

Letter from Wynkoop Kiersted to John Kiersted Jr. regarding difficulties in getting hemlock bark

Mongaup Valley March 19th 1864
Dear Brother
Since I last wrote you the
Erie RR has resumed taking down freight
and we are again sending off leather
think we will get off all the old stock this
month we have commenced taking out
some of the new stock so as to make room
for the new - I have bought for us
1250 Buenos Ayres hides at 39¢ and also a lot
of 1000 Buenos Ayres hides at 39¢ which will
make us for this year's stock 16500 Hides
it is rather uncertain whether we shall be
able to work in much more to advantage
will be better able to judge by the time we
get there in - it has been a remarkable
winter for no sleighing and is a tough
time to get Bark in and a show business
to let out Bark to peel at two dollars per
cord - If you find any men that want
Bark jobs send them out to us - we
are all pretty well with the exception of
Jane who is complaining of a cold
There has been much sickness in our
neighborhood this winter - my health is good
I have written with me in love to you all
I remain as ever affectionately yours
W. Kiersted

Letter from Wynkoop Kierstead to John Kierstead Jr. regarding shipments of hides from Buenos Aires and the difficulties in getting hemlock trees out of the woods, as there was not enough snow to be able to transport them out on sleighs. The bark of hemlock trees was crucial to Wynkoop's tannery in Mongaup Valley, in the southern Catskill Mountains.

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