

Sevier
Alert Bay. 17.
2 Aug. 1885-

My Dear Father,

We arrived here yesterday
morning quite late, & as this happens
to be Sunday are making it an
off day. This place is opposite the
mouth of the Nimpkish River, on the
western part of Vancouver Island.
Postal communication is rather infrequent
a steamer making weekly trips. We
just missed it in coming in last
night & so this letter may have to
wait three weeks or so, but I write
in the hope of some chance
turning up sooner. Alert Bay
contains an Indian Village, a
Sledman Cannery & Ch. of England

mission only so that it is not
 a very lively place at the best of times
 & the Cannery has just been shut
 down for the season, the only work
 now going on there being the boiling
 etc of the Cans. Salmon is so
 low priced at present that few
 of the Canneries along the Coast are
 doing much & a number are
 closed altogether. Weather continues
 fine & work progresses fairly,
 though not so fast as I could
 wish, & with rather wanton
 results so far as rocks are
 concerned. Granite rocks everywhere,
 with or for but one specimen of Trilobites

the Crataegus, & this largely
 volcanic in an altered state
 & probably identical with the
 volcanic Triassic rocks of
 the Queen Charlotte Islands.

I forgot to say that we found no
 mail here & in fact expected to
 find none, as the notification
 of change of address from Covert
 did not reach Victoria in time
 to let the letters come up on the
 last steamer. I may be here,
 however, yet for a few days &
 shall be back later again when
 I hope to find a good collection

of mail matter waiting. It will
 then be in order also to write again &
 at a rather length with some chance
 of sending letters away.

Dowling, one of your men whom you
 know is with me turns out very well.
 Is easy to get along with, quick, &
 is becoming quite a nautical
 character.

With kind regards to all the
 family - all I suppose enjoying
 themselves at water which is only
 another shore of the same great sea

Yours
 George