

Elide Island Dec 15<sup>th</sup> 1859

Dear Sister

I am in hopes of soon being out of Prison for I have not had a chance to send you a letter sence the one I sent by Capten Psham unless it was by the way of Cape Horn. Capt Psham left the Island last May bound for the City of Mexico but I see by the papers he arrived in New York they having driven his surviving party out of Solbro but they have never been here to trouble me; But I had not the least communication with any one the ships that have loaded here have cleared from San Francisco bound to some other Port but having orders from the Agents to come to this Island and load so I have had your letters and some papers but could not get any chance to send any thing away till now and I was in hopes to have had a chance of going up but the Company has sent down 2 Schooners one to take the men up and the other fitted for six months to look up an other Island and I have to go in hur which will keep me away from San Francisco some time yet and how much longer from Sag Harbor

for Capt Bham and myself made great dependance on going to Sag Harbor next May and June felt our fine times that we was to have had will have to come some other time if they ever do but I live in hopes of having a little time to my self that way once more, Hope you git your monthly pay and as for your New Year I shall have to wright them to send you 100 \$ more if the letter reaches some times letters of that kind do not come to hand but I do not think it the case with Mr Lent he has all ware made me up, you must wright often for Sam in hopes after this Cruise is up to have quite a number of letters when I reach San Francisco, I hope you will have a chance to see Capt Bham should he take it into his head to visit Sag Harbor he will give you all the news,

What I shall go at next is more than I can say the job on Eide Island is to an end I hope they will git out peas in Mexico before long so Capt Bham can git his Steamer on then I will have a chance at Guaymas which will last me some time more pleasant than being on a Guano Island but some Employment is better than being Idle, you must send me a Sag Harbor Corrector now and then for I see that Brindley Sleight is

one of the Editors of that Sag Harbor Corrector as Dr Huntington use to say, when I leave on the Cruise you will not hear from me till I reach San Francisco unless we should go in to some port on the Coast I hope it will be a short trip for I want to git some where I can stretch my Legs and have some fresh vegetables for I have been so long on this barren Rock that I begin to feel old for a young man this is the last night for me on Eide Island for a while, you must remember me to sister Charlott Eliza and Ebrabeth

Your affectionate Brother  
Richard Dering