

Magdalena January 29th 1842

Dear Sister

This is the first time for a long while that I have taken a pen in hand for the want of time having been very busy some of the time off in a boat and most of my ^{time} on horse back but I am in hopes soon to get more time for myself and I have been sum times in one place and then in an other which makes it very unpleasant but I am in hopes it will soon be through with where I can have a regular stopping place for I have got quite tired of running about all though I do not have to work very hard and in fact do not work much of any but still have to be on the move from morning till night and some times most of the night but it is fine weather and I enjoy very

good health much better than what
I did when I was stopping in San
Francisco it is a beautiful climate
and if it ever belongs to the
United States it will be a fine
Resort and make a fine Country
for most kind of fruit and all
kinds of vegetables for I had some
green Peas the other day that was
planted only 6 Weeks ago and a
bundance of green Corn and Tomatoes
but the Rain has not been very a
bundance this winter and they say
they have the most Rain in February
and March I hope it will be a good
Rainy Season to make the crops
prosperous as there never was any
put in in this part of Lower
California before all though they
have not got in to it very large
more for an experiment than for
the profit, whether I shall
remain it is hard to say if I get

hold of some of the good Land and
can sell it to an advantage and
make something to get to Sag Harbor
to see you I should be glad but as
it is a matter of time whether the
Property will advance much for some
time to come I hope that this will
find you all well I got the two
papers you sent me and the Box
containing the handkerchief and Oak Bow
all came right and was very much
surprised at so long a distance it
shows that they were in good hands
Mr Oakley is very kind in sending
me lots of San Francisco papers
but I never get time to read them
as I do not have the time only
nights and then I feel more like
going to bed My Love to Sister
Elizabeth Charlott & Anna and all
the rest of Enquiring Friends
Your affectionate Brother
Richard Derog