

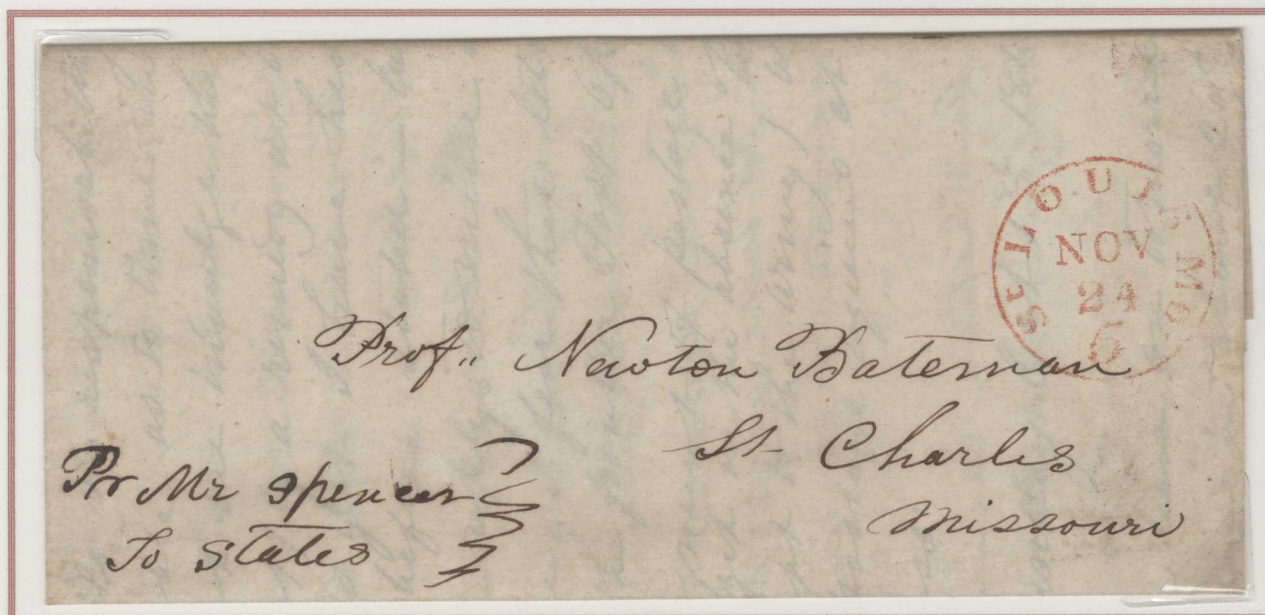
# TALES FROM THE TRAIL

1846 ~ Mexican War ~1849

Santa Fee, Saturday, Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>, 1848

Dear Brother Newton,

I am tired & out of patience waiting to hear from you but I do not believe it is your fault. It is because we have no established mails, no responsibility, no regularity no nothing reliable, as to time, in the way of getting news. I fear that letters maybe detained in the frontier Post Offices on acct of non-payment of postage to the old line, for as yet in the absence of any regulations all letters (except to the Army) are treated as foreign & the postage required at the last office thru.



Pr. Mr. Spencer  
Mailed at St. Louis, Mo. ~ November 24<sup>th</sup> 1848 ~ Paid 5

Sunday Oct 1<sup>st</sup>, 1848

I expect this will leave on tomorrow & probably get across the Plains in about 20 days. I am at a loss what to write not having heard from for long a time nor anything at all upon the subject of my late letters. The Daguerreotype Operation is one that could not fail to realize a fortune in a short time. If you think of that & in order to secure an adequate knowledge of it should require until spring. Perhaps it would be better to defer your departure until then.

I have attended a Protestant meeting to day & heard preaching the first I have heard for new six months & perhaps the first ever held in Santa Fee. I have some notion of Marrying a young Spanish widow with about 15000\$ in cash but the trouble is she has got some two or three children.

Among other inducements I had for staying here was the expectation & which I still entertain that Congress will make liberal awards of Lands to actual settlers as well as to those who shall soon hereafter become citizens of this Territory. The "Apache" Indians killed some Spaniards near Taos, 75 miles distant in the mountains few days since & one Com. Dragoons left yesterday to chastise them. Coln. Washington is known to be in five days march of this place. Please let Father here from me as I probably will not have time to write.

Yours forever

E. B. Bateman