

San Luis Paf

May 13<sup>th</sup>/66

Dear Brother William

I will now write a few lines in acknowledgement of yours that I recd on the first of this month I did not have time to answer it before I left town so I will write now as I have a chance to send this to mail, I was glad to hear that you recd the trunk all right, Sarah can tell you more of the particulars about things than I can which I presume she has done ere this, as she has written to you once or twice since she sent the trunk, I received a letter from Smith Dayton acknowledging the receipt of the money and I wrote to him in case that he should come out early in the fall to draw the remainder of the money from you and bring it to me, I did not give him a draft or order but

wrote him to give you a receipt of it in  
my name, so if he calls on you for it  
and you have it to spare you can let  
him have it, I think it likely he  
may want it to use himself before  
he gets ready to start out here which  
I am perfectly willing to in case you  
can spare it as well as not, for I  
am a little interested in that vessel  
with Smith and if he uses the money  
there it will be the less that I shall  
have to pay when he gets out here,  
Sarah is quite complaining just now  
and has been for some two or three weeks  
Cecilia & Charlie are well, we are all here  
on a sand hill roosting on the lookout  
for some poor being to come along with  
a cargo to smuggle in which case I am  
in hopes to make something for if the cargo  
is worth anything I shall for I get  $\frac{1}{4}$   
of the value besides my yearly salary,  
Give my love to the children and tell  
them that I will try to come and see  
them a year from this summer if nothing

happens and I can get away from here. If I  
stay keep the situation I am in now I expect  
it will be hard to get a leave of absence  
long enough to come on without resigning  
and that I don't care to do unless I am  
sure of doing better, you must write  
whenever you can take time enough and  
make it convenient for we are mighty  
glad to get a letter from home if there  
is only three lines in it, we have no  
news here to write for we never see any  
one or hear anything except in a paper  
and it is only when I go to town  
that we get any of them. I will  
close for this time from yours  
Graternally & sincerely your Brother  
C. R. Cook