

Cholame, May 26th, 10.

Dear Father:

I returned from Paso Robles yesterday with three men. One of them is a cook and he understands his work but has a reputation for being cranky. Taylor, Alviso and Garcia were beginning to think they were invaluable, so I cleaned them all out. Haying is progressing as rapidly as possible and Perry is the best hand with cattle who has ever been on the Ranch. I would like to find a man to break horses ride colts. If he is a good hand, we probably cannot get him for less than \$4.0 per month. We have four unbroken saddle horses and it is absolutely necessary to have them ~~for~~ ~~broken~~ broken as they are at the proper age now.

Mr. Beardsley received a telegram to go to Bakersfield immediately but he expects to return here again. He leaves this

morning. The oil field, if one exists, is in
the mountains about the Cottonwood
Place, according to his notion. (The place
which you rented to George Houston.) Must
close this note now. My cold is improved.
Hope the family is well and love to all.

Your affect. son,

Howard.

P.S. Will write fully what I have been able
to learn of Beardsley's opinions