

Quakaw Mich 18/79

Mr. J. B. Kussell

Compton My Friend John
Yours of Date Feb 14th Post West
Mich 11th Recd last night - it is al-
ways a pleasure for me to answer
your letters - I am just home from San
Francisco where I have been spending
the winter engaged in handling provisions
in car load lots - I shall be at home for a
few days and then I shall return to the
Besse Hills where I have been engaged
in business for the past two years - Bro
Law and Emory are with me in the Store
Business and they stop at the Ranch - You
ask me in reference to Mr. Hester I have never
heard from him but once and I think he was
in Lake Superior ^{region} he owed me about \$500 #
consider it of no value - Have not heard
from Herndon for a year or over
He never paid me anything - He and
Bill Donaldson are in Partnership in

in Virginia City - If your experience is
like mine you will not place much
value on such claims I can count up
over Fifty Thousand Dollars - of which I
never expect to see one dollar - but as I
have never suffered for bread I will not
complain perhaps it is just as well - Pueblo
Co. is in the Black Hills - He last something he
had in Neb looking for coal He is now
looking for a gold mine Omaha is
going ahead and is becoming quite
a city - You would see but few here
now whom you used to know - Some
have gone away - and death is doing
its work here as Elsewhere - I do not
know whether you know that Sister

Sydia & my Father are both dead
I write to you so seldom that I forget
dates - it is now a year since their death
the death of Sydia I think caused the death
of Father He took it very hard and died
very soon after Sydia I see you
are getting quite a family - I hope you

May be able to bring your children
up so that they may be a source of
of joy & satisfaction to you in your
declining years. It is see so many instances
where children are a source of sorrow
& grief, that I sometimes think the man
who brings up a family and sees them ^{enter} as
honorable men & women has much to be thankful
for. Some of the old stand bys are here of it
Naman - Seman - Petchie. Daughter. McCoy
Bro Seman is still in the ministry. Tom has become
a great Choly Isaac & the girls. all grown
to to my own matters. I have something
to be thankful for. enough to eat and
drink - good wife & two children. which
I hope may grow up to ~~love~~ God and
obey His commands. My little girl
is ten years old she works mighty do
and is very forward in her studies
she is adoduced in her English studies
also in music & French. Do you see that
her prospects both as to Avoindupais and
learning is in advance of her father

The winter here has been about
as usual here. So I am told
San Francisco ^{has} (is) a Splendid
Climate in the winter and is a pleasant
place to spend the winter - So I see
Wm R Gibson - Ely Olinghouse,
Richard and other Montana Men. Most
of them I broke - though I did not
see them in lower California

I shall be pleased to hear
from you at all times - A
letter directed to me here will
always reach me, kind regards
to your Family - with my best wishes
for your welfare I remain
Yours Truly
Geo W. Smith

I send you in a Herald we
took here & daily papers besides a
number of weekly publications