

Gilroy June 25th / 89

My Dear Son

I sit down to write you again doubtful ~~whether~~ ~~my~~ last letter reached you as I hoped to have heard from you by this time. You would do me a favor by answering my epistles as soon as time will permit - it takes so long time for a letter to reach you and if I dont get a return about the time that I calculate on I feel anxious and restless as can be.

Your Photographs reached oakland and Peter changed the address to Gilroy so that I got them all right. I charged you not to write again to oakland, you should have waited until you heard from me ~~again~~

I was glad to see the Photo
 your wife is very nice looking,
 she has a bright pleasant face.
 If she is good and cheerful as
 her picture represents her, you ought
 to be satisfied, and I hope you are.
 I wished to see you taken in your
 ordinary dress without cap or
 ornament - it is a good likeness
 but the word Croquet over the front
 dont improve the picture in my
 opinion - I shall say but little
 as I am in hopes you have got that
 of May 8th in which I told you about
 my removal to this place -

There is a Money Order Office at Gilroy
 Santa Clara Co. - if you could spare the
 amount in a short time I would be
 thankful - Times are exceedingly dull
 in all branches of business, in the
 harvest field they get but one dollar
 per day or \$2.50 - I do not take a paper

and am not posted in the news
 of the day. one item, little Billy
 Boone and Lovelands eldest daughter were
 married have gone to Washington Ter
 I wrote once to Miller but no answer
 yet - I remind you to give me an
 account of your trip east, I hope
 you found it pleasant and profitable
 Please remember me to your wife
 lovingly for your sake,

From your ever affectionate
 mother

M^r Doane

best to be done - I had a letter from George the same time I got yours, he was working with a thrasher they had sold a ton of strained honey and will have another ton to part with ~~but~~ they have interest to pay on \$1200 doll. rent John is in a feed store in S Diego at 40 doll per month and board harvest work is too hard for him it hurts his breast - I shall probably visit Gilroy before your next ^{letter} arrives. I hear that Defters third son is married he is 17 and his wife 16 Defters family is increasing rapidly.

been this when read

I will ^{now} close, when I look ~~this~~ over it is like a jumbled up mess to me but you will make out what you can and guess at the rest. God bless you my son - Your loving mother
N. Doune

Oakland August 12th / 78

My dear son

Your letter and the money orders I received on Aug 9th and on the day following went and got the money, for which I thank you - I regret the necessity of having to apply to you for money, but as you generously offered to assist me I felt at liberty to appeal to you for aid, and hope that you will not be seriously inconvenienced by your kindness to me - But I could not help but smile at the 600 or more per year - what do you suppose I would do with six hundred a year? the half or less would pay my rent and keep me in every comfort. I have got into the habit of spending money very

sparingly. Peter pays 25 dol
per month rent, and 25, sometimes 30
dol pays all house expenses including
pay for two magazines. When Peter
was in the bank he had his regular pay
not less than \$200 per month, since he
went into the brokerage, times have
been so dull they dont make only
a bare living, all I know ^{about it} is what I
learn from Mrs Bellangall, Peter has
something laid up how much I have no
idea, and then his life insurance
for ten years will soon expire, that
will be \$3000, he has no idea of dying
he takes the best of care of his mortal
body. I am not sorry that you were
disappointed in ^{your} Polar expedition it
would only have ended in suffering
and nothing gained. that great ice
belt is a barrier that man cant
overcome money spent in that
way could be put to a better use

As to my going to Montana
and leaving my younger sons know-
ing it would be never to see them
again, I dont believe that I could be
prevailed upon to do it - if they would
consent, or advise me to go perhaps
I would feel differently about it -
On your part I know you would make
my life as pleasant and happy as
possible - but of late years I have
hoped for a home in a quiet country
place with a few neighbours to visit
with, without regard to dress and fash-
ion where I could see my sons when
at leisure - that is my feeling at
present I dont know how it may
turn out This I will say. I am so anxious
to see you once more that if you
would bid me come to you at
any point on R Road for a few
days I would undertake it willing-
ly - but I will think over what is

Capitalists and most of the intelligence of the state are opposed to it, they say the old can be amended to answer every purpose. I hear the new has got the majority. There is great excitement over the matter at present — your Uncles family and Mr Dexters have shown me great kindness. God grant they may be rewarded with interest — you wished the address to the money order office nearest me. The address will be Gilroy Santa Clara Co. If you could spare me one hundred and twenty five dolls for this year with what Charlie furnishes it would be sufficient — God bless you my son your kind care is my great comfort, what would I do without it — I hope you are both well and happy in your married life. If you think it best I would like to send you a ring as a present to your wife the only thing I have to give, if you would direct me the safest way — Please give my love to Mrs Doane I remain as ever your loving mother M Doane

Gilroy May 8th / 79

My dear Son,

It is not owing to a fickle mind, but to circumstances over which I have no control that I am in Old Gilroy — and I am thankful that I am here in place of San Diego, Charlie heard that George and his partner were going to sell their place, and he concluded that it was no place for me to go to — I had sent for him to do my packing, when he told me how it was, and thought it best for me to come with him, so he rented a small Adobe house in this place, about one mile from Mr Dexters place — The house is an old settler there is one large, and two small rooms, with a shed kitchen, that is

all the room that I require, or am able to keep in order, I have it comfortably furnished and feel quite contented. Beside my own furniture Peter told me to take what I needed of his, so I took the stove, kitchen and dining table, all the table ware, and one bedroom set; he gave me several pictures - I took more than I would have done if there had been any sale for them but as they had to be almost given away, after caring for them so long ^{I thought} I might as well have them. I sold the piano without any delay to a new neighbor for \$142. I spent as little as possible in moving, but every turn takes a dollar. I have to pay 6 dolls a month rent, the lot is 70 feet square and Charlie has it all planted in vegetables, he is with me at night and when out of work. I should like an account of your trip to the East.

Please write all that would interest me. I do want to hear from you.

I hope it proved in all respects a pleasant one, the length of your stay would enable your wife to see all of Washington life to her satisfaction. In such a visit one sees and hears enough to make subject for thought and conversation for some time. I presume by this time you are back in the old routine of duty, I hope you will not forget to send your Photographs as promised. I send my own recently taken, it is perfect, also a copy of one of Annie taken the year before her marriage, it is the truest representation of any she had taken. Today I pass my sixty second birthday, and I remember that yours comes soon after thirty nine years, can it be that you are a middle aged man? how hard for me to realize the fact. Yesterday the vote of the state was taken on the new constitution got up mainly by the seaman working mens party. The Bankers

I hoped to go with him but he has not funds sufficient without going in debt and he will run no risks in that way

Your letters are a pleasure and comfort to me and when I get settled again I hope to hear from you more frequently - I want no more money at present I will have sufficient to pay all expenses down and something over I hope -

You used to study the Bible and if you do not practice its teachings, it is not because you are ignorant of them, I am going to send you a book I want you to read it over and over again It will throw more light on the scriptures than any thing you ever read, I have changed from the old way of believing some doctrines as are still taught -
May you ever be in Gods keeping, your mother prayer
St Doane

Recd
Feb. 14. 79.
Ward

Oakland Jan 15th / 79

My dear Son

— You see by this that I am still in oakland, Peter and I. I have been writing and waiting all this time to find where it was best for me to make my home, and I have concluded to go to San Diego to George and John, I will get along with George nicely as I am not dependent on him, thanks to you my son, he is anxious for me to come to him, says they can spare me a room 18x18 with a large fireplace and he says an abundance of wood so that I need not suffer from cold I shall take with me all necessary to make me comfortable, and then do my own work and not be expected to do any thing more. Their house

direct to 1902 West St ^{the letter on enclosed}

is Adobe and will be cool in summer, so the heat wont affect my head as it would in a frame house — I am just recovering from a fit of sickness, the most severe I have had since I came here, I was taken with Diarrhea and cramps in my feet, after a day and nights suffering the doctor stopt the cramping and checked the disease it left me weak but I am comfortable and well, Peter was very kind to do what he could for me — I got my letter from George while in bed, and after I was able to be up I told Pete about my going, as usual he said little, asked me when I was going. I told all about it he knows that I am not able to do what is necessary to be done here, and I fancy he feels as if a load was removed off his shoulders to have me go to my own. I told him that you urged me to go to you

but I felt as if I could not make the change — The Lovdewilling I expect to go down ^{to San Diego} the latter part of March then the boys will have their crop in and will have time to go after me, you know it is 40 miles to San Diego from this place — Your Aunt Sarah and her daughters were each with me one day and tidied things in the house and kindly offer to do what they can for me — I do not know what division we will make of our goods and chattles. but think Pete will do about right. I will inform you of every thing — If you want the Piano I will have it sent wherever you wish if not I will sell it for most I can get — I hope you will answer this immediately, I do not even know where you are. or what you are doing — I will have Charlie come to help me pack up and see me off —

Small
Sep 25 1879

Gilroy Sep 16th / 79

but I have prayed earnestly, fervently that the Holy Spirit might direct you to Christ, and incline and enable you to come to him that you might be saved. There is no real comfort or hope in any thing out of Christ.

The nearer my life draws to a close the more anxious I am to keep the Cross in view.

"Forever here my rest shall be,
Close to thy bleeding side;
This all my hope and all my plea:
For me the Saviour died;

And the world passeth away and the lust thereof; but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever. — Perhaps this will not interest you but my son I am constrained to speak a word of warning. God grant you may heed it. — From your loving mother

M Doane

My Dear Son

Your letter came to me on Sep 5th, and on the 8th I received a note from the Cashier of Helena Bank inclosing a check for \$25. — The money was welcome as it helps to provide for my comfort. — I will not ask for any specified sum, but will trust to your love and care for me to send me when and what you can spare, always notifying ~~me beforehand~~ so that I can look out for

the remittance. — I don't like to hear of your being in debt, I dread indebtedness. — But you, ^{know} your own business and make your arrangements accordingly, and I hope God willing you may be prosperous. — I do wish you would make it a rule to write to me at

least once in three months, if you
 knew how much it cheered me to get
 a few kind words from you. you would
 not judge the time spent in writing,
 My health, taking my age into consider-
 ation is good for which I am thankful.
 Though the old folks one by one are drop-
 ing off, Mr Seanor was buried on Sep 8th
 a little short of one year after his wife.
 he was in the city with Sarah. He died
 poor and homeless. and of course almost
 friendless - George did not deceive me,
 they are in debt and think it better to
 sell as soon as possible. I could have gone
 down but Charlie thought under the cir-
 -stances I had better not and I am satisfied
 that I did not - I presume you have
 seen an account of the shooting of
 Parson Hallock by one of the DeGoungs of
 the Chronicle, cause, slanderous utterances
 on both sides - He is recovering very fast
 and is elected Mayor of San Francisco on the

working mens ticket - They had four
 parties in this election Dem, Republican
 W. Men and New Constitution: but I see
 they have all united to give Gen Grant
 a grand reception he is expected in
 on Saturday 20th - No doubt "it will be a gay
 and festive scene" San Fran can do the
 honors pretty thoroughly when she sets
 about it. I will send you a paper shortly
 You seem to be crowded pretty well
 up to the wall, I dont see why you
 are always kept in the frontier,
 but I sometimes think that you prefer
 that kind of life. When a child
 you regretted the people settling around
 us at Santa Clara, said they were spoiling
 the country, They havent changed the climate
 that is charming as ever.

Give my love to your wife - I pray God that
 she may give her heart to the Lord Jesus
 and be a true Christian woman - There
 has no day passed since you left me

Camp Malheur
Horse Prairie M.S.
Oct. 30. 78

My dear Little Lady Friend

Your most welcome letter of the 24th Sept. came today, as also one from your Mother, enclosing yours of the 9th to her. I do not know whether it may be a betrayal of confidence to tell you this, but presume it is not. At any rate; have no secrets to keep from you in relation to our gentle Correspondence, and therefore have no caution to exercise. So I am to have that long ago asked for photo - at last? And now have the pleasure of thanking you for it before its receipt! I shall look very carefully for the aforesaid Likeness - in each coming Mail hereafter. My former letters to you are all accounted for excepting two sent in August; to Care of Capt. Fuller; one to Genl. Delin - Helena M.S. and one Sept. 7th by your Mother - which she writes was mailed to you - probably to Care of Mr. Duff. I never received yours written before leaving Bozeman. Can you not give me its exact address. or better still? Rewrite its contents? I am infinitely obliged to your sister for her liberal allowance of understanding to me. My number for Dress Boots or Slippers is - 6 - but made high in

the water and on what the Shoemakers call a "Strut toe Part." Then they will fit exactly.

In yours of the 24th (which, by the way, I do not correct, and was more than well pleased with) you mention having entered the St. Vincent's School. Being with your sister, it must be more satisfactory than living apart would be. And of course the advantages of a regular course of study are to be greatly appreciated.

Of course you have my best wishes for your success and so has Miss Lizzie.

The present prospects are that I shall not be able to get to Helena in as good season - as at first anticipated. We expected to be released in, the last of September - but were disappointed. I hope to be let loose from the field shortly, however - and will avail myself of the first opportunity to see you - bringing all the credentials from your kind Mother that may be required.

Am sorry you did not comply with my request in the letter of the 12th. You should be supplied with everything you need in this cold, winter climate. It is never safe to go anywhere in this latitude without snow shoes, and a fan.

When you go out for a holiday next - please do not fail to call at Captain Gullers to see about those letters. He may have some word from your Mother also. My kindest regards to the Pirate. It is especially no volentous now that the Indians

Have all gone east. Since leaving you I have been
over a great deal of Idaho - and eastern Montana
visited the Big Hole Battlefield. It is strewn with bones
and skulls, and is a terrible looking place. Two weeks
ago I was over the Camas Creek. better ground of
last year. There are few signs there excepting the
fortifications. Have shot Salmon within six miles of
the Summit - of the divide. and fished for trout. al-
ternately day after day in waters flowing into both oceans.

In answering please direct - not as heretofore but -
Lieut G. C. Alvord

2^d Cavalry

As Ever

Camp Mules

Very Respectfully

Via Bannock City

Your Friend

Montana Id -

G. C. Alvord