

Letter No. 10

U.S.S. Jamestown, Sitka
May 16th, 1881

Friend Harris;

Your favor of 2 dinst. was duly received as the "Favorite" is going to leave to-morrow morning I will take advantage of this opportunity to write you a line. The two Indians whom you engaged came down in the Favorite. I paid them \$10 each for their time, one half a month at \$20 per month, amounting to -- \$20.00 I also paid their fares down @ \$10.00 each -- \$20.00. Making the sum of forty dollars, which \$40.00 I paid for the trip to Point Retreat, not including my own expenses, which were about thirty five, yes, forty dollars more. I think there is a little misunderstanding on your part in regard to the hire of the Indians. When you hired one at the cannery to take the place of the one discharged I told you that I would pay one half of the wages if you would engage another, as I thought we should need one more. This, I think was a fair, and even liberal offer, and I don't imagine that you either wish or expect me to pay the whole bill. Let me hear from you on the subject. That my trip in the canoe, furnishing I think my share of the grub, a cook and his proportion, and then not reaching my destination, should cost me \$80 doesn't seem to me exactly fair. I shall of course leave that matter for your decision.

I am glad you find everything so encouraging at the mines and I trust that we shall all come out well. Have a talk with Mr. Hanus in regard to my interests for he is interested with me in the deed from Pilz to Hilton.

I hope everything is going on well. There is no news here, the town is very dull.

Remember me very kindly to Rogers, Peterson and Cushman, our ship" mates and to other friends in camp. Your friends here join me in well wishes for your health and prosperity. Don't forget your friend Ring if you make new locations. I am strictly a tea totaler and shall remain one. Having no news I will close my letter.

I possibly shall get up to Harrisburg before the ship leaves here.

Yours fraternally

James T. Ring