

as of your letter Dec 15 '1977

Jan 10 " 1978.

Dear Mr Irwin. Of course all pictures I send to the Museum are to be kept there. I've been going through old films & having them printed to send to you. Now I've spent a couple days going through notes etc. I just shut up when I think of them and so have to look them up when I want information! I should take a week off and copy them in a tablet! As I've been looking up my Indian dates etc. and came across the enclosed copy of a letter to Anne & George Pipkin - Irona. Good friends of Indian George & his family. I'm sending "as is" and you can copy off what you want and please return to me. I'm sort of "writ out" and can't take time to copy it all off - you know by now how I write! So I'll appreciate you're returning this. Pipkin's and I have corresponded for years about our old times many of whom he knew after moving to Irona in the early '40s ¹⁹⁴² and they had Wild Rose Canyon in the '40s - taking over from C. J. Babcock (Cyrus K.) who and the Park Service did not see eye to eye. 1942. Wild Rose changed hands 5 times after 1950 when Pipkin's sold. Last were Lloyd & Kay Sample "The King & Queen" who "got bigger" than The Park Service and eventually the Park Service took over. and now no one has it - I understand - was a lovely "way station". I got side-tracked again! "Panamint George". Indian George Hanson was born about 1844 some where in Death Valley as close as he could tell - always spoke of his father as "a Good man - no killum" when the '49'ers came through his people were very few - in all probably 100 - widely scattered in small bunches - no community settlement - as he remembered and word had come on a head by

a runner of the strange looking people who robbed camps of the
Indians when they passed them of - food they had "cached" so when
George - (Bah-Vanda-Rava-Nee-Kee) "boy who ran away" and his
dad sat on a hill side - he was 5 yrs. he thought - and watched
the '49ers struggle through - they were afraid to help - as a child
I listened eagerly to his stories - the "little white girl". In those
days they spent summers in the Panamint Mts - Telescope Peak
country and winters in Death Valley - later at Warm Springs in
Panamint Valley (miss called Indian Ranch) now is a small
reservation - later he worked with Dr. R. J. George - whose name
he took - the Hanson was added later - as a lad in 1860 when he
acted as a guide for the party - hunting for the mythical ^{gunsight} ~~treasure~~
where silver was picked up by some of the scattered '49ers - no
doubt Panamint City. The party traces of the '49ers Death Valley
party and "found on a smooth clay bed near one of the camps
a record of the occurrence" - drawings of men & women & oxen
with children on their backs - no doubt the Bennett party and
no rain had destroyed the drawings - this can be taken with
a grain of salt! - about (186) 1880 - or thereabouts George married
Panamint Tom's daughter - her Indian name I don't recall -
she was nice but very shy and kept in the back ground - George
always spoke of her as "my wife - he" so we always said "your
wife" - "how is she" - & he would say "my wife - he plenty sick" in
the 1900's - she died at Warm Springs around 1910. they buried
their dead and no one knew where. . now are buried, but none
left at Warm Springs - is leased out. last time I was there in
1970 a woman was living there - white - Kirk Barker, Mrs. James -
she was a friend of Addie Hanson and interested in the family - (Mike
Hanson's oldest daughter) more later as I get the family down for you!
George & his wife had "Bill Johnson" about 1884 and Mike Hanson

3) 1885 and daughter Isabelle 1882 about - all born at Warm
Springs. "Panamint Tom" was a renegade in 1880's - said to have
killed 9 white men - bragged a lot - by late 1890's Uncle Tom
caught up with him and he became a "good Indian" and in
early 1900's came often to our place - a big man & snow white
hair - in his 90's then - was a chief and ran things until his
death in 1907 some time about then and so George became "Panamint
George" - his wife was supposed to be of the Cozo Indians - they
married into other tribes - both small tribes. if so he probably
met her when with Dr. George's party who traveled to old Cozo &
through the Cozo Mts and Argus range from Death Valley - must
have covered a lot of country - - - an aside - seems that the Thormans
were also mining in the Amargosa region in 1850's - not verified
tho... In the 1860's the Cozo Indians fought among themselves
in Dec 1869 an Indian woman was shot and killed by her
camp fire as she sat holding her 6 month old baby daughter
in her arms.