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Nome, Alaska. Aug. 25, 1914

Mr. W. H. Cox,

Kotzebue, Alaska.

My dear Mr. Cox :

I am sorry that I was not able to get up the river far enough to see you on my last trip. But the trip had to be a hurried one in order to catch the Corwin. You have no doubt heard all about our trip and know the place which we have staked for a native reservation. X Up to the time I got to Deering on the Bear I had no idea that we would go below Aksik. When I got to Deering the people told me that they had selected a site below and I certainly was agreeably surprised. By keeping below Aksik we are away from the white cabins and are on ground that no one else has any claim to. Such would not have X been the case anywhere above Aksik. And in addition this place is the best site I have seen on the Kobuk.

It is quite possible that this will effect your plans for the Kobuk somewhat but we cannot help it and in every way I am satisfied in my own mind that this move of the Deering people and the selection of this unexpected site will work out to be one of the biggest steps ahead that we have taken for years. I hope you will feel the same way about it. Everyone was kept in the dark about the exact site. I didnt know it myself. And I feel

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convinced that it was the proper thing to do and will work out decidedly for the best interests of all the natives'

This new village is to start some time next March. Until that time we want no cabins to be built on the site as Mr. Replogle is to lay out the village and allot all the building sites in accordance with a plan that he and I will work out later on. So if any of the natives speak to you about it I hope you will explain the situation to them. Any cabins that are built this winter on that site without either Mr. Replogle's or my written permission will have to be torn down to clear the site for the proper laying out etc.

We have not worked out the complete policy to be adhered to in connection with the village but it is my own personal wish, which will be approved by Mr. Lopp in due time I believe, that this village be strictly a Government affair for at least a year, and be under the immediate charge of Mr. Replogle. As Mr. Replogle is one of your own Ministers I do not believe that the Friends Church will have any objection to this plan. Of course your village about Akseik will possibly draw a certain number of natives but I believe most of them will eventually come to the new place. As this work will be under the direction of a Friend I believe there will be no objection on your part. But in any event I am so thoroughly convinced that this plan is the one that will count for the most at present that I am going to do all I can to get it through.

I hope to be able to see yourself and Mrs. Cox some time this winter and talk over the whole matter. With best wishes,

Very truly yours,

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