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Letter to Brothers and Sisters

Anna Hunnicutt Foster Marshall

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11 section till this morning.
 Mr. Kelly's partner came ashore
 and told us that he expects
 the "Boar". This evening on
 Bonanza and they think we
 will be transferred to her
 and this vessel will take
 a lot of deer across to Alaska.
 We will be very glad to change.
 We have been on shore in
 Siberia nearly all day today
 helping our ^{men} ~~the~~ have nothing
 is going up. It is a beautiful
 green sheltered place and
 a fine harbor and has been
 warm and bright today.
 The girls drove nails. The men
 are fine workers. Mr. Kelly
 has lots of freight as he has
 to make for services.
 We had salmon bread for
 dinner and domestic wine.

3
 Reindeer Station
 St. Lawrence Bay
 Siberia
 July 12 '91
 My dear Mrs. at home, —
 We left St. Lawrence
 Bay, evening before last after
 being there 24 hrs and loaded.
 We had dinner. We were
 ashore at St. Lawrence Bay only
 about 2 hrs the day we reached
 here. Mr. Gumbot is very kind
 and generous hearted. He gave
 Mr. Emma one of his reindeer.
 Sam ^{only} and gave us
 a package for Thanksgiving and
 another just to be opened till
 Christmas. When we got our
 boat again that evening we
 found the Captain and 2nd mate
 drunk and the ship surrounded
 with natives and all work

transported as there was no one capable of giving orders.

Mr. Wood told Robert that the dead men another row and he felt very much ashamed of the whole crew. The "Bear" had steamed out of that place just the day before found for the Arctic region, Mr. Gambot said: Also and Mr. Jackson had started up the Yukon, on a boat so much excited that he had only some blankets on the floor for a bed. Well after some anxiety on the part of some we got away from St. L. Del. It is a bad place to anchor and there have been some wrecks near there, ~~and~~ Mr. Wood told us that this

Captain that this ship near that place and trip because he was drunk. We were very thankful that the weather was so pleasant. Mr. Wood was not drunk and neither was the pilot and I think they both were as sleep that night. Mr. Gambot came over about our bedtime and took some home with him and the natives all left the ship. We felt perfectly safe but Carrie wanted Robert to sleep in our room so he did. We can't lock our door but she relies up against it if the men have been drinking but I don't feel that there is any danger, ~~at all~~ ^{at all} The natives ^{didn't} come on board again last evening but we did not come to the place to

so they can make very well but not enough to both and after the first good snows come. We had seen one of them went up and down the creek picking up food from fresh trees and sometimes she was loose getting "steal" i.e. the other canoe loads expected were thines. It was generally concluded that he was the thief himself probably.

I think they had great fun from watching the sailors "turning" everything down into the cabin and this may have been his purpose. They are likely to sleep in at our windows at any time under any circumstances which makes us slightly uneasy at times. The summer about 10 o'clock. They have no regular time to sleep in summer time, are likely to be up at night and sleep in day time. In this they are like all these northern nations we've told.

Heck for supper there is a large valley here with some fresh water stream. It is abounding by the mountains but there are no trees, no gathered lots of flowers and I put some to press. If you see Elias Slater you can tell him there is a reliable headed boy amongst these black Eskimos and I think there may be one at Kottua after dinner we started to go ashore again on a big raft of lumber with 3 or 4 canoes "kitted" to it. Below about half way between the boat and shore the raft came in two parts. We were rescued by one of the canoes and were none the wiser for the experience. Robert-Cornie, Munk and Ali and I were all on the raft. I took a picture of the canoes.

as they started with the rest
from the ship. Also took one
of the ship as we left it.

The canvas are made of robust
skin and their clothing both
there and at St. Lawrence is
^{they also use their making for hunting}
made of skin and whole dried
intestines. They are transparent
and very light. Their tools are
mainly all hair seal skin
Their food is the same as the Indians,
such as are on the Cliff Rocks
at San Francisco. These people
and the St. Lawrence Id. people
are all "well to do" but there
a little more thifty and
frightful and not such rogues.
This is not a native village.

but they have ^{on my first account} fleeced me there
just now. There are no fine
minerals here. I mined one of their
camps and they offered me
a rare piece of ~~gold~~ ^{quartz} for a small
toad-stone. I declined. They were
wanting it as a talisman. A woman
asked me for a needle and
I had none but gave her
a pin. This she took eagerly
but when she saw it was only
a pin made a great exclamation
and they all laughed as if it
was a great joke I had played.
We seem to be great seniors to them.
I suppose they have never yet
heard the Gospel and I wonder
when they ever will see
the Lord is very vigilant in looking
out sinners. They are very
terrible people. A few of them
say a few words in English

We tomorrow then all day yesterday!!
 I came down into the Teller Reindeer
 Station and met back freight. The day
 before there was a heavy snow yesterday
 but it is clear and pleasant. This
 morning and we are glad to go on
 our way but very thankful we were
 detained yesterday so we got our mail
 two months later by all things worth
 while. There is one letter in apt. is the
 opened until "thawing" which ~~is now~~
 is a great emergency answer. I notice
 it was printed on paper for Hedy
 and has 2 or 3 different handwriting
 on it and have to assume the
 rest. We will answer these letters
 and send mail on Bear from
 Kotzebue. What we left at Barrow
 will also go on Bear so you will
 get them all at once. Perhaps about
 the 1st of October. I would if you are
 feeling uneasy about us and I know
 you cannot hear from us. I have
 a letter from a little girl in Douglas
 from which I infer that there has
 been no school since I left so yet
 I suppose I will have to divide my
 future letters hereafter if I can. I
 wish to go to the Medicine. We planned to
 find out if the freight from Douglas
 had come to St. Michael and if
 we the Bear. I don't hope it is and

[illegible]

1615 The Arctic now. The third day after landing near noon and bright; and we set out with the native men and three children and three dogs to visit the muskegman. We had a thumb rack of musk deer etc. and the shot-gun. After about an hour's walk down the beach we came to a canoe ~~and~~ ^{boat} belonging to one of the men. This we launched and all got in. The native boatman a long walrus skin rope to the harrow on the dogs and fastened it to the canoe and we were towed ~~down~~ the natives taking turns driving the dogs ^{after} ~~down~~ about six hours of this kind of traveling we reached a camp near the muskegman and all got out - then they were drying large quantities of salmon ^{and eggs} ~~and eggs~~ ^{of the} ~~of the~~ ^{frames} Their dogs were tied up and howling like wolves. The men, wife came out and took our dogs in charge

offered 15¢ for them and they were
measured but we could think of nothing
The Red-bellied-pigeon and the
muttons crowded around us, - strong
attracted - faint people very thin
skinned and they welcome us gladly
they want 15¢ for all the time and
it is hard to refuse them but we
could not do much of their stuff
The horse looked yellow, weak, with
coughs (medium head) & nervous
and with me had much yellow
with nervous 10¢ for it. One horse
fine large rinder skin and we
and already made for him and
the pair of points for Robert and
some money for moving coffee
and dried salmon as well as
fish. One fine them but
coughs for a whole dried salmon
There we will keep for our birds
we on 15¢ for the 15¢ them
next spring. There food now coming
of green wild shubart and green
and salmon and salmon eggs
Apparently this will be quantities of

Merica tells me. They seem to
all want us to go up the river
with them in about a month.
I am now but we are not decided
as yet. I think it will be very
necessary for us to keep this
station at Cape Breton if we are
successful in the future and we
were told by Mrs. Brown that
the Catholics are planning to come
here in plenty of shipboard
but we wish we had
brought more lumber and some
coal for cold weather as it takes
so much of Robert's time to get the
wood. One sheep very comfortable
in our tent and do not need to
keep a fire ~~now~~ all the time.
We got our things under shelter
just in time as a big rain came
up. One horse opened most of
the boxes and find every thing in
very good condition. There for
nothing was broken in my trunk except

one little nail and a little more and a
bottle of oil for painting. The bottom of
my glass pitcher was cracked in the
big box. One misshapen the big box
and made it tighter before coming
off the boat. The ~~unmanned~~
cannon (3 cars) is called 99 cannon
and is not ~~very~~ good. I did
not know that brand was put
in. Next year be sure and
have highland brand or St. Charles
brand. The cannon are very nice
One can of fruit was leaking a little
and we used it. The dried fruit
will have to be all to feed on
and heated as the women are in it
some. There is an abundance for
keep us supplied all the year I think
we have seen four salmon and
in the sound since our arrival.
The Bear seemed to be following
one of them up and came in
quite close but no one came
ashore. One thinks she has gone on

They call themselves

Indians. They are almost
altogether in the wild woods and
we will do the same.

They have a great many
fox skins but we have bought
none yet. The Indians pay
them all they are worth in
beaver. They give a 50 lb
bag of flour for one deer skin
and we have paid the same.
Their canoes are very large
and light and full of them
will take all our goods up
the River if we think best
to go. It is very hard to
refuse them.

Aug 5th Since I wrote the above we
have moved and are now camped
near the rendezvous. Four canoes
came yesterday evening and announced
their intention to move on. Mr. Rock
was leader of the party and he had
undertaken to ask him to get someone

and I shall say I mean would
be well here. ^{any one} If you come next
year be sure to bring plenty of
beaver for a small house and
some coal. Also a good pair of
field glasses. I got a good pair
in San Francisco but the Captain gave
them when he was having
so much trouble to identify
the land marks coming in
there and he got them broken.
I was very sorry as we need
them often but I expect the
Board will send us some more.
We have so many many things
and are so thankful for them.
The natives are very kind and
they every way to please us. They
do nothing but medium bread
or scraps from our meals. One
day talks a little English and
always around us most of the
time never seems to tire of
asking us names of things and
telling us the British name for

18 baby. He says he preaches to them
on Sundays. They are collected
here from Altofo Cape Prince of
Wales Port-Clover etc to-day
Heard, and give presents. Some
have been here about two or three
weeks and will be here a month
longer. Some are still coming.
It is little distance on top the
beach are the underground houses
and there are several families
living there all winter. That
is where we will fix a house
if we do not go up the river.
We wish some one could stay
here and some one go up the
river but of course we cannot
divide our force. Hope someone
will come so this can be
done next year. The natives
invited us to stay all night.
With them and sleep in their
tents - but we did not wish
to encumber the men in an

we started back home since
the hills at this would make it
much heavier. It was about
sickish. In about an hour
we gave up walking over
the hills and took the beach.
The tundra was too soft and
made walking very hard. While
the beach was very good.
Robert thinks we walked 10 miles.
We reached our camp 15 min.
of four P.M. and found
everything all right. One night
many times and were very glad
we had some lunch with us.
But I will never try the
walk again unless it is
necessary and would not this
time if we had known how it
would prove. We saw the Bear
about 3 miles out that night
but no one came in from the
shore I wish you could be with
us especially Jesse & Emma

and I shall say Irena would
 be well here. If you cannot
 hear the river to bring plenty of
 lumber for a small house and
 some coal. Also a good pair of
 field plows. I got a good pair
 in San Jo. but the Captain favored
 them when he was leaving
 so much trouble to identify
 the land marks coming in
 there and he got them broken
 I was very sorry as we need
 them often but I expect the
 Lord ~~will~~ send some more.
 We have so many many things
 and are so thankful for them.
 The natives are ~~very~~ kind and
 try every way to please us. They
 dig nothing but medium bread
 or scraps from our meals. One
 day told a little English and
 stayed around us most of the
 time never seems to tire of
 asking us names of things and
 telling us the British must have

One ate some boiled salmon with
 with them and gave them some
 of our medium bread. Then we
 walked to the river house. It is
 a beautiful open green spot with
 a clear fresh water lake just back
 of the level plain. Here we were
 met by a native who talks
 some English and is a Christian.
 He lives on the Selawick and
 preaches and the Snooks send
 him supplies. Mr. Johnson who
 was here last year seems to have
 tired with him and has left him
 his dog. These dogs almost all
 up in their way to see us because
 we are whites. One of them followed
 us home in spite of our remonstrance.
 There are several hundred tents
 here and it makes a beautiful
 picture, looks like a big camp
 meeting. The natives all crowded
 around us to greet us and smiled
 broadly. One went with Mr. Rock's
 tent and met his wife and

20
things croakers eat. The food is well in
and we feel this presence. We are all
well and have good appetites. Come
and I take turn cooking.

Aug 10: The natives are discussing
badly today and today they
had to guard the tent down with
a club. Some are still sick
and try to help us work
after the chimpanzee ones.

A little girl came for medicine
today. She is afflicted with
great fever. A man in the
house caught her was here a
day or two ago.
We had a good meeting last
Sunday but a Shaven tried
to disturb it. The Lord
got the victory and the
devil fled.

The natives write a great
deal at us and very sweetly
and have many good
qualities.
We pray for driftwood and it.

21
They call themselves
Nellymuck. They were almost
altogether in the wild yesterday
and we will do the same.
They have a great many
fox skins but we have thought
none yet. The natives pay
them all they are worth I
think. They give a 50 lb
back of flour for one deer skin
and we have paid the same.
Their canoes are very large
and light and four of them
will take all our goods up
the River if we think best
to go. It is very hard to
refuse them.
Aug 5th Since I wrote the above we
have moved and are now camped
near the bend of the river. Four canoes
came yesterday evening and announced
their intention to move us. Mr. Rock
was leader of the party and the first
understanded us to ask him to ask us

28 To move us when we were down to visit him. We had been undecided as to whether it was best to move again if we should go up the river in a month. We had done a big washing that day as we had had but little done since leaving home and were very tired. But the arrival of the canoe and the sappers of the natives to get us down to the rendezvous we could scarcely resist as we pulled up our stakes and let them load us all in. There were 11 dogs, 12 men and boys and four canoes and they very soon had everything in and their dogs tilted up and turned us to this place. We left about 6.30 ^{PM.} and reached here 11.30. They helped to put up the tent again and after getting things under shelter we went to sleep as the day was closing about 1 o'clock. There had been about four hours of twilight, but little darker than a cloudy day. This time seems to be their favorite time of the month.

29 hours for washing, trading, dancing, etc. We paid them 50 lbs flour to each canoe. They have been so crowded around us ever since that we can scarcely do anything. We send them away when we want to go to sleep and come always back before we are up. There is not much driftwood here and it looks as if we would have to go up the river but we think of trying to buy some coal of the Beas. We have visited their underground houses and some of them are quite comfortable. Robert thinks he could make us a very comfortable one with what lumber etc we have and the question of fuel is the only thing that would keep us from remaining here for the winter as it is most desirable for the first station we think. These people want to trade all the time. One buys their salmon, - flour for one cake of soap and down for one stick of matches or

is on his way up the Stacks
River on a prospecting tour, - will
visit there and prospect next
summer

Aug 12. The team concluded
to send our mail by the Indian
as the horses had got
arrived. The mail put it in
the box if the weather was
if not will send it down
by the first returning mail.
But had a hard ride of some
yesterday but it is warm and
light today. The land is
our Ranch and our Hingham horses
and our ~~don~~ and our ~~chickens~~.
I hope you will send some
mail to St. Michael also. We
hope as there are possible
chances to get mail from both
places. Send a letter to each

came in large quantities
a day or two ago. We are no
longer in doubt about staying
here this winter now

Robert commenced the winter
house. The natives ~~at~~ went
to work to help some of them
working a party of horses.

We gave them a dinner of
brown sugar syrup and
hard bread. They want to talk
us at everything we do
The house is to be a fine place
meeting and around to the frozen
ground and covered with sod
lined with the lumber we
brought, 8 x 12 x 12 I believe.

Our meeting Sunday was
in the open air with some
cannon over us for shelter from
the rain. I think we had an
audience of about 500
I think the natives were there
and I don't think I saw any

and we may possibly get out as the other before winter is over as natives come over from Pt. Barrow and Mr. Rock thinks the odds are maybe a trip down into the region of St Michael this winter. They say winter is the best time to travel and some of the things they are coming down are seals and sea mammals. Some of our provisions here and take a trip up with them with but we are not sure.

Yours faithfully
Anna

as to what is best for us to do this winter finally decided they could not get us up the river as their ^{small} canoes are small and full.

I think the odds are much if - very plain for us to stay here this winter but my heart yearns for the Eskimo people.

The ice had been out of there only about two weeks when we arrived we think as Mr. Rock had come across upon of the Sound on his day that two weeks before Aug 13. The note from called on us today. One is from the Eskimo Astoria and is in charge of a station at All-North and has come in here to trade. The station is a

provision for food & having a good