On Salmon River [illegible] 4 [illegible]

My Dear Austin

I have owed you a letter for some time [illegible] the very irregular life that a miner necessarily leads [illegible] writing at all both difficult and irksome. I have been now for some months in the mines and find [illegible] to regret that instead of remaining in Oregon [illegible] employed in projects that turned out abortive, I had [illegible] entered them before the cream was taken off. [illegible] I have undertaken the want of capital has [illegible] & to have obtained this by direct means should [illegible] my first effort. It is now late to begin, but [illegible] success hitherto has not been flattering. I do [illegible] despair of bettering my fortunes yet. If you have [illegible] ty about the operations in this part of the [illegible] get Wolcott to show you a letter I wrote [illegible] ago, giving details of mining &c. The northern [illegible] those of the Klamath & its tributaries [illegible] are called, have not hitherto proved as rich [illegible] on the Sacramento or still further south. [illegible] however still undeveloped & this has been [illegible] inducement to prefer them, as well as the [illegible] that I had already become acquainted [illegible] try, and that the outfit required was [illegible] elsewhere. I have been for the last fortnight [illegible] in a "prospecting" excursion, examining [illegible] a number of the tributaries of this river [illegible] of the larger branches of the Klamath [illegible] successful in finding rich diggings in the [illegible] we took, I believe that I have hit upon [illegible]

[illegible] very warmly to you [illegible] & the [illegible] Wolcott as [illegible] always to [illegible] San [illegible] my letters [illegible] & sisters [illegible] circumstances [illegible] the country [illegible] sources of [illegible] which is the [illegible] not [illegible] directed [illegible] which

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