

a distinguished Indian chief from the Rocky Mountains  
 who has been with me since the day I voluntarily  
 or yesterday I took from his neck a bunch of  
 bear claws, and gave them to me for considering  
 me as he said to be an old man. I see a thin  
 home with the Cupra as quite a trophy; I see also  
 a present from a Spanish lady of a handkerchief  
 for carrying as she <sup>thought</sup> the life of her husband who  
 had been condemned by a court martial to be

Lt. James A. Rupert  
 Lexington  
 Massachusetts  
 America State  
 O. Sen. Eugene

shot, so I had stark fair in this country for  
 two qualities that you greatly admire courage  
 & humanity — I send you most affectionately  
 to your excellent wife & her I am proud to be  
 permitted to call sister, & all of your family & have  
 to her this pretty little wife & send to Sarah &  
 Mr. Dally, and to all my other friends who  
 care for things of the particular to the Maria  
 — I have been very always most truly  
 to the Thos & Rupert  
 Yours affly brother  
 Wm. M. W.

Ciudad de Los Angeles  
 or  
 City of Angels  
 1847

My Very Dear Brother

In a few days my son  
 Eugene is to start home with the  
 celebration of the peace who goes to  
 Washington as the bearer of despatches  
 and I avail myself of the opportunity  
 to drop you a line, as I must fail  
 to do, when a chance offers —

I have very little to add to  
 my last letter written to you a few  
 days since, and forwarded by Commodore  
 Stockton since I am sorry of the  
 name — I was not there but  
 expected to be Sec of State, under  
 John Fremont as Gov, the event  
 has happened as I anticipated, and  
 I am <sup>now</sup> discharging the duties of that  
 office, with a salary of \$12,000 per  
 annum —

There was a conflict between  
 Genl Kearney of the U S Army who came  
 here with instructions from the Govt  
 to conquer the country, and organize  
 a civil government, and Genl Stockton