

Walter July 19. 1865

Walter
My dear friend

I had intended to reply at length to your much esteemed letter of the 12th, but pressure of business engagements has prevented it. I am, my worthy friend Capt. Wells, is hurrying me up for his letter for New Orleans.

The note of your safe arrival & that of the family, was to me a source of great relief. We had presumed upon your usual, or usual, of violence having been used towards you plenty.

I am happy to learn, that you are meeting the situation, & preparing to make the best of it. The same may be said of your Philosophy.

As proof of my letter, by giving some to see me - my energy are stimulated to renewed exertion, & I have adopted my old sea-faring maxims out to give up the ship. As long as I have a plank (no matter how small it is) to step on.

That you have my fervent prayers, for future success. I hardly need add.

I desire to be affectionately remembered to each and every member of your amiable family.

In haste

Your friend
W. S. Longfellow