furr Powell have sent is Bennts furrs from Santafee Mr Tracy has about 1200 lbs of Santafee furr also I have been Conversing with Mr Tracy as it respects the Sale of those four Hoggsheads of furr with Mr Halsey he thinks he can make Sale of them likeley for four Dollars hou Ever I think Tracy likely will be able to make Sale of them Sooner than halsey and likeley to a better advantage for this Reason--it might ~~it might~~ be best to Order them to Tracy though act as you think best as you Can Judge as for that better than I Can Mr Tracy thinke he Could make Sale of another lott of furrs of the Same quality as the Last & at the Same price I have been thinking it might be best to Write to Mr Allison & Anderson at Louis Vill to for ward On all the furrs they think they Could not make Sale of against the 10th of March to this place that is if it Could be done Imediately by the way of New Orleans so as to be here about the 15th of Febuary as Mr Tracy thinks they might be here in that time & Sold Imediately as it is my wish to Close Sales as Soon as posible that On my return to Missourie I may be able to make a Setlemt with Mr Jackson and also with the Rocky Mountain furr Company which I Cant doo until the furrs is dispose of which Interest me much as I shall be leaving in the Spring and it is necesary to have a Setlmt - Genl Ashley I wish you to act as you

Newyork January 4th 1833

Genl Wm H Ashley

Dear Sir I have been to see Mr Tracy & find Mr Halsey — Mr Tracy I find has maid Sale of the furs left with him & Mr Halsey has those four Hogsheads on hand and I think likely there to remain he has fur to sell for the american fur Company & furs for Powell which has just landed, the furs Powell has sent is Bennets furs from Sandafur Mr Tracy has about 1200 lbs of Sandafur fur also I have been Conversing with Mr Tracy as it respects the Sale of those four Hogs head of furs with Mr Halsey he thinks he can make Sale of them likely for four Dollars how Ever I think Tracy likely will be able to make Sale of them Sooner than Halsey and likely to an better advantage for this Reason it might it ~~might~~ be best to Order them to Tracy though as you think best as you can judge as for that letter than I can Mr Tracy thinks he could make Sale of another lott of furs of the same quality as the last & at the same price I have been thinking it might be best to Write to Mr Allison & Anderson at Louisville to forward on all the furs they think they could not make Sale of against the 10th of March to this place that is if it could be done Medially by the way of New Orleans as to be here about the 15th of February as Mr Tracy thinks they might be here in that time & sold immediately

Genl Wm A Ashley
Member to Congress
Washington City

3

1832-5

think best as it respects moving the furr as you know my Business and Interest as well as I doe Mr Campbell & my self have been all this week making Selections of hardweare at Wolf Spier Clarks &C and have written to you On the Subject So soon as we receive your answer Mr Campbell will leave for Missouri and I will Come On to washington Citty to See you on matters I Expect to be in washington in about ten days Wolf Spier & Clark wish you to become responsible for the payment of the hard weare that is in 12 months as they give no longer Credit and we have written to you on the Subject,

my Respects to Mrs Ashley

Your most Obd Svt

W L Sublette

W L Sublette

Genl W H Ashly

[Addressed:] Genl Wm. H Ashly

Member to Congress

Washington Citty

[Postmarked:] New York Jan 4

[Rate:] Free **********

WILLIAM L. SUBLETTE writes to General Ashley on the problems of selling furs in competition to the Rocky Mountain Fur Company and the American Fur Company, as well as furs sent to the eastern market by William Bent from Bents Fort via Santa Fe. Smith, Jackson & Sublette had sold out at the Wind River Rendezvous on August 4, 1830, to the Rocky Mountain Fur Company. The following spring Smith, Jackson and Sublette mounted a trading expedition to Santa Fe. Thomas Fitzpatrick also went along and the caravan of 74 men and 22 mule-drawn wagons, left St. Louis on April 10, 1831. After leaving the Arkansas River Jedediah Smith, while searching for water on the ever dangerous Cimarron cut-off, met his death at the hands of a war party of Comanche Indians. Thus, at the age of thirty-two, was lost one of the greatest of all American explorers.
Sublette's mention of making "a setlemt with Mr. Jackson and the Rocky Mountain furr Company" may stem from the sale of the firm of Smith Jackson & Sublette and the Santa Fe Expedition. It was not all profit in the fur trade. See Sublette September 4, 1831 in this collection.

KEEL BOATS & MERCHANDISE FOR THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN TRADE

Wm.L.Sublette writes to General Wm.H.Ashley from Philadelphia while in the east outfitting for the fur and Indian trade.See note by Dale L.Morgan on this phase of the business of catching beaver along the watercourses of the West. ABOVE

"Philadelphia December 28th 1832

Genl Wm H Ashley We have spent our time [Sublette & R.Campbell] Since we arive here in making Selections of dry goods which we have nearly completed - Messrs. Siter Price &c and Messs Gill Campbell & C have furnished the greater Part of the goods - those Gentlemen have taken some paines to get the articles we wisht as there was many articles we was force to have which they had not,Our Powder we Will have to pay Cash for and many Other Small articles - I Expect whole will be about two thousand dollars which will be to pay for in 40 or 50 days - the balance is On a credit of twelve & Eighteen months - Our ha[r]d ware bill we have not yet Comence filling as we find the articles is not in this market and we will Proced On to New york On the 30th, Inst in Order to see if it can be completed there - It is Our wish you would Write to Reddle Forcythe & C. Pittsburgh Concerning two Keel boats which we Wish to Get - Two Keel Boats from Eighteen to twenty tons burthen not Exceding twenty ton Complete - we Would wish them new if they can be had in time - Good strong Boats Rigg Complete and maid for fast Sailing &c - as for describing the Boats you know such that will suit better than I doe - if there should be any difficulty in Obtaining the two boats in Pittsburgh there can be no doubt be one Obtained in LouisVille or likely two as Mr Allison said he would attend to any thing of the Kind - you will please get those Gentlemen to Return an answer as Soon as posible from Pittsburgh and if they Can not be had to Suit I will write to Allison at LouisVille Ky - we wish the boats against the 20th of Febuary - if the river should be Open at that time - if not Open then as soon as it Opens - Our goods we have got here is now Packing & will be on the road next week for Pittsburgh - Please write to those gentlemen to receve them and pay Cariage - have them stowd away until Our Order for Shipping them to St Louis - they are mark Sublette & Campbell St Louis Mo. Mr.Campbell will be in Pittsburgh the 15th of January on his Wey to St Louis and before that time I hope we will be able to Know Concerning Our Boats - then we will be more able to arange respecting the Shiping of Our Goods from Pittsburgh - my Stay Will not Excede Eight days in New York I think until I return here again to Complete Our Business - Please write to me at New York or to Gill Campbell &c Philadelphia who will attend here in Case I am In new york. I will write from new york yours most Obsvt/Wm.L.Sublette "

B. As a valuable supplement, six letters written by Sublette to Ashley, and two written by him to his partner Campbell, between December 24, 1832, and February 22, 1833, while Sublette and Campbell were in the East outfitting for their first joint venture in the fur trade dramatize the problems of the middlemen who actually had to deal with the trappers in the mountains, taking satisfactory trading goods up and getting furs sown to the States to square accounts. "Returns" from the mountains--say, a catch valued at $50,000--have sometimes been viewed by historians as so much clear profit, without any understanding of the liabilities that had to be met from the returns, essential trade goods bought on a credit of six or twelve months, etc. And laying hands on proper goods might run afoul of conditions of supply distorted by imminent changes in the Federal tariff structure, and other economic factors seemingly remote from the business of catching beaver along the watercourses of the West. Even the purchase of two keelboats, requiring to be available at the right time, of the right tonnage, and suited to the Missouri, could be attended with all manner of difficulty and expense.

Philadelphia December 28th 1832

Genl Wm H Ashley

Dear Sir

We have spent our time since we arrive here in making selections of dry goods which we have nearly completed ~~Completed~~ Messrs Siter Price & Co and Messrs Gill & Campbell & Co have furnished the greater Part of the goods those Gentlemen have taken some pains to get the articles we wisht as there was many articles we was force to have which they had not, our Powder we will have to pay Cash for and many other small articles I Expect the whole will be about two thousand dollars which will be to pay for in 40 or 50 days the balance is on a credit of twelve & Eighteen months our bad war bill we have not yet Commence filling as we find the articles is not in this market and we will Proceed on to Newyork on the 30th Inst in order to see if it can be completed there it is our wish you would write to Reddle Forsythe & Co Pittsburgh Concerning two Keel boats which we wish to get Two Keel Boats from Eighteen to twenty tons burthen not Exceeding twenty ton ~~Complete~~ we would wish them new if they can be had in time good strong Boats Rigg Compactly and maid for fast Sailing &c so far describing the Boats you know such that will suit better than I do

Mr Sullivan
Care of
Lunt
Boston

Ther

Home Mrs H. Ashley
Washington
Celly

3

12/28/32 6

Philadelphia December 24th 1832

Genl. Wm. H. Ashley

Dr. Sir

On Friday Morning we arrived in this city too late to present your letters, but took an early opportunity on Saturday morning of calling on Peter Price & Co. to whom we handed your letter and had some conversation with them relative to the time our payments might be expected, and expressed a wish that we could through them obtain the articles comprised in our Memorandum and after explaining to them what we required we agreed to call on today and have a permanent understanding with them

We presented your letter (directed to Gill & Ferguson to Ferguson Sons & Co. the continuation of the firm of Gill & Ferguson they appeared solicitous to do all they could for us but have on hands very few articles in our line of business – Mackinaw Blankets are very scarce here and Fuzees are not to be obtained at any price – Scalping Knives too are scarce and cannot be obtained in

Hon. Wm H Ashley

Washington City

12/12/52

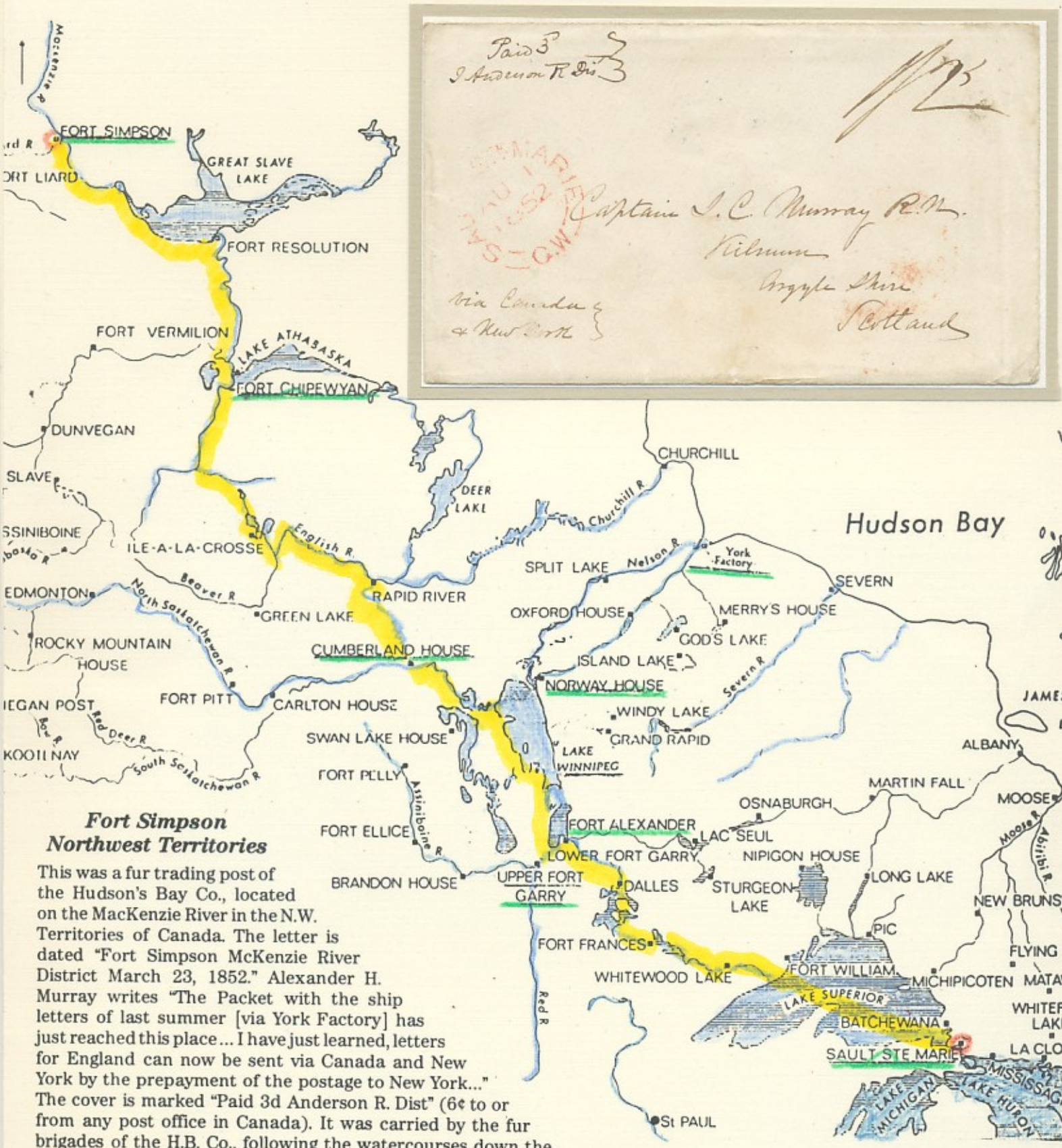
Lisette + Campbell –

Fort Simpson, McKenzies River District
March 23rd 1852 —

Dear Father & Mother

The packet with the Ship letters of last summer has just reached this place, and you may judge of my disappointment when I found none for me, except one from Sir John Richardson, not one from any of you at home, although you mentioned in your last letter, a short one, sent by the Spring Express, that you and my brothers would write by the Ship: I can only account for this by what has occurred already, that my Cousin Joseph may have sent a box or large parcel for me, and that your letters are inclosed therein — Once more let me inform you that letters by the Ship will arrive here six months in advance of any bulky parcel, and letters, (not letters only) by the Spring express, which leaves London early in June seven months sooner than sent by the Ship: I trust you will remember this — the postage is nothing, nothing at all to me, compared with the satisfaction of hearing from you a little sooner, and you know how very seldom by any means we can exchange letters — By some new regulation, which I have just learned, letters for England can now be sent via Canada and New York by the pre payment of the postage to New York: I therefore seize upon the first opportunity to send you a few lines, for I did not expect to write home at this time, and I ought to send you always long letters —

Before this arrives you will have received a short letter sent by Doctor Rae last fall, it would not reach you so soon as I expected, as we heard that Dr Rae had been much delayed on his journey south by unfavourable weather. Since the date of that letter we have been pretty well here; colds and such like being rather prevalent amongst the children, but that is nothing when once gone: I have enjoyed really good health this winter, and a good appetite, and quite a different looking person from when I wrote to you from the Unicorn: I believe that change of climate and diet (in having plenty of potatoes &c here) has been the main cause of my recovering my health: but whatever may be the cause, I know you will be rejoiced to hear of my being well, and that my wife and children are as well as can be — On the 22nd of last month Mrs Murray was delivered of another Daughter, Anna Eliza by name and a fine little girl



Fort Simpson Northwest Territories

This was a fur trading post of the Hudson's Bay Co., located on the MacKenzie River in the N.W. Territories of Canada. The letter is dated "Fort Simpson McKenzie River District March 23, 1852." Alexander H. Murray writes "The Packet with the ship letters of last summer [via York Factory] has just reached this place... I have just learned, letters for England can now be sent via Canada and New York by the prepayment of the postage to New York..." The cover is marked "Paid 3d Anderson R. Dist" (6¢ to or from any post office in Canada). It was carried by the fur brigades of the H.B. Co., following the watercourses down the rivers and lakes and the portages as outlined above in yellow, to Sault Ste Marie, Canada West where it entered the regular mails August 1st. Thence to Scotland via Toronto, New York and London. The rate of 1 shilling 2½ pence equals 5¢ U.S. inland and 24¢ ship or 29¢ U.S. to England.

New york January 11 1833

Dear Robert

I have just returned from the post office and as Crazy as a loon with Rage no letters, yet I dont think it will afect me so serious as to make me loose three meals in the same day, you know, ~~the probable~~ all is for the Best on yesterday I called on Mr Spies to know respecting the Scalpers & guns those Bloody Weapons after ringing his hands &c you know he stated he could not get them ~~him~~ Scalpers and as for the ~~guns~~ 28 fusils he said if he purchased them he would have to pay for them on the first of february next Cash and he would loose on them for he gave us a Credit of Six months he Expected we would of Course allow him interest on them from that time god help me you know my temper, I answered him no, if his Credit was not good for Six months mine was and he need not put him self to the trouble of Steaming his Credit if that was the Case I could get them on a Credit of Six months if he Could not oh he says we have ~~been~~ made it a rule to Settle all our transaction with other houses Every February but I will tell him they are for you and likely that may Change the affair he said further you know it is no Great object to us to fill your Bill for we will have many articles to purchase for Cash & on ~~that~~ the we must loose ~~though~~

16

Mr Robert Campbell
To the Care of Messrs Gill & Campbell
Philadelphia

1/11/33

~~Thomas Pennington~~
~~Ship Fortune~~
Milton Falls
New York
January 11
1833

Rec'd Feb 22nd

Washington Cittly February 3rd 1833

Dear Robert

I recivd yours of the 25th & 26th of January which revived my Spirits much to hear that you was Well and on the way to the land that flows with Milk & honey which I long to See So Staff Philadelphia on the 28th of January and arive here on the 29th where I found Genl Ashly & Lady well who maid Strict ~~Enquir~~ Enquiry after you and wish much that you had ~~a~~ returnd this Way I have not been able to Settle my Business as I wisht as Genl ashly ~~[illegible]~~ not the papers I wisht with him ~~[illegible]~~ have no acount as yet of the Beaver furs from Louisville and I write Riddle & Forsythe yesterday to make Sale of that hogs head there at four dollars if they had it yet on hand so as to Close all the Sales as soon as posible I recivd a letter from Tracy stating he had not maid Sale of the 4 hogsheds yet I shall write him tomorow to Close Sales as soon as posible at what it will fetch and I have written to Riddle & Forsythe to write me at Philadelphia and Tracy to doe the Same as I shall leave here on the fifth inst for that place when I Expect to set out for Pittsburgh imediately

N.B. Sally Campbell is not in washington Cty I have been
informed she was in Baltimore I was standing in the door
of the tavern yesterday & saw the New York Clipper pass with
his little daughter give my Respects at the Levy
I met Belsey Todd on my Way from Theld.on to Baltimore
he was just leaving the S.B as I went on Board I nearly
said Monday you daffy ours Respty W.L.S.

Mr R. Campbell

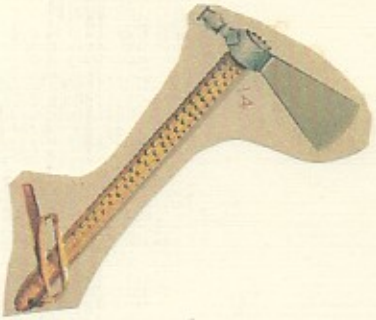
Robert Campbell Esqr
St Louis

Mr Bell
Washington City
March 5 1833

Sylvia Ann Leaving at the ate of Company in the Maryland &
Virginia I stop this State in Washington Return to Leaven in
the Morn Early enough to publication I had the pleasure of Miss
Sa Lotten in a Gallant I atten and Gave an Miss Pleasant
one Gallon in her little tale Fam gain Mile from Pleasant

THE WESTERN MAILS

SUBLETTE TO CAMPBELL 1833



"LORDS OF THE WESTERN COUNTRY"

The following extracts are from a letter written by Wm.L.Sublette to his partner Robert Campbell at St.Louis,under date of "Washington Citty February 3rd 1833" : " I left Philadelphia on the 28th of January and arive here on the 29th where where I found Genl Ashley & Lady..... I have not been able to Settle my Business as I wisht with Ashley - had not the papers I wisht with him - I have had no acount as yet of the Beaver furr from Louisville and I wrote Riddle & Forsythe yesterday to make Sale of that hoggs head there at four dollars if they had it yet on hand so as to Close all the Sales as soon as posible - I recid a letter from Tracy Stating he had not maid Sale of the 4 hoggshead yet.....I expect to set out for Pittsburgh imediatley and I shall also write to Mr Tracy to call at Wolf Spies & Clarks and see how our Rifles are and Jogg there memory and write me that I may know how to proceed - Genl Ashley think our Equpment of Scarlett & Blue Cloth not enough & I am of the same opinion - I think if Kere has any you had better Secure a fiew piecs more - I think I will get Some of the Calacco [cloth ?] you spoke of in Pittsburgh - Eobert I have Some what Chaingd my notion as it respects the Sise of our two boats - I think one out to carry about 20 ton and the Other from 20 to 25 ton as I dont See the needcity of taking his Boates up to the mouth of the Yellow Stone [river] besides it will I think be rather to Our disadvantage to - but as for that matter we can determin how after - if I See a boat of about 25 ton I think I will take it - ....." He then writes on personal matters and in particular ladies and that he had watched Congress making long speeches on the tariff bill - "I have been looking at the acts of Congress as it respects Spirits - it says there shall be no spirituous liquors introduced in to the Indian Country under no pretentions .....So Wine can be taken in as I believe it does not Come under that act and I think we had better take Some....." In regards to the ladies " I can tell you I have not let them know but what we are lords of the Western Country and at the Same time told them we was Both devilish Clever fellows and Candidates for matrimony - But it was necesary - We Should make One trip to the mountains first & then we wisht to Settle Our Selvs"

W L Sublette

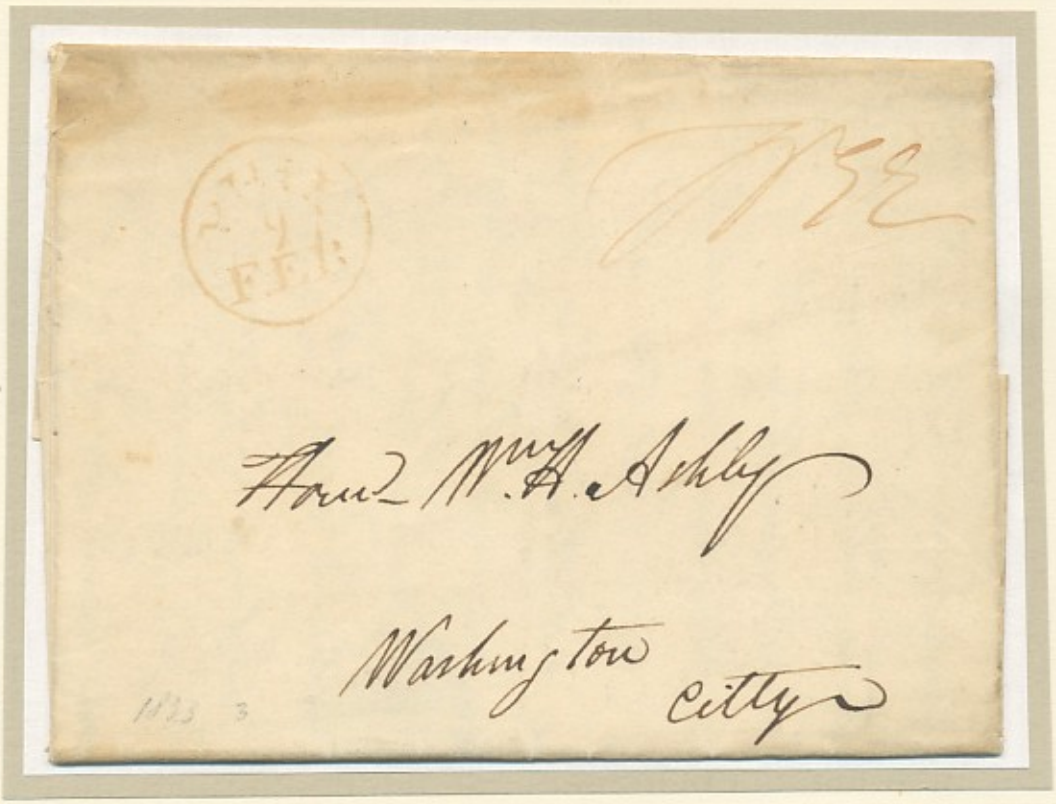
Although Sublette was a "candidate for matrimony" he did not marry until 1845 and Campbell married Virginia Jane Kyle ,whose father is mentioned in the letter,Feb.25,1841.To top it all he is homesick for the West:" **the land that flows with Milk & Honey which I long to see".**

"Philadelphia February 9th 1833

Genl Wm H.Ashley Dear Sir yours of the 7th Inst has been duly Receivd Informing me of the shipment of foure hoggshead of Beaver furr from Louisville - I have herd no word from New York or Pittsburgh yet as I Expected letters from Both places as I had written to Each place from Washington whilst there,and requested them to write me at Philadelphia - I did not Reach this place until 3 Oclock this morning as I was Ice bound & had to take stage - I have Just been & Settled with Siter Price &C & got the acts Recpted which I forward you all but the Small Bill of Expencis On Jacksons [David E.,of the firm Smith,Jackson & Sublette] Beaver and mine as It of no Importance to you - I will keep it so as to Settle with Jackson On my return to Mo[Missouri]. Mr Campbell [Robert] here Informed me he had forwarded a letter from this place a few days Since to me at Washington - Please Enquire at the office & forward all that it there to me here as I shall be here a few days yet until I hear from Pittsburgh

Wm L Sublette""

****



DAVID E.JACKSON. No date of his birth has been recorded,but he died December 24,1837 from typhoid fever at Paris,Tennessee.He was with Jedediah Smith on the Santa Fe Expedition,when Smith was killed by the Comanche Indians on May 27,1831.SEE Smith letter in this collection.

Cincinnati November the 5th 1830

Mr Hugh Campbell

Sir although a Stranger I take the liberty of adressing a few lines to you for the sake of information Some time since you favoured Mr Virgin with a friendly letter respecting Some business as transacted between your brother and mr Virgin I should be glad to know if your Brother Robert is returned from England an if he intends returning to St Louis and if he would be willing to act under a power of attorney in settling the business between Jackson Smith and Sublett and Mr Virgin Dec. - and if he is not returned and will not return to St Louis I should be to have advice from either him or yourself if you are any wise aquaint at St Louis of to a proper or suitable person to impower as an agent at St Louis to settle the business in your last you advised to apply to Genl Ashley or M Kite I have wrote to Mr Ashley and was informed that Jackson Smith and Sublett were all at that place in October & Mr Ashley was about to leave the place and would not return for some months and he could not attend to the business now he did not inform me when he expected the Company to leave that place or whether at all as there is a receipt in the Care of Robert Campbell I would just suggest the propriety of acting within in as judicious

the prior [illegible]
a manner as the Case will admit Should Mr Campbell be willing to be appointed agent the receipt will be reddy in his hand and Should he or you

Mr William Brodgrass
Frederick Md

William Brodgrass
5th Nov 1830

[William Snodgrass to Hugh Campbell]

Cincinnati November the 5th 1830

Mr Hugh Campbell

Sir although a stranger I take the liberty of adressing a few lines to you for the sake of Information Some time Since you favoured Mrs Virgin with a friendly letter respecting Some business as transacted between your brother and Mr Virgin I Should be glad to know if your Brother Robert is returned from Ingland an[d] if he intends Returning to St Louis and if he would be willing to act under a power of atturney in Settling the business between Jackson Smith and Sublitt and Mr Virgin Dec^d. -- and if he is not returned and will not return to St Louis I Should like to have advice from either him or yourself if you are any wise aquaint[ed] at St Louis as to a proper or Sutable person to impower as an agent at St Louis to Settle the business in your last you advised to apply to Genl. Ashley or M Kite I have wrote to Mr Ashley and was informed that Jackson Smith and Sublitt ware all at that place in october & Mr Ashley was about to leave the place and would not return for some months and he Could not attend to the business now he did not inform me when he expected the Company to leave that place or whether at all as there is a receipt in the Care of Robert Campbell I would Just Sugest the propriety of acting with it in as juditious a manner as the Case will admit Shoul[d] Mr Campbell be willing to be appointed agent the receipt will be reddy in his hand and Should he or you name a person at St Louis it will be as easy to transmit to St Louis as to Cincinati and the receipt might to accompany the power of atturney I had been thinking Some of M^r. Kyle as an agent mearly from Mr Campbell leaving the note in his hands as

Snodgrass to Campbell Nov. 5, 1830 -2-

a place of Safe deposit Mrs Virgin Requested me as her friend to administer and She relinquished her right the Court have granted me letters of administration and the business must be transacted in my name and by my authority I hope you will wright imediately and give me all the informetion respecting those things I have writen and as much further on the Subject of Collecting the money due to the Widdow and orphant Children as you can either by your own knoledg or that of your Brother and I Shall remain yours most respectfully

Hamilton County

Springfield Township

William Snodgrass

NB pleas Direct letters for me Cincinati Post office.

[Addressed:] Mr. Hugh Campbell

Richmond Va

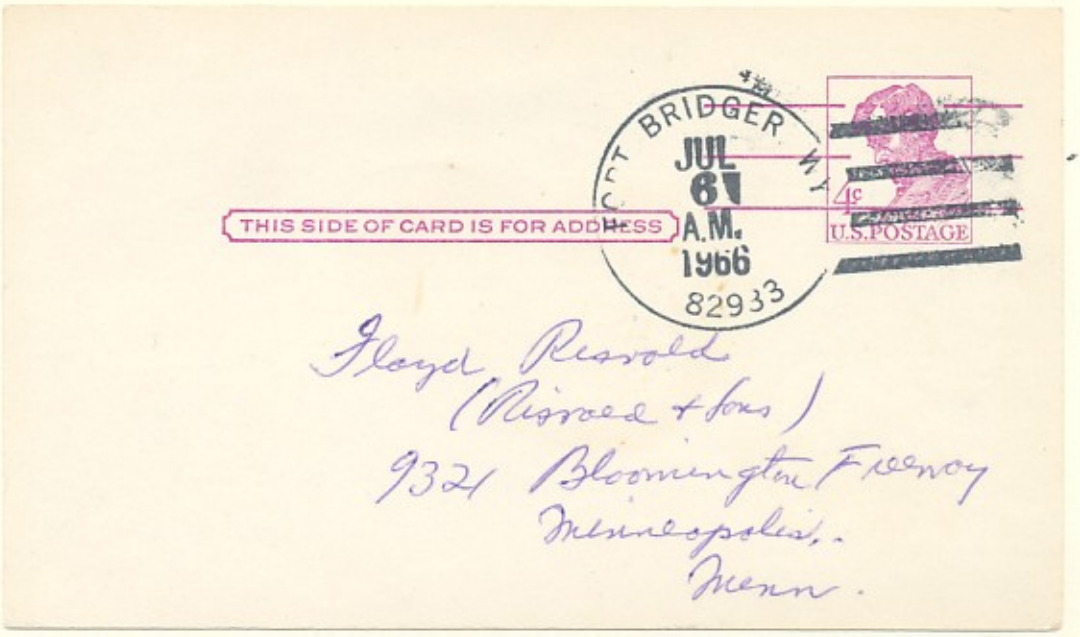
[Postmarked:] Cincinnati O Nov 7 [circular hand stamp in blank ink]

[Rate, unpaid:] 25

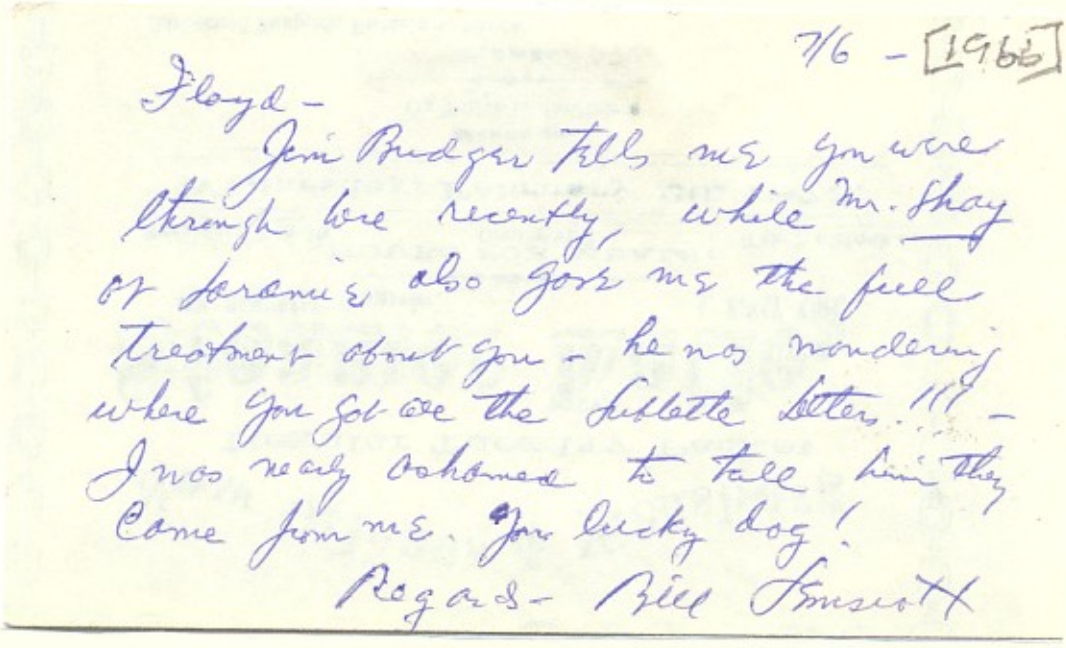
****

THOMAS VIRGIN was a member of Jedediah Smith's second expedition to California, which left the 1827 rendezvou on July 13th. In crossing the Colorado River, at the Mojave Villages, the party became seperated and ten men, who were still on the river bank, were attacked and killed by the Indians. Virgin was with Smith and those who got across. In fighting off the Indians Virgin was wounded by a blow from a Mojave war club. He recovered only to be killed in the Umpqua Massacre along with fourteen other members of Jedediah's party on July 14, 1828. The Virgin River, which flows into the Colorado River, ia named for Thomas Virgin. See deposition of Arthur Black in this collection.

Letter shown is from William Snodgrass to Hugh Campbell regarding the estate of Thomas Virgin under date of November 5th, 1830.



FORT BRIDGER WY JUL 6 1966. 82933. In 1965 Floyd Risvold stopped off at old Fort Laramie and showed Wm.J.Shay, the Ranger Historian, my Sublette letters on the fur trade. They were part of the Sublette/Campbell letters that I bought from Bill Semsrott in 1958 - thus the postal from Bill, who had followed in my wake. F.E.R.



7/6 - [1966]

Floyd -

Jim Bridger tells me you were through here recently, while Mr. Shay of Laramie also gave me the full treatment about you - he was wondering where you got ole the Sublette letters!!! - I was really ashamed to tell him they came from me. You lucky dog!

Regards - Bill Semsrott

THE DEATH & FUNERAL OF JOHN LAWE, FUR TRADER & AGENT OF THE AMERICAN FUR COMPANY AT GREEN BAY.

JERIMIAH PORTER, a missionary writes to his father under date of **"Green Bay W.T. Feb 16th 1846"**. The following extract is from the letter: "Last week one of our aged citizens, old Judge Law[e] was buried. He was an early settler of Green Bay, an Indian trader & partner in the Amer Fur Co. He has left a large fanily of children by an Indian wife, she died some years since in the Papal church & her children are papists. He had opposed the family in their religion & has uterly neglected religion himself; I called in his dying days & was informed that he was so low & insensible that he could make no conversation, after that for a week he grew more & more insensible, yet a papist Preist pretends that he was converted a week after my call. So he baptised him; & his friends now look upon him as having died a good Catholic. The amount of his religion consisted in this: He expressed a wish to be buried beside his wife. This he could not be unless he was baptised in the Romish Ch: So I suppose he did express a willingness to be Baptised. But whether he was conseious of what he was doing is doubtful. The Priest who baptised him is a poor intemperate man. The officiating priest in town disapproved the act of the other, & it is said refused to baptise the old gentleman. And at the funeral, which I attended with a large concourse of our protestant citizens, in some 35 vehicles of various kinds, the priest after saying High Mass for the repose of the soul of the deceased, in an unknown tongue, said in English, that it was most foolish & inational to waste life in pursuit of riches, pleasures, & fame, & then expect that at the hour of death a priest could admit the soul to heaven. And concerning the deceased he said : "He knew little of him, as he had but recently become a member of the church, & how he became a member he did not know as he had no hand in it." " He did not say these things to wound the feelings of any one; but because they were true & no man could deni it. ....I was delighted to hear Mr. Carabin, the priest bear his solem protest against such an opinion....." **Jerimiah"**

****

Judge John Lawe was born in 1774 at York, England. He was the son of a British army officer and a Jewish mother. Lawe represented the American Fur Company at Green Bay and was noted for his fair dealings with the Indians and attained higher rank with them than any of the traders at the Bay. He died February 11, 1846 aged 66 yrs.