Dear Brother Newton I arrived and this place on the 20 th helt 135 Days from Sunfage. This is 75 miles from Stockton & Low miles from Sun Francisco, on a britature to & twelve miles from its confluence with the Jualumne River: at this immediate promet there is not a great number at present, but in the nighborhows ( say I within three mily there are probably three Thousand & yet this region from all accounts is more sparsely populated them must others the ery is ! Still they come . I have is a strong fuling here, & which I think is every day gaming grown that great Events are pending the neset two years, or by Time, & which the incomense envigoration will tend to hasten I wish I could be there or you true then. The climate is sulubrious & The people in this ryion gener ally heatthy, at the I hear of considerable sittiness in other parts, I list the heat & escressive though me opposition Churing the hours of sunshine - you will recollect that we have no rain, nor way clouds charing the entire warm season ( say I from africe to face any or thereabout, I have seen none of consequere on either side of the Mosky-Kidge since lest march. It is about to days sail from Son Francisco to China & about to the Sundwich Islands, from which, and I believe from all other countries, there are

people have, seetling what appears to be generally con sedend, the one thing hedful," The mining region so for as discovered & worked, comprises a strip of country from eight to trunty miles wide running purrelled with the mountaines & the I where velley, having for its western boundary The margin of the latter of its Castern, the superior tilly ( not the principle mountaine) of the former. To there limits the expense & opinious of nearly all testibly. altho, there we some who think there much he a grande fourtene he as to so much Treasure higher up in the mountains, in quest of which Several Esoplaring Purties have already here out, and other use going: I have in contemplation seting with shirtly with a jurity for a region bying South-East of Hings River we take with us an experience mountainer & Indian new - one who has formuly here employed by towerment as each for Finde, He declares he knows where the Big Slugs lie! The mines at this point we very rich but the Gold his from 8 to 20 feet hementh the carpine, the ground is rosky & the water very troublesome, from all accounts the execution in we the other Dishects, is lighter than this, I have hem dividing my time somewhat botween mining & Mudicine, but find the laboring part heavier there I can able to bear & importunity the Stock of midnered have is so magre as to opposit few quilities in the time of my popusion. My health has been very pour the last ten dogs & unless it materially

improves, whale not attempt the isopication before mentioned. I have leas one object of pros ansenty & subjective - that is muy dear further, whom I qualty fear I shall be no more on Goth - Too grant There gives may not be reclined. - my mind at ease on This Lubject, I would be comparatively hoppy, but it never care be until hear from him & when O' When shall that he I shill in a Dagor two, to Stocktone for telling & earnity hope there may be some there. I think by this true you have ceased expecting my return the fusual year & how can you heasonably expect, When you notice the Dates. My answite to return is quate There you can possibly magine, but at present I consider for according to the last estimates I have been oble to make it would cost from here to the Louis ( compertably) 500 of which is a little mire than I can us posent command, allho, I have made some & have got it now get at is not enough! But just as soon as I Eun heenemate enough to moderately com persate me for my time of toil - Tromeword of go. I de wonder if jou me married get ! how I would be delighted to see The Frier Prospective; bee The in your nest all gen know whout it. I forgot in my last to make in my haste, to make acknowledgements of your last record at Santage, which gave me pear satisfication. your response to the Nev" Tentheman above, was mine escartly - The transaction

with the Doctor was agently pleasing - Keep That little artist - a present from your brother, swered whis memory & nover part with it on any amount. The measures taken for The trade recovery of the scuttered relieble of the concerns of other Dags I hope ere this home here intuly sucusque - Those once concentraled in proper hands, I hope in fature officer. you wire please acrept a brother since Months. The same of the sa Inclosed are spenner of California told That latter in this region is generally much larger, but I send the small. her auce less livere to detection - The average run mag he fairly set down at from 64 ets to 50 f in value - The place. observe it is perpetty from I of the finest quality, no one, this is characteristic of taken in this country, Forever your off- Bro. E. B. Bateman

## TALES FROM THE TRAIL

1846 ~ Mexican War ~1849

Sullivan Sept. 30th 1849

**Dear Brother Newton** 

I arrived at this place on the 20<sup>th</sup> Ult' 135 Days from Santafe. This is 75 miles from Stockton & 200 miles from San Francisco, on a tributary twelve miles from its confluence with the Tuolumne River. Three Thousand people & yet this region from all account is more sparsely populated than most others & the cry is still they come. There is a strong feeling here, & which I think is every day gaining ground that great Events are pending the next two years, or less time, & which the immense emigration will tend to hasten, I wish I could be there or you're here.



Mailed at Stockton, T. C. ~ Territory of California ~ October 4<sup>th</sup> 1849 Postmarked San Francisco, Cal. ~ November 5<sup>th</sup> 1849 Via Panama with Black Paid 40

The mining region so far as discovered & worked, compares a strip of country from eight to twenty miles wide, running parrellel with the mountains & the Tulare Valley, having for its western boundary the margin of the latter & its Eastern, the superior hills of the former. Although, there are some who think there must be a grand fountain head, to so much Treasure higher up in the mountains, in quest of which Exploring Parties have already been out. I have in contemplation seting out shortly with a party for region lying South East of Kings River, we take with us an experienced Mountaineer & Indian Man one who has formerly been employed by Government as such for Guide. He declares he knows where the (Big Slugs lie.) The mines at this point are very rich, but the Gold lies from 8 to 20 feet beneath the surface, the ground is rocky & water is very troublesome. From all accounts the excavation in all the other Districts, is lighter than this.

Inclosed are specimens of California Gold, that taken in this region is generally much larger, but I send small because less liable to detection the average run may be fairly set down at from 6-1/4 cts to 50%\$ in value the piece, observe it is perfectly pure & of the finest quality, no ore, no intermixtion of any kind, the pure original Virgon Gold & this is characteristic of all taken in this country

Forever you aff Bro.

E. B. Bateman

## Dear Brother Newton

I arrived at this place on the 20th Ult' 135 Days from Santa fe. This is 75 miles from Stockton & 200 miles from San Francisco, on a tributary to & twelve miles from its confluence with the Tuolumne River; at this immediate point there is not a great number at present, but in the neighborhood (say) within three miles there are probably Three Thousand & yet this region from all account is more sparsely populated than most others & they cry is: still they come. There is a strong feeling here, & which I think is every day gaining ground that great Events are pending the next two years, or less time, & which the immense emigration will tend to hasten, I wish I could be there or you're here, then.

The climate is salubrious & people in this region generally healthy, (although, I hear of considerable sickness in other parts,) but the heat & excessive drouth are oppressive during the hours of sunshine - you will recollect that we have no rain, nor clouds, during the entire warm season (say) from april to january or there abouts, I have seen none of consequence on either side of the Rocky-Ridge since last march. It is about 50 days sail from San Francisco to China & about twelve to the Sandwich Islands, from which; I believe, from all other countries, there are people here, seeking what appear to be generally considered "The one thing needful"

The mining region so far as discovered & worked, compares a strip of country from eight to twenty miles wide, running parallel with the mountains & the Tulare Valley, having for its western boundary the margin of the latter & its Eastern, the superior hills (not the principle mountains) of the former. To these limits the experience & opinions of nearly all testify. Although, there are some who think thre must be a grand fountain head, to so much Treasure higher up in the mountains, in quest of which Exploring Parties have already been out, and others are going: I have in contemplation setting out shortly with a party for region lying South-East of Kings River, we take with us an experienced Mountaineer & Indian - Man - one who has formerly been employed by Government as such for Guide. He declares he knows where the (Big Slugs lie.) The mines at this point are very rich, but the Gold lies from 8 to 20 feet beneath the surface, the ground is rocky & water is very troublesome. From all accounts the excavation in all the other Districts, is lighter than this.

I have been dividing my time somewhat between Mining and Medicine, but find the laboring part heavier than I am able to bear & unfortunately the stock of medicines I have is so meager at to afford few facilities in the line of my profession. My health ahs been very poor the last tend days & unless it materially improves, shall not attempt the expedition before - mentioned. I have but one object of great anxiety & solicitude - that is my dear father, whom I greatly fear I shall see no more on Earth - God grant these fears may not be realized - My mind at east on this subject, I would be comparatively happy, but it never can be until I hear from him & when 0' when shall that be I shall in a day or two send to Stockton for letters & earnestly hope there may be some there.

I think by this time you have ceased expecting my return the present years & how can you reasonably expect it when you notice the Dates. My anxiety to return is greater then you can possibly imagine, but at present I cannot, for according to the best estimates I have been able to make it would cost from her to St Louis (comfortably) 500\$ which is a little more than I can at present command, although, I have made some & have got it now, yet it is not enough: But just as soon as I can accumulate enough to moderately compensate me for my time & toil homeward I go. I do wonder if you are married yet; how I would be delighted to see the Fair Prospective; tell me in your next all you know about it. I forgot in my last -to make- in my haste, to make acknowledgements of your last received at Santa Fe, which game me great satisfaction.

Your response to the Rev!! Gentleman above, was mine exactly the transition with the Doctor was equally pleasing - Resp that little article a present from your brother, sacred to his memory & never part with it on any account. The measures taken for the recovery of the scattered relics of the of other days I hope ere this have been entirely successful - Those once concentrated in proper hands. I hope in future to make no such other scatteratoin, for all of these kinds officers you will please accept a brothers sincere thanks.

Enclosed are specimens of California Gold, that taken in this region is general much larger, but I send small because less liable to detection - the average run may be fairly set down at from 6-1/4 cts to 50%\$ in value - the piece, observe it is perfectly pure & of the finest quality, no ore, no intermixtion of any kind, the pure original Virgin Gold & this is characteristic of all taken in this country

Forever you aff Bro.