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Prof<sup>r</sup> Newton Bateman  
St Charles  
Missouri  
U.S.

Stockton Aug. 12<sup>th</sup> 1849.

Dear Brother Newton

I hardly know what to write; I arrived at this place yesterday, after a journey of unprecedented toil of 130 days. I should have been here some sooner but for having taken off some two hundred & fifty miles below with a detachment of Sagouos who struck for the mountains at a point where the Indians a short time since committed murder on Americans who attempted to penetrate their country for gold. At what point it was represented to be very rich, & I thought it a good opportunity to get where nobody else could but owing to its taking more time than was anticipated the animals broke down we got out of Grub, & were forced to return to this place after getting in about two days of the point in view. This place has sprung up almost in a day, fourteen ships



are now lying in the Harbor &  
trade & everything is very brisk;  
numberless crowds of people are  
everywhere through this region of  
country. Gold continues to be  
obtained in about average quan-  
tities; but it is now at ever  
much of a lottery some make  
none, while others get a pertee  
in a short-time. San Francisco I  
do expect beats the world about  
this time; it is 125 miles from this  
place by land. I leave here to-  
day for a point in the mines  
75 miles distant - what my  
success will be time only can  
tell. Please write to me at  
Stockton Upper California, as  
yet I have heard nothing from  
any of you. My kindest  
regards to all our dear family  
forever yr devoted Bro

E. B. Bateman