

Advertising sheet for Baker, "Proclamation!!" (July 1853)

(keywords: Isaac W. Baker, Perez M. Batchelder, history of the daguerreotype, history of photography.)

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The following poem is from an advertising sheet issued in 1853 by the daguerreotypist Isaac W. Baker. The sheet features a wood engraving of a daguerreotype saloon.

P R O C L A M A T I O N ! !

YE MINERS, all who love to roam
So far away from friends and home,
Just please to stop awhile and see
What glorious news you'll get from me.

Those friends at home! Why, "bless your
eyes,"
You now can take them by surprise.
And shew your bearded whiskered faces,
And all your 'claims' and mining places;
Your 'tom' and 'sluice,' and 'tailings' too,
And even the water running through!—
All this, and more, sir, you are able
To place at home upon your table,
Thousands of miles far, far away
From this same California!—
And how?—Quite easy,—Just run down
Towards the lower end o' town,
At MURPHY'S CAMP, and there's the place
To get a picture of your face!
Walk in to "BATCHELDERS' SALOON,"—
From morn, till late in afternoon,
You'll find things all prepar'd for action,
And warranted to give satisfaction.

DAGUERREOTYPES!—All sorts and kinds,
To suite all fancies and all minds;
Large and small—and splendid cases—
Suitable for 'claims' or 'faces.'
Or, if you choose, a handsome LOCKET,
Exactly fit for a sweetheart's pocket.
All this, and more than I can mention,
You'll find there to attract attention.
Come ALL, no matter what your trade is,
Come right along and bring the Ladies;
(And whether they are fair or no,
Daguerreotype will quickly shew!)
Pictures, in ANY KIND OF WEATHER,
Singly, or two or more together,
Now, if you want a 'view,' or 'claim,'
Walk in and 'register your name;'
Or come my SPECIMENS to see,—
No charge for that, ADMITTANCE FREE!
SALOON ON WHEELS,—boys, recollect,—
It may be off ere you expect.
Pictures good, and prices low,
Now's your chance, before I go;
Recollect the name, and call in soon,—
BATCHELDERS' DAGUERREOTYPE SALOON.

ISAAC W. BAKER, Operator.

Sonora Herald Print

MURPHY'S CAMP, July, 1853.

EDITOR'S NOTES:

The advertisement is from a three page section removed from a sketchbook of Isaac Wallace Baker (Oakland Museum of California accession # 2009.35.2.1.) The advertisement, which includes a wood engraving of the daguerreotype saloon, is viewable on the museum's website, OMCA Collections.¹ Other material related to Baker, including a daguerreotype of Baker with the daguerreotype saloon,² is viewable on the museum's

website. Additional information for both Baker and Batchelder is found in Peter E. Palmquist and Thomas R. Kailbourn, *Pioneer Photographers of the Far West: A Biographical Dictionary, 1840-1865* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2002.)

1. <http://collections.museumca.org/?q=collection-item/20093521>
2. <http://collections.museumca.org/?q=collection-item/a68948>

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Original spelling/punctuation/grammar generally maintained without correction. Any in-text corrections are bracketed.

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