New York February 8th 1848

My Dear Alfred

I have been waiting a week until the women folks should have their various epistles ready ~~until I to~~ write you but as they have not yet concluded there I scribble this to let you know how the world turns round. Our last letter from you was the [illegible] of Nov. 28. & since then we have only heard of your action existence from Peck who came to see us & say that in coming down he met you on your upward route & exceedingly active. His father had just died and he was on his way to see the family. We have had lots of offices here lately. The Bowery folks have been raising a dust with Lieut Greeney & co. & the Broadway theatre has been hurrying itself hoarse for General Quitman. By the way I dined with Gen Kearney & Phil the other day at Mr DePeyster & Phil was eloquent in your praise. The finding in Fremonts Court martial is not yet announced. The last word was that it would not be secret, disobedience of orders & not mutiny, & today's paper says that he will be made Governor of California & Pillow of New Mexico - if the Senate agree. Gen Kearney it is understood had written a challenge to Benton but was persuaded to withhold it, & Benton has promised his wife not to fight - What the issue of this will be, I dont know. Kearney dont look to me like a man to stand under such an insult as he received. Fremonts defence was