Copy of telegram.

To Col. Chas S. B.,

Washington June 30, 1866.

Despatch rec'd, the following is a copy of circular from Dr. Stimpson. The Chicago Academy of Sciences was burned at one o'clock the morning of June 7th. The losses are great but by no means such as to affect the utility of the institution the regular operations of which will be resumed as soon as possible. It is impracticable at the present time to estimate with any degree of accuracy the damage caused by the fire to the collections and other property of the institution. As near as can now be ascertained, the present condition is as follows. About half the animals and birds, nearly all the skins, we will be saved. Most all destroyed with the exception of the lepidoptera, dried crustacea, and echinoderma. Destroyed shells and fossils in great part saved. Very singularly and fortunately, the herbarium containing in about 2000 jars, has escaped. The herbarium, with the exception of the series of plants of the N. Pacific Exploring expedition has been saved. The library is greatly damaged by water, but most of the books will be saved by careful drying and rebinding. The plates of the forthcoming volume of the transactions, twenty in number, were much injured and some of the edition may have to be repointed. The publication of the volume will not however be greatly delayed.

Spencer F. Baird
Act. Secy. S. I.

Read July 10, 1866

Copy corrected.

W.H. Ball.
San Francisco 20 June 8, 1866

Geo. E. Walker, Esq.
President Chicago Acad. of Sciences

Dear Sir: I present for your consideration and for the information of the members of the academy, a rough draft, all that is safe to venture upon, of my plans for the scientific work of the Expedition in the future. We leave San Francisco for the Far North in a few days. I have attached to the Sci. Corps, a young man, Mr. Robert Caldwell, who will I hope be of much benefit to Science during the coming season. I regret to say that the disbanding and consequent breaking up of the Fraser River Exploring Party from the incompetency of its commander, has retained in the wilderness beyond the possibility of doing much for Natural History. Messrs. Roothrock and Elliott, F. Bishoff is still at Sitka and Bannister at Michaelovski. Major Kennicott with peace in the interior of Russian America. We have need no intelligence from any of them since our departure. Mr. Caldwell and myself leave on the flagship probably for the mouth of the Sakanon and Norton Sound, where we hope to find news of Major Kennicott and party. If there should be any doubt as to their safety, I demand and need permission to accompany
any party which may be sent to their assistance. If as we hope all is well, future projects will depend on Major Kinnicott's plans. My own was to continue on the vessel till she shall arrive at Petropavlovsk, where I proposed to remain all winter and probably during the ensuing spring letters can be sent to us through Mr. Hubbard of the P. M. S. S. Co. and will be forwarded by occasional vessels. Hoping for interest and sympathy in our work, as lively during the coming year as in the past.

I remain with respect,

Your ob't serv't,

W.M. Wall
Acting Director Sci. Corp.

[Handwritten notes on the margin]
List of Papers included in this package addressed to Major Robert Kennicott
St. Michaels, R. I.

2. Proceedings Chicago Acad. 3 sig. natures.
4. Copy of orders, for 1866, for Lieut. W. M. Hall.
5. Memorandum of crews and passengers, 1866.
6. Copy of orders for Captains and directions for collecting.
8. List of outfit furnished each vessel.
9. Cala Acad. directions for collecting.
10. Edwards. . . . . diatoms.
11. Copy of my report to Col. B. for 1865.
12. . . . Baird's last telegram about Chi.
    Acad. Sci.
15. Report to Major Kennicott up to July 1866.
16. Copy of Memorandum for Mr. Munnford.
   Copy of Circular letter announcing death
   and letter to Bischoff.
List of papers enclosed or accompanying this envelope
W. H. Hall
Copy,

Head quarters West. Un. Tel. Exp.
San Francisco May 28, 1866.

Special Order
No. 45.

I. 1st Lieut. W. H. Dall, Assistant Surgeon in charge of Scientific Corps will be permitted to stop at any station of the Company visited by the Flagship which he may select.

II. The officer in charge of the station which Lieut. Dall may select, will furnish him with the necessary quarters and rations.

III. Should it be necessary to send a party to the relief of Maj. Kennicott, Lieut. Dall has permission to accompany such party, if he wishes.

By order of Col. Chas. S. Buckley

Eng. in chief
Geo. M. Wright
Adjutant

Note. I drew the above up myself and it was approved and issued by the Col. W. N. D.
Copy of orders for 1866.

Wm. P. Ball

[Handwritten notes and signatures]
Memorandum of Ships Company and accommodations for Passengers on Board W. W. Tell Company.

**Bark “Golden Gate”**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ships Company incl. A.C.M.</th>
<th>17</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Passengers - Cabin</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fore Castle</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Total**                  |    |

| **Bark “Opal Road”**        |    |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ships Company incl. A.C.M.</th>
<th>15</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Passengers - Cabin</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forward House</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
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<td>47</td>
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| **Bark “K. L. Rutgers”**    |    |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Passengers - Cabin</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House aft.</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storage</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fore Castle</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>61</td>
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<td></td>
<td>78</td>
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| **Bark “Palmetto”**         |    |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ships Company incl. A.C.M.</th>
<th>15</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Passengers - Forward house</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fore Castle</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cabin</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Carry over**              | 192 |
Flagship "Nightingale"

Ships Company 56
Passengers Cabin 4
Ward Room 8
Storage 76 88 144

Ste. "Geo. S. Wright"

Ships Company 36
Passengers 5 35

Barst "Cara Bell"

Ships Company incl. 9, 13, 15
Passengers Cabin 1
Forward 3 4 19

Total 390
Captain Patterson,

Commanding Steamer Geo. Wright

Sir,

By authority of the Engineer in Chief, I am directed to furnish you with a copy of the enclosed directions with regard to the collection of specimens of Natural History, and the following instructions.

Such collection of objects of interest will be made as can be, without detriment to the service, and all specimens collected, will at the termination of the voyage be turned over to the Director of the Scientific Corps.

The Marine Quartermaster will take charge of specimens and equipment till such time, as they can be turned over and account for the same. Due credit will be given on the books of the Smithsonian Institution and in the Annual Report to the Engineer in Chief for any and all specimens collected.

A list of outfit accompanies this paper. Wishing you a pleasant voyage and as much success in scientific as in marine operations.

I remain

Very respectfully,

By authority of the 3

Engineer in Chief

Approved,


C. M. Hammond
Chief of Marine
Copy of orders for Captains of vessels - 1866
W. H. Hall
Directions for Collecting

Hard matters, such as bones, horns, shells, rocks or specimens of minerals, should be packed so as not to shape; a small barrel is the best casing for them, paper, hay or straw is much better than sand, or sand.

Insect specimens, particularly insects, [not caterpillars, worms or grubs] such as butterflies, flies, hooks and centipedes; Shells, particularly small ones, from rocks or keep, fish of small size and wild mice or rats or squirrels of all kinds, should be put in bottles and packed in oakum or paper, in a box.

Wind from the edges of pools or lakes, above all where it is green and green, should be dried and put in paper with careful note of the locality.

Fine thread-like green or brown seaweeds should be dried without washing and put up in the same way. These things often contain the most beautiful microscopic organisms called Diatoms.

Birdskins are particularly valuable, and should be made by a small opening in the skin, of the belly, skinning down a little, cutting off the legs, wings, and neck under the skin, and getting the body out first, and each limb and the head separately. Plenty of arsenic should be dusted on with a little ball of oaken, particularly around the head, and the back of the skull thinned off enough to take out the brains, the skull thus cleaned should remain attached to the skin, and the oaken dust ball stuffed into it. The skin should have a little
oakum stuffed into it to keep it about the same size as in life, but care should be taken not to stretch it. It should be put in a dry place. Animals the same but they are much easier to skin, the skull should be kept and numbered the same as the skin. Butterflies should be put into a piece of paper folded to make a three-cornered bag. Laid flat they will not chase much and will be of value. Dragonflies or clets darning needles the same. Rocks should be obtained from the bed rock when possible, and about the size of an orange, or two specimens of each kind. Those containing fossils or petrifications should be collected in large quantities and particularly those containing small round oval cavities within, generally of a different color from the rest of the rock, and looking like 'plums in a pudding.' These are known as pebbles, fossil earths, white, buff or chalky, of smooth texture to the hands, should be obtained in small quantities as before recommended for Diatoms.

Life and crabs may be observed on God and other large fish used for food, they should be preserved with note of kind of fish and reason.

Desirable Objects
First in value - Skulls of animals, birds, and fish of every kind, whole and broken and also their bones, they may be separated from their flesh by long continued soaking in water, boiling or scraping when fresh, Beetroots in alcohol.
Minerals and shells in alcohol, or if large, dry.

The horns of deer, skulls of walruses, seals, and bears are particularly valuable together with buttes and fossils. Many buttes may be obtained where none are to be seen by turning over stones or logs, or beating the grass along the water-side, with the cap into which they will drop; and among the piles of help etc. on the shore.

Second in value skins of birds, animals, and reptiles. Mud, clay, peavods and shells generally, agates, bright pebbles, fish, butterflies and other insects.

Flowers may be collected by simply laying the bunch in a dry place till dry, and doing it upon paper marked with the date and locality. If possible immerse to press each on a flat by putting into a press with paper it is preferable.

The following things should never be omitted.

Attach or label every specimen with date, locality, and collector's name. Fossils with the character of the beds of rock, or earth, from which they are taken, and if possible a diagram to show the position of fossils, and beds of rock visible above and below the bed from which they were taken, and the dip or inclination of the beds to any point of the compass and the angle.
Copy of directions for collecting given with Edward Draper's paper and Smithsonian or Cole Academy printed directions to the captain of each vessel with outfit.

1866,

Wm. H. Hall
Furnished each vessel

6 quires botanical paper.
2 lbs arsenic in cans.
1 notebook 100 labels.
16 pill boxes.
25 fish bags.
Six bottles ass't sizes
coiled & filled with alcoh. pure.

Furnished E. A. White

1 Empty 10-gal alcohol.
1 notebook, 100 labels.
16 Pill boxes, 25 fish bags.
1 dog 12 oz bottles corked
" 8 " "  "
19 one & two oz " "
2 lbs arsenic in cans
Lot Bot. Paper.
The within mentioned stores [see orders to captains] are in charge of Marine 2. Master, and may be used by any one, but must be accounted for at the end of the voyage in some way—by the M. 2. M. to me (for you).

W.T. Davis
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Description</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 Gross 12 Oz. W. M. Vials</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
<td>30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 &quot; 8 &quot;</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
<td>18.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 &quot; 4 &quot;</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 &quot; 1 &quot;</td>
<td>5.50</td>
<td></td>
<td>11.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 &quot; 1/2 &quot;</td>
<td>4.50</td>
<td></td>
<td>9.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Works for Above</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>13.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 &quot; 1 Dr. Hon. Pack Vials</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 &quot; 3 &quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 &quot; 4 &quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>132 &quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Works for Above</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4.38</td>
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<tr>
<td>1/4 lb. Lamp Black</td>
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**Rock & Montanaq**

<table>
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<th>Item Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2. Botanical Collecting Bats</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Leather Straps</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Geological Hammers</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>16.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Basket Net Frame</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Dudge</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Sinks (for dredgings)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leather for Dudge</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Spade</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Dudge Weight</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New for Dudge</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Iron Cane</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Geological Chucks &amp; 1 A.P.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Sinks</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Spool Blocks for Botanical Rope</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copper &amp; Labor on Frames</td>
<td></td>
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<td>1.50</td>
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**Rowm & Bacon**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Unit</th>
<th>Price</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>300 &quot; Botanical Paper</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>57.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>w/ Printing 12,000 Labels</td>
<td></td>
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<td>12.00</td>
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**Russell & Erwin, Mfg. Co.**

<table>
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<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Price</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Uncle Trap, angled edges</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3.63</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Correct: W.P. Dall
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Description</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fish bags and signs</td>
<td>950</td>
<td>$35.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Butterfly and trout nets</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beating Nets</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Light guns, 130 lbs ass'tl shot. flash</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barometers, 2 thermometers, 1 clinometer compass</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flag</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Necessary lines and ropes for dredging</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 lbs. Powdered Alum</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.25 lbs. Tin cans (No arsenic)</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 lbs. German pill box - large</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 &quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td>5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.4 lbs. English small</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 lbs. Lead subtlate</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 lbs. Chloroform</td>
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<td>5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100 Cent Salts</td>
<td></td>
<td>12.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Dog. Forces</td>
<td></td>
<td>12.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 pair. Bone forces</td>
<td></td>
<td>4.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Dog. Bird Skinning Knife</td>
<td></td>
<td>15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 &quot; Mouse Traps</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Ball 50 lbs. tow</td>
<td></td>
<td>12.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Bat. Cotton webbing</td>
<td></td>
<td>8.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stamps for labels</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 lb. (in case) plaster Paris</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Dog. Scissors</td>
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<td>7.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 lbs. Salpetrole</td>
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<td>44.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 lbs. Tannin Truine</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 lbs. Tannin Emetic</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 lbs. Yerden Breste</td>
<td></td>
<td>14.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200 gals. Alcohol 6 per cent. in case</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 lbs. arsenic</td>
<td></td>
<td>14.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Dog. Sugar Boxes</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 lb. galvanized Keys</td>
<td></td>
<td>4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 &quot; Fine &quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td>12.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Fish rings</td>
<td></td>
<td>6.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Note Bottles</td>
<td></td>
<td>13.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12,000 Labels</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 lbs. Linen thread</td>
<td></td>
<td>4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 bottle writing ink</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 &quot; Metallic</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Scrap Book</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Assorted Assorted Codes</td>
<td></td>
<td>4.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stencil Plates + Brushes</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
San Francisco June 10, 1864

Dear Sir,

The Expedition starts again for the north in a few days. The prospect for the success of the scientific work is good. To the liberality of Col. Chas. S. Bulkley, and Capt. C. M. Lawton U. S. R. M. we as well as the scientific world at large are deeply indebted. To their we owe constant kindness and assistance events personal collecting for the objects in view; and also a liberal outfit for making and preserving collections. We hope to find Messrs. Kennicott, Banister, Price and Bischoff in good spirits and successful in their undertakings. Since they were left in the North now I have been heed from any of them and will not be till we return. I may very possibly if the prospect for making collections is good, remain during the coming winter in the far North. Hobing for your continued interest and sympathy in our work while absent remain ye
Circular letter to scientific friends.

W. H. Ball
Dear Robert,

Although I shall probably see you, and hope to deliver this in person, yet a few systematic notes will convey more than a great deal of talking and pave the way to a clearer understanding of the subject. This is my "Report."

We left you at St. Michaels, sailed to Clover Bar, where we found the steamer; remained a few days, sailed and arrived safely at Petropavlovsk, where the steamer and Col. B. soon joined us, having visited Anadyr Gulf and River and left some additional supplies with Macready's party, who were well, but had a very deficient outfit, if outfit it might be named. The Russians treated us with great kindness while we remained. We sailed three days after the steamer and arrived at San Francisco the afternoon of the same day, the 30th of November, 1865.

The collections were good, though not extra ordinary in number. They amounted to some ten thousand specimens of various kinds, many few birds, and no eggs, and were mostly of my own personal collection. My Report to Col. Bulkley embodies the particulars.
For some little time after our arrival I was occupied in repacking and despatching the specimens collected, and letters to those persons whom were mentioned in our last conversation. Very long and full (25 pp's) to Prof. Brain, Dr. Torrey, Mr. Walker and Stimpson embodying all facts relative to your experience with the expedition, your plans, and outfit. Other letters (some 20 in number) as suggested. (See letterbook.)

Bridge, the naturalist, died of yellow fever on his way back from Nicaragua. I wrote a short memorial of him, otherwise assisted his widow, and secured the very valuable though somewhat injured, collections of plants (Bolivian and Botanists) and specimens (Nicaraguans) for the Institution, as a gift.

I started in, in good earnest, with Stearns to rejuvenate the Cada Academy. The time has not yet come for moving outside of the members, and no salvation will ever arise from among them. Prof. Whitney, Stearns

I however, got the Academy into new and pleasant rooms, and paid the expenses among us of moving and filling up the new rooms. Stearns and I did most of the work ourselves. Stearns is a diamond of the first water.

I will give you the details by quires of months.
Getting a breathing spell, and finding that political reasons would probably prevent the proposed trip down the coast in the Revenue Cutter, I went down to Monterey, paying all expenses out of my own pocket, and remained three weeks; I worked like a horse and roused all the town to picking up shells on the beach. I was able to collect on the beach only, but succeeded in making a better collection by far than had ever been done by any one else, not excepting Cooper who dredged. I obtained some twelve or fifteen new species.

On my return I worked over them for some time, making a very valuable paper on them, which I forwarded with most of the shells to Carpenter, via the S.S.

After much scolding and the intercession of Prof. Baird I got a copy of Carpenter's old Reports on the West Coast Shells, for which I sent him ten dollars in gold.

I prepared several small papers for the Caba Academical Proceedings.

I started in to get a gold outfit, which had to be done slowly and cautiously; and I got it. Details must be deferred till we meet.

Dr. Fisher having gone last, I proceeded by order of the Colonel to superintend the fitting out of the medical part of the Expedition now numbering seven vessels.
This was a long and tedious job but I put it through to the complete satisfaction of everybody, getting through on a Saturday and the doctor getting back the following Monday. Of course the generous temperate Christian gentleman was delighted! The bills were all paid on my approval, and he didn’t make his percentage on them.

About this time I was promoted as assistant surgeon with rank of First Lieutenant. After this work was finished I put everything in order for sea and waited till the 10th of July as we did last year, on which day we sailed direct for Plover Bay; the Colonel having started two weeks before on the Wright for Petropavlovsk to meet us at Plover Bay.

The Badger was swapped off for the bark Forward; the bark Rutgers and the ship Nightingale were purchased. The steamer Saginaw was ordered to report to us by the Naval Department.

So much for what I have been doing now for what happened outside and at home so far as I can write it out for you. Particularly by word of mouth...
As I previously mentioned, I wrote freely to Prof. Baird and to Chicago, and also a pleasant letter to your mother and have written to her from time to time, since. There was no reply or acknowledgement of letters from Chicago at all, till March 7th when a short note was received from Slapton nearly four months from the posting of my letter.

As arranged with you at St. Michael's, I opened your business letters; otherwise I should be in the dark today as to the state of things at Chicago. I read papers and letters from Mr. Colby and others which revealed the fact that a proposition was on foot to remove the Academy seven miles from the business center of the town, by the University and Douglas' grave; the consideration being a small lot on a back street.

In the papers Mr. Walker was represented as favoring the removal. In my letter and from Prof. Marcy afterwards (he coming out as geologist to an Idaho wagon road survey) I learned that the University was endeavoring to consolidate everything around it, that would be useful to it, and that movement would favor among those railroad and lumber speculators, somewhat settled at Mr. Walker's.
not the less so, because I had asked him to write
and ask others to write as a personal favor. I
thought that it might perhaps do something
to prevent the removal if I wrote stating
opinion you had expressed to me about such
a removal. I wrote a copy of my letter is
enclosed in one to you from him. Soon
after I read a letter dated March 13th, the very
pleasant but finding fault because I had
not written since my first letter, as if it
was his private amanuensis, and not worth
the trouble of an acknowledgment itself.
Since then, however, that nothing should
be wanting on my part, I have written
frequently and however irritated I may
have been, have been carefully polite
and explicit in all that could interest
him. I have written to him two letters
including the first long one.
By return of mail I read a letter from
Walker which with my answer to it will
be found enclosed in one of his to you.
I have heard nothing from him since
and have only one other letter from him on
It is busy but in a man of Walker's habit
it is simply " airs", this dignity which can-
not stop to an act of common politeness.
I appreciate fully Mr. Walker's value to the
academy and to you as a friend, his excell-
ent business facilities and what he has done and doubts will do for science; but I see quite as clearly that his opinion of me is such a one as is incompatible with any further friendly feeling than is exhibited in the usual form of politeness. He thinks I can patronize one, who has always moved when at home, in society which would hardly be open today, to Mr. Walker, and one who by birth and breeding is at least his equal. I have however as I said before been carefully polite in all my letters to him.

The Academy was not removed. A historical notice of it by Dr. Andrews concluding with a report on the condition of the Museum at date by Dr. Stimpson, was issued as an opening publication, by the Academy, and was followed by proceedings the only objection to which was the small size of type and paper and a lack of scientific matter. They are small octavo, Brevier type; but large octavo and Bourgeois type, would have been every way better. I infer that the press and part of the preservk of the first volume of the transactions were on hand when we left but have no definite knowledge of it. The historical notice, with which the proceedings should have corresponded and the signature already read accompany this report.
About this time Mr. Walker, with his usual sagacity, raised the insurance to 100,000.00. Stimpson was going right on to Washington to take the Academy's share of the year's collections, but I wrote to Prof. Baird protecting against it, and all the collections will be reserved intact till the Natural History work connected with the Expedition is finished. I have written by every steamer mail to Prof. Baird and must make my acknowledgments for his prompt replies and hearty cooperation and sympathy from the first. Storrs returned from Arizona and has gone East with one hundred thousand印s. Cores has done the same and adds ten or twelve new species of birds to the U.S. Fauna. The Collections made by us at Grey town afforded one new sp. of bird, and Holland, Mr. Frantiez, and Nickle a dozen or two more. Marcy has gone to Montana as geologist to a wagon road survey through an unknown region. He returns this fall. Prof. Dana writes to me that the Brazilian party have broken up almost entirely the great "I Am" has treated his fellow-workers very badly.
They are said to have spent one hundred thousand dollars already, and have procured two thousand new species of fresh water fishes in the Amazon River. Old Anthony came back from Rio and did not do much. King has been measuring mountains in Arizona and is back on the survey again. Whitney's two first volumes of the Cala Survey Report are out, I have them with me. Also some other new books by Clarke, Agassiz and others. And among general news all the way, Andy Johnson has followed Tyler in truckling to the South, but Congress has passed a Civil Rights Bill over his veto and an amendment to the Constitution. The Fenians a secret Irish Society of great power, have invaded Canada, beaten the Canadians in three battles but were subdued by U.S. Troops sent by Andy. A general war has broken out in Europe. Russia backed by neutral France and Italy have attacked Austria, and most of the small German States about a quarrel for the stolen Danish Duchies. It is likely to change the map of Europe. Russia has conquered Central Asia nearly to Northern India, greatly to the disgrace of England. Marx is nearly driven out of Mexico.
and the pope is shaky in Rome.
Now for bad news about the Academy.
First, there was a robbery there, and they lost several hundred dollars while Thompson was at the S.G. Second, a week or two before we left, Bown telegraphed that there had been a fire there and half the collections lost. I telegraphed for particulars for you, and as the line was down it was not until the day before we sailed that the reply came, showing it was not quite so bad as that. But, bad enough. You will get the telegrams from Chappell and the Colonel. Nothing was said as to the origin of the fire.

The Lycceum of Natural History of New York was burned up a day or two after and a fire occurred in Salem, occasioning some loss to the Essex Institute which is rapidly rising in importance. Nothing new at the S. G.? No students at the Hams.

Cortex, Zoology, Agassiz says he will have no more. Hope is working at mammals and Geology. I got Agassiz to send all his pieces (Cateni) to Yale for the Survey Rep. Caka gold Rocks proved Jurassic. That is all the scientific news I know.

Now for civil matters on which I must be brief for prudence's sake till I see you.
Most of us were quartered on the vessels during the winter. Everything was lovely for a while. The first part of the season resembled last year's style very much. All the drummers and fife-suckers imaginable were "on the Expedition." The disregard of discipline, rule or order in the land service was much the same. Wright & Chappel were made Majors. Lewis a Captain, and a host of new officers enjoyed the sweets of brass buttons and shoulder-straps for the first time; the Company uniform adorned the brothel, the street, and not infrequently the ditch--Nye was dismissed, but believe me others easier spared than even he were left; Fisher went home on leave. A man (Conlin) was dismissed and sent home for drunkenness and returned by the next steamer, with orders to reinstate him from New York. Ships were bought. Capt. Seymour need further leave of absence. The work of fitting out the vessels and purchasing the marine store was taken from him. Davidson and Glover faithful and devoted officers were refused further leave of absence by the Dept, partly through the machinations of Wright and Fisher. A new second in command arrived from New York named Frank W. Wicker, Lieut. Calm rank. He is a
pleasant but inefficient officer, whose chief point is his conceit and jealousy of any doubt or question with regard to his rank and authority. He is considered the handsomest man of the Expedition. He acted as purchasing agent, in connection with Wright and Schappert. The steamer was rebuilt almost, under the superintendence of Cover and the Col, not in accordance with Capt. Scammemore plans at an outlay of some fifty thousand dollars. The Colonel's brother-in-law, Mr. Palmer came out. I do not know what his office will be. T. W. Knox, correspondent of the N. Y. Herald came out to go over to Siberia with us and so round to St. Petersburg. A gentleman of the bed chamber of Russia was sent out as commissioner by the Russian Government. His name is Anassov and he is intended to report everything done by the Company directly to the Government. He is very pleasant and gentlemanly, but too nervous, frank and excitable to be a good spy. He will not visit the American side this year. Lastly one of the directors, Mr. Mumford, an excellent business man, very energetic, perhaps a little too much so for comfort, but well disposed toward the scientific work, and superior
to everyone in authority on this coast.

No important changes were made however as it was too late to do anything except

away off the expedition. I have good rea-

son to believe that there will be an examina-

tion into the previous conduct of the ex-

pedition on their return this fall and

that the result will be materially affected

by the success or failure of this season's

work. The Clara Bell sailed for Petropav-

lovsk early in May, in charge of Capt. Lat-

ton, lands having been discharged for its

obedience of orders. She put into Magdalen

leaky and soon sailed again. The Rodman (a

large bark) sailed for Plover Bay soon afterward

in charge of Capt. Anderson, the Palmetto

Capt. Anthon for Royal Legend and Plover

Bay. The Steamer, with the Colonel, Knox,

Anassof, Lewis and others under Capt. Patterson

(Marston having resigned) for Petropavlovsk

last by July 11. Golden Gate Capt. standing

with Wickers and a lot of contractors for

Plover Bay, and the Nightingale Capt.

that with Mrs. Maynard Wright

Chappel, myself and a host of others and

two river steam wheel steamers aboard

for Plover Bay. The we fitting out for Col.

Wickers state rooms on the gate (Col. last

year) cost six hundred dollars $600.
That red-haired Walker, the man whose carelessness caused half your outfit last year, was going on the Nighthawks for first officer; but he brought two whores on board the vessel, took them into his room, and afterwards went up the block all three drunk and smoking; Mrs. Irwin, man being on board at the time, took the necessary measures and he was dis
charged. The Col. assigned a young man to assist me, named Caldwell, a very good fellow, but Fisher, in a fit of necessity, put him on board the vessel by Wickers' authority; after the Col had done as acting surgeon, he being a medical student. I entered a written protest against this as unauthorized, which brought down on me the whole force of U.S. mightily indig
nating; however, I still survive. I am in hopes of regaining Caldwell when I see the Colonel at Plover Bay, if the Col. is there. I find Wright to be open and my worst enemy. He is only worthy of notice and watching, because he is utterly with
out principle; and an adept in double
meanings and deceit, while professing
great friendship. Watch him sharply!

?? Chappell. My plans for the season de-
pendant on you, a good deal more follows.
Having secured a good outfit, a small one together with orders and instructions approved by the Col. and countersigned by the Captain, was put aboard every vessel of the fleet; though I doubt if we get much in return except perhaps from the vale where Caldwell is. The outfit is received for, and can be called for at any time; or must be accounted for, if not there.

I go up on the Nightingale to Flower Bay shall then endeavor to see you by going to St. Michaels, if I do not see you or if I cannot get there I shall go the rounds and winter at Petropavlovsk, the vessels returning to Frisco. Petrop. is a good place for trading, birds, and mammals, and there are three American Merchants there.

I have outfit enough for two seasons (200 gals alcohol & 250 lbs Arsenic) with gunny and it is of no use to return to San Francisco for the whole Spring is lost.

No ship has come down or gone up to Sitka, except one which went to the Sandwich Islands and wish 9ds; therefore I have no news from Bischoff and none of our ships will touch there so that I am puzzled what to do about him. He ought to have written by the Honolulu ship but did not.

Maynard sunked and went home. Elliott
was promised to me by the Colonel this year but refused, and has given up the idea of doing any scientific work. Rothcock is in the interior and has made no sight of collecting. Pope’s party was a total failure, but Pope himself and one other went alone to the St. Kew area, and report favorable. Most of the party have returned, Elliott is, he says Conway’s adjutant, and Conway is very jealous of you.

In conclusion I have to say that in all I have attempted I have met with a reasonable degree of success. The Colonel has been liberal and kind. Capt. Wicker has been accommodating except when I stood on the toes of his dignity, and Capt. Scammon has been as ever, a trump card.

I hope of soon meeting you face to face, my dear friend. And finding you well and success just. I remain ever truly yours.

[Signature]

Maj. A. H. Mitchell

No. 21. — Mule arid oxen at Fort Ross.
Dear Sir,

As director of the operations on this coast, a succinct account of the past and present operations of the Scientific Corps, may not be uninteresting. Robt. Kennicott, J. T. Rothrock, W. H. Dall, H. M. Bannister, N. W. Elliott and F. Bischoff, left New York in the spring of 1865, under circumstances with which you are probably familiar. Upon our arrival in San Francisco all were diligently employed in preparations for the coming season. Mr. Rothrock, Elliott, and Bannister, were assigned to Major Frank Popee exploring party in Brit. Columbia. With the exception of Bannister the exigencies of the service have so far prevented them from doing any natural history work of moment. They have, however, been energetic and successful in the prosecution of their duties as Explorers; so much so, that when it was proposed to detach Mr. Elliott for service, during the coming season on the main expedition, in hopes that his leisure would afford material aid to the Scientific work, Major Conway refused to comply with the order of the Engineer-in-chief, saying that he could not be spared. Major Kennicott on the Wright as Chief of the Russian Am. Exploring party, Mr. Bischoff on the Golden Gate as Explorer, and myself as Acting Surgeon, with rank of Second Lieut., started July 14th from Drake's Bay for the North. Upon our arrival at Sitka Dr. Fisher at once took charge of the medical Dept. and I was transferred to the Marine Corps, as purser to the Golden Gate. Mr. Bischoff, being dangerously ill was left at Sitka in Hospital, since which we have had no news from him. It would
be highly desirable if arrangements could be entered into, by which he might be taken to some one of the Northern stations where our vessels touch, by the annual expedition or tour of the Governor from Sitka. I mention this as I understand that none of the company's vessels will touch at Sitka. Mr. Barnister was brought from New Westminster by the Milton Badger, having been transferred from Major Pope's command. He was left as assistant storekeeper to Mr. Bean at St. Michaels, and was supplied with meteorological observations; which, his previous experience at the Smithsonian Institution will render very valuable. Mr. Kennicott with his party were left on the eve of departure for the Russian post of Nulato on the great bend below the rapids on the Yukan River. It is very doubtful if the exigencies of the service have allowed them to do any Natural History work so far. On the completion of the voyage by our arrival at San Francisco, some fifteen large boxes were forwarded to the Smithsonian Institution. They contained some ten thousand specimens of all descriptions, many of them unique or nearly so and of great value to naturalists. At my own expense, with the permission of Col. Bulkeley, I made a visit to Monterey Col. for the purpose of collecting and succeeded beyond expectations, surpassing all previous collectors in the number and variety of specimens obtained. They have been forwarded to the Smithsonian Institution. Through the far-sighted liberality of Col. Bulkeley an excellent but not extravagant outfit, for the future has been obtained. The liberal and enlightened policy of the
Directors at home and the commanders of the expedition on this coast will be appreciated by naturalists in all parts of the world and its results will keep their memory green when some cheaper and faster mode of communication has supplanted the Telegraph! The prospective plans in relation to the Nat. Hist. work depend much upon the news to be sent from Major Kennicott the director. But at present they include my remaining at some Northern post during the winter, in the capacity of Quartermaster or Surgeon which will allow of my leisure being appropriated to Natural History. This will include Meteorological and Trigonometrical Surveys of the adjacent region, as far as circumstances will admit. Mr. Anassof has promised me the aid of the Russian authorities which will greatly facilitate the work. I have taken the liberty of making this communication that the operations of the Sea Corps should be definitely and clearly understood. I would request that it be kept as private as the interests of the service will allow.

I remain respectfully, Wm. H. Wall
Acting Surgeon in charge Sea Corps.

Mr. G. H. Mumford
Director W. H. Tel. Co. 3
San Francisco Co-1

N.B. I made this communication to Mr. Mumford in view of pending investigations next fall when I may be away, and no one to deny that the Sea Corps were a set of fellows who did nothing but catch 'ups' in brass buttons in high salaries.

W. N. D.
It is my melancholy duty to inform you of the sudden and untimely death of Major Robert Kennicott, Director of the Chicago Academy of Sciences and Chief of Explorations in Russian America.

His death occurred May 31, 1866, at the Russian post of Nutara in Russian America, of heart disease superinduced by excessive anxiety and care in relation to the success of the party and the explorations of which he had charge.

A more honest, true and energetic gentleman never lived. Devoted to Natural History, he died while seeking to advance it; the annals of American science will bear witness to his success, and the hearts of all who knew him will feel. No one knew him but to love him and his death leaves to his friends a void never to be filled.

The work which he contemplated and left unfinished, I have pledged myself to carry out, to the utmost extent of possibility. If life and health are spared, the Natural History work notwithstanding this heavy blow...
shall yet be a success as far as I am competent to make it so.

I remain in the country this winter, and shall endeavor to penetrate to the interior so as to reach the most northern points by spring.

The work of the past season interrupted as it has been, as however under the circumstances satisfactory.

With deep regret I sign myself

W.B. Hall

Chief of Scientific Corps Will. Sel. Exp.

[Signature]

20 copies