

Dear Mr. [Name] I have not been able to discover how I can reconcile myself to leaving your various letters, (receiving with interest, instruction, & regard,) unanswered even after week. After I resolve that the next American mail shall not start without being the bearer of a few words of grateful & apologetic recognition of your undesired favors, - even tho' I sh<sup>d</sup> sit up all night to write to pen them. But the weeks began to find, each day having been crowded with as many efforts <sup>of writing</sup> as strength admitted, often more, & leaving a whole accumulation of every increasing arrears. You have heard about us Mrs' dear M<sup>r</sup> Chapman, whose spirit was like a draught of pure oxygen & vivifying body & spirit. I can't describe to you the delight it was to us to have her here in the same quiet way in which she came. In spite of her finding us both rather unusually poorly we contrived to talk over a great many subjects of common interest & were brought near to each other, as we had not been for the last three years or more. You came in for a full share of our affectionate

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Bristol  
 June 1 - 1855.  
 My affectionate  
 [Name]

mention, From Mr. L. you will have heard  
enough of the general aspect of our lives to make  
you understand the waiting & watching &  
"helping to do nothing" business which is my  
daily portion, to make you pardon my neglect  
of you during the last few months. Every  
line you write me is so suggestive, &  
awakens such responsive chords, that  
I often sigh for a mental daguerotype  
machine to record my spiritual com-  
munion with you! Having <sup>now</sup> come to  
such a thorough bankruptcy it is hopeless  
to advert to each separate debt! Your A.S.  
news is duly prized & circulated, (not in  
<sup>personal</sup> way that you object to, but purely in  
its Antislavery capacity, in the shape of  
extracts written or read aloud.) The  
private portions of your letters we feast  
upon in private, & respond to in our own  
hearts. You hint in your letter to my  
Aunt that you may have repelled me by  
your exhibition of irrepressible disquietude  
at the news of your sister's illness some months  
ago!! Indeed, dear Annie, I am not so self-  
righteous as to esteem myself the more &  
you the less for <sup>the circumstance of</sup> my being blessed with less  
excitability of temperament. How you often  
the discipline of my life having been such

as to inure me to the prospect of trial  
& separation, as well as to extinguish  
hope in any form of temporal happiness.  
These accidents in my condition do but  
add to my responsibility & make me  
regard with admiration in you that  
incomplete struggle after <sup>an amount of the</sup> resignation  
which my tutoring has <sup>been</sup> perfecting <sup>in</sup> me in.  
I know not your conflicts between theo-  
retical & practical faith, the first lead  
naturally to the second in my case. My  
Father & I are never able to withdraw our  
gaze from the impending separation  
& death which may at any hour fall  
upon us; the present tho' calm & abounding  
in heavenly mercies is never unalloyed  
by physical ailments & <sup>by the</sup> somewhat  
melancholy contrast with the past:  
while <sup>on the other hand</sup> no ray of light shines on our  
earthly future, every change must be  
a stride towards the grave on my  
Father's part, an increase of arduous  
endeavour to <sup>lighten the burden of</sup> ~~share~~ his additional  
infirmities on mine. I can breathe  
no prayer for his protracted sojourn on  
earth, while the grasshopper daily becomes  
a heavier burden to him, nor can I <sup>desire</sup> ~~wish~~

to accelerate any more than to retard  
his departure from the world he still  
gladdens with his presence, & serves by  
his counsel. As little could I form any  
my own life apart from him, or any  
wish respecting it. And yet I have no  
solicitude whatever. The promises have  
never yet failed us & I am as much per-  
suaded that they never will, as that I  
shall live again. I know that as in our  
past trial, so in every future emergency,  
Sufficient unto our day will be our strength.  
You led me into this strain dear Anna  
by your observation to my Aunt, forgive  
its egotistical character. Your views on  
fighting interest me as well as those on res-  
toration, from their giving <sup>another</sup> indication of the  
contrast there is between us. You "believe  
in peace & yet sympathize with fighting." I believe  
in peace & therefore have no sympathy whatever  
with anything pertaining to war. I know  
that out of man's evil God educes good, & there-  
fore I have faith that all the butchery now  
going forward <sup>may</sup> ~~will~~ help on some victory  
of a righteous principle, & that <sup>thus perhaps</sup> in some way  
a door may be opened for the oppressed  
of Europe to regain their freedom. But ignorant  
as I am of the means by which this much  
to be desired end will be brought about, I cannot  
awaken in myself any enthusiasm or sympathy.

Ms. A. 9. 2. 28. 49

in the war. The rulers of all, who are taking  
 part in the struggle, <sup>seem to</sup> care more for them-  
 selves than for their neighbours, & their  
 aristocratic predilections make them  
 unconcerned for the wrongs of Hungary,  
 Poland, or Italy. The conservative spirit pre-  
 dominates, & I suspect the English government <sup>would</sup>  
 greatly prefer seeing the Czar conquer, to these ill-  
 used states regaining their liberties. I cannot therefore  
 feel any satisfaction in the immediate issue of  
 any battles in the Crimea, nor in the ascendancy  
 of one power & defeat of the other. Moreover I have  
 no faith in the permanence of apparent good which  
 is attained by bloodshed & violence, or any unwholesome  
 measures, tho' I can & do believe that ultimately  
 these things may be proved stepping stones to some  
<sup>good end.</sup>  
~~thing much to be desired.~~ All you tell

us of Mrs Stone is interesting & useful. We quite un-  
 derstand her position, but the British public  
 do not, & her name can <sup>therefore</sup> be used by people like Dr  
 Culbert Young, to the great injury of the Cause. We  
 have us with to publish anything about Mrs Stone  
 or Mr A. W. Beecher's relations to the Am Board of Missions  
 unless they would give a direct disclaimer of their  
 "endorsement" of it which Mr Young has put into their  
 mouths. Such a contradiction from Mrs Stone  
 would be of immense service, in thwarting Mr  
 Y's unprincipled proceedings. How admirably  
 you describe Mr Pillsbury in your letter to my Aunt!  
 He is as you say too good, & too diffident to deal with  
 people of the world. His extreme sensitiveness & his

poetic temperament, are great drawbacks to his  
comfort. His usefulness in <sup>his</sup> unavoidable collisions  
with different classes of minds, & his contact with  
persons in various circles of social life & degree  
of mental cultivation. No one can be a more instru-  
tive or delightful companion than he when he finds  
himself entirely at home in a congenial atmosphere.  
He calls out love & sympathy to a remarkable degree,  
but if he takes a notion that his companions are  
narrow-minded, illiberal, or fastidious, he locks  
himself up from them, & does all he can to avoid  
them instead of trying to enlighten them. The  
refer of course to personal intercourse. In anti-slavery  
circles & in public addresses he has <sup>several times I think</sup> always been  
most acceptable & happy in his mode of presenting  
the cause. An estimate of his services is not less  
since my Aunt wrote to you, on the contrary he has  
been sowing good seed from that day to this, which  
is springing up in Liverpool, Warrington, Manchester,  
Dublin, <sup>Belfast</sup>, Edinburgh, Leeds, &c. &c. The friends he has  
made in those places all want <sup>another</sup> ~~a~~ visit  
from him. His health does not, I fear from the tone  
of his letters, improve materially, but the weather has  
been sadly against him. He has now just started for  
a month's tour in Germany, &c. in company with  
Bishop. The Stants who are of the party as far as Kreuznach  
on the Rhine. I never knew anyone less able to  
adapt himself to the idiosyncrasies of his hearers or  
correspondents than Mr P. He addresses the  
image in his own mind which may or may not be  
a portrait of the actual person with whom he is dealing.  
Generally speaking his conceptions seem to me in  
his vivid imagination leading him to exaggerations  
extremes. He gave Mr Chamberlain a great advantage  
by answering a hypocritical letter from the latter accord-  
ing to what he considered its spirit & concealed purpose, instead of

Ms. A. 9. 2. 2849