

Fort Vancouver, 4<sup>th</sup> March 38.

John Stuart Esq.

My Dear Sir,

Your most acceptable and welcome favor of 10<sup>th</sup> Feb. 37. came duly to hand, and believe me the news it conveyed of your welfare, was to me of the most pleasing nature, and sincerely hope the present will find you in the enjoyment of the greatest of blessings, health.

I am happy to observe by your letter, that the friendship which existed since our first acquaintance, the lapse of time and distance has created no diminution, and altho' you have been informed, that I was one of the Members who recommended to augment your Council in this Country, I was rejoiced to observe, you did not deem such to be the case; but on this subject, I fully explained myself to you in Mine of last season, which I hope reached you safe.

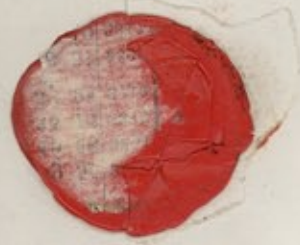
Your trip to the Continent no doubt was agreeable, and as the season you intended making your second tour must be delightful, no fact, any one from this Country enjoying a visit to the civilized world, when his other occupations can admit, nothing can afford more pleasure or satisfaction, than adopting your plan, and perhaps on the

whole

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DEAL  
SHIP LETTER

John Stuart Esq.  
Madison's Post House  
London



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which, with more expense than probably procuring in England  
or Scotland, or visiting other parts of the Home Country.

Since I last had the pleasure of ad-  
-dressing you, my occupation in this quarter has been that of a  
-wandering character, and even for any length of time a resident  
-has not been in place; In course of the last Summer I paid a  
-visit to the South Country, and according to instructions  
-again visited that great place the American Proving Grounds  
-near Fort Caspary's Providence, where for 18 days I pitched  
-my Camp in company with from 2 to 300 of the Scenes of all  
-sorts; but to describe to you the scenes committed at  
-that place would be beyond all description, suffice to say,  
-many of them are of a most business nature, but what can  
-be expected from such a set of hands, vigorously as usual,  
-at that place.

You will I have no doubt have  
-made acquainted with Mr. Hutchins complete failure  
-in his attempt to establish Dease's Lake Summer '36, but  
-as the justice was well he I presume fully made known to  
-you by some of your Correspondents in MacKenzie's River,  
-I shall refrain saying any thing on the subject, further  
-than that the whole appears to me a total mystery, I  
-however hope that long or now Mr. Campbell, who volunteered

his services, has thrown a more clear view on the subject,  
-and succeeded in accomplishing the desired object.

Ever worthy Commander in Chief  
-Doctor McLaughlin you will have the pleasure of seeing a  
-few lines Correspondence, with inform you of the news of this  
-quarter with more precision than a volume on paper, shall  
-therefore not trouble with what shall be more minutely des-  
-cribed by him.

I am sorry to inform you that I can-  
-not boast of being strong and hearty, the Cholera  
-has more than, nor do I expect ever will,  
-agree with my Constitution, I have not ac-  
-tually enjoyed three months of sound health since  
-my arrival in this quarter, My rotation of Trumbull  
-only comes on in '40, and if I could not but find  
-I must assuredly avail myself of the opportunity in  
-paying a visit to the Home Country, I will undoubtedly  
-find out your abode, whether in England or Scotland, but  
-will not promise to trace you out to the Continent;

In the full expectation of having  
-the pleasure of hearing from you in due time, I conclude  
-with every wish for your Comfort & Happiness, believe me to  
-Remain  
-My Dear Sir  
-Yours Most truly  
-I. H. McLaughlin