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S. José de Costa Rica May 22nd 1857

Mr Hollenbeck

My dear friend

I received your letter of 10th instant and I am very glad to know that you was in good health, and that your business should be settled by General Canas. I have had also the great pleasure for the promise that he did you of giving your pass down the river, and I hope you will have found your family at the Fort at your arrival there. If it have happened so, I think you shall be now in San Juan ready for leaving the country in the first opportunity, in which voyage I wish you all kind of happiness.

I am, till now, in perfect health and I hope it shall be preserved if God grant it to me.

I have not heard of Mr Isaac and Mr Wise: I think they have gone, too, to the United States and I do not know of the persons who shall have relieved to every one of them.

I intend to go to S Juan in the month of August, as though I would like to go now it is very perilous for the rainy season should injury my health after having passed so many troubles in the last Campaign as you know

Mr Thomas

is now in Carago and I think he will be appointed Commander of the Castillo - It seems that in a few days more troops shall go out to relieve those which are in the river now.

We have had some happy days at our entrance in this city - You can suppose the joy of the people and that of the army after an absence of five months - I sure you that I have never felt so great and agreeable impressions in my mind - I had the happiness of founding my family all well, and I am now tranquil and content -

Give my remembrances to your dear family not forgetting to my MacDiam and Pike if you see them.

I wish you and your family perfect health, and I sure you that I ever will be

Your most
faithful friend

J. Montes de Oca