

New York, April 7, 1865.

My dear Wife:

George Thompson joined me at the Old Colony Depot, and our train arrived at Newport about 9 o'clock in the evening, when we embarked on board of the Empire State for this city. The night was stormy, the ocean rough, we had a head wind and sea, and did not arrive till 10 o'clock this morning. Several of the passengers were sea-sick; and I should have been if I had not immediately gone to my state-room, and taken to my berth, where I rested till morning, having had a very comfortable night of it. And so did Thompson. On arriving at the pier, we found Wendell waiting for us, where he had been three long hours! I felt very sorry that he should have been put to so much trouble and discomfort, as it was wholly unnecessary; but his filial affection is strong, and he made light of his long detention, as you may naturally suppose he would.

From the boat we proceeded to the Independent office, where we found Filton and Dr. Leavitt, both of whom are going to Fort Sumter — Filton with us, and the Dr. by a private conveyance. After getting a late breakfast, we went to the office, where our names were enrolled and our tickets for the Arago furnished us; but the steamer will not leave until to-morrow (Saturday) noon. As the weather continues unpleasant, I am not sorry for the delay; trusting that we shall have a fair day to-morrow.

I have just received a telegram from Secretary Stanton, at Washington, as follows: —

"Washington, April 7, 1865.

The Adjutant General has been directed to give Captain Garrison a furlough while you are at Charleston. I hope Mrs. Thompson accompanies you. A formal invitation was forwarded to him to your care, by mail, and a duplicate will be sent to Fortess Monroe, where I expect to join your party."

Edwin M. Stanton.

Isn't that handsome and delightful
as concerning our dear son? I do not
know whether the Secretary supposes George
to be a captain, or whether he intends
this as a promotion - probably the former,
as it is probable no promotion is made,
in such subordinate offices, until there
is a vacancy. Anyhow, will not George be
happy to be with me while I am there?

I have just had a short but pleasant
interview with our dear Samuel J. May, who
returns to Syracuse this afternoon, having
been to Brooklyn to attend the Unitarian
Convention. He says Charlotte Coffin will
return to Boston the last of this month; or
he may have said, next month - I am
not quite sure which. It is his intention
to be at our anniversary here in May.

I have also seen our friend, William
H. Fish, who, with Mr. May, inquired
specially after your welfare, and also
after that of the household.

I shall stop with Wendell to-
night, and so will Mr. Thompson.

Every body who knows of my going to Fort Sumter is delighted, military men and all. Nothing more satisfies me that slavery is annihilated beyond any hope of resurrection than the deference, kindness and congratulation extended to me by those who are the unerring representatives of public opinion. The American Anti-Slavery Society may reasonably conclude that its specific mission is ended.

Intelligence is this moment received — though it is not official — that Gen. Lee has surrendered with the remainder of his shattered army. If this be so, the rebellion is indeed crushed, and slavery along with it.

I shall rejoice when I am once more by your side, and with the dear ones at home. I only separate myself for a time, because I believe I can best aid the cause of liberty and peace by so doing. Be careful of yourself while I am gone, and take as much exercise as you can well bear. My heart's love to William and Ellie, to Fanny and Frank.

Your most affectionate husband
W. L. G.