

Mrs Elizabeth P Deming  
Bay Harbor Long Island  
N. Y. At of New York

ANCHOR

Magdalena Bay Lower California Oct 30 1890

Dear Sister

Still here where I last wrote you only we have got back five miles from the Bay in to a large plain and boring for Artesian water which is very slow work having dug three other wells and built five houses but have not struck Artesian water as yet but have got down some feet, the plains look like one vast field grass 14 inches and 2 feet high but will soon dry up as the rainy season is about over and it is a long time between the rains it is rather warm in the middle of the day but otherwise it is a very fine climate the night needs but very little bedding, and houses need not to be very close only the roofs we have the best within 200 miles of us as most of the houses is brush sides and mud walls ours is good board houses having brought the lumber down with us. We expect to board the steamer off the Bay in a few days and get our letters and papers should she not pass in the night or foggy weather I am in hopes to hear from you as I have not since I left

San Francisco and not even seen a news paper  
which makes us very much out of the way of what  
is going on in the world Call DeKey has gone to  
San Francisco and Call Isham has gone off the last 3 weeks  
with a party to explore the other Planes and valleys  
to the West of this so I am left in charge of  
our small City which we have not got any name  
for as yet, the natives is very friendly our nearest  
house but one is about 40 miles one family  
moved in here by a few days ago and brought  
a lot of stock mostly cows for milking to make Cheese  
which is one of the principal articles of Export  
the cattle are in very fine order beef from  
2 to 3 cents a pound and very nice Deer meat  
in a abundance we have killed 20 odd and some of them  
the fattest I ever see and down to the Bay we  
have Green Turtle Clams Oysters and fish of various  
kinds so we are well off for meat kind and all it  
takes is water to make things in a flourishing  
condition, but it will take time to get things  
in these vast planes and valleys in an agriculture  
state, but stock will do well with but very little  
trouble, Lumber is very scarce and not any  
timber in the country a few muskeets

Groves is all that is to be found of the timber kind  
I have not been any ways from the Bay  
only to the well which is 5 miles it has kept me  
very busy and we have got over most of our  
hurry and I shall have a little more time to  
to look round and see the ranches and the  
country if I should stop but it is very uncertain  
hoping this will find you all well My Love  
to Sister Frances Chablot Eliza and all  
Enquiring Friends

Remain your affectionate Brother

Richard Dering

You will direct my letters to the care of  
J E Oakley 210 Sacramento Street  
San Francisco