

George's Island May 4th 1862

Dear Sister

Yours of Nov 20th came to hand the third of this month and was very glad to hear from you and see some one to talk with for I have been here all a lone for the last three months not but seven men on the Island to work 5 English 1 Dutch 1 Italian I being the only American and a lone in the house by myself the others living in an other house the young man that has been stopping with me went down to Quary moor last February on account of his health but returned the other day looking much better he is a Mr Dwight Frary from Staten Island a Nephew of Mr Lents

I was very glad to see him return
to have some one to talk with for
it has been very long some with
out any one, I am in hopes that
we shall soon get away from
this Island for as long as the
war continues there is not any
chance to ship the Guano to the
southern States and there is not
enough on the Island to pay for
working, I have not heard from
Capt Scham nor any one in San
Francisco for the last three months
what they intend to do is more
than I can say but hope they
will send me down word to leave
this Island and I do not think
that they will work any of the
others till the troubles of war
are over for their cargoes may
be taken from them by the Enemy
of Mexico, I have been on this
Island a year the 26th of this month

and I am getting disgusted
with it nothing but Rocks Birds
and seals soiled hills and
Mountains on the main land
not a vessel passes by in sight
those that go up the Colorado
River goes up on the California
side of the Gulph the Schooner
that came from Guaymas the
other day is the only thing that
we have seen for three months
and an other one will have to
come up in a bout two months
more to bring us water the nearest
water we have is at the main
land about 12 or 14 leagues and we
have nothing but a whale Boat
to get it with with few men
it makes very slow work in
such warm weather as we use
a great deal of it, But I hope
they will send down word to
leave before we have to go to
getting water from the main

when I leave here what I shall
do is uncertain but some thing
that will pay me better than
this as by your letter I do not
yet pay and that will be
rather hard to loose a year
of hard labour and privation
I had better been in the employ
of the United States for nothing
and if I do not find any thing
to do when I leave here I shall
join Uncle Sam especially if England
interfeers how I shall get out
of the Country is hard to say as
I see by the papers that Mexico is
in trouble with Spain they had
better keepe on their one Continent
for we enough of their poor
sons emigrants or mung us
all ready and England would
never trouble us if we was not
at war with the south but I am
in hopes that she will not

trouble us and I shall find
some thing to do for my self
where I can make some thing
more than small wages I am
very glad that Edward has
made up his mind to go in to
the Navy and as Henry has
a liking to farming do let him
go at it for there is Land enough
and he can take up his 160 Acres
in some of the best lands in
some of the States and the North
had by this time if they were
younted had the Southern
Plantations split up in to small
farms and the poor of the
North on then and a crop ready
to weather by this time but they
have had so much sympathy
that they have let the south
get to much the advantage
of them both in Europe and
in the states I hope they will

will not let England escape
so Easy as other nations has
for she is very over bearing.
I hope before this reaches you
I shall be off of this Island
at some thing I wrote to
Forsham and Jennings last
Feb but have not heard a word
from them I sent up for
them to get me some shoes
and clothing if they could
raise the Money but have
not heard a word from them
I suspect that they have got
tired of doing my business
for nothing as they cannot
see any Money coming in
but I hope all will come
out right as yet but it is
hard to work for small
wages and then not get it,
If I should not leave here
for the next two months it
will be very unpleasant
as for hot weather flies and

Mosketoes for they are very trouble
some the flies are very bad
know that we have to write
nights and one feels tired
enough when night comes to sleep
after being in the hot sun all
day and the days is getting
some what long, The Schooner
leaves here to day for Guaymas
When we see an other one is
uncertain as I have to depend
on the Agents in Guaymas
as I have not heard from the
Agents in San Francisco in
over three months,

Your letter Directed to
Mr. Robinson came all right
as from San Francisco I have
not received any since February
and the Steamer comes
monthly to Guaymas the
Letters lay in San Francisco
till they hear that a vessel

is coming to the Island and
then I get them six or eight
at a time but you can not
Expect much News from
such an out the way place
as this is, and not having
any vessel belonging to the
Island to send down when
we are in want of any thing
I hope to have a chance to
write you in a bout six weeks
you must give my Love
to Sister Charlot Erwin and
the young folks and all
Enquiring friends, I hope
before this reaches you
that you have got some of
my Conges for I have been
verry much troubled about
it that it has not been Recd
long be for
Your affectionate
Brother
W. Derrin