

Unofficial
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Nome, Alaska, Aug. 25, 1914

Mr. Chas Replegle,

Deering, Alaska.

My dear Mr. Replegle :

Lord Percy and myself did not have quite as enjoyable a trip on the Corwin as we had on the Ethel, although we had no one to run us aground nor did our shaft fly loose. But we did not have ships officers of quite such temperate habits as those of the Ethel who drank neither tea nor coffee?? We had a time landing the Maguires at Wales and then had to lie off Nome almost three days before we could land. Percy leaves on the Senator in a few days.

I have wired Mr. Lopp that we have staked a site and am going to get off the formal letter on this next mail. Have not been able to get at it as yet. By the way I will make it a point to send you copies of all my official correspondence in connection with the move so that we can work right together. So on the next mail I will send you a copy of my letter to Lopp and the Department. I enclose a copy of my letter to Mr. Cox. I still believe in cooperation with all Christian work among the natives but have reached the point where I will not cooperate to such an extent that it may cripple our own work. After all the aims of the Government and the Missions are to the same end, upliftment. We consider ours a Christian government and our Service a Christian

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School Service. Therefore, I believe we have the right to use our own judgement and to break our own trails where necessary.

This Kobuk move is going to mean a fight for you and for me. It will be largely a personal fight. As the cost of developing a certain amount of conceit, I have come to the conclusion that most of the work that you or I or any other representatives of the Missions on the Government can do for the natives depends largely on our personal strength with the natives. As long as we are right no one can take that strength from us. So let us wade into this fight. I think we will win and at all events we have a good cause. This fight may become rather a mean one. In that case I do hope that we can line up the Friends Mission with us without having to fight them. They will have to yield in the end but I know I would feel easier if we do not have to fight them. Cox may consider this move below him an unfriendly act but if so he must not forget that he has trusted to his own strength entirely too much. He knew the move was contemplated and it was his place to ally himself with it. But I tell you frankly that the whole thing is all the better as it is. I have never seen a move start as well as this was one. That is with so many sides to it that exactly dovetail with needs and emergencies as they arrive. It certainly gives me fresh heart and interest in the work in Kotzebue Sound. I wrote Mr. App last winter a very blue letter and said I wanted to keep out of that country if we could not dominate the situation. Now we have.

Now after this long screed I will take up your letter in a more direct and official manner. "Kookvik" is a good name. It has a good meaning and a good sound. It will look well on the map.

I will send your list of supplies to Mr. Lopp and I do hope we may be able to get them up for you on the first boat next summer. All that you ask for seems very reasonable.

My pictures turned out very well indeed. I will try to send you some prints on the next Gorvin. I may also send you the films. If I do, then you can use them as much as you wish. All I ask is take care of them and return them. By the way I think I will just enclose them herewith. Then I wont send you prints later. I presume you have paper and chemicals to do your own printing. I will send prints to Lopp and the Commissioner. As you will see I got you while in action with the ax. The picture I took of the stake from the river was no good.

By the way on the Victoria's passenger list (she is due in a week) there was a Mr. Spiggle and wife and boy. I scanned the list for possible teachers and am wondering if these people can be teachers and if they are related to you. I hope they are-----we can stand a few more of you, always provided they dont run us aground.

With best wishes to you both.

Very truly yours,

S.

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