

Parkth. Ho. L.P. - 1857.

Dearest Emma,

My Aunt has just sent me the announce-
-ment of your intended speedy departure for
Paris, & I must write one line of congratulation
on the prospect, & thank you for your last
welcome despatch. There have been many
things I longed to tell you since receiving it,
but my time was too much taken up for writing
them, especially as your getting the letter seemed
dubious. This evening, which I had meditated
enjoying with you, & had given up accompany-
-ing my Father to Cote (to see the Amuses, whom
we have not yet been able to call on) for this
purpose chiefly, has been bespoken by Miss
Carpenter in ~~so~~ touching an Appeal for help
in sending out circulars ^{for conveying} ~~conveying~~ some
Meeting in reference to Reformatory Institutions
&c. which she has been instrumental in con-
-vening. The conference is to be held in Birmingham
& as she will have to forego her teaching night
at the Ragged School if I don't go to the rescue
you must take this will for the deed in my
ps

communication. My Father left his love for you: if you have time to send us a line before putting your plans into execution it will be a great satisfaction, but we have no wish to tease you, or multiply your engagements.

Of course if we knew the day of your departure we should contrive not to let you rejoin your family without some inquiries from Bristol. We are rejoiced to hear such improved accounts of your brother, & find no difficulty in believing the cold water system has been an agent in his restoration. Your arguments respecting the practice of medicine are so strikingly analogous to those of R. Carpenter in reference to Slavery that I never mean to engage in any discussion of the subject. We keep pretty well, & have sometimes been nearly overwhelmed with duties that have crowded upon us, some very perplexing, some very painful, some very laborious, all about other people's concerns, or foreign to our immediate circle of interests. But there always is a climax, & until these intricacies are unravelled, we have invariably found strength sufficient for the wils of each day; & so it is now we are beginning to see our way out of a maze of family, relative, & social cares, none of which would be intelligible to you without a long

chapter of histories and passages of our lives & connections to which you have not been introduced. Our Antislavery work has had to take a subordinate place, but we have watched, & helped, & guided, & written, as much as circumstances would permit. The branch in which our energies are now directed is not one that you attach the same importance to as we do, but will not increase your interest to learn that the despised, slandered, Ed. Matthews is our ally; or rather that we are his, in secondly his efforts to show up the Evangelical Alliance & expose the pro-slavery ^{sympathies} ~~inclinations~~ of all the British religious organizations in common with their American fraternity. The whole ecclesiastical battle has to be fought on the head of that poor devoted man; & every time I see him return undaunted to the charge, as one after another of the General or Local Baptist Unions & churches repulse him on the ground of his separation from the American body in obedience to the principles these very parties counselled all their brethren to carry out - my respect for his determination not to lower his standard increases, & my sense of the importance of the stand he is taking; & at each fresh proof of his determination to thrust into

every Resolution the unfellowshipping of slave-
holders & the genuine "come outers" doctrine in
indignant emotions rankle afresh at Mr. Thos,
pronouncing him "a snake," & Miss Weston a
"creature with a new organization instead of
& another saying he was "meanly & blindly" (I
knew how the two could unite) undermining the
true A.S. Movement, & Mr. J. maintaining he
had never been baptised into the Abolition spirit
& a great deal more which were only inferences
from past experiences without any proofs to any
but their own mind. That lesson drove me
back to the same state of despondency respecting
our views of duty in ^{the course of} A.S. affairs ever equating
with theirs, as their treatment of the Wigham
& Brown & Pinnington transaction; & after a long
continued struggle I have now resigned myself to
relinquishing my faith in their infallibility &
hope for their entire sympathy or approbation of
our course. The exaggerated estimate their affect
induces them to form of us individually, helps on
this conclusion instead of interfering with it; so
shall only recount to them the set of operations
in which they will cordially participate. But I
ought to have been more objective in this brief
communication. My Father has a letter from
Mr. May & one from "his friend" by the last mail
the latter has set him up most unpleasantly,
for he is constantly reminding me that I
had prepared him for the possibility of his not
hearing till after the Fair, but he understood
the nature of true friendship better than that!

Ms. A. 7. 3. 35

Mr May tells us that all the pro-slavery
papers are getting up an hostility to Hopes
which renders his chance of escaping ship-
wreck greater than if they flattered him.

Mr Webb, & Mrs Mason, & Mr Ashurst, &
Mr Armstrong, my Father & Mr Follen
have been doing their best to open his eyes.

I am summoned by Mrs Carpenter Ormery
and abruptly. If you don't go for a few
days you shall hear again. I hope my
Aunt will not amuse away the winter
at Bridgewater instead of enjoying it in
Paris, but I perceive no symptoms of her
bestiring herself.

Ever fondly yours

Mary Estlin.

I forget whether you saw the enclosed.

