

Northampton Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> 1848.

My dear Mary,

Perhaps you are ere this chiding me for your thoughts for delaying to write thus long. I have no apology to make beyond to say that I could not do it sooner. This will be a sufficient apology. I trust, for one who loves me. And even now I have a short time to write only; as I am stopping a short time here in Northampton for the cars.

You will wish a passing remark on my journey home. It was prosperous, but not all pleasant, owing to the deception, & lack of a spirit of accommodation on the part of stage agents and drivers. By them I was delayed nearly a day, & subjected to divers other inconveniences, of which I may speak when we meet. But yet notwithstanding all, I visited Bro. Atkinson's parents, accomplished my business at Boston, & arrived at home before the Sabbath, though rather late Saturday eve. I found my Parents well, & also



brothers & sister. It gave me great pleasure I assure you to find them so, and once more to repose under my dear paternal roof. Home, sweet home, no spot on earth so dear. — Monday morning I commenced in good earnest my packing. I got ready, by hard & constant labor assisted by my brothers, my boxes, in season to bring here a stack by the freight train to day, on their way to New York. I expect to follow them in a short time. I shall be delayed a little probably by my freight on my way to N. York: but hope to be there by Friday morning, & in <sup>or</sup> sometime next week.

I might enlarge on these matters but time forbids.

The letter which you kindly & affectionately wrote me & intended me as I left I delayed to peruse according to your request till a day or two passed.

It was then read and reread with much pleasure. Did time permit, I would refer with delight to many several of its topics. But the cars will soon rattle along & I must forego the pleasure. I will only say a word in regard to one. You allude to your peculiar trials, & remark that you are glad that you have made them known to me



as you thereby have found that I have a sym-  
pathizing heart. I too, am glad on one account  
at least that you have done<sup>so</sup>, as I thereby learn  
that you can confide. And if my sympathy  
is a treasure to you, & your confidence a treas-  
ure to me, it is certainly well that you have  
done what you have. The greatest anxiety  
I have had when you have spoken of these  
things has been, not in regard to the amount  
you would receive from your parents, nor  
the peculiar situation nor traits of your  
mother; but I have been anxious lest you  
should suffer these things to trouble you  
too much. My dear M. do not suffer  
to be the cause. Bear all with composure &  
fortitude, and thus be learning to bear the  
other trials which you may be called  
to meet with the same grace of mind.

But I cannot write more. I  
trust we shall soon be permitted to  
meet each other again in join hands  
& lips in health & in love.

Yours with affectionate regard.

W. L. Garrison.

Excuse this wrapperless hastily written letter  
as I can do no better under the circumstan-  
ces.



Miss Mary  
Dorchester

Dorchester

Waltham Co.

Dorchester

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