



1-10-1854

Letter from John W. H. Baker to Julia Ann Baker, 1854 Jan. 10 and Jan 13

John W. H. Baker

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Letter 12.(Pictorial. The Miners. Top, Sutter's Fort.Bottom,Mok.Hill

Mokelumne Hill, Jany. 10th, 1854

My dear wife

I thought I must write you a hasty line this morning in order to insure the receipt of it by the mail from San Francisco of the 16th of this month. I am going to Jesus Maria after dinner this P.M. and now intend going to Sacramento tomorrow. Oliver has been to the North part of the state, at Marysville. he went with the design of selling his mules. But not succeeding to his mind he returned and stopped over night with me. That is last night. he said he called on Cousin Tully Strobbridge's family, found them all well and very pleasantly situated. He says they are living in good style as need be, thinks he enjoys himself very much indeed. I am going to see them at this time for the reason that I can leave now as well as at any time and unless I go now I could not do so before May next, as Dr. Holbrook will leave me week after next for N.H. and will ~~not~~ return with his family as soon as possible, but will probably be gone 3 months to say the least. I have talked with him as to going to Windsor & Meriden and get so much encouragement of his doing so as that he will do so if he can conveniently or if he goes to Grover, Vt. to see his brother who lives there. I presume he will have the kindness to go there. I shall send a letter personally by him when he goes and he will probably mail it upon his arrival so that you will be informed of his arrival. We have not received our letters due the first of this month on account of the disarrangement of the Steamers between Panama and San Francisco occasioned by the loss of the Winfield Scott and shall therefore expect to receive 2 letters next week. I feel very anxious to hear from my dear ones and am almost impatient at the present delay. However such accidents are not uncommon and we must make the best of such unfortunate things, and feel thankful that we were so favored as not to be a greater sufferer than that occasioned by

Sacramento Cal. Jany. 13th
1854

You perceive from the date of the remainder of my letter that I have accomplished a journey since my former date. I am now sitting in the parlor of Cousin Tully Strobridge finishing my correspondence for the Steamer which leaves on Monday next. I came here day before yesterday and have been looking about the city and visiting Mary Ann & Mary during the time thus far spent here. I have not seen Cousin Tully as he left his home for Placerville on the morning of the day I arrived and is to be in the city again on tomorrow, but will not be likely to arrive in season for me to see him. I shall leave for Mok. Hill tomorrow morning at 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ o'clock. The family are all well and seem to enjoy life in good N.E. style having everything for their enjoyment that one need to have even good social and moral society. I think I should like a residence in this city if I could be assured of a good thriving business. I do not think it quite equal to San Francisco, however. The city is situated very handsomely but is so low that I think it may always be subject to sickness and upon the former history of the place would be a bad place for one of my temperament and predisposition to rheumatic disease. By the way I have had for the last fortnight a very uncomfortable and at times severe return of Rheumatic Pains, but mostly confined to my left hip joint it troubles me very much in walking, but I think in a few days it will be better and I shall be about quite smart. I have written to Dennison and am to send it by this mail. I shall write a short letter to Fred upon a sheet of Paper with California scenes and I hope he will continue to write me occasionally. I may write you a line on Fred's letter in the mean time farewell. I am now going to take a ride with Mary and little Tully--

John W. H. Baker

Pictorial - A prospecting party, four scenes.