

Sibly
Oct 20

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Colo Thomas A. Russell

Lexington

Kentucky

Capt W. Walker
19th July 1846

Mr. Hair heard from Eugene as late as April, he
was very well and a great favourite with Fremont

Fort Brewer
Province of California
1100 miles West of Independence
800 to the bay of St. Francisco

My Very Dear Brother
July 1846

We have stopped here a day or
two to rest our animals, and ourselves, and
surrounded by the bustle of mountain men
(trappers) and thousands of Snake Indians their
seats on the ground, and on my knee
I write try and scribble something in the shape
of a letter

Well the trapp is tiring to a man
and beast, hard work, a great deal of exposure
and misfortune here, and every body man and
sally by reason of these combined powerful
causes

I continued the command of the company
until I had nearly reached Fort Larima on the
North fork of Platte 700 miles West of Independence
when my health becoming bad (chills & fever), and
my anxiety to get along faster becoming so great I
resigned my office in opposition to the wishes of
every man in the company, swapped my
wrapper & saddle for mules & packs, and with Perry and
young Jacobs of Louisville - Buchanan - Wm Brown
myself and four others we are trudging on through
the wildest, and most savage country that certainly
any white man ever passed through - It is
thought by some dangerous, but I consider it as safe