

Albany, Feb. 21, 1857.

Dear Wife:

168 I was made happy by receiving your letter yesterday, on my return from Troy, where Remond and myself addressed a highly respectable audience the previous evening, the meeting lasting till 10 o'clock. That "great gem" of orthodoxy, Rev. Dr. Beman, was present, together with his colleague; also Rev. Mrs. Buckingham and one or two other clergymen. I made a clean breast of it, in regard to the guilt of the church and clergy, and gave them my Disunion views in the most radical manner. Frequent applause showed that my hits told. I trust a very good impression was made. Troy, however, in regard to the cause of reforms, is a grave-yard. Every where, "the whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint."

Poor dear Doctor Taft has got his release from earth, and is now a ransomed spirit. Undoubtedly, it is to him a most happy transition. I deeply sympathize with Jora, and yet, as the case was incurable and grievous, rejoice that the heavy burden has been taken from her. I will either see or write to her on my return home.

We held three meetings here yesterday. They were comparatively small, but a number of excellent friends from the surrounding country were in attendance. In the evening, a number of southern law students were present, and behaved as well as could be expected - occasionally manifesting a disposition to be boisterous; but we had an excellent meeting, nevertheless. To-day, we are to have three more meetings, and three more to-morrow! Phillips will probably be with us this evening. Mr. May will not be able to come from Syracuse, but has sent us a long letter to be read.

Who should look in upon us, last evening, but our true-hearted friend, C. F. Hovey, on his way to New York! He was most cordially greeted by us all, but thinks he must leave here in the evening train, as he wishes to spend Sunday at Staten Island. He told me that he parted from you at Framingham, and also of your disappointment in regard to the funeral of Dr. Taft being at Roxbury. I am glad you went up to see Dora, and regret my absence on the occasion.

I am in very good health and spirits, and sustain the fatigues of this campaign better than I expected. Pillsbury is getting better of his cold, though it is still troublesome. Powell and Remond are the other speakers. I long to get through, and to be on my way home, though every thing has gone pleasantly since I left.

I am glad to hear of the comfortable state of mind and body of my venerated friend, Mrs. Otis. Long may her valuable life be preserved; for, though its activity is necessarily ended, yet her sweet serenity and ever-progressing spirit, in her sick chamber, are most edifying to all who see her. Of course, you will not fail to give her my best remembrances, and also Georgena, among the best of all daughters.

This morning, I am to have an ambrotype likeness taken of myself, by request; and as the time is at hand for me to sit, I must now lay down my pencil.

Tell Fanny and Franky they are in my thoughts continually. Love to George and Wendell, and regards to Mary Ann.

Most affectionately yours,

W. L. G.



