

A. V. Weston

London June 6. 53

My dear friend

On the reading of your last most interesting & welcome letter to Park St. I thought, - after our visit to London & the many Mtgs; there will be much to tell our Boston friends, - & I will try & tell it. And there is much, very much that we long for you to know, - and over which we could talk for hours; but all that I can now hope to do, is to disentangle a few shreds from the ~~tangled~~ ^{tangled} heap, if happily you may judge ^{from} ~~from~~ the nature of the whole. It is now more than three weeks since Mr & Mrs Estlin & myself came to London. There we were most happy to meet my good friend Mr McKim who arrived here the day before us. We were soon settled in comfortable lodgings together, - where W. W. Brown, George Thompson, Mrs. Follen "Charlie" Miss Cabot, - W. & E. Craft, Professor Allen & lady - Mrs. Maria M. Chamberlain &c. &c. frequently clustered around us - holding long & interesting conferences respecting "the cause" - and all that might be feared & hoped for it - in the present "crisis." - You know that we are always in that condition, - but it is emphatically so now in England - ~~clearly~~ under the storm excitement - & the new Secretary in Bristol St. The papers will tell you of the "Exeter Hall" Meeting - & the "Storm Sinner" - and your practical judgment will enable you to detect much not discerned by the public eye. You will notice "the streams" which denote a change

My Remembrance to your dear friends, - to W. W. Brown, George Thompson, Mrs. Follen, Charlie Miss Cabot, W. & E. Craft, Professor Allen & lady - Mrs. Maria M. Chamberlain &c. &c.

of policy in the ruling ^{anti}slavery
powers of this country - for a change
most certainly there is, - under the new
Secretary, - but to what extent remains
yet to be seen. From what has been, many
of our friends are hopeful of much more,
indeed of all essential cooperations; -
others are not so sanguine; - all are
willing to wait for a time the results,
which as yet, none can foresee. I have
learned much by my last years sojourn
in this country - and had one lesson
long ago taught confirmed. "How much
of human nature there is in mankind
every where." - So much is there here of
what in America we should call 'pro-
slavery' - which may be resolved into
the dislike to be disturbed in any of the ex-
isting pleasant relations. - Almost every
one is opposed to slavery & wishes its ex-
tinction - and some, who can easily do so,
give their £20 £50 & £100 to sustain what
they suppose is in opposition to it; - but it
is not much in their thoughts, - and the
efforts that are making by the abolitionists
still less. Most of the exceptions you know
- as you have long been in correspondence
with a number who have proved
their love by their works - and amongst
these have preeminently stood the dear
friends - with whom it has been my
happiness so long to dwell - a witness
of their enlightened, earnest & untiring
devotion. ~~to the~~ What we owe to them can

be known only to ~~the~~ few, - how time & thought
& labour have been given without stint
to aid us. I would fain dwell on this, a
cherished memory of the past; what the
future will be to them or to us can only
be anticipated with a chastened hope.
It will deeply grieve you, - and all our
friends to know - that our dear Mr. Estlin
has had a paralytic stroke depriving
him of the power of motion in his right
hand, - that hand so long used in blessing.
It is now ten days - since on waking in
the morning he found it powerless. His
whole frame has been affected by the
stroke - though happily his mind is
clear & his speech unimpaired. There
is great hope that with his gradually
returning strength - will come recon-
ed - power to the hand; especially as within
the last two days - there has been ability to
move, though but very little, the thumb
& one of the fingers. It is beautiful to see
the cheerful resignation with which this
sudden loss of power is borne - by both
father & daughter - the ever watchful
tenderness of the one & the calm reliance
of the other - the perfect accord of feeling
that looks to "Him, who death all things
will to assign the post of duty - whether
it be active warfare - in which they have
so long nobly borne their part - or to
"stand & wait" - They are now waiting
in London - till Mr. Estlin gains sufficient
strength to return to Bristol. The doctors

give hopes that this may be in a week
at most a fortnight. How much there
is in that Bristol home; that is dear
the abolitionists - Mrs. Chapman, Miss
Mr. May & others, can abundantly testify.
What I myself have seen & felt - will ever
be amongst my most cherished memories.
We have been often with Mrs. Follen & Miss
Cabot - either at their lodgings or our own.
Their true, warm hearts are much excited
at this time, anxious that all may be done
that can be done at this juncture of affairs.
Mrs. Follen has had repeated interviews with
Mrs. Stowe - some of them very satisfactory. We
all met her at Mrs. Rids - and Mr. Estlin who
sat next her at lunch was much pleased
feeling that she had an earnest & true heart.
We are now happy in the thought that she
with Mrs. Chapman - and we at least feel an
more enlightening influence - than those by
which she has been surrounded here. Her
poor ignorant bungling husband has happily
returned to his professorship - leaving her to
be seen with her own eyes & ears - wh. are much the
than his. - I have just asked Mr. Estlin what
I should say for him to "his friends" - "My kindest
regards - & tell her that my conversation with
Mrs. Stowe was about Mr. Garrison of whom
I spoke with great affection - no one should ever
know him & not love him - love him personally
love him for his convictions & his faithfulness - &
much more she said - in wh. we all agree. -
They are all well satisfied - with what we hear
she has said in Glasgow, Edinburgh & elsewhere of
him & of us. - The "Glasgow Mirror" - have not received
any especial "aid & comfort" at her hands.
My time & paper both are evening to an end. -
I must hasten to send with Miss Estlin's love, the
wish that she could write the very long letter
she has in store for you. - How much I should like
would be to you I know - and most cordially
do I hope that the time may soon come - when she
will be able to do us in times past - through the
both feel that a change has come over their lives.