

EXCHANGE FOND

LETTERS WRITTEN

TO

EDWARD L. VAIL

BY

WALTER L. VAIL, NATHAN VAIL, H. R. MISLOP & TRACE VAIL.

DURING THE

YEARS ° 1875-1876-1877.





Florence, Arizona.  
July 11th, 1876.

Dear Uncle:

I thought I would write you a few lines to let you know that I have got thus far on my journey, we arrived here at half past four this morning, which was just  $6\frac{1}{2}$  days to this place which we should have reached in a little less than four. We were just 12 hours to late to meet the stage which we should have taken, on



the San Diego line so we shall have to wait until tomorrow night for the next stage. The weather was not near as hot coming across the desert, as I expected it would be. The thermometer at no time was over 105 and if we had, had any kind of accommodations, the trip would not have been a bad one considering the time of the year and the country, but between broken down horses and drunken drivers, we were made two days late. The weather here is very warm, it is now 6 P.M. and the thermometer stands at 100.

Hislop complains a good deal of the heat, though he says other ways he feels very much better than he did when he left Los Angeles. It is very aggravating to have to wait here in this place, as there are no accommodations here. Hislop slept in an old school-house with a young fellow I met in Tucson and I slept under a tree.

The country around here is much better than I expected to find it they have plenty of water for irrigation and the crops look very well and there seems to be a good deal of excitement about the mines which seem to be paying very well, they pack all the ore to this place which is 75 miles from the mines and they charge \$300.00 for working the rock per ton and then they say it pays a handsome profit. I met a gentleman yesterday whose name is Vail, he showed me a piece of rock which was worth \$400.00 and it only weighed 80lbs.

There has only been one rain as yet here I think by the way things look, there will be more before long.

I am writing in the only sitting room there is in the house which is used for cards, billiards and a bar-room, I have to use my pocket book to write on so please excuse the bad writing. I don't see how this place can be healthy, there is so much stagnant water all the drainage seems to be in the back-yards which make the air very bad in this hot country.



I see by the paper that Fish has advertised everything for sale in Tucson and amongst other things is his ranch, I think the sale comes off the latter part of this month.

It is so hot that my hands stick to the paper, so I will close for this time and write when I reach Tucson.

Mislop wished me to remember him kindly.

I remain -                      Your affectionate nephew,

WALTER L. VAIL.

Tucson, A.T.  
July 13th, 1876.

Arrived here today at 11 A.M. in good shape. Paid our respects to the Gov. who seemed very much pleased to see us, he was just reading a letter from you when we called. We are going with Mr. Fish on Saturday to look at his place, he has a good deal more stock on it than he had when I was here last and I am doubtful whether we can do anything with it. Will write you on Monday.

Walter.