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14th March 1911.

New Westminster, B. C.

Dear Cassidy:-

A short time since the question arose as to who was the first person to fish salmon for commercial purposes in B. C. and the statement was made that one James Simes was the first to salt salmon and that Mr John Graham started the first cannery.

I had understood from the late Mr Ewen that the first person to salt fish was a man named Annandale who commenced this business in the early 60s, and who not having the knowledge himself to do the business as it should be done, went to Scotland for a man, and Mr Ewen being chosen came out to work for him. I further understood that Annandale did not make a success of the enterprise and Mr Ewen started fishing on his own account in company with Mr Wise, and that they contented themselves with salting operations until about 1870 when they put up a few cases of canned salmon, and thus were the first to engage in that line as well, with possibly the exception of the negro Deas, who may have started a few months earlier than Ewen & Wise.

The records of salmon canning show that the first packing recorded was in 1876 when Holbrook & Co, Ewen & Co and the B. C. Canning Co operated. I know however that the latter plant was in operation for at least two years before and that Mr Ewen also had canned salmon for some years previous. Knowing your long association with Mr Ewen, as well as your previous connection with the canning business I am writing to ask if you can give me any

