

There are 3 factions here among ourselves -
 The many with former Storklin at their head
 The many with him Kearney, and myself
 and others with Fremont - I am to
 wait on Storklin this morning to discuss a
 party that was one of a board of commissioners

Santa Barbara
 On the Pacific Ocean
 300 miles South of Monterey
 California 3rd Jan'y 1847

My Very Dear Brother

I received Sutters post
 in company with E. Bryant, young
 Jacobs of Louisiana, and six others
 on pack mules on the last day
 of August in safety & health, and
 went at once into busness practicing
 law with far more success than I
 could have to have hoped - I was
 elected by a town meeting at Buena
 Ventura the name for a new stock
 = town on the occasion of his first
 visit to that town, and acquitted
 myself quite as well as I could as
 under the most favorable circumstances

Thus I was getting along
 far better than I expected, notwithstanding
 the Spanish disease the war
 and John Fremont being in the country
 as military commander of our forces.
 I felt myself constrained to join him
 and here I am in the Santa Barbara
 and it is supposed on the top of

John Thomas A. Dyfren
 Lexington
 Santa Barbara County
 Capt. E. T. Jacobs

draw up and read with the Spaniards which
 he opposes because it puts Fremont all the
 plow, but he shall not say it or I will take him
 that he is jealous - If he goes right
 this morning I shall be he of state before night +
 Fremont has - (This letter is carried by
 young Jacobs of Louisiana who I mention to ride
 out one see you - He is a fine fellow, and will
 tell you very things -)