



8-17-1853

Letter from John W. H. Baker to Julia Ann Baker, 1853 Aug. 17

John W. H. Baker

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First letter*

New York Augst 17th 1853

Dearest Julia

I write this morning to inform you that I arrived safely in the city on the eve of Monday and had the good luck to meet my friend Parmelee at the Depot and was served by him in passing me to my place of stopping at the Western Hotel on Courtland Street, where I have very good accommodations and am enjoying myself as well as could be expected being that we have had a very rainy time here since yesterday morn and I have not accomplished much in the way of business. I called on James H. ^aParmelee and by invitation went over to Brooklyn and made a call on his wife in the P. M. I find her somewhat changed since I saw her last and the mother of a little curly-haired girl about the age of my own little daughter. They are to appearance enjoying themselves quite well. I have an invitation over there to tea this P. M. By the way I happened to fall in with Horace Brooks at Brattleboro who is in business in this City and made myself known to him and had a very sociable time and received some very kind attention in the way of information concerning my arrival in this Strange City. With his direction and the kind attention of friend Parmalee I am getting quite interested in the city. William S. Fifield came in yesterday morn and we visited the California Vessels and obtained what information we could concerning the passage but have not yet concluded which route to take. The Panama route in many respects is the preferable one but I presume, considering all things we shall conclude to take a passage on board the other line. Mary will probably come on on Friday after Fifield returns. He returns tonight or at least intends to do so. I should like to have heard from you

First letter*

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before I leave and if I had have known where I should have stoped I would have had you write me a line, as it is I shall most likely leave before I hear anything from Meriden. You must write me so that it may go out at the departure of the next mail for California which will be on the 5th of Sept. Write 3 or 4 days previous to the sailing of the vessel always. The vessels sail on the 5th & 20th of each month. I thought I would write this line this morn as it is raining so severely that it is impossible for me to get out and do anything. ^{With} While these few lines I will write you again before I leave on my long journey. I have not yet visited the Crystal Palace but shall probably do so before I leave.

I remain

Your Husband

John W. H. Baker

Mrs. Julia Ann Baker