

Washington March 11th = 1850

Dear Sister

You doubtless think it, a little strange that you have not heard from us before this; but there has been no news from George since that letter I sent you; — Uncle Elias has had a talk with Capt Hart, since his return from California; he says that when he went ^{to} their tent, in San Francisco George & Cornell & Starn were all suffering from Fever & Ague; but Levi was well; ~~and~~ he advised them to leave the place as soon as they could; as their tent was in a low unpleasant spot & the sand blowing in; I should think they followed his advice as soon as possible; he said the morning they left was lovely and the sail up the bay and river very beautiful; so much so that it set George on his feet again; the ^{fever} left him at once and he appeared almost well — (so much for enjoying and realizing the good that is before us) he insisted on going ashore; the Capt said he was pressed for time but as he seemed so anxious he would indulge him if he could; so they all went on shore built a fire and cooked a meal; he says you look up against towering hills; that are covered with wild cattle and they feed on wild oats; that grows as wild as the cattle; George gathered some of the oats as a trophy of his visit, and seemed to enjoy it very much ^{ch} he thought Levi ^{and Cornell} a first rate fellows for such an expedition; but that other one that was Starn, talked most too much about his apple trees — — — I was interrupted very agreeably; Matt & Frances came flying in

Mott seemed in first rate health & spirits; he & Smith
continue at Haverden yet; Mott in ~~the~~ the Factory ~~gets~~
& Smith in a Public House (odd business for a Tutor)
by what I can find out, Smith & his partners had a blow
up & dissolved; Smith taking one part of the property
and the rest another its a very fine house ^{Mott} Smith says
entirely new and well furnished; I hope he will succe^{ed}
Mott boards with him; though their business is separate,
there has been but little change in affairs since you left
consequently there is but little to write about; Samira &
Alonzo were here a few days since they were all well as usual
Franklin & Elizabeth had been at school but had both left
^(at Rufus Potters & her other)
"Franky and Rufus could not agree; it seems" ^(and one or two others) "Liz" had per-
mission to make a visit in ^{the} neighbourhood; and Frank
and ~~two~~ one or two ^{boys} overheard Rufus telling the girls
that if any the boys came there after they got there they
must come straight back, so the boys put on across lots
and got there first, so as not to disobey orders and spent
the afternoon with them; which offended Rufus highly;
so that they came home; Franky's plan of heading the
girls was quite a speculation I thought - Mather seems
to think that I had better finish my letter and
I suppose I had as I want to hear from you; tell Maria
I think its full time I heard from her; I wrote
to her last I think; - I still think of seeing you
all another season; either in the summer or fall I
do not know as it will depend on circumstances

I want you to write and let us know whether Aep has
the California fever as bad as ever or not; and I want you ^{to write}
how little Margaret gets along with her talking - I did not like the