



6-30-1854

Letter from John W. H. Baker to Julia Ann Baker, 1854 Jun. 30

John W. H. Baker

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Mokelumne Hill, June 28th, 1854

My Dear Wife

I can only say a few words today in addition to what I wrote you yesterday. we are one day farther along in life than yesterday and I am quite well. I attended a Circus last evening and did not get to bed untill about midnight and so have taken a short nap this afternoon. Mrs. Holbrook & children & Charles Dudley and his family and some two or three other families were going and as Dr. H. did not wish to go I offered to go. We had a pretty good exhibition for one of the kind in California. But when we look at the price of admission as compared with N. H. it looks too bad. I gave \$2 for my ticket, the tickets for the "Pit" was \$1. But I can say that I indulge in such foolish expenditures as little as any other person and as I have always said I came to California to make money and with that determination I lay aside most of the amusements of a harmless nature/^{even} and give my attention to business whenever it comes or at least am always in readiness to attend to my business. In your letter you wish to know how Mrs. Dudley and her mother endured the journey. They endured the journey well, were somewhat seasick but came through well, and although somewhat jaded they were soon recruited and enjoy the best of health ever since. You say that the babe is troubled with a humor. I can hardly advise you how to treat it. if it should be very bad you must let father prescribe for it but if not very bad a little wash of acetate of lead or the Black Wash would be as good as any think I can think of. The Rock Oil I found of great benefit in several severe cases before I came out here.

I believe I wrote you some time since that I sent you \$100 by Oliver and I suppose ere this he has paid you the amount. I am exceedingly sorry to hear that Dr. Lane does not give perfect satisfaction to my old employers, but ~~z~~ so the world goes and it would not be strange. were I to come back and locate there, if many of my

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strongest feiends should continue to smploy the "Old Satan" he is so exceedingly smooth and enticing in his ways--I am glad you took pains to send me an account of your expenses for from this I can judge pretty well of the amount of money necessary for you and shall be enabled to send you drafts so that perhaps you will not be obliged to draw on the amount deposited in the Bank, but should you have any occasion to draw upon the funds I wish you to draw enough to make you comfortable. I see nothing objectionable in your account with the exception of the Brandy and on that occasion, as I reason, it was necessary as a medicine. As to the children I can say but little in the way of advice to you concerning them. all I can say or expect is that you should manage them to the best of your ability. not to indulge them beyond reasonable bounds, neither restrain them from enough of amusements and youthful plays to make them dull or stupid. Teach them a strict observance of truth and endeavor to interest them in their studies by persuasion or encouragement rather than by force or coercion. where the first method is successful I think it makes much the best scholar and eventually makes a man of sound judgment and great wisdom, while the latter would make a man of only ordinary abilities. My greatest wish is that you may succeed in training them properly and without much trouble to yourself or others. I enclose in this letter the Draft spoken of in my other letter. It is drawn on Adams & Co. in Boston, dated June 27th, 1854 & numbered No. 5478. Payable at sight to the order of Mrs. J. A. Baker. With the wish that it maycome to your hand safely I bid you the good bye of your

Mrs. Julia Ann Baker
Meriden, N.H.

Ever Affectionate Husband
John W. H. Baker