

New Orleans January the 26 1857

Dear Parents

I take this opportunity to inform you that I am well and in good health, hoping that these line will find you in the same state of health.

In accordance to your request I will wright to you the day before I start to Nicaragua. Tomorrow is the twenty seventh and the steamship Texas will start for the San Juan with about four hundred men for Walker myself amongst the number I am going as aide de camp to Col. Titus<sup>i</sup> of Kansas notoriety he has about two hundred and fifty men many of them from Kansas and Missouri. I am better armed and prepared than any of them having a rifle, two colt repeaters and a toothpick. There are many rumors afloat about here in regard to Vanderbilts operations it is supposed by some that with the aid of England, Costa Rica and some New York speculators that Walker will have a hard team to pull against. This keeps many from going, but the last news from Nicaragua was from New York which was, that Walker had twelve hundred men at Rivas and two hundred at Punta Arenas and had the San Juan.

There was a great meeting here the other night of which perhaps you have heard. Seventeen hundred dollars were subscribed on that night and perhaps more has been subscribed since. But at any rate I am going to try and do the best I can. My position keeps me in danger but I don't mind that I know that you would not object and I go satisfied.

Give my respects to the boys and tell them to come out here and my respects to the girls and our neighbors. No more at present.

Your son

E. S. Baker

Direct your letters to the care of P. Rainey<sup>ii</sup> New Orleans

E. S. Baker Collection, Manuscripts and Folklife Archives, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, KY.

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<sup>i</sup> Henry Theodore Titus.

<sup>ii</sup> Philip P. Rainey, died in New Orleans Oct. 25, 1879.