


San Francisco Dec 10  The Lower California Company,

Dear Sister

No. 313 California Street, San Francisco.

I arrived here on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of December on the Steamer Arzabo from San Diego. We arrived at San Diego on the 28 of November on the Schooner Ellen & Catherine 16 Days from Magdalena Bay having been driven out by the Teraboro Troops of La Paz and Jun 180 from Encadore that was at work in the neighborhood of Magdalena. I was not with in 40 miles of where the shipping was and where they had most of the excitement being at a place in the South Bay and all about on not any one with me nor with in 5 miles of me a dog and two cats was all the company I had, when one Evening 47 soldiers and officers made their appearance and camped in front of the Store house, I used them very kindly for I could do no other ways one of the officers stopt in the house with me he being Pay Master and had some money with him and was a prode to trust him help with his one men the next morning I often most of them being officers left on horse back for Clarks Lagoon. where they got more men and went over to Magdalena captured a Schooner and then

came over to where I was and took off the crowd  
that was with me or had been stopping there  
and not till 3 nights and 4 days I was alone  
with them the Steamer came down once in the  
time after some goods and did not stop long,  
they could not get off from where I was their  
was nothing but a small boat and a sloop and  
the sloop I had ~~board~~ her bottom with holes  
so they could not use her, after they had  
driven them that was at Magdalena along side  
of the English ship a Boats Load of the soldiers  
came over with one of our men for Provision  
and water which I let them have seeing them  
coming and when near the shore I went down  
very leisurely and met them let them have what  
they wanted and off they went back to Magdalena,

I went up to the settlement pack my Trunks and  
got every thing in order to leave but it was for some  
days before the Steamer came and when she came  
I could not get my trunks and they wanted me to come  
up very bad so off I came with what I stood in  
and it is very cold and unpleasant,

I left all my stock Mules Chickens Pigs and  
Pigeons and Sheep etc more of them but I am

in hopes to get my clothing as I have not been  
so well off for clothing in a number of years,  
this is the first time that I have done any writing  
of any account in along time having been tumbled  
off of a mule the stepping in a badger hole  
struck on my shoulder and for 3 months I had my  
hand in a sling and now I cannot get it up to  
my head with out hurting ~~you~~ and this cold  
weather does not help it any,

Hoping this will find you all well,  
I heard of the death of Cossen Henry Dering and  
that it was very sudden write me the  
particulars

My Love to Eliza & Frances and all  
the family

Your affectionate Brother  
Richard Dering