

3
their selfishness, had as to the national one: - Patriotism
on the wrong side. (as one says of tapestry work) The selfish-
ness of that body of men who stood for so many years
as the American Nation that (the new serpent
last got rid of the old skin in a moment) will shake
for a long time under the bad character given
us, before the world by a pro-slavery democracy,
something that makes the selfishness of England seem feeble.
I do not form my judgements - those which stand
in the silence of my own mind, which I am
willing to communicate to my friends, the rest
of the world, while regulating my conduct by them,
upon my wishes or my fears (if I had them)
in my hopes or my particular personal de-
sires. I will see things just as they are,
in the light, may be disagreeable. They may scold over
the misdeeds of all the world, while laughing
at themselves. They may make half as good as they
make of it. They were a great deal worse
so common a case as to be highly probable
in their instance, may be as full of punk
of pluck & patriotism & self-esteem as you can
imagine. I may hate the English like an
old man. I may lay all my losses by the
Alabama upon the Englishman. I may
laud & glory alike with the kind
make Lord Ashurst as the first the
responsible party in my own mind. But my
course will be, from beginning to end, to say no
word, to do no deed which will by one hundredth
part hurt the interests of the Union. I will
not make a single word, except as they are required
by the interchange of such a member as - Aunt Cat's

trade with em! Let's make our own china & then
Kinnies & as to be free to lick em any time, & on the
English side, "Nay, if we won't make em thankful
to send their goods in our ships, yet, & then they'll know
whether free-trade is selfishness or not."

There are the vulgar & wicked cries that men like
Laird on one side & men like Greeley on the other
keep screaming in each others' ears. If I had
tried to feel shame in my nationality because it
had given birth to men quicker than others of the
guilt of selfishness, I should, I suppose say I was
shamed to say that Greeley began these cries first.
That the United States took under Buchanan an atti-
tude of infriendliness which the Republicans had no
skill enough in legislation to get out of. But
I can't hate Nations, because of these things.
- Now talk as if I did. Every Nation has its faults

to know are & names. We are men, we are
to tell whether or no we ought to shut our doors
for fear of pinching Habeas Corpus in the door.
I get the feel getting better & stronger every day.
I here we are sending back slaves to their Mas-
ters yet in the Dist. Ct. yet, an Englishman would
not be able to see on what necessity. He can see doubtless
how wiser it would be to stop work in this yard
at home: - He can look on his own people. Why
can't he look on the things of his neighbors? - I can
see the vileness both ways. But in America it is
well to make a war of it, even though in both
cases it were the Causa Belli of international law.

But Lord, my dear I did not mean to speak
of international matters. Let me get out of this
per fact, & a whole sheet of paper with me

Here I am, as Henry C. Wright says at the beginning
of all his letters, all alone in the great house next as a
New firm, in Madison Avenue. A very nice little house
and some one of the old family friends. It "is not a little house," said
Little Henry with indignation. "It is a large house." I believe
I sent you a plan of it. A high stoop house - as Old Dutch N.Y.
taught its children to call a house like Lucretia Bradley in Boston.
12 steps on the outside, which leaves you a great room on
the basement floor, on a level with the kitchen for a
Library, servants hall, own den, or what you will. Between
it & the kitchen is a nice laundry where works a nice
woman all the time. There is in the wash-room
beyond the kitchen. Under the free stone steps looking out upon
a beautiful green area under the basement windows, is
a pantry cool & shaded from the sun. It is a corner house
& coal & groceries go in at the back door at the
side of 31st Street. All these passages are lighted with gas
from the centre ceiling & blown here as needed. Then mount
up to the hall floor with tessellated Marbles - white &
blue & lighted with the great six burner french lantern, eight
sided, with curiously swelled glass panes in bronze & felt frame
that make every flame look like half-a-dozen. It has a
vestibule & is lighted through both doors, the inner one having
white shades that draw down. The stairs are stained dark
wood color & the walls, white as yet, hung with two great
pictures, supposed Canaletto, - at any rate the Realto,
& another scene in Venice. Before mounting
go into the first drawing room. Small, no bigger than
the New York Library, & papered with leather
of gold & when we get books it too is to be a library.
It is well furnished with black meubles, ven. chairs, &
a good oil-painting copied in Rome in every panel
with sea glass from top to bottom, fine Chippendale

glass. Then the great drawing room with immense rose
wood-doors between - splendid pieces of cabinet-work. There
is the grand piano, the Brunswick du jong & other men-
de of boys de rose & all grammes with what dice-cal
chairs. ^{Here too, on greenish gray walls with rare gold stags, is Mrs. Jay's picture}
This is gold with great John Jay's portrait in a recess
between the windows, & all the American presents
(my presents) to be over the doors. We have a good deal
of slate, & the Walnut carved side-board, my present,
looks pretty well when set out as many the footman's,
knows how. I don't know but they will find themselves
obliged to have a footman, as this house is a fuffall
to a schooner compared to the other & many
find it difficult to handle it. There are
4 cupboards full of glass & china, one in each corner
which make the room a long octagon. It will
dine sixteen people amply. The pantry with
its wash-sink, dumb waiter, closets, gas light &
all, is between the dining room & the entry, or
hall, at the head of the Petchin Stairs. & outside
in the hall is a closet for coats & umbrellas.

Chambers & face business every what.
Chambers - just front Eleanor's & Henry's. Bes-
ing rooms for each. Beautiful light paper, ^{gray & gold} ^{flour}
paint of two light shades. Great linen closets & ward-
robes built up to the house, in every room & dress-
ing room. Just back is the grand first-chamber
small bedroom & dressing room attached.

Second front, with small bedrooms adjoining, is the
kitchen. In back, where I now sit, is papered with
water brocade pattern, light brown on green ground
your picture hangs over the fire place (the Dean
& jets back) & Kandermeys over the glass &
water colour landscapes I make out the rest

Ms. A. 9. 2. 31. 6. 6

Remnants of black mountaineers. - It is not the
Fellers, they are dead, nor Philbrick. He is dead. But
young Philbrick with every cent of his property, invested
in sea-island plantations, - a bona fide settler,
organizing education & free labor in young
Feller making a raid with Montgomery into
Mississippi & young friends, a superintendent
of abandoned plantations. The Ministry, in
their pulpits, are doing the preaching needful on
the subject, pro-slavery though they would be, while
slavery existed. But they are perfectly competent
to preach against the draft. And old Stephen
Lyng, who is at it from morning till night,
can stir up peevishness & resentment far better
than we. We have fought our way through
I don't know it well. We must not be like Dolley Dix
saying "I don't know about it, in every body's way." National
loyalty, I let my spiritual feet drag,
and they know that I think we've got there
as far as this life-time goes. In what we do,
had better work in with the young people,
I don't try to make them work with us, at
any job that is accomplished, in so far. Now let's
let government sweat at it. Particularly
as they like to be complimented by having
just upon their shoulders, & will pass all the
laws they are strong enough to pass without
without ~~petitioning~~ as ~~with~~. But petitioning can't hinder
- only one thing you need not stand your lungs
day in praying for: - the sin of yesterday. ~~and~~
we think I felt absolved from - crying fire
in a ~~hurry~~ of food - or refusing with them that
will. Let 'em have \$100,000 to the
organization of a hospital for the Louisiana Volunteer
I don't know what I can do. S. B. Smith shall

Ms. A. 9. 2. 31. 66

I enclose you another photograph - this jolly old lady, other-
wise the Magpie looking into a marrow-bone - I am rather
shamed of it - and the country in such a condition!
Never mind the Black Card is stamps - the plates of-
ficers are cut up as never was since Thermopylae!
(Who would not look glad?) or as my last does -
like a fore-told a mile Sultan watching the
Emulating world. I had a letter from Mrs Stanton
yesterday, she trying to put all their affairs into my
hands. (Women's National Loyal League, Cooper Institute,
an enterprise to get a Million of Women's Signatures
for the Confession at the of Slavery.) I
can't bear to say a word against any thing that
any honest person is doing, but it is a waste of
labour. I said, (rather than find fault) when she
heard of it, "prayer (petition) & Providence all
said never to have hindered any woman's jour-
ney," & when that hurt she left me to take the

No. A. 4. 2. 31. 1. 6

Dressing room little Bedroom & Linen closet
 Ward robes here also a book case white marble
 fireplace of beautiful proportion. So they are all over
 the house. Carpets I say nothing of. They are
 all made in the house ready to go down, I well
 hope we moved into it, such a quiet stay is pleasant. All
 I know of the next floor is that there are 4 rooms
 up there all large & nice. There is a great Bay window
 in the drawing room & two long oval Mirrors. In the
 dining room splendid pictures over carved marble
 fire place & sideboard both indicate that some kind of
 other the dining room is to be the scene of ac-
 tion here. Pleasant stay, oh how I must have
 been comfortable. - I never shall forget how she had to
 suffer when she was at Williams' with us. But
 she was all in a great suffering condition.