

My dear Son

Auckland 8<sup>th</sup> April 1845.

Since I wrote you the other day about the unhappy condition of John, I have received your letter of the 5<sup>th</sup>. Out of the money which has been contributed by my good friends to my relief, five thousand dollars have been decided to be paid to Mr. Astor. That, with the \$5000 which I paid the winter before the last will reduce the original debt from \$20,000 to \$10,000. I mean to write in a week or two and propose a further indulgence of two years for this latter sum, and to state positively that it is the last indulgence that will be asked. I entertain all confidence that it will be granted, and consequently that you need not allow this subject to distress you.

I am afraid that John's case is hopeless. He exhibited strong and unequivocal demonstrations of derangement, and I understand manifested it more decisively than his unfortunate brother did, when he was first put in the Hospital. We shall make the best arrangements we can for the comfort of them, and among others I have sent a servant to the Hospital to attend on them.

I find it extremely hard to bear this last sad affliction. It has put in requisition the utmost fortitude I can command.

I am not surprised that you should be dissatisfied with boarding in a Tavern, and leading a life of inactivity. I fervently wish that you were engaged in some useful and agreeable employment. Thomas & James are both building dwelling houses, and both will leave here when they are finished, some time next fall. If you do not