

Dear Sister

No 15

London March 5, 57

I mailed No 14 for Pease Dale on 27th ultimo - To day I returned from Mr Jacksons at Hall Place when I have just spent another very agreeable week at this hospitable house, and found all hands very resolutely determined that I should yet remain. It was only for necessity that I could prevail on myself to leave, and would have scarce done so but for the expectation of a speedy return, which I have enjoyed to. The walks in the valley of the Thames there, especially toward Marlow are perfectly charming. The concentration of the English of rural beauty seems to be there. Such farms houses, trees, villages, forests, fields, waters and "winds" An old Monastery by Marlow too, "Byley Abby", another at Hestley another just above, all on the Thames.

I find on my return a letter from R. G. H. also one from Mrs Pease, ^{and one from Mrs Captain Lawrence} I thank you very much, none from you. Yesterday Buchanan took his seat, but what is far more the honour of Great Britain was nobly vindicated in the defeat of the British Ministry on the Cobden resolutions touching the Canton Dispute. A majority of 16 in the Commons condemning the attack. Palmerston who behaved so sensibly in the Crumpton flight, having made a speech more characteristic of an illogical knave than of an honest

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man. This is considered a fine day for March
it is bright, but high west wind, and although
the thermometer in the Temple gardens (sheltered)
showed but 48°, the day is very unpleasantly
cold, excepting in the lee, & ^{on} sunny side of the
streets. At Hall place, yellow jasmies were
in bloom in sheltered nook a week ago, I mean
the kind that has a green stalk like *Broom*,
Gorse shows a few more flowers than it did
a month ago, and the Pears which were then
about an inch high on a south slope, are now
only about 3 inches. The growth of spring here is
very slow as in Southern latitudes. I find
these pears will be only fit to pick June 1st,
behind Philadelphia where they are ~~not~~ yet
planted; The brambles are full of last years
green leaves, and the vigorous shoots show
more leaves half as big as my hand, and
beautifully green. Wild willows, are opening
their buds in silk floss, Shrub and like our
"peppy willow" of the Swamps. Crocus is in
full golden glory, also the Snow Drop, both
later than with us. Honeysuckle is in very
small leaf. Gooseberry just opening its green,
Alder in small straggling ~~new~~ leaves,
Lilacs, Maples, (Sycamore alleys) and very
many other shrubs. Thron among them, show the
green pushing of the swelling buds. Daisies
are already numerous upon the green grass
Hayes beautiful with abundant greenish
yellow catkins that shed plentiful pollen
on being shaken. ^(English alders full of keys) Garden Cress and those from
the water are abundant & fine and I think have
been so all winter. I saw a bright yellow
butterfly (like ours of the mud holes) and the

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grows are vocal with voice of country bird,
Partridges are seen in pairs about the fields,
Chickens are 4 weeks old, though geese are
only sitting (as early as ours but not comparable
with the chickens) and Ducks not yet taken
to their nests. All the cabbage family left
through the winter in the gardens are green, Turnips
that are yet in the fields appear to have
suffered very little in verdure from frost,
Ploughs are running I believe have been all
winter (Coal ashes is spread with its cinders in
the fields & considered fertilizing) in many
fields, and Gardeners are in full progress
and in a great hurry to get all seeds in
before a rain. Of this there has not ~~one~~ much
a half of it, in a month. Gardening with
us, how different, The warm sun, dreamy
air, not a breath to wave the ceiling,
Houly rising smoke from the old cornstalks,
Aparagus bed and heaps of dried wood, a
General warmth that speaks of pine apples,
(liable to be sure to shelling in interruption)
~~but~~ these are the ~~remembrances~~ ^{accompaniments} of our
American Gardening in Spring. All the
delicious influences of vernal heat that ripens
at once the promise of summer fruits. There is no
such thing, the ground looks cold the air is so, and
the sprouting must be doubtful the growth tedious,
From the rail to Hall Place, views of Windsor Castle
reveal it in exaggerated extent, apparently, and
in grandeur that is very striking - the park at
Hamwell a new Insane Hospital 6 or 7 hundred feet
long, and there is one much larger not far off at
Colney Hatch, and a private one (small) near by.
I suppose however there must be less insanity here than
with us, where the general mind is more active and
careful.

at Hall place is a large sun dial, on the 4
periphery of which we see the names of the principal
cities that make the girdle of the earth. Each
of these names is at the point on the dial which
represents the ~~time~~ ^{time} of noon at ~~that~~ ^{that} city the
city specified, thus at once presenting the
difference of time on the dial at Hall Place
and that at any other chief point on the
earth, a nice thing and not expensive.
This dial has a circle of about 60 inches
around, (20 diameter), I had an opportunity of
seeing a rat catcher with two ferrets ridley
the poultry yard of rats that were taking the
young chickens to their den under a long pile
of small wood & brush. The ferrets ~~are~~ much
larger than our weasel, have long hair & fur,
are soft like a rabbit and not hard like our
weasel & mink, they are bred by their proprietors
for this purpose, and appear rather lazy and
indifferent, they drove the rats out where the
terrier could take them. I saw the ferret
take hold of a rat, but only from sense of duty
apparently. He had little heart in it, and
only pulled out some hair by which the rat
escaped — to the dogs. I saw also a clergyman
hunting ^{& shooting} rabbits in the public hecket by his church
with about 30 men apparently common labourers,
half of them with guns and dogs, one poor
creature ran the gauntlet of 6 guns, close
by and got off in the smoke, uninjured,
Mr Jackson says such is the perplexity and
expense of land titles here, that many do not
purchase on that account. The lease of Hall
Park cost him 30 £. In America ^{R. Island} 50cts would
have sufficed, even for the sale. They advertised
in a London paper for a Tutor for Dawson (their
youngest son) and 86 applications were made the first

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day, and about 60 in two more days. They pay
2/6 per ^{week} day to each man servant in lieu of beer.
Many of the woods are as wide, wild, bushy,
briery and undefined as we find them in
Stophinton &c, such walks can scarce be
conceived by those who have not seen them.
The trees though leafless are wonderfully rich,
with colour and fulness of branches. The English
walnut, one of the most picturesque of trees.
The road side cottages, charming, no two alike,
not even in a large village, frequently - have
a leaden tank, diamond panes, shrubs, vines,
every where, Hedges here are of every thing,
any sort of tree or wood, often full of Clematis,
Every cottage has domos, arches, pent house, or
ivy, or something to impart peculiar character
to each, ~~contrary~~ to all. The poor of England
far better housed than ours. Their cottages are
as substantial as castles, (by little wood in
them, Beech board) (the great growth of the county)
an 8 ct per square superficial foot, Sawed by
pit, hand sawing. In these wide woods people
get great quantities of wood, for ornamental purposes.
These are so tough, they are not cut over 1 1/4 inch
thick, and are rolled up like cloth, for carriage.
I see Mr Peabody is giving vast sums for good
objects in America. He is said to have spent
10,000 £ annually, here, in dinner parties, and
always kept 3 or 4 boxes ~~in each~~ of besides stalls,
in each of the principal theatres for his friends
& visitors. I went to day to old St Giles Church
Cripplegate. 800 years old. Two of the original
roman partitions of the old city wall stand by it.
This church was not within ~~the~~ city walls.
Here sleeps ellictin, his blind bent on a bracket
over the grave (its supposed site) ~~before~~ ^{at} which the
man told me he had seen many an American

knelt, he says Americans appear to have
greater veneration thereof, than others -
I remarked that a friend of mine was now
engaged in a commentary on Milton,
deciding all that related to him, if
possible, "we here shall be extremely happy
to afford him any facility in our power"
was his intention after - Mr Edward
E. Law of Philad^a had as well know this,
perhaps, Mr Pease know them, For the
Sustainer of the Martyrs lies there too, also
"Spur, the chimney, and Martin Fisher,
I went to St Bartholomew Hospital Smithfield
a very large institution for invalids, thence to
old Bailey Sepions - When I saw Englishmen
refused admittance, while I was admitted
instantly, at the word American, and not
only so, shown about. Two courts were in session,
one of them trying a poor wretch and his wife
for coming three specious shillings - I went
also to the Lord Mayor's court in the Mansion
House, by the Bank, Police cases, I am struck
with the confidence with which the poor petty
offenders speak and their clean and general
style, I went to Apothecaries Hall and also
the Times printing office, both near Black
Friar bridge - Thence to the "Roman Bath" near
the river also, in Strand Lane, supplied by water
from Holywell a spring in Holywell Street,
(Springs are called wells in Britain) The water
is drunk too, is very clear, and said to be im-
pregnated with Iron & Sulphur, but I could not
detect it by taste - Canova's said Waterloo
Bridge, here, is unequalled in Europe, It is
a grand affair - Bridges are ~~among~~ my hobbies.

This will carry double, too, by it is somewhat 7
House (often laughed at I think) but appears
to me very handsome & noble - is 5 or 6 hundred feet
square, I measured it & have the size somewhere -
Old Protector Somerset had a house here -
This is "Alsatia" of "Fortunes of Nigel"? memory,
I saw a Persian, knew him by his hat &c. London
is picturesque with all peoples and their costumes
in her streets - very bewitching all these things,
I should think ^{my} life too short, if I did not expect
to have plenty of time to look at these things
from the next. On the Bridge at Marlow I
met two gypsies, one commenced to tell my
future, I am sorry I was in such a hurry,
But she began by saying I was to be a Grand
Father and this seemed was to be happy &c &c
I paid no attention thereafter, but a gentleman
with me said she remarked I had come a
very long journey, was just from a very big house
Had plenty of the good things of this world, that I was
very fond of them, and did not like to trouble
&c &c &c - Queen - I see American Gold Pens
are advertised in London as superior - I forgot the
maker name, therefore would take it in vain,
I heard notes of birds so like our 'Blue Birds',
I should have taken them for the same, at home.
I frequently see ~~at~~ village Inns signs, that they have
looked stables & carriage houses, rather suggestive.
Oh what a delightful day we had, the
weather pleasant & bright & not cold I took
outside of an omnibus about 9 miles to Richmond
passing the Thames by the Hammersmith Bridge
(whence there is a fine view of the river, thence
through Barnes, Moulton, pleasant villages on
the river, to Richmond where I walked to Twick
enham Strawberry Hill, Fiddlington, Hampton
Court, back to Richmond over Kingston Bridge

by Ham + Cam Common, The Thames is clear like a respectable river after getting a few miles above London is lined with villages + villages, and has a tow path, so that a public walk is immediately on its bank. Locks commence just above Reu and I believe the river is dam'd and locked nearly to its source for purposes of navigation. Thus a walk on its bank would always be in reach of a canal boat by way of lift, to say nothing of omnibuses in all directions within 15 miles of London and Rail every where. Many of the villages are built about a green, or common, some of them being over 100 acres, unfenced, and the houses making a circle around it, Comfortable looking as possible. Some of the Alms houses are very attractive, being lines of beautiful little cottages in one block with a common green and flower garden with walks in front - One of these built and endowed by some one for 12 old men and as many women of the town or parish of Richmond, has a chapel attached and minister provided for and paid by the same will, I think the beneficiaries have 10/ each per week, beside the home thus furnished, and two tons of coal annually, also.

At Richmond Bridge I counted 72 pleasure barges already, these are generally very long, light, sharp, and narrow, as if for rowing matches. Some however were more firmly ballanced than Egg shells & looked capable of taking large parties, a mile on I came to Twickenham (called Twit nam) Popes villa is removed and a pretty enough cottage once in its place which appears to combine the Mediaeval, the gothic and Chinese. The lot is small and the house close to the road on one side and to the river on the other & nearly level

with its waters - The widow a Tea merchant (9
(Miss Balfour I think) admits no one to the
ground which are perhaps $\frac{1}{4}$ of an acre only
but snug & nice for a poet. The grotto I did
not see unless it were a small structure by
the water. The Tower of a Church here is said
to be 800 years old, I thought it looked it,
and enquired, Elm Trees are ~~the great~~
predominant but if all the cedars on
Lebanon are gone a supply may be obtained
in the Thames valley, & some very large ones,
Some of the Elms are fine trees but not to com-
pare with the American, They grow more like
the Tupelo or Sweet Gum than like our elm,
a mile further I came to Strawberry Hill.
Walpole lived there close to Pope but I believe
they did not associate. Pope was Swift's friend
who hated Sir Robert, and so probably, his son
Hannah avoided him. Strawberry Hill is now
a residence of the Countess of Waldegrave. It has
50 acres of land, chiefly used as a farm. The
ground about the house are a few acres, of a
table land about 16 ft above the river which
is close by with a low flat between. The house
is on this table land, about 250 yds from the river,
and "jams" upon the road. It is about 90 feet
long by 50 wide, of nearly uniform height but
2 stories in ^{one} part and three in another. It is of
rough cast of a dubious white colour, and how
such a man as Walpole could have been
persuaded to build such a very bald
unrightly meagre, skim milk affair
I cannot conceive. A finical attempt at
Gothic, failing in every essential, of grace
beauty or richness. This is almost equally
true of the interior. Some of the rooms are

not over $7\frac{1}{2}$ feet high. I saw some fine por 10
traits however, and a sort of Byzantine
finish on the walls of the hall, but the stucco
is surely original with Horace, ~~whatever~~
whoever may have since tampered with
the walls. In one room I saw a number
of fine portraits, a chapel whose interior
is irregular but containing not over 100 square
feet (say 10 by 16 feet) is going to ruin, though
some of its features were brought from old
buildings at Rome and elsewhere.
The little printing office where the wit
published a few copies of favourite works
for presents only to his friends, is not over
23 feet square ~~and~~ has been promoted
to a home brewery, and stands by the stables.
I recollect Selous was a great hobby with him,
there are plenty in the ground, the buds of the
common nearly burst, and those of the Persian
quite open. a Thornley thorn, that looks like
the common English thorn, has nearly opened its
leaves, and I found one berry on it which
I will send to plant, though it will very
likely be two years sprouting. Our American
yellow locust is very common from Piccadilly
all the way out - a kind of etching on some
of the window panes of the house was very fine
from the inside. A mile farther is Bushy
Park - it joins Hampton Court park. Here
is "Bushy house" unoccupied since death of
Queen Adelaide who occupied it. Here is
an avenue fully one mile long, 150 feet wide
flanked on each side with 5 rows of Liriodendrons
& Horse Chestnuts. so that 750 feet wide is thus
taken by this entrance, covering over 100 acres
of the dead level, for such is the valley of the

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Thames as far as I have seen it, and without
other stone than flint cobbles. On either hand
is an extensive orchard of at least 3000 apple
trees, these look pretty old, and many of them are
large, would be considered of very good size with
us, even extra. They grow singularly, resembling
in many instances a pauld of large berries united
in a twisted trunk, in others, not unlike "Fustic".
Hundreds of deer were about, but these in a
domestic condition, are comparatively stiff &
clever. I think less picturesque than goats, or
even than calves if they be but playful.

From this I passed into Hampton Court gardens,
& park - fine avenues of trees, ^{in all directions,} a great many
years, though not large in size - River curves prettily,
a fountain, & the gold fish therein, as large
as our sea perch nearly. The Palace is chiefly
of Brick, but trimmed with stone, and altogether
the place has a rich, pleasing aspect.

The house is about 400 ft square, besides more
than as much more of offices attached,
The wood of grass on being cut is red like cedar.

The numerous avenues are chiefly of large limes
and very noble to see, *Pyrus japonica* is
just blooming but the flower is neither so large
nor bright scarlet as our. Privet is nearly
as green as ever with last year's foliage and
retains many of its black fruit also. There
is so much evergreen in this county, Hollies
'grass & very various *Sacculs* that leaves are
hardly wiped. we walk miles by thickets of
these evergreens along the road. This county is
a land of enchantment.

By a gate of Hampton Court park is written
and inscribed in a frame, the names of ~~convicts~~
persons convicted for offences within the park
during 1856 - 17 persons in all, 10 men. 7 women.

3 of the Women were servants, 6 of the men have (12
the distinction of Esqr. Some residing in fashionable
streets of London - The fines ranged from 8/1 to 24/1, &
one person was imprisoned 7 days in default of the
money for a fine of 15/1.

13 of the offenders were for plucking flowers

2 for defacing notice papers of regulations both of
them by "Esqr"

1 for assaulting attendant at one of the gates -

This offender was an Esqr. also

1 drunk & disorderly, this an Esqr.

Only one Esqr plucked flowers.

China is a great Park where Esquires have lately been
quite disorderly and appear to be very unwilling
to submit to punishment. To said Bounding is
recalled. I hope those who have been chiefly intramulato
in this outrage, greater, if possible, than ours upon
Mexico will be made to understand there is yet some
sense of justice in England. Palmerton for attempting
his justification even, is driven to resignation, which
though not yet announced on his part, is hourly expected.
He lives on Piccadilly near Apsley House

7th - Visited Westminster Abby again, where I
noticed on a Tablet "To the Glory of the Lord of
Hosts here resteth Sir Richard Bingham
Knight of the Ancient family of Bingham
de de - It went on to say he fought in
various parts of the world beside, I think
both Africa and Asia - So it must
appear to follow that his lying in the
ground at last, is to the Glory of God
because he can now butcher no longer.
To think of such creatures in the same
house with Addison, Goldsmith, Cowper
Copley &c, or even that their monuments
should mingle - I saw to day 77 prayers
in one vol. offered for 8d. This is even
cheaper than "communion with the
dead" at 50 st the hour that has

awakened so many orthodox sneers -
 The roof of the old Abbey is very grand
~~but~~ as you look up among its arches
 from the stone floor below - I cannot
 however see either the beauty or wonderful
 ingenuity of the wood work by which
 the roof of Westminster is supported over
 the largest room in the world not
 sustained above by pillars from
 below - Both the mechanism and
 ugliness are obvious.

I found the Victoria Tower and Albert
 of the new Westminster Palace when
 seen ~~at~~ from other portions of the
 city appear to be in remote relation
 as if they could not possibly belong to
 one edifice - I paced the building to
 day and find it 960 feet long, ~~these~~
 towers being at the extremities, present
 almost a divorce - It is to be hoped
 it is not figurative, though the
 public remark how soon the Queen
 looks the last year or two, and I hear
 some crisp things of Albert. Strange
 these things should be when so many
 pious people offer by appointment
 whole careers of prayers projected
 on the most approved principles
 The guests however are old fashioned
 I think our capitol at Washington is about
 930 feet long & covers a couple acres less than

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This parliament house - To make
"confusion worse confounded" in London
the houses in the streets are numbered on
one side without reference to the other -
177 Fleet street is opposite 53. Then in
the same neighborhood is Gloucester Garden
Terrace, street, Place, Court, square
&c, and no particular means of knowing
which is which, except by the names,
on the walls. I say Gloucester for
a hundred such instances. There
is much of this in Boston too.
The multitude of vehicles with wheels
2 + 3 feet diameter drawn by a single
pony, is a striking feature, on the
fine smooth level roads & streets of this
county, where a little fellow takes
two or three persons, each nearly his
own weight, in a cabriolet or
other little low carriage at 6 or 7
miles per hour. Omnibus Horses here
go about $\frac{1}{5}$ miles per day & look in
good case. ^(13 to 16) In a narrow alley near Clare
Market, a little girl with a voice intoned by
companion, "are you cold, master" I was
wapped closely in shawl, a garment though
universal in Scotland, I have seen only once, on
a man, in London.

8th I dined to day with Doctor Arburner
again. He is certainly very friendly especially
when we consider how particular English
are toward strangers, unless introduced.
I was enabled to give the Doctor many particulars
of the Spirit, character &c &c of whom I made
mention to you in my last. I had previously
however by letters learned from him that

many facts respecting this spirit, every
one of which ~~confess~~ agreed with the
written statement I had previously made
and placed under seal in hands of a
third party, who is ignorant of the sub-
ject. I told Doctor Ashburne this evening
that this spirit entertained no vindictive
feeling toward him. This Doctor A did
not believe at all. I told him the
spirit's animosity was toward another
party. Doctor A. said it was true he
had hated her desperately in his life.
Very soon the doctor was induced to
write - it proved to be a mispage from the
very spirit we had been talking about,
in which he entirely disavowed any unkind
feeling toward the doctor, and expressed
great thankfulness to me. Doctor says
this man in life had great faults, but
was nevertheless the most remarkable
instance of benevolence he ever knew.
There is a case in which a spirit came to
me while I was in my bed, gave me his
character physical & mental, certain facts
in relation to himself, a declaration that
he was innocent of unkind feeling toward
a gentleman I had once seen, but that
he held a ^{certain} lady in great abhorrence,
and all this without my having at the time
the least idea who he was, and when I
came to be aware of who it must be, I found
I had not the least idea whether that person
was dead or living except so far as indicated
by the presence of his spirit. The next night he

gave me to understand he was under 16
some sort of impulsion from Doctor A,
which would render it difficult for him
to tell Doctor A why he came to me.

This I wrote down, but said nothing,
and soon received a note from Doctor
A by which I learn he did not encourage by
any means the visits of this spirit, and
that he was informed by another spirit that
this party suffered greatly in consequence
of wrong he had done him in life.

This renders his object obvious and I
hope it has been measurably obtained
by the opportunity my presence probably affor-
ded him this evening of making his very
beautiful communication on the subject.
In order to be quite sure that Doctor A. should
not know what the manifestation to me,
I have taken care not to see him until
to day, since they commenced on the part of
this individual, by remarking in a note
that such was my wish. Several noblemen
whom the Doctor knows have been at his house to
witness the phenomena, also Lytton Bulwer, but
they appear to be confounded, not convinced,
I hear Palmerston will not resign but Parliaments
will be dissolved to see if the ministry cannot gain
support in the new election thus resulting.

This has been a day of Snow & squalls & rain &
Hail, The snow fell in pellets larger than the largest
Peas, as big as cranberries nearly. But what
a wonderful winter you have had - By Rouleand
account it must be unprecedented. I hope
you have been in comfortable quarters.

I fear that oranges are often boiled here by vendors,
to restore their fullness, freshness & juice, and this
brings to mind what a gentleman told me a day
or two ago of a couple of fellows in London not long

since going home late from supper party. 17
It would seem that in this case though the
wine was in the vit was not out. Coming to the
establishment of an extensive dealer in milk
they stuffed a turp into the spout of his pump.
With great clatter and ado, they succeeded in
awakening him & bringing him to the window
to know what was wanted. He was informed with
great concern, that his best cow was choking, at
that moment. The poor man hurried down in great
haste but did not get to the bottom of the matter
until a bucket of water was required in the morning -

9th, I received a letter from Isaac today. Still
at Rome, which is full of Americans, and they appear
to be very busy - Isaac & Mary. Also a letter from
cousin Anna Hayward who represents the writer as
such an one as I never experienced, I believe. I
went out to Tottenham high Croft (some 3 miles
from the Bank) The crop was erected to Eleanor -
was not the Queen of one of the Edwards, who
built a crop wherever the corpse of his wife
stopped on its journey? It is a sort of Gothic
Obelisk about 22 feet high, very pretty, and
the handsomest crop I have yet seen - I saw a
house there dated 1500 A. D. Also Shilleto
whom I learned was grandson of Tho, the
preacher who was at our house in America -
I saw the name of J. Chalkley also - Just
this side of Tottenham (and on the same road)
is Stoke Newington, where I went to
Wm Allens shop a grocer nephew of the
famous William, to ask him where his
uncle lived, He was very kind, I found

The house a very nice ^{in church street 100 feet} place, back from the 18
street with beautiful shrubs & vines &c in front
and the house 5 windows wide. He died in
a much finer one in Paradise Row, half a mile
above. There is Abney Park Cemetery too, where I
went to see a very famous grave, but found it a
remarkably fine Cedar of Lebanon - where a man
hung himself for love, and his ghost is said
to be seen. ~~The~~ At Tottenham I saw the Green,
also the 7 Sisters - there are 7 large large elms in
a circle by the way side, ~~just~~ planted by 7
sisters, but ~~just~~ going to decay with time. There
are 7 more close by however, ~~also~~ just planted
by 7 other sisters, ready to take their place &
perpetuate their fame - How English this is,
and how much to be commended,
The country about Tottenham is pleasing &
there are fine residences in the fields, London
however has grown out to all these places, and
Edmondston is now only a continuation of
Tottenham, which is almost a continuation of
Stoke Newington, as Newington is of Kingsland
and Kingsland of Bishopsgate St. London.
I do not know, but suppose from Analogies
that Stoke Newington, means either Stoke,
by (or near) Newington, ~~Stoke~~ ~~Popis~~, is probably
Stoke, by Popis - At Edmondston I went in to the
Bell Tavern - There is the sign of the Bell, still,
and on front of the inn, is a painting, of
Gilpin, Hat & wig. Port boy, dog & pipe, &
Madame yelling from the window, while
the good man Eke with all his might and
main and ~~if~~ he is not as ugly as possible
Mr Popis' He must be a very ugly fellow
Rooks are building their nests there would bring
a fortune ~~in~~ Rome where firing bring 40 cts per

8 bushel of sticks, I shall endeavour to be there
in moderate weather - It is said of Rooks
(they build a tree full of nests being citizens
though eld hoppers) that one ^{of the pair} always sits by
the nest while the other goes for sticks for its
construction - My limited experience con-
firms this statement - The reason given is
that they are such ~~thieves~~ thieves, if the
house were left by both it would be imme-
diately carried off and appropriated by the
others - The squatter must be an actual settler,
which I believe no free blacks are permitted
to be by the constitutions of some of our new Northern
States, an outrage scarcely less than a law that
would make them slaves.

Observing a fine Steam Engine in Blue cup that
this evening I went in to see & found there
was an artesian well 200 feet deep in the
chalk from which 3 Engines pump water
into tanks overhead (of iron) for supplying the
Government works in the city, Parliament
House, prisons, Royal palaces &c.

Stamford Hill on the road to day is a pleasant
place - The day has been a thickset of snow squalls
wind high and cold, but warmer than our attack
though we get no heat here yet.

I see by the American Papers 50,000 people are out of
employment in London and parading with tools on
their shoulders at West End of London - Singing
the Song of the Shirt, and asking how it is they
have wrought to do - I have seen nor heard any
thing of it here, further than frequent applica-
tions for charity, often on the plea of no work
This has lately increased, I could ^{often} ride as
cheap as I can walk, but do not choose to
dodge beggars - I find the English sole very
like our flounder, which is excellent if cooked

very soon after catching. I never tasted one cooked (20
before that event. The Turkey hens are good, and
I never ate better geese and the chickens are fine
Jugged Hare is the best form in which I have seen
it, but I have never seen it in any form
that I thought nice. The soup is not to com-
pare with oxtail. Rabbits are very nice, especi-
ally curried. A very fine chip with a cup of
coffee here is 8d to 1/-

10. Walked about Belgrave, went to Putney Bridge
passed through Brompton, now London extended
passed Lord Ravenswood house & garden, Grace &
Mario's lived there at one time, they are now
in an elegant place close by. Playas live like
princes, poets starve, who find them vocation.
I see no sign of the Buttonwood disease in
that tree, common here. I stopped at Pinner
Club, was asked into their racket court where
a parcel of Army & Navy officers were playing
something like ~~500~~ five, a very severe exercise
but very stupid otherwise. Tennis, Cricket,
Golf are all great games on this Island,
and doubtless are means of vigour.
Ten million Englishmen would not measure
so much in length by a thousand miles as
as many Americans, but they will weigh
as many tons. I went by invitation from a
Mr Jones to a Spirit Circle at 18 King William
St. Charing Cross. Some leading men use these
nobility frequently go, but so many are
afraid to be caught looking for the truth
of this matter, that visitors are numbered
so that it will not be necessary to name
them in forming the circle &c. I should think
this must impair the manifestations
very materially. Several powerful Media
were there, one of whom raised a bottle table
to day (which no one touched, not even the

medium) entirely clear of the floor, but (2) did not succeed this evening. Randolph the American Medium, very famous, was there, I met him in Boston once - He seemed overjoyed to meet an American here. He says the thing is spreading very rapidly here - ^{the enquiry into} Randolph has lately been to India, where the jugglers soon recognized him as one of their fraternity - He says their phenomena are spiritual; this I had supposed to be the case beyond a doubt. He has not only seen the trees grow at once from the floor but plucked and eaten fruit from them - This however he says is insipid, it is as if dried fruit had been restored to its natural appearance by soaking in water. He says the jugglers know an ~~aware~~ aware that the effects they produce are by spirit aid. My new acquaintance, was in my chamber last night and I think nearly all got. An effect he produced (which I suppose was to give me an idea of his sufferings) was most extraordinary -

In Grafton Street I saw the house of Lord Brougham also Countess Dowager of Pembroke close by - In this row the basements are about 25 feet below the pavements with access to the bottom - The houses very plain old black brick, but a fine air about them - Many Barons at least, live in houses not larger than ~~the~~ double houses, so called, in our cities - I thought I might possibly have been from a sentinel what he guarded, where Fluyder Street joins the parade grounds in Green Park - There he paced and probably had done for a year or more, on the flappings 40 feet long and 3 feet wide laid purposely that his heels might not become as muddy as his head - A fine stalwart fellow

The picture of health, good natured, kindly (22
in his remarks, but what the deuce himself
and bayonet protected he could not tell me,
not even if it were a public or private house,
a residence or some office - He had not the
least idea - a man of 40 years - and looked
as bright as others - This is not the first instance
This ignorance of the Soldier's affairs an impor-
tant comment upon the system which put
them to be necessary. I met a little boy with
an apron on, a poor boy, who told me it was
the foreign office and then it was beside
on a door, walking in the parks, the row
of London (omnibus & carriage chiefly) is often
exactly like that at Niagara or a mile off
the fall - that however jars the whole neighbour-
hood and is as audible a dozen miles off as one
I went into Long in Bond St. (a Hotel) remembering
it very distinctly, but cannot catch its connex-
ion yet

12th I went last night to Egyptian Gallery Piccadilly
to see Alfred Smith's Panorama of Mount Blank.
Four young Persians sat on my left. The Panorama
is a very fine thing, Smith gives a sort of lecture
with it, a rambling thing to fit, with his own
experienced tongue for the occasion. He is an
excellent mimic and gives characteristic hits
at all travellers of different nations he fell
in with. He rebukes his own the English pretty
sturdily and was cheered therein by his audience,
all the rest he treats very kindly - His American
friend is most admirable, but he eludes with
a long conversation on Lake Geneva where he
met an English Engineer of the boat whom he
had before seen on the Mediterranean - His
mode of pointing out the stupidity, dissatisfac-
tion and incoherency of this fellow, exceeded
any thing of the kind I had ever heard, The
best dealer in Yankee sharpness and with
whom I have ever heard, fail to make so much

2 of that good stock, as Smith gets out of this fellow's ²³
decline. I went to day to Wandsworth, over Battersea
bridge then through that place which Wandsworth
joins, all on the Thames. The rising ground back of
Wandsworth is fine & abounds in groves & villas.
I recollect in 1847, ^{or 10 years before} we were astonished in America
at the immense amounts of liabilities the many
tallow Chandlers and soap boilers who failed during
that terrible crisis. In the edge of Wandsworth I saw
one of these candle establishments, it covers acres,
one would suppose it would supply light for the world,
but I saw a new gasometer just finished at Vaux
hall bridge 150 feet diameter and 30 or 40 feet high
it is sustained by 17 Iron Pillars nearly 3 feet diameter
I think it must be much larger than the famous one
by Market St Bridge Philadelphia. Gas works are very ^{said to be the largest in London} very
numerous on and around the edge of London.
I saw the name of Godchild at Wandsworth, the
little who remarked I was either a man with
a shaft or a woman with breeches was probably
one of that family. I returned through the new
Park on the river side at Battersea, 275 acres
much of which is considerably lower than the
Thames at high tide, immense amount has
been expended in raising some portions of it
with earth brought from the new docks now ^{Victoria}
building below London on a vast scale. The
plantings are just commenced. Marquis of
Westminster is said to have given 60,000 £ to this
park. At Nine Elms, just below it, is a flour
mill ~~of~~ 10 Run of Stones carried by the water
of the Thames let through the levee, just as it
is let through the levee above New Orleans on to
the French rice fields there, except that it goes
into a reservoir from whence it is drawn back
into the Thames at low tide, thus carrying
the mill each way. I saw plenty of Dog grass
in the new Park, also ^{American} Kalmia latifolia &
American Rhododendron. London Parks have

fine drives for private carriages & horseback, (24)
but Hack & Omnibus are not admitted. The new
Wrought Iron Bridge to take the place of the old West
minster is being put up and framed on the river
bank at 9 Elms, a mighty affair, and must cost
thousands just to put and take down preparatory
to place it on its own piers, but this is the system,
we would save this expense and incur some de-
lay and vexation. I visited Westminster again
Walter Hastings is there, but Benedict Arnold is not,
I shall look for him. I stopped at the Peas entrance
of the parliament house. Marquis of Bath a handsome
young man, came up in a common one horse cab-
the kind called "~~Handom~~" a "Hansom" Being a
patent of a man of that name, so constructed
as to be considered proof against other carriages
in the street, so far as the passenger is concerned,
The driver sits behind and risks all poles and
poker from behind - for a few shillings per day.
Next came Lord Ellenborough in his own 2 horse
plain carriage - a fine looking man, thoughtful
face, perhaps sad. Then Lord Colchester in his
plain 2 horse carriage - Next the Duke of Cambridge
drove himself in a sort of gig with a nice light
horse of great action - his servant behind who took
the carriage when his master got out. Next came the
Marquis of Bredalbane, then Marquis of Lansdown
each in a plain 2 horse carriage - I think none of
them had more than a coachman & footman
with them. Lord Foley walked in, as many do.
These men were all well dressed & generally rather
under size. The Marquis of Surat came to visit
the house of Commons, ^{in his native costume,} in a rich carriage, and as
if he apprehended his native sun, the top ~~was~~
of the vehicle had a roof raised some 3 inches
above ~~the~~ and projecting with eaves all around -
with all open for passage of air between.
I noticed the noblemen were polite enough to return
the salute of the touch of the hat of the Police who
stand at the entrance. A good lesson to some democrats.
On the Thames near Newhall Bridge & not far
from this great Palace of Westminster is the largest State
Penitentiary in England. A Turkey told me there are

about 1000 convicts in its cells. 25

14 - Spent most of the day in the Zoological Gardens Regent's Park. The wind has been very high but not cold, and the day generally bright. The shrub which bears a poison berry and purple flowers, the earliest of our flowering shrubs, is here nearly past, the flowers are withering - Various coloured cactus yet in their glory, the Golden predominate every where - Snow Drops are yet in flower - A shrub that looks like the Suber-leaved Spiraea is just in small leaf - The ~~Serpents~~ are fed with living Rabbits birds rats &c but take nothing at this season, and some of them make an 8 month fast. The India Cobra capella bit his ^{former} keeper in the bridge of his nose which proved fatal in 64 minutes, yet he looks like an angel of mercy, compared with a short thick snake there is in an adjoining cage, from Africa - I suppose these gardens will not compare with many on the continent but they are very interesting - There are some black necked Swans that swim as if propelled by a high pressure engine, The Cormorant, which is our fastest swimmer, is a mere snail, The Sloth of South America moves with ~~as~~ much speed as comports with dignity. There is half the world of gulls, various cranes whose capers exceed all, they dance and I have no doubt taught the North American Indians, whom I believe took their modes of speech from the Wild Goose. Some of the Kangaroos have the fur, eyes and expression of the Lama. They are exceedingly gentle. Their hind legs are so constructed as to support the animal about his centre while the fore legs ^{are too short to} support his front, and his huge tail is used as a leg as much as either of his members. The "Tasmanian Devil" looks somewhat like a dog and as if he did not deserve his name. The ~~Burma of S. A.~~ (Clouded Tiger) is surpassingly beautiful. I put my hand into the cage of 3 wolves, 2 of them were docile one snapped it with great animosity apparently but did not bite. ~~He~~ He appeared to intend to bite though he took it into his mouth - He treated a second advance exactly in the same manner & then allowed me to scratch him, as gently as would a dog.

Everything at the Zoological Gardens would make but little to
show at the Crystal Palace, delightful as it is, they have a
mighty powerful piece of beautiful workmanship, Tons of
burnished Iron & steel compose it. It is used for striking medals,
"Mr. Pinches" is the worthy patentee. From the frequency
of such coincidences, I begin to think there is something
in a name - You recollect in "Pokepsie" J. Ketch "Spring
maker" - "Law & Beveridge" Brewer, Albany - We have had
a little rain lately, but for a couple of weeks, many of the
shuts were daily sprinkled to lay the dust - A "Puck of
Man's dust is worth a King's ransom" is an old maxim
and a true one, if it guarantees a peck of tolerable
potatoes or turnips. Alfred Smith's lecture is a striking exhibi-
tion of English power of endurance, It lasts (with but little
recess twice) 2 1/4 hours, is given 6 evenings the week, beside
2 "mornings" at 3 in the afternoon. He delivers at least 3 times the
number of words others would in the same time. The rapidity of utter-
ance is to keep time with the movement, and the habit keeps it up very
high speed when there is no apparent necessity for haste.

16th went out to Highgate, a high hill and beautiful
neighbourhood, not unlike that of Warrenton Va,
but not so bold - Soil red clay, an alluvial deposit
a plain, washed into hills and deep steep sided
valleys, and beautiful slopes too. The country is
as green as popple - Elder tree is more in leaf
than any other, it has only small leaves that make
no show of verdure yet - I walked a mile or two
beyond to Finchley & the common, then back another
road, where on a crop road about a mile long,
foot passengers are charged 1d for Toll. This looks
very small, but the principle is the same as for
horses & carriages & drives of cattle sheep, swine &c.
I presume the charge would be more common
were it not that the gates can be dodged by
pedestrians - On this road I think it would not
be easy to do so. I saw the Whittington Almshouse

These institutions are every where in the neighbourhood
of London on private foundations for a given number
of persons - They are often very beautiful always
handsome, seldom over 2 stories, sometimes only one
being long blocks of cottages, with a beautiful green
& flower & shrub in front and every thing neat as a
milk dairy - I also went to the New Smith field
Cattle market, a mighty affair, said to be 75
acres, all paved, all sloped, all provided with
Iron reservoirs for the cattle drink from, and water

papers throughout so that the whole place can be ²⁷
drenched and flooded in a moment. The Iron
fences are handsomer than most in London. Nearly
all the ground is in stalls like the pews in a church
only of timber joint instead of board & laid out in
lanes for convenience of access - many acres are
covered with roofing of slate or Iron, on Iron pillars,
These are called, sheep lairs, Cattle lairs &c, and
some of them are elegant structures. In the centre
is a very handsome Edifice, a polygon, called
the bank, where all payments are made, from
its centre rises a fine lofty clock tower. On
one side ^{& outside the general enclosure} is the great slaughtering establishment
where every thing is arranged so that the utmost
quiet, cleanliness and despatch can be observed.
Blood is scarcely seen, it flows immediately through
the pavement to receptacle casts below on which
it is borne immediately to the sugar refineries
London consumes 1400000 Bulls, sheep, lambs & pigs
annually - a very large proportion of these are prob-
ably killed at this awful shamble. But we like
steaks, chops, lamb pies & spare ribs.
George Whitfield's Chapel in Tottenham Court Road
has been burned since I saw it before, but the walls
appear to be sound.

17th. I had a letter to day from Mary Pease, in
which she extends a very cordial invitation for me
to make their house in Paris my home in that city.
I hope to get rooms pretty near to her house & see her often.
I went out Victoria Park, delightful place, thence to
Hackney just beyond, I also went to Plough Court Lamb
Street, to see the drug & chemist store of Wm Allen,
the business is still in the succession. The part I
saw has all the appearance of a good sized retail
apothecary, but several ~~men~~ were employed at the
counter, I presume a wholesale business is connected
with it. I went into the curious old Cury Hall
Bishopsgate - ^{Remains of Richd 3rd, whitey Duke of Gloucester.} ascended London Monument, 215ft
high - the top gallery at the summit was covered
in with iron rails like a Bird Cage, in 1842: five
persons having leaped over the old railing, to the
ground - London Bridge is a most noble structure
near this fine column - I ballance betwixt it

and the Waterloo. These bridges are amazing 28
specimens of strength & beauty. The masonry of the
London would sustain a world, yet is finished as
fine as a mantle, almost. Granite must like Quincy.
I went to St Swithin's Church in Cannon Street, where, in
the wall, we see as we pass "London Stone" It is one
of the oldest Landmarks, and is supposed to be the point
from which the Romans measured their distances to
all parts of this Island in their possession. But this
is not the half its interest, Shakespeare Breathed
upon and it became immortal, Heron Jack
each struck his stick when he said "Now is
allortimer Lord of this City!" But the poor fellow
only "cut a stone". I have visited all the markets
but they are, most of them, ancient, all centered
concern and very small for such a city. I went
to see Mr Ring (eldest Son of the Duke in Law) but he
was out. The pleasant weather the last few days
seems to have brought out the blind. I was won-
dering to day where so many ~~come~~ came from,
at that moment I happened to look up and saw
over a door, "Blind Manufactory". I was so ab-
sorbated in the subject, that this solution, for a mo-
ment, was quite satisfactory. Laughter too, was
on another sign. I have not seen a 2 horse Hack
in London, though there are 10,000 with one, and as many
omnibuses with two. The Elm is in Hopson, and a sort
of Poplar, or Ash, dense with Catkins.

18th I went through Kewington & Brenton to Streatham
thence walked to Crystal Palace, and rode back
to London by another Road, 8 miles for 1/2 in the Bus.
The County about the Palace, is high & broken &
most beautiful, the road is a ~~the~~ wide street of
villas in close contiguity often in blocks, all the way
rendered delightful by a terrace from 30 to 150
feet or even 250 feet wide on each side the way
in front of the houses, the entire route. This
succession of Terraces is planted in flowers & shrubs
in the true English taste that is so fine in such
matters. The houses generally plain & small, but
some fine blocks. The English in and about
London live in small houses, as a general thing,
(Leave in this sheet from the Summer House Streatham)

A very nice county villa of 4 floors with (29
two small rooms on a floor, lets for about 50£.
I think most of these are used by shop keepers
and when you stand on a height within 5
miles of London, you see that all the woods
of the county are pretty much lined with them.
Great comfort and arborvit beauty are the great
characteristics. There is much "common" about Stretton
and the grass is quite Golden in some parts of
them, public wastes. A common feature about
London is noble avenues of trees to where
fine mansions have been. I met a very smart
looking man, who told me he had a wife & 6 chil-
dren, and walked scores of miles within the last
few days for work in vain. He was both intelli-
gent & sensible. The death of labour has been
very great all winter, yet he says days work
on roads &c &c command $3/6$ $3/3$ per day, farm
work $2/6$ (no board) but a few miles further south
from this & London, Farm wages are $2/$ per day.
This man hires with another one, a house of
6 rooms, for each family has 3 rooms, for which
they pay $4/3$ per week - $8/6$ for the whole house -
it has a very small garden. Streatham (here
pronounced Stret-um) lies rather low, but is
a nice house, with many acres of ground and
a fine water, on which are pleasure row boats.
There is a large Common in front of it, with
large Elms, but the English Elm, is to be com-
pared to ours, in any respect. The Old Summer
House where Johnson is said to have peeped
much time, is now roofless. I enclose some
leaves of plants growing at its very side. The
County around is particularly beautiful.
On returning this evening I found on my table
a letter from Isaac enclosing yours of 2 May⁷th
But do not change my address, unadvised. I am
grieved indeed to hear of Josiah Parker's misfortune.
The winter in America though terrible, has been of 40

extraordinary character I am sorry to have missed (30)
it. Bayard Taylor went to Lapland some months ago
to see one - He would probably find a more polar
at home - I do not hear who were the visitors at
Pant Judith this summer, Eliza tell me that
was at my house, I suppose she entirely misun-
derstood the ~~intention~~ character of my enquiry
about that neighbourhood - I do not know if
I have received all your letters, but I have ac-
knowledged all that came to hand - This last
is the first since your date about 12/23 - In all
my correspondence I have never known a
letter of mine to miscarry, one excepted,
I presume you must get No 9 + 10 as they
are both registered. I will bet Anna that
I will get to Rome as well as any body. I can
understand the French as well as they can me,
that one comfort, and as to the jabber of those
Italians, I shall not endeavor to pay any
attention to it. I go to see and commune with
the ruins of the marbles of Italy not those of its
flesh + blood, that Protest have reduced to less than
bricks, I hope to get to Norway, but how I am
to see all I want, I cannot yet devise,
I believe the Moravians the most honest
and living, of the Christians. May be you will
be out in the Spring - I am delighted to hear
the Payer are coming - I hope you enjoyed Seybats
I found at "Yoko" people who understood comfort,
and have an idea Bethlehem people generally
do - I am very glad to hear such pleasing in-
telligence of old Mrs Vernon. I dare say her
irritability has been simply physical, I am
glad Miss Hewton got to visit you
A fine looking gentleman last night was at the
Chap. Crof. Circle - He had never seen any Spirit
Manifestation, was exceedingly skeptical and
stoutly maintained that position, until just as

were breaking up - A daughter desired to com (31)
municate with him (there had been no communication
before except a short one, by tipping, with any one) and
on being asked for her initials gave 4 letters by the
tapping - There the gentleman said were those of
her four names, He asked a few mental ques-
tions, which he declared were answered entirely sat-
isfactorily - He was a stranger, I think a clergy-
man, a man of remarkably fine countenance -
The salary of the officers, clerks, &c of Bank of England are
220,000 £ sterling per year - Mr J. Smeezum is
mini host of "The Angel" in Tothill St. His head
cook is probably of the "Maccaboy" family -
Chatterton's grave is lost already - He was buried
in an ~~other~~ house yard, now Farringdon market
close by Fleet ditch, which is yet a dirty ravine
in the midst of the city, and an open sewer
until within a few years, not 5 minutes walk
from St. Pauls.

19th I visited the Dudley Gallery of Paintings in
Piccadilly, the property of Lord Ward. Thence to
Cockford, one of the St James Hills of Byron,
It is now "the Wellington" and is opposite
"Whit's" I went to the old "Crown and Anchor"
late "Whittington" in Surrey St close by Strand.
"Fenton" also in St James St. At last I have
found "Wills" - I saw Addison's monument
to day in Westminster Abby, looks like a child,
wonderfully sweet expression, and something too
very like Irving - as similar as their styles,
"at Wills" how many times he saw & heard that
and so - This emporium of wit & genius is
a 4 story brick, one end a corner gypsey,
The old coffee room, where those men who
have written names for all time to read,
were wont to meet, is a saddlers shop,
Lincoln Inn is close by, Hence I suppose its
former patronage - Exeter change has been
altered to a more proper way, The Queen has

32
come to town and I see the "Coldstream"
guards are at the various palace gates,
though I doubt if these sentinels know
where they are. The floors of some nice villas
I was looking at the other day, quite out of town
are as rough as we would have that of a
Carriage house. I was amazed, it must cut
carpets, but the workmen said, they were
finished, and in a very usual style.
The 2 packages already sent to Newman I presume
are received by him. They will not suffer by delay.
I shall send a third by Norman Jackson, to
Newman, of same sort. I do this to prevent
accumulation here, as much as any thing.
Powers Greek slave is at the Dudley Gallery.
I took some of the drapery for real.

20th - I have just got a note from Doctor
Ashburner inviting me to a circle he
has just found to meet tomorrow night
for the first time. I hope to bring the
singular manifestation I have before alluded
to, to something very conclusive through
the agency of this circle, if I remain much
longer in London. The circumstances of this story
are already of a most extraordinary character
and rest upon a peculiarity of testimony
that heightens the effect, beyond measure.
I hope you are enjoying yourselves in Philadelphia.
Should you remain till soft weather, you
would find a trip by Penn. Road, to Altoona
on the Alleghenys, very delightful. The Hotel
is grand, and though near the summit has
wonderful supply in all parts of the house
of fine mountain spring water.
Yr affectionate Brother
J. O.



