that I was able to get any place to stay at all, for all the hotels were burnt and people were everywhere searching for lodging. To morrow I go to Sonoma to see Ap, whom I hear has a fine farm and will there or four thousand dollars this year. General Smith & Lady passed us at Acapulco, & he gave Ap a leave of six months. In the confusion now existing here, there were be no use delivering any letters, and as I have not quite recovered I think it best to go up now and recruit. And besides living is so dear here (I have to pay 10 $ a week for meals) that I unless I am doing something, it don't seem to pay.
The Lord keep me from such a country as this, they don't think as much of five dollars as we would of as many cents — and there is no coin here under twelve and a half cents, so you can easily imagine how money goes.
As I was sick I saw but little until I reached Acapulco. It is a pretty good sort of a place, but only important from its fine harbor which is completely landlocked, the town cannot compare with San Blas or San Diego, & both beautiful places, and surrounded by a beautiful country. I did not go ashore however and tell you this as it was told me.
After a voyage of 20 days we arrived off the Golden Gates as the heads or highlands at the entrance of the harbor of San Francisco are called. It was here that we spoke a pilot boat which communicated to us the intelligence of the fire. Many of the passengers were heavy losers, some to the tune of 30,000 dollars, the earnings of two or three years, but it is astonishing to see the recklessness exhibited here. A man says he is burnt out, with the greatest indifference imaginable, and