

January 21, 1943

Mrs. L. A. McNalley
Minneapolis, Kansas

Dear Janet:

I just finished reading the book you gave me for Christmas about the explorations of Lewis and Clark. If I ever knew, I had forgotten that Lewis met an early death. Undoubtedly they were two men of whom we may very properly be proud. You may be interested in know that descendants of Sacajawea attended Haskell here a few years ago. There was added interest to me in reading this book because of our visit to Yellowstone Park a few years ago. Colter, who was a member of the expedition, left the party on their return when they reached Mandan Camp in what is now North Dakota, to return to the Indian country. He was probably the first white man to explore Yellowstone Park which for many years went by the name of "Colter's Hell" due to the stories that he told of the geysers and other phenomena to be found in the park. It was said that Jim Bridges who followed Colter started out to tell facts as he found them, but the public could not believe them to be true, so he told just as big stories as he could think of because it was more entertaining and it didn't make any difference in the long run.

Thanks to you and Mac a lot for the book.

Tell my fine partners there, Mary Beth and Michael, that I always enjoy their letter and wish I had more of them. Tell Mike if he has any secret yearning, to let his old grandad know, and maybe I can conspire with him towards getting it.

Love to all of you,

P.S. Dorothea has a fine way of addressing her letters to Mr. and Mrs. so the one first receiving them opens same. I have on my desk your letter addressed to your mamma which I have not opened. It would be alright to continue writing to her anything that might be of a private nature, but otherwise I would be glad to feel free to read your letters as soon as they reach the office.

W.C.S.