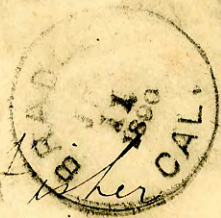


Mr Charles Fisher



13 Chapel Street

Galashiels
Scotland



SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY.

Bradley Station, Jan 9th 188⁹

Brother Fisher I received your letter about 6 months ago and I hasten to reply well I may as well give you a brief resume of what is going on in this far off land and what I have been doing. our job being finished in the city we left there August 1st and went to Almaden Santa Clara Co. this place is 62 miles south of San Francisco here are situated the great quicksilver mines they are said to rival the famous q.s. mines of the same name in Spain. got through here in a week and had some very warm weather the next move was to Watsonville Santa Cruz Co. was here 2 weeks from there to Kings City Monterey Co. had a ten days job from there to San Miguel San Luis Obispo Co. this was a long job covering in a bridge across the Salinas river the bridge is a little over 600 feet long and talk about hot weather this place takes the cake running all the way from 100 to 110 in the shade this is a common thing here all summer if you had such heat in Galia for a few days it would make the sweat run. this place is one of the old missions founded by the Spanish priests in the early days the old adobe church is in good order yet and they still hold service in it. 9 miles further south is Paso de Robles here are the celebrated hot springs and mud baths Sept 15th Sunday morning 4 of us took the hand car and ran up mud baths

and had a mud bath they cost 75 cents but I tell you I got
my moneys worth it consists of several baths first in a sulphur
this was as hot as I could stand then into the mud then back again
into another sulphur to wash the mud off then got rolled up in a
heavy blanket and laid down on a bench for 20 minutes and talk
about sweat it just ran of me in streams then back again
into the sulphur and rinsed of these springs are said to be
about the most healing in the world coming back to San Miguel
we stopped at a place and had some watermelons the were
very fine and cooling the heat today was 100 in the shade
Sept 17th went up as far as Santa Margarita this is the terminus
at present of this division of the road it is 235 miles from S. Francisco
the general appearance of the country is good pretty heavily wooded
oak timber and lots of cottonwood and sycamore on the river
bottoms here is lots of game a good many deer and no end to
quail and other varieties to numerous to mention I saw a large eagle
this morning and also several coyotes this last are a species of wild
dog or wolf on a small scale they are very destructive to stock
some countries offer a bonus for their scalps there are a good many
rattlesnakes around here have killed some got one yesterday
with 8 rattles and a button I dont think you have many of this variety
running loose on Buckholm hill well Bro Fisher I am happy to
inform you I have got a double barreled shot gun and I tell you
it is a daisy and to use the sweet language of the Poet I go around
loaded for bears I killed a very large catamount in october he was
about 70 lbs weight I got him on the Sacramento river last
Tuesday I shot a coyote. well the rainy season started very early this
year and we have got lots of it had a good many washouts on this
road I have been watching one for the last 3 weeks I went up to the
city about the 10th of Dec got there at 6 p.m. and had to come
right back here next morning on the 8-30 a.m. train 195 1/2 miles

well you see it dont cost me anything
to travel and I intend going to the city
soon and painting the town red
you can just remind me to Mrs Fisher and
give her my regards and the compliments
of the season I received the program of
the Bazar and hope it was a great success
sorry I could not do anything for it
excuse to far away. I am glad to inform you
my health has been very good for a long
time and I hope this will find you all
enjoying the same I will now close
wishing you all a merry Xmas and a
happy new year

I remain yours truly

John Scott

write soon

P.S. would you remember me to Willie Porten
ask him if he has any news for me from
New Zealand