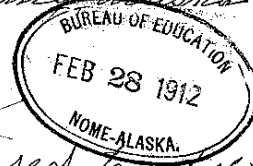


W. L. Shields.

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Deering Alaska - Feb. 6 - 1912



COPY

Government Cousin

We were pleased to get your note written from the Deering Reindeer Camp. Hope you had no trouble in keeping the trail to Igloo and that you may have arrived safely at your home here. This letter may be there, and found your family had been sweetly cared for and all doing well.

All dwellers in the rented building send greetings to you! We remember, with pleasure, your stay with us. Mrs. Gooden goes today up to Old Henry with Mr. & Mrs. Wentworth.

Argrank has been up there several days and Ahngack had stayed with us.

Jack Douglas & Noj-oh have come in from the herd to get several owners of deer to go down and help repair the corral. Argrank will go with them tomorrow (or.)

COPY

My may be of interest to you to know that on last Saturday A.M. before I had come down ~~copies~~, John Swanson (Tracy) came here & called for me. I came down, talked a little while about things in general, then he said "Mrs. Here I came to make arrangements about marrying Gypsy. I asked her where she would like to be married and she said, at the Mission where she had been brought up. So I thought we would be married at seven o'clock this evening, there are some of my friends up the river that wish to be present and they can be in about that time. I want to ask if it will suit you to marry us about that time."

When he had closed his long confiding speech, I said, "Mr. Swanson, I have taken great interest in Gypsy and would take pleasure in marrying her to an Eskimo man, but I cannot have any part in this. I see nothing else for you to do, living as you have, but to marry; I am very sorry about the whole matter, but I cannot be a partner in any way in it. You will have to go to Candle."

COPY

seem once seemed quite embarrassed & really angered,
but soon swung back to normal and went ~~away~~^{COPY}
away with a kindly demeanor. On Sabbath they
went to Candle, came back last evening (Monday)
and came here to bring me a copy of their
marriage certificate, properly signed
up, ^{with} witnesses, by Judge Campbell.
He seemed anxious to have me know they
were really & legally married.

He said "It is no more Yopsy now, it is Mad
Swanson."

He apologized about the way he talked to you -
said he did not realize to whom he was
talking.

Your stay at Peering was
not fruitless.

Trayerfully

Rhoda W. Hare

Be give my love to Mrs Shields.

COPY