

London, Aug. 18, 1846.

Dear Helen:

25- This is a beautiful morning, and I lack nothing to complete my enjoyment but your own dear presence, and that of the children. O that I could embrace you all, and bestow upon you as many kisses as my affection would prompt! But here I am, — the wide ocean rolling between us, and my work but just begun. It was my hope to be able to leave for home in the steamer of Oct. 4th; but it seems now, impracticable for me to get away before the 19th. Henry C. Wright is also so circumstanced, that he will not be able to leave till that time. This will make the delay of a fortnight, which will be very long to you, and also to me; but yet it is only a fortnight, and it is better that we should consent to this temporary separation, than that my mission should be left in an imperfect state. It bids fair to be serviceable to an extent surpassing my most sanguine expectations. We have formed an Anti-Slavery League for all England, and last evening held a public meeting, which was fully attended by a most intelligent, respectable and enthusiastic assembly. I would have readily given several guineas, if you and the Boston

friends could have been spectators. It was a real old organized anti-slavery meeting, such as was never before held in this metropolis. George Thompson was in the chair, and made a brief but earnest speech, in which he referred to me in a very kind and complimentary manner. Henry C. Wright made the opening speech, and it was "a scorcher," and received great applause. I followed him — and on rising, was received by the assembly with a tempest of applause, they rising from their seats, swinging their hearts, and cheering loudly. I made a long speech, which elicited the strongest marks of approbation. Douglass was received in a similar manner, and made one of his very best efforts. I never saw an audience more delighted. Henry Vincent made the closing speech, which was eloquently uttered, and warmly cheered. James Haughton, at the commencement, presented a resolution, welcoming us all to England, &c. &c. Rev. Mr. Kirk, of Boston, was in the meeting, but he found the atmosphere too warm for him at last, and left the room. We began at half past 6, P.M., and did not adjourn till 12 o'clock, very few having left at that late hour. Every thing was encouraging in the highest degree.

Dearest, you have my heart. I shall think of you in the din of public excitement at the silence of privacy. My health is excellent as I trust yours is. Love to all the dear friends without specification. Write by every steamer. Yours ever, W. L. G.