

April 11 - 1964

Dear Dorothy

So glad to get your letter yesterday and I know how busy you are - also agree strongly about what "they" have done to the Lone Pine paper. I expect Steller is at the bottom of it - when he first took over I thought he was doing a good job - but as time passed I began to change my opinion & this has finished him with me. I'm also telling Todd what I think about the whole thing, he "loves" my little billet-doux.

Nancy Williams

died Sept. 13 - 1877

age 45 yrs.

The white marble shaft erected by the miners & townspeople contributions ordered from San Francisco & sent by ship to San Pedro & then by freight team to Darwin, probably by Maclean. The sand for the cement base was brought from the sand hills through which the old toll road wound its way

before reaching the old stone corral
on the lake shore, which was a
camping place for freight teams to
Keeler on the south ^{west} side of the lake.
This was good water ^{spring} warm in the
morning and vapor could be seen
rising. This road was used until the
early 1900's when Silas Reynolds ^{about 1906} as
superior of 5th district built the road
from the mouth of the canyon, where
later road improvements were built.
The old road wound down the canyon
until 1934[?] when the cut was made &
which covered the old stone toll house
just inside the mouth of the canyon -
just across from the stone cabin is
what we children named the "Devil's
Armchair" - still there on the north east
bank of the canyon wall, this is red in
the black malpais. When we were children
in the 1900's Mrs Loughrey & other, then
old timers would tell us stories of past
days and our favorite of course was about

3). Nancy Williams. Her house was down the street, Main St. about where my home was. She rented rooms & 2 young fellows rooming there thought she had four hundred dollars hidden - she wouldn't tell them so they murdered her - one story they cut her throat while she slept - another they beat her & another shot her - the throat cutting seemed to be the true story. She was held in high respect by everyone - a kind woman with a helping hand for anyone who needed it, the fellows were caught, but what happened to them is lost to the memory of all. There weren't any trees in Darwin high enough to hang anything, let alone a couple of murderers, no doubt some kind of justice was meted out... When I start this writing business, memories gather speed and my pen can not keep up. The monument has stood firm and strong all these years - until in the '40's when some of the boys on the Hill would

use the head stones for 22 target practice. I protested vigorously to Sheriff Oline, who came down & did a little talking to the people on the hill; but some damage had been done. Anaconda ruined our little old town of Darwin - in all its history, never had there been the class of people that came in during the '40's, trash of the worst kind - of course there were many fine folk - the lower kind did not last long at a time, but others followed. Darwin's introduction to 'Hinos'. The for going opinion is just between you & me! Anaconda can afford and don't care, to let the place fall to pieces. They claimed to have a body of ore to last for 75 yrs. but there is always an end & the way they were taking it out & shut down suddenly. the ore was no longer there. Just my opinion.... I gathered a lot of notes while I was away but have not picked up the Darwin story where I left off last

5) fall - simply could not get any writing
done while at Dick's & it keeps nagging
at me" to get at it - when I do, I never
know when to stop and mental & physical
fat sets in. I jot down bits of this and
that as the thoughts come to me on any
thing handy at the time & then hunt for
them when I want to use them! Wallace
Campbell⁴⁹ used to do so much reminiscing
at various times of when we were kids
& of the stories of earlier days, too bad
we did not make notes, but we did it
to entertain others... That Steve Ginsberg!
I finally told him no more information
from me. I had 2 pictures of Mulespaugh
printed for him and he never so much
as acknowledged them. Jew! If you get
one of his books let me know - we both are
entitled to an autographed one after all we
put up with from him. I hope he does
not get any pictures or information, I
kick myself every time I think of him and
his bull headed persistence in calling
Mulespaugh a "Ghost Town" after repeatedly

telling him it was no town but a privately
owned mining Camp - Post Office or no
Post Office! Well I'd better climb down off
that horse... I wish I had been up home
to attend the Bottle exhibit, would have
made my few loot like a drop in a big
bucket. I had a wonderful collection over
at Camp that I had gathered during
the years when I was growing up, for no
reason, no collectors then, but they were
such a beautiful deep purple. I had them
hid out & when the boys & I went up
home in 1930 we gathered them all up -
packed them a couple of miles up the
canyon & over the hill and cached them
in an inaccessible spot - then was foolish
enough to tell some "friends" Hilda Bixley
& Charles King who had the Outpost in
Darwin. After we went back to Pasadena
for the winter they went over & did a thorough
job of hunting & next year when we went
back - no bottles - not a one! We always
knew they did it, but of course they kept

7) the evidence out of our sight and sold to the tourists who at that time traveled through Darwin. The world is full of petty people... I had intended staying over in Goldfield & doing some exploring - but it was blowing & a bitter wind & just too cold. Those were booming towns when I was a little kid. The Smedley Butler who discovered Mezzpah. Well, I've rambled on long enough - it will take all your day off to wade through this - Oh, yes. enclosed is a dollar for my "Newsletter" due May 1st. No damage here by the tidal wave, King Salmon & Fields Landing just south of Eureka and Samoa on the north of Humboldt Bay were evacuated when warning of the wave came. I listened until 3.30 A.M. & the danger was past - of the returns coming in from Alaska & then Crescent City 70 miles north on 101. Suddenly the water in Humboldt Bay dropped 6 ft. then 3 ft. came back but that was all - some boats torn loose from their moorings & a lot of logs floating in the bay.

the first 2 waves did no damage at B.C.;
then the 3rd went up Elk Creek & back into
town about 3 ft. of water - folks thought that
was it & relaxed then the 4th wave 12 to
19 ft. high came straight into the town
from the sea & destroyed 19 sq. blocks.
The town has dug itself out of several floods
& from a dirty little old town that I first
saw in 1947 had gradually built itself
into a nice clean place. No one was
allowed in town who did not have business
there - 101 re-routed around for 10 days,
now open to travel but no one can stop
for right seeing. They have pulled them-
selves up by their boot straps - cleaned
& burned most of the terrible mess. And
the folks in Alaska seem to be doing the
same, a heart breaking task - the damag-
ing thing is so little loss of life. God does
watch over his people. In listening to the ball
game - RO! Steller is not satisfied with messing
up our paper, now he wants to be Superior. I
tell Jack Hopkins is doing a good job! The
picture of Christy person who plane in last
week's "paper" brings back memories of a thrilling

9) day and I looked just like the lady by the tail. Milo & I came in from Darwin to see this great celebration - bouncing out of one hole into another on what we called roads in those good old days. Every one had cracks in their necks from gazing up!... It was raining this morning, then the gusty wind came up & blew all the clouds away - clear & cool, have so much work in my yard waiting for me, got a couple mornings in last week between rains. Easter was a dark gloomy day.

Sunday - Clear & day & a brisk breeze, have been working in my yard and now have other letters to answer while I listen to the ball game. Then you have an odd moment and I know how scarce they are - write. I hope the Mill-spaugh trip does not come off for awhile. I might make it up home in time, it is never too hot over there and can be a summer trip, camp was 6157' at the flat stone by the well, when these bench marks were placed the geological survey

Boys stayed at camp with us and worked
from there, this was in the summer
of 1906. They placed a bench mark on
top of Matatrango Peak at that time.
8839' Lees Pk. 8156' + Louisiana 6880'
and Argus Pk. which appears to be high
is 6549'. Take care of your self, tell
Mavis "hello". I close with love.

Elizabeth