

Ms. A. 6. 1. 76
Leicester, Mass., Aug. 11, 1854.

My dear Mr. May, *Saml May Jr.*

We do not hear of your arrival in England yet; but presume you are there before this. I hope you will find it, or make it, possible to remain in England long enough to make your mark there. 'T would be a source of lasting regret to us all, and I am sure it would be to our English friends, and equally I think to yourself to leave England without your word of testimony, - loud, strong, & clear. So many false American ministers have been there, that it will be almost "unprobable" to have the few true friends of humanity silent. I trust you have received the long letter I wrote you, enclosing documents, wherein I told you what Philip Carpenter said of your making your self at home, both with the Unitarians and with the Antislavery people; both of whom, he avowed, are ready to give you the R. H. of F. in the fullest manner, and extend to you a hospitality which will leave you few chances of necessity. Three months in England will be little enough. Pray don't lose this most golden opportunity; and, having enjoyed so much, and, we joyfully believe, recruited so much, in the Continent, enjoy 10 fold more, among those of kindred blood & soul, in speaking forth that which was necessarily unspoken there. -

"Father's Mother's Golden Wedding was as delightful an occasion, as it was rare. Some 5 or 6 practical contributions came in - all quite unexpected. Thos. Parker sent one. Mr. Sanborn, of Concord, sent one - a gem, & the best of all. Mr. Pierpont furnished one. My brother John quite outdid himself in some lines, commemorating the leaders, and of their history. In 2 of the pieces, you & Mr. Parker, were referred to, with more cordial good wishes than the Alumni of the Divinity School were willing to express, 3 weeks since, in Thos. Parker's case. C. B. Frothingham has rebuked

them well for their unmanly and unchristian
behaviour. - Your son Joseph was at the "Golden
Wedding" - he spent a few days with us previously, and
was subsequently at Phillips's Beach, as you doubtless
know. Some 300 people called on Father & Mother, that day.
But, amidst our rejoicings, we were afflicted and sad -
our dear, good Cousin Louisa Davenport Wexler, worth lay
dead, and her funeral was attended the next day. She was
very sincerely mourned, for she had many who loved her
very warmly. So that branch of our family is entirely
gone.

We have had 2 excellent & very pleasant
letters from Edward, reporting his safe arrival at Cayman, &c.
He was to pursue his voyage farther. His health good.

There is quite a party of our folks at North Conway,
N.H. Mr. & Mrs. Greese are among the number. About a
fortnight since, Mr. Greese made a mis-step, & fell from
the house-piazza, spraining & bruising one of his legs very
badly, so as to be compelled to keep bed or couch all the time.
He fainted away, from the pain, & the people were greatly
alarmed, & believe he is comfortable now. - Father,
Mother, & my sister Mary and her children are there. -

The news of Horace Mann's death will not be more
sudden to you, than it was to people generally here. We had
no fore warning, what man in all the West could have
been so great a loss! What a quantity of Tom Carvins,
and Judge McLeans, and even Salmon P. Chase, could
have been better spared. I have not yet learned what was
the matter with him.

The Slave Trade, between the African Coast and our
Southern States, is now in full career. Galleons & numbers
are landed at the Florida coast - such is the information
we are almost daily receiving, and it appears entirely to be
relied upon. With best love, in which Sarah and Ade
join, Affectionately, Yours, Saml May Jr

I hope you will not fail to meet with Richard S. Wells, of 176 Brimfield St. Durham.