



Mr. Daniel Weld
Byron, Ogle County
Illinois

Weaverville California Apr 19th 1850

My Friends,

One year has now passed by since I left you, many have been the letters that has been sent to you by me, yet not one word have I heard from any one I ever saw before I started on the trip to this place yet I still flatter myself that I have friends who are anxious to hear from and that I ^{should} hear also, ^{from them} there is now a new Post office, at Bulloma and it is probable that letters directed there will be more certain to arrive here within my reach and if my friends will write and direct their letters to Bulloma, Eldorado County, as soon as they receive this it will please me much, Bulloma is the place where the gold was first discovered have been in the Sutters mill at that place, it is a thriving town and about the side of Rockford and much more lively, when I finished my last letter was there on my way into the mountains how it was done is more than I am able to say but if you ever get it you will know who its from as the man said when the ~~man~~ kicked him,

Was out on the last prospecting trip near three weeks and about 70 miles north from this place found the water too high for mining sold our ox or butchered and sold him out for 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ cts per pound and made enough to pay our expenses, made a claim in a Kenyon, and returned the old way with our loads on our backs, Every one is now looking for the dry season to commence, but it still continues to rain the same as ever (it is at it) to day, The prospect for getting rich or as miners call it of making a rais looks poorer to me than ever some will do it but they are few the mines are already crowded and unless there is new discoveries made many I think will never be able to return. Since our return to this place have been batching with our old friends Gallowsidge and Hoffman,

It is getting to be nearly dark and I have to help about getting supper so you must content yourselves with reading the rest - made up at some other leisure time. Saturday evening, today have been mining made \$50 a poor days work but it is more than I could have done at home, it does not pay either for staying here if I did not think I could make ~~up~~ each day upon an average ~~of~~ ^{of} here long, the people do not think they get paid for their labour if they do not make one ounce, per day.

Have one thing yet to encourage me that is the hope that my claim in the mountains will be rich must describe the place to you so that you may know where and what it is it is between the ^{North} ~~South~~ and middle fork of the American fork some 150 ms from Sacramento in a deep ravine or what is here called a Kenyon, the hills upon either side of this are more than one mile high and so steep that it is dangerous for a man to attempt to climb them in most places, the water in the stream is a rushing torrent and is from hill to hill rendering it a difficult task to go up or down the stream, you can have no idea of the great change which has taken place within a few weeks here the oaks have all leaved out and fields of clover and beds of flowers where six months ago you would have thought it more barren than a rock and told that in the valley of the Sacramento wheat has headed so much for California. Daniel is in good health and spirits feels much better about being here than I do, as well myself and a prospect for being so give my well wishes to all as also an invitation to write to me will answer any letter from ~~any~~ and will send the writer a specimen of C. gold as large as I can without detection this I shall do to no one unless they write so much for an inducement, and do not know but it is all that can be done by your Son, Brother and Friend J. Henry,

Saw Jim Prole about two weeks ago he was flat broke and borrowed of Dan 5.00 to pay his expenses back had sold his wagon for over one hundred dollars but had not got his pay Kirk I think is on the Uba, and in a grocery think he is making money fast has a fine partner his prospect in my opinion is good for making something handsome, was well a few weeks ago my prospect for the future is poor at least it looks so to me, think that I can make about 5.00 each week after it comes dry weather, and it is all that my conscience will allow me to think of making so far I have been here six months and made less than one half of that sum, it is now my intention not to remain here more than six months longer, and think that I will have enough of hard fare and hard living to content me, Palmadge has been over to Bang town this afternoon saw two men at work who have dug out of one hole the size of it was 15 by 30 ft 15 pounds of gold in 8 days averaging 2.00 each day to the man he saw them panning 10 pails of dirt which they had washed in the rocker and he thought they had over a pound in the pan would like to find such a place myself and perhaps may be knowing the luck of a lousy calf.

If Mr. Miles is still in favour of coming out here tell him he can find a plenty of dirt that will pay 5 cts to the pan full but such ground is not worked here with the machines they now have for washing it will not pay more than 50¢ per day but if all would work for that they would do better than to be running around, Society here seems to be on the go down thieving breaking open cabins and plundering them are matters of frequent occurrence while we were at Birds store on the Middle fork two men were killed in a quarrel about 800 and but little said about it.

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MAY
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CAL

Mr. Daniel Wild
Byron, Ogle County
Illinois

W. T. H. M. M.

HC 280

APRIL 19, 1850

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P.D.

EARLIEST SAC '80 KNOWN
see yr Bd. Ac. cp.

TRAFFIC MINIMUM LETTER

MINERS LETTER -

Weberville - Weberville
Eldorado
Lot # 26 Frayok Dec 14, 1915 250+107
no.