



5-11-1854

# Letter from John W. H. Baker to Laura Maria Baker, 1854 May 11

John W. H. Baker

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Mok. Hill May 11th 1854

To my daughter Laura Maria

I am very happy to hear from you once more, and to hear that you are well. I suppose you and Aunt Sarah room together and have very good times. You say you can sew some. I am very much pleased to hear of it and I hope you will learn to sew well so that when I come home you can help Mother do all her sewing. I suppose you love little Frankie very much and I want you to be very good to him. Did you not want to see him and your Mother when they were gone to Chesterfield. I suppose you go to meeting every Sunday now since it has come Spring there, and I suppose there are flowers there as well as here now. It is not all gold here. I do not suppose you could find a bit if you were here. Dr. Holbrook's little boy & girl have been out several times and dug up the dirt and washed it but they cannot find any gold. It is very hard work to obtain gold and the men have to dig very deep holes in the ground which look like wells and sometimes at the bottom they find a kind of dirt which has gold in it. and sometimes they do all this work and get nothing. We have no pinks here but I guess we shall have some wild roses by and by. We have some very pretty flowers of other kinds. No poppies or dandelions. I do not live in a hut but in what you would call a store. I do not dig any gold. But I do not know but I may have to dig gold by and by. When I do go to digging I will try and get you a little piece of gold and send it to you. There are some very pretty white girls here, and some little Indian girls, and little Indian boys and Indian babies and some of the little girls and bows are very much pleased to see the Indian women carry their babies upon their back tied on a little frame of sticks woven together.

Fraom your father  
John W. H. Baker