

Curtis Foster

1886  
Shoshone Idaho Dec 30th

My dear Sir

I wrote you one letter since I arrived here the first of the month. If you answered the same I did not receive it. However I will try and keep you posted as well as I can until I return which I think of doing about the 15th of January. The weather has been just splendid all the time since my arrival. No snow only on the Mountain peaks where it always can be seen. It is as warm as May in the east.

Insects, are floating in the air, Green Grass has started in many places and the Cattle & Horses are looking fine all through the Country. Well, you will be glad to know how we are progressing with our enterprise I will say first that every move I have made since I left New York has been intirely satisfactory which is a relief to me, after so much hard work in the east with small results. We have enlarged our House to accomodate the help. I have also put in

twelve days surveying the Dam, Ditch, and Canal with entire satisfaction, also prepared the survey in readiness to locate some of the best land.

I have contracted with an eastern man to put in the Dam. He has already put in about one thousand cubic yards of rock and every day work is progressing rapidly.

I came here to the M.P. Car Shops today to hurry up the Dump Cars & Rail to be used on the Dam. They are nearly ready to ship. In about four days they will be on the ground and this will complete the outfit. Well Mr. Dorsey at the Ferry is willing to turn the Ferry over to us and take a little stock. He also has a small band of horses, about one hundred, which he will sell us at a low price giving his services to the Company at a fair price. This I have under consideration. Mr. Gans of whom I have spoken to you about, will sell us his entire herd of Cattle something more than three thousand head and take a portion of his pay in stock. Would eastern Capital respond as liberally as western men do, we would soon see a great success in our undertaking.

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I shall return to the Ranch again in a day or two seeing that all is left in the best possible shape. Then go to Boise City and locate a few sections of the best land in the most desirable places. After doing all I can for the present I shall return home about the 15th of the month to pull again on that end of the wire. I am besieged here every day with many people desiring to locate land under our Canal. All the country is ripe for the movement. In fact I never saw our enterprise in all of its bearings as favorable as I do now. I am sure it has never been overrated. I am sorry to leave here so soon. Should be glad to stay all winter to push things along, although I think it best to come east a few months and return again in early Spring to give things another push in the right direction.

I have written about twenty letters today so I will close this and tell you the rest when I have the pleasure of seeing you.

With kind regards to Mr. Brown and your whole family I remain yours truly  
W. B. Phillips