No 16 —

Dear Sister London 3 mo 20.. 57

I mailed No 15 to day, directed to Peace Dale, and while down town went to see another piece of old London Wall that is to be seen in a lane opposite to Old Baily St. Ludgate Hill. This with the piece at St. Giles Cripplegate church, and some in London wall Street, is all that is extant of this old bulwark. Not far from there I went into Leadenhall market to look among the Dog sellers there for a Shepherd dog for Abe, but could not find or hear of one, I think however they must be sold in London. ~~It~~ This is the great Poultry market of the city, indeed of Britain. Large Turkeys here are considered so inferior to small ones, that they bring but little more per piece. ~~a~~ This confirms the view of some Americans, but most of them think the larger the nicer, a great mistake, I think. Here a Turkey of 6 or 7 lbs brings 6 or 7/ one shilling per pound. they sell however by the piece. a 14 lb Turkey is worth about 10/- Wild Pigeons big 1/ each, nice. Goslings it seems are hatched here in December, and with care are now in market, one of 9 lb weight, is worth about 8/6 to 9/- The market will be supplied now for a long period with goslings about this age, of latter and later brood. Pork Sausages 10 & 11 lb.

I visited the Blue Coat school, or Christ Hospital a charitable foundation, of great extent, in the heart of London, not far from St. Pauls, The ground on which it stands, is of several acres and must be worth millions. The buildings are extensive, very old, and one of them fine. The ranges of cloisters are wide, high, and afford great extent of protected play ground in rainy weather. There are about 740 boys at the school The system of Education is comprehensive. On

an arch of a principal gate, within the grounds I noticed on one side, "Fear God" on the other "Honor the King" - Nipping in the bud with a vengeance. but this is church & state throughout, everywhere. These boys all live within these premises - "Chamomile Street" crosses Bishopsgate Street, but so changes its mild and healing character in this short passage of only 50 or 60 feet, that it becomes "Wormwood St" on the opposite side. I suspect two ladies who own some property about which I made some enquiries to day, must have been through a similar ordeal. It is possible they have a cushioned kneeling bench in some Pew somewhere. In Skinner Street, not far from Smithfield, I have observed ~~property &~~ some houses on a corner, evidently very valuable though untenanted and going fast to decay. The glass of the large windows of the two lower stories ~~are~~ is all broken out, the rains and winds have free access, and bill stickers avail themselves of that liberality of the owners of the estate which disregards their countless placards which cover every side. No chilling threat here that declares "Bill Stickers will be prosecuted" such a constant spectacle in London. I supposed this property was in Chancery, but find it belongs to an old lady, widow of a Solicitor (or rather did, for she died last week) and her daughter. After the death of these two, it descends by entail of some sort to a Nephew, who has committed the unpardonable sin of taking such a wife as he thought would suit himself, contrary to their wishes. They are so grieved at the prospect of the unhappiness their relative must be seen to reap from a marriage under

such circumstances, that ~~for~~ even since 3
that event, some 15 years ago, this house has
been kept vacant (although its rental is
with 2000 £ per Annum) and not permitted
to be repaired or cared for. The desire on their
part is that it shall dilapidate as much
as possible before the day ~~comes~~ arrives when
by a cruel fate they will be obliged to give it
up to so ungrateful an heir. The daughter
is only about 50 years of age, and I judge of a pile
that does not yield to trifles. The front door
is wide and has a recess, the depth of a thick
wall. A benevolent individual appealed to
these gentle spirited proprietors, in behalf
of a poor old apple and orange woman, suggesting
it would be a nice place for her
stand, until they should require it for a
passage. The application proved abortive.
In the mean time, too, the appearance of the
premises is regarded as a nuisance by the
neighbourhood. I should think very justly so.
They have another equally valuable property in
Stamford St. in the same condition. If this
story be true and I believe it is in the main,
we see two ladies forfeiting 20,000 dolls
per year for 15 years, thus far, to damage the
interests of an heir a few thousands only.
The old woman on Connecticut who thanked God
she could hold malice 40 years, had better now
hold her tongue, unless she can pay 20,000 $
dollars a year for its maintenance, into the
bargain. I went to the Charity House on Char
ter House Square, not far from Blue Coat
School. This too is a great place, several
acres. A foundation for 80 decayed gentlemen
Bachellors & Widowers, and 44 boys, all
of whom live in the premises, There is a

chapel, and a very fine dining hall of seven mahogany tables (& room for 20) where these old gentlemen dine on the best the market will afford, every day at 3 P. M. The kitchen is monstrous, with a grate that will hold half a ton of coals. The use of fuel here is very profuse every part of the great establishment is kept up to a high and regular temperature. The boys dine ~~in a their~~ separately, and are entirely distinct from the older inmates. They are provided with good schools and ample play grounds, open & covered within the walls. The old folks have beside a general library &c, a chamber & parlor allotted to each. The only restraint is in the necessity of being within the gates by 11 P. M. It is a noble estate & if sold would I think build & endow another in the country, for many times the number this supports. This would apply also to Blue Coat school.

Not far from this, I saw on a cage slab on the corner of a house an inscription stating that "on this spot two Incendaries were executed who had fired these premises and thereby destroyed 40,000 £ worth of property, for what little they might be able to steal during the confusion incident to the fire they had kindled. A common aspect of city life, and so an benevolent institution. I saw to day "Office of Norther India Tram Road; limited" — The term "limited" is very common here as connected with stock companies, referring doubtless to some condition of charter. I saw to day, before a ship in Cheapside the carriage of the Nabob of Surat, It was thronged by the vulgar, whose gaze the two occupants appeared not to notice though the glass & open door of the vehicle were closely besieged. I observed the younger party had

a very rich turban. The other was a large fat man, and wore a hat much like the Persian. But as I did not halt, I could not see much. They have remarkably large & full (almost unshrunken) Dates here 1/ per ℔.
A dinner of fine corned beef, Potatoes & carrots is given for 10d.
21 – I left my card a few days ago at Mr Rays office, this morning Mr. R. brought me a bunch of flowers, the Times with the Presidents Message, just out an hour before, and a kind invitation to go and stay with them at Shalford, I shall spend Wednesday night there, having no time for a longer visit under present engagements – I knew her at once by resemblance to Miss Hunton. She is, I should think a very sweet woman. They will probably emigrate to America – Her father it seems has lived long in Wisconsin.
I went to the Suffolk Gallery of Paintings in Suffolk St. a set of Artists meet there are many pictures on sale, and some very interesting. On my way to Westminster Abby I stopped to see the Royal Stationery establishment. one would suppose it might supply half of London. Every thing on the line, for government, is there stored and delivered, even to wrapping twine. I went again to day through Henry 7 the Chapel. The ceiling is remarkably rich of carved stone, but its exterior has no beauty for me, after many visits. To be sure, a single buttress with its pinnacle, would make a rich pillar, but combined as they now are, seem to be a mere excrescence of design

within the chapel sleep I think 13 Kings or (6
Queens, and a whole gang of Nobles. Some of
these have tomb & monuments, that would
cost 100,000 $ at the present day. and what
a homily is here upon the miserable emptiness & insignificance
of mere majesty as exhibited in Kings &
~~Princes~~, and the wretched subterfuge & tinsel
of titles. a square slab of unpolished, un
adorned marble lies amidst all these
in the stone floor of this chaste house
inscribed with the name of Joseph Addison
whose body lies beneath – I remarked to the
official that after all, there in that ~~poor~~
humble grave was the great attraction of
this Chapel – He rather surprised me by
replying that the young King of Portugal
dwelt longer upon that spot, than on all the
rest of Henry 7th Chapel.
22d. I went last night by appointment to Doctor
Ashburner, where he had invited quite a
number of persons who had never witnessed
Spiritual manifestations, besides some others.
The American Medium Randolph was there,
who was very soon entranced, and taken possession
of by his mother who greeted us with a very singu
lar and I thought beautiful rythmical address
which reminded me somewhat of Mrs. C. Harris.
poems. After perhaps 100 lines, she ~~left her~~
boy, as she remarked for the use a spirit
then present, of higher capabilities. Randolph
in a few moments addressed us in a harsh
voice contrasting strangely with the feminine
tones in which he had just ceased to speak.
It appears he was now in hands of a spirit
who often addresses these assemblies through this
medium, and who declines giving his name
and calls himself "the stranger". He remarked
that he was ready to answer any questions
that might be propounded, Doctor Ashburner
desired him to deliver us an address upon
the nature of ~~Deity~~, God. Immediately the

subject was commenced, and very soon the immortality of the soul was incorporated with the subject, in a manner that made it appear almost necessary to the treatment of the main feature. The discourse was not a sermon, though it dwelt somewhat on the relation of the religious faculty to the intellect. The most deplorable instances of human depravity had been exhibited with some of the strongest of human intellects, and the wildest fanaticism, in one sense the highest degree of the religious feeling was found in the place of sense. He held that the broadest, deepest, truest piety, must rest upon the highest developments of the intellectual faculties, to which that of veneration, (the degree of the religious element) must be as a passion, subordinate. I know this seem to be opposed to the notions of Doctor A. The whole address was purely speculative, I asked him (the spirit) if he was a teacher in this department in the spirit world, he replied affirmatively. I have been from some time convinced we are now in a spiritual world as much as we ever shall be. This view is confirmed by this orator, who states that every thing is spirit, not matter in our sense of the term, at all. Spirit being unparticled (matter if you please) therefore can know no disintegration, no division and consequently immortal. He spoke 1¼ hours. I have never before heard an address of this kind which I thought particularly eloquent, though one I thought very fine. Of the character of this you can perhaps best judge when I say that half twenty skeptics, when they came in, were almost instantly subdued upon the opening of the speech, and all soon were fixed as in stone. The petrifaction of amazement was in all, every eye ~~seemed~~ fixed as in a fit of trance upon the speaker. I never saw such a spectacle never witnessed such ~~an exhibition~~ a display of oratorical power. The language attitudes &

gesture of some of the personations, were of a character as indescribable, as unseen things. There was not a movement, the group lookin exactly as if it were the delusion of a theorope. But when the medium ceased, one universal murmur of amazement seemed to fill the room. All the fullness of language, the richness of metaphor, the power of comparison, of analogies, of Analogy of reconstructive Synthesis, the treasures of science, the stores of the universal world appeared to be at the command of this spirit for this occasion. The whole thing was a perfect pyramid when completed, of the grandest ideas cemented by the most extraordinary exposition of the reasoning faculty I ever witnessed. All whom I heard speak of it, were struck with the lucidity of the arguments, their clearness, in points which they had deemed it impossible could be brought so far within the grasp of human faculties. There was no stenographer, and I feel as if a great valuable work had been destroyed, of which a copy were impossible. I would freely give 20 £ for one, and would value it at any duplicates of what I should feel justified in paying for it. He gave us only 3 lectures of the discourse, remarking there were 5 more, which would be delivered on another occasion, and that he was most highly gratified at the request having turned to this particular subject. It abounds with conclusive proofs of the Deity goodness, of the souls immortality, and who pursue it, may soon be able to laugh at death or say ~~where~~ indeed, where is thy sting, or in triumphing the grave, where is thy victory — There may rejoice in the gift of existence, and bids all fear of desolation farewell forever. I cannot remember his words, but not one who was there last night will ever forget its scene. The piercing splendours of Eternity seemed to accompany ~~of~~ his words, the choicest that language can afford, the roar of rushing

winds and waters, the grandest combinations of electrified elements, seemed to be the beaters of his thoughts, ~~and~~ and means of their utterance. At the close a few questions were asked, my own among them, already alluded. ~~as~~ I forgot to observe that one of the first things the spirit said, was, please to blindfold your medium, which was done. Without leaving his trance another spirit, professing to have been drowned in the Bay of Naples about a year ago, took possession. He was a fisherman, said the spirit just left was a wonderful man, Some guide he was "God mad". He had given all his mind to the subject on which he had just been ~~speaking~~ while on earth. This fisherman said the medium could not be let down from so high a spirit at once, to his natural condition, so he had been asked to possess him a little while. He was evidently a great wag. While he was sinking he prayed to the Virgin Mary, but he soon found sink he would, and all the Virgin Marys" could not make him swim. As to his body he supposed that was food for fish, He went off in a kind of doze and the last thing he saw was a big eel and fish, he supposed invited by the prospect. Next thing he was in a sort of snowy sheet with some encouraging friends, he thinks about 170 miles above the earth, This sheet was transparent, he could see the Earth through it, and was awfully afraid he should fall for he did not then know he was out of the body. This fellow had a very remarkably quaint style of speech (I think very probably was an American) a vast deal of fly and very good natured humour, and kept the whole room in laughter. I should except one very sensible woman, with whom I had talking before the sitting & found a novice entirely & of course pretty

(though he talked as familiarly about the bay Naples as I could of New Bat Factory)

Sure it was all delusion. She seemed to be exceedingly interested now, but entirely overwhelmed, dumbfounded. Her expression was very remarkable, & to me, highly amusing. Next the Mother took possession, again, and after another very pretty poem, in which she expressed in most felicitous terms, (though in an episode) her sense of the kindness with which her son had been received, and her regret that she could not consistently consent to his further use this evening, as a speaker, lest he might be overtasked and injured. When I saw Randolph last Spring in Boston, he was nearly blind from clairvoyant exercise. Very strange this, for the eyes do not appear to be used at all, being generally closed. He has been entirely blind thereafter but is now entirely recovered. Seeing spirits as usual, excepting that he has ceased to exercise the faculty which pers the world over, and which, he informs me, was the cause of his blindness. He called to see me twice last week, but I was unluckily, out. I have been walking about Belgrave & Eaton Squares and Belgravia this afternoon – These squares are small and usually planted as little parks with flowers shrubs & trees, and are quite numerous in London – They have low fences, and gates to which the inhabitants have keys, like those in New York, being private property. Nevertheless I see in most of them protests against gathering the flowers &c, on boards. They range over 2 acres I think, & generally not one – Belgravia is of greater extent but no so showy as particular districts and squares in New York and Philad^a – 5 Storied houses are fine in proportion in London and

and I think also those of 4, as compared
with our largest cities. There plenty of large
blocks and streets in and about even Belgravia
with ~~great~~ showy fronts, that are only from 40
down to 20 feet deep, without back buildings
(as is nearly universal here) and with no wider
fronts than the average of ours, in N. York, Philad.
I have not seen a brick in England, that an
american would use in a common barn,
though it is the great material for building
and almost exclusively used in London. In the
recent good houses, a coat of Stucco is used,
to conceal this, instead of the smoke.
The English appear to think Americans have
better capabilities of expression, speech, than
they, I do not perceive this advantage, but
think the English have advantage in precision
at least, though far less range of thought.
He does not, like the American, verge upon the
extent of his powers, consequently does not, I
think, so often get into the obscure, which a
mind almost must do, if it would widen
its sphere and increase its power. I think
there comparatively many fine men
here, of striking appearance than with us.
They are more in the same mould, good
solid, substantial, quiet looking folks,
and far less individuality.
The Royal Stables back of Buckingham Palace
would rent for enough money to comfortably
support, a very considerable town, to say
nothing of the cost of Horse food, carriages and
men who have charge thereof. There were some
snow squalls this morning, but I have not
seen snow lie in London, I believe at all. The
2 past nights have been quite cold, but Lilacs
are very nearly in leaf.
23d I had a letter to day from Mr Apthorp in
Dresden, ~~enclosing~~ ~~a~~ a very graceful note from
Miss Susan Quincy in Boston, reply to a note I
sent her from Olney. President Quincy at 85

still retains excellent health. I remember his telling me last winter, that he was unconscious of any infirmity, though he could not believe his stay here could be very much longer, thought he could see no end.

The Apthorps have a very nice route & plan for their summer journey, and very kindly desire me to make one of their party, but I shall not be able to do so. They will spend next winter in Rome, where I shall meet them next probably. I went to the Ball of Saint Pauls to day; a long way up but the shortest out of London. A scotchman started with me but gave over, just below the ball, though there is no danger, that I can see. These islanders will stand powder and ball till alls blue, if necessary, but 5 of them would shrink from an undertaking of this kind, to one Yankee. It costs 2 shillings in cash and as much more in labour, for which we can say we have been there, and that a gratuitous 2d visit would not be accepted. In fine weather the view is doubtless fine; but when is that. To day was unusually clear for the season, but the view except of the Thames consisted of tops of houses for the distance a mile, up to the wall of smoke. In summer they say a fine view is very frequent, being none but Kitchen fires and lep fog. This building is truly very fine, especially inside, were it not for Saint Peter, to which I suppose it is nothing, we would see it in a stronger light. Strange that christian temples should seem so especially devoted to the heroes of God forbidden battles. besides Howard & Johnson, there is scarcely one here, I would have to stick in front of a stable.

The Crimea is already adding its stains to the rest. I went to see 48 designs for the new memorial church about to be built at Constantinople for Crimean Heroes. This like Botany bay will get rid of some

mechanics at home, but a people who are so properly particular to make Steam engines use self consuming smoke apparatus at home, might be expected to be careful how they cast their ashes and cinders on folks abroad. Their designs are by as many competitors, and now on free exhibition at Kings College, Somerset House. I came upon "Anna Corner" to day having frequently passed it before without knowing it. It is at the intersection of Ave Maria Lane and Paternoster row, where I visited the publishing office of Chambers Journal also Stationers Hall. Bull & Mouth St is not far off: also the "Swan with two necks Boarding house." The "Bull and Last Tavern" I noticed a few days ago, somewhere. Not far from "Huggin Lane" I came to a very fine new Wax house, and very large. On going in I found it to be devoted to Bonnets, mantles and artificial flowers, some of the last of a new texture and near enough to nature to balk a bumble bee. especially the foliage. Exquisite. I was taken all over the 4 or 5 floors of this establishment, most courteously, and ~~assisted~~ clerks invited on drawing the drawers to great number to shew their finest French specimens. ~~Lawrence~~ Allent & Brown is the concern. I was at the fine India shawl & mantle establishment in Regent St of Rogers & Farmer in Regent St a few days ago. a retail establishment of near 100 feet plate front. The proprietor says Americans are apt to be good judges ~~of to~~ of good taste in their articles. He took me up stairs to see his finest shawls, 200 guineas. There are no London shops equal to some of ours but their shew windows excel yes, I think. There is nothing to compare to Stewarts, Appletons &c, &c. The Scotchman to day was pleased when I told him there is no street in London so fine as Union Street in Aberdeen, where he lives. Princes St in Edinburgh too exceeds London,

and I think Glasgow may show a match, too - I went into Holloway's celebrated Pill establishment, on the Strand. He is a Monarch in medicine, but his establishment is no palace. ~~Have~~ an old tumble down affair without order, room, or convenience. The whole thing would not occupy 1/2 of one of Swain's stores in Chestnut St. Seven men roll all these pills, by the pill machine, simply two things like little bras wash board, in one room are 58 girls parking them. In another is the advertising department. Here are all the News papers that advertise ~~the~~ for Holloway embracing <u>every written tongue</u>. Files of all of these are shewn, 21 different tongues in India alone. Then there are the ships and their bills for every nation and people to whom they are sent for their agents and distribution. At the Post office for a quarter of an hour before six is a scene I was unprepared to see, on Monday. The period of 15 minutes when the News papers are brought to the corner of the great hall appropriated to their reception - I was disappointed though interested. I counted 111 bags brought in. about as many buckets of News Papers - I believe the Saturday edition of the "New York Tribune" alone, would count as many, though perhaps less bulky. Paper here is thicker, generally, than ours. but the minor ones scarcely so. Along this great wide hall, the entire of one side is a line of openings for letters to different quarters of the globe - The scene at these, at this hour was exactly like the to and fro and pause and fro of Bees at the entrances of a hive. I could not have believed men could have so completely imitated, been so like these little creatures. The heat of the canvass for new parliament is on. The placards are amusing. One says

"Never mind the little affair of the Lorcha
Canton is 10,000 miles off." Somebody voted
against 20,000 £ annual retrenchment at
home. A long letter in big letters from Lord
John Rapid, soliciting votes stuck on every
place where bill stickers will not be prosecuted,
rather surprised me. But Love of Fame works
wonders in every land.
I stopped again at St. Bartholomew's Hospital to
see the frescos there by Hogarth, Christ Healing the
sick, and the good Samaritan, in the latter he
introduces his bull looking dog, so frequently
presented in the works of this artist.
Quarter day here of all at 25th is moving day.
24th. Went to see the famed "Almacks" of old
now Willis's Rooms. (All-macks is the pronunciation)
a nice dancing Hall, 90 ft by 40, for Balls dinners &c
next to St. James Theatre in King St. I think
there are 50 King St, in London, nearly as
many Princes. ~~as~~ I believe cases of 5 to 15 du-
plicates are very common. At the room of the
Soc'y of Arts in John St Adelphi, I saw a new
mode of ringing house bells a tube of Gutta Percha
little larger than a stout pipe stem, connects with
a ball in a tube at the bell. At the point
where we usually have the bell pull, instead of
a Tapell, is an india rubber ball, size of a
small Billiard ball. This is hollow and forms
the terminus of the tube (which may wind
about all over the house if necessary) that
reaches to the bell by the bell. A pressure
of this hollow sphere, twixt thumb & finger,
forces the air through the tube ~~and~~ drives
the ball against the bell. Each pressure
gives the bell one tap. So it is capable of
indicating any servant by number.
I visited the celebrated Police Court in Bow St.
It is close by the portico front of Covent Garden
Theatre. At the British Gallery of Art I saw
some very pleasing paintings, like the Suffolk
Gallery it is a sales room too. I think about 1600

pictures are in the two. At the Soho Bazar 16
a large establishment, where very many persons
sell their goods, I noticed it was a regulation
of the Establishment, that all vendors should
"have the price in very plain figures" on each
article, and from which there must be no
abatement. This seems to me an excellent
system. Mr Heyworth sent me a speech
he has just made at a public meeting. An
excellent, and characteristic one
I have not yet observed a building in London over
5 stories high. "Mr A. Tooth" is a carver here, & gilder.
25th, I went to the rooms of the Asiatic Society in
5 New Burlington St. This a working affair
there being transactions, involving translations
and their publication of curious inscriptions
from the East and Others. The various Sacred
Books in their original tongue and form is very
interesting. An Illuminated Koran, among
them. Some of Eastern Nations display great
skill and neatness in similar works. There
are many implements of war &c. from the East
in these rooms. Sultan of Surat and various
others of Oriental notabilities are members,
some of them constant ~~in~~ attenders and
valuable acquisitions. Also, I went to the
rooms of Linnaean society in Soho Square,
where I saw shewn some of Linnaeus (Charles)
own collections in botany, insects & birds.
These are private institutions, but I was at
once admitted. I see radishes are quite
plenty in London, though small. They are doubtless
forced, or produced in fermenting beds.
26 I went last evening out to Stratford
(7 miles omnibus fare only 6d) where I was most
kindly received by Mr & Mrs Ring & their son and
daughter, who are just grown up. A very agreeable
family. This morning Miss Ring took me to see
the house of ~~Edward~~ Saml Gurney, I am not

certain check, a plain fine house, with large park, carefully kept. a rabbit warren (an artificial mound dug by them to a ~~[illegible]~~ Romeycant) very near the front of the house. None of these are ever permitted to be killed. ~~[illegible]~~ The place is Saml Gurneys, brother of Jos John. He died in Paris about 70 years of age, not long since. Mortified to death at dishonourable conduct of his partner, it is said. a mile or two further on is the house of his sister Mrs. Fry, the famous philanthrophist. a large high house in a ~~great~~ liberal park & forest. Returning to Mrs Rings we lunched, and Mrs. Ring took me to Wanstead, Epping Forest & Hainault Forest, which join, a straggling wilderness of 12 miles, Commons, thickets, Trees, a few villages & churches scattered about thereon. A most delightful place. Think of a wild like some of our old overgrown partures about Great Pond &c. on the very edge of London, there being not even a gap in the houses all the way out to it. Briars, Holly, vines, every thing, that can make me suppose he is nearer the rocky mountains than to London. Thick wood, then open spaces, Heather, then grass. Gorse just begining to be very beautiful, its gold & Green. Broom yet in reserve. Privet is putting forth its new leaves, buds open at the end. Yet where it it is at all sheilded by a bank or bank, its last year foliage seems yet in perfect repair. about the Cottages by Crocus yet in full flower, Daffodils just begining to shew their yellow promise. Goose berry bushes in small leaf - Elders a little ahead of them. Lilacs buds in out of bursting Common English Thorns, nearly open too, Sloe just swelling its buds fully. Pyrus Japonica in flower, not so fine as ours though. but not at its prime

yet, although on walls, it wipes it nature scent amid these fogs of England. Horse Chestnuts nearly ready to open with leaves, but our American Black azdlow locust, says not a word yet. Sullen at home till June. I saw and heard two English Skylarks, coming out the blue or rather gray, above. Pretty song enough, but no more to compare with our mocking Conquerdle, than the skies of the two countries. Here is or rather was, the house of Wellesly Pole, Lord Mornington. A remarkably fine one tis said but razed to the ground to spite an heir to whom it must otherwise fall. Lord Alva peth, who I think lived not far off, had his house burned by his wife, with a view not to please him. This morning I saw an old residence of Annie Bullen, a picturesque place, very, old brick walls, large range of low houses, some ancient turrets on a tower, among them, East Ham Church, pad 800 years old. Bow Church in Bow Road a few miles south of this I passed, same age. This part like all the other suburbs of London abounds in, unions (work Houses) Asylums, Almshouses &c &c. Some very large, and fine. One in the Forest for Orphan infants a most beautiful winding low 2 story Elizabethan structure. One tremendous Italian Palace for the poor of some district of London. A maze of towers, and all very fine indeed. I find that Mrs Barbauld, Dr. Aiken and Isaac Watts, all lived at Stoke Newington.

Butter cups in flower. Spring wheat up and a few inches high, but not enough to hide the ground. The Reings expect to start for our West in August and I should think would carry with them an unusual amount of chances of happenings in the wilds of the new world. The bewildering London

shrub still continues, and sprinkling carts here, really flood them.

27 Went to Portland Gallery Regent St. a place of deposit for exhibition and sale of pictures of Junior artists I should think. The admission to the several galleries of this sort which I have visited is 1/- I have seen several attempts to follow Turner, who himself could not embody his conception, doubtless some one yet will. I hear of wonderful improvement of the conspicuous effects.

I sent my card this morning, to Baron Goldsmidt asking a permit to the Royal Botanical Gardens but he had gone out to walk, I stepped over to the Office and was immediately admitted, This delightful ground is 18 acres fenced off from Regents Park, belonging to a few subscribers. The great high Glass green house presents at present a floral display which made me feel as if I had gotten into one corner of heaven as I entered ~~its~~ the door. In the grounds are over an acre of roses, in tree form, and must be very fine in season. In this garden, the arrangement of the plants is particularly pleasing to me. Every thing from the largest shrub to the smallest plant even grasses & Bulrushes are to be seen, that will stand this mild climate Each thing by itself. for instance, In one part we find all the thorns of the world, in another all the Laurels, in another the cedars Pines &c &c Conifera throughout. Then all the Hollies, then every Barberry &c. ~~About~~ a lake is every willow in its ooze the water plants, In other divisions we find all plants affording dyes, another all affording Tannin. another such as French paper - Another Baskets &c &c, another plaited work, another spinning material. All the Ferns, all the Alpes, all the heaths &c &c Nevertheless in the grounds generally things are combined also with reference to beauty as well

specimen and steady - Weeping willow is in very small untied looking leaf. Paeonies are just out of ground - ~~Ea~~ Forsythia Veradisenia is just in yellow flower, though on a wall, nothing to compare to it as seen in our more sunny clime, and I presume it is in flower in Philad^a at this moment, on a south wall. I saw a daffodil about half open - Daphne Mezereum past prime. Many of the European Thorn are nearly or quite in small leaf but only one of the American is nearly open, I think this is our common Wild Thorn apple. None of ~~the~~ deciduous Magnolias are yet in ~~flow~~ leaf or near it, or show flower bud, Judas tree not out. Every thing is marked. English have an excellent rule in ~~visiting~~ all places of resort where papers are at all confined, as in Greenhouses and some picture galleries. On entering take the right hand, thus there is no meeting and tripping - Mr Randolph took tea and spent the evening until after 10 with me. He was entranced, by "the Stranger" who confirmed some things which had been told me in America which I could never believe. The same great spirit who was paid there to visit me, to my great astonishment was announced to night and ~~in comp~~ with his former companion as in America. I was not thinking of them, nor have I ever mentioned them in England. Randolph, is a poor uneducated boy. Has lived in New Port, been at Kingston, knows all about people there, was probably a servant or common labourer. Has straight black hair, colour nearly of a mulatto - son of a Virginia Randolph - His mother an Oriental. ~~The Randolph~~ Doctor Dixon says he is a great anatomist and Physiologist, a learned professor here, who has devoted 50 years to logic, says if he understood it as does this boy in his sleep, he would not exchange the gift for ~~a~~ million Pound sterling - A Musical professor no one he knows of can treat so well the laws of harmony - An artist considers him wonderful in the science of colours - These remarks were made at the close of a seance, where a knot

of Scientific men had assembled to hear him speak "under influence" - This body of men declined hearing him on the subjects in the list his friends had made for guidance in that particular. Without any warning suddenly proposed that the spirit should forthwith give them an address upon "The Physiology of Joy and Grief" "The Stranger" to night, told me he would give me the address again which I so much regretted was not taken in short hand at Doctor Ashburners. His last remark was, "remember I have told you I shall be very willing at any time to furnish you any information you may desire that is in my power to impart." His language was extraordinary - Style Oratorical, He says he has expended 10 years in adapting Randolph to his purpose as a speaking medium. He would like to have spoken a couple of hours to night, but to do so it would be necessary to arrest the action of the medium's stomach, which after the meal he had just taken, would be attended with unfavourable results to his system, "He ought not even to be used for the few moments I intend now to address you" Under such circumstances I asked but one question. His mother spoke a few moments. R. says his first speaking was in meeting, when he surprised himself and others, and attributed it to religious excitement. The susceptibility to trance, ensued.

28. I went to day to St. Mildreds Court, just opposite the Mansion House & close by the Bank to see where Mrs. Fry lived. The old house has been torn down for another. I proceeded to Milton Street, which was the famous "Grub Street" why they should change its name even for one so illustrious, to me is mysterious. I also went to St. Saviours Church + Lady chapel Southwark Surrey side, near London Bridge. Here is the monument of Gower &c, but the graves of Wm of Wykeham, Fletcher & Massenger, all there, are lost. Close by this is St. Thomas

Hospital (3 minutes walk perhaps) and opposite this one is Guys Hospital, a large affair founded by him in his lifetime. His statue is in front. Such a face, it makes a man better to look at even. To Somerset House when I obtained leave to go into the museum of the Society of Antiquaries who rather direct things to British museum than desire to add to their small but interesting collection. There is a cast from the face of an exhumed prelate not long since dug up about the Parliament buildings. He was in full preservation after centuries in his grave. So the cast was taken. I forget his name. There is too a valued portrait (for its style) of Bloody Mary. She looks all she was. Every line of her amiable countenance declares she would rather want men than Chestnuts for Hallowe'en. I saw a very painful scene at the Police Court in Bow St. Having applied to both War and Pension offices in vain for the locality of Benedict Arnold's grave, and of many individuals, I was advised to go to the Register of Births deaths & marriages at Somerset house. This gave no light, but the fee was well bestowed in a sight of the books. This establishment was put in its present shape 20 years ago. Each of these important events in human life is recorded in a different set of Books. ~~That of deaths~~ This registry includes England & Wales, but neither Ireland Scotland or the Channel Islands. Already there are 20.000.000 deaths recorded. The record of deaths is in ponderous volumes of parchment, each of which is devoted to one quarter, making 4 volumes per year. "John. Lee" This name

is a fair sample of the register, except it is inferior in every respect to the original. The date and parish are named in the extended line, and all is strictly alphabetical, christian as well as surname and not crampled. During 2 quarters (6 months) 7 Hazards died in England & Wales who spelled their names with two Z and 4 who used only one Z. None with the letter S. so that the claim of two S. would seem to be groundless, in all probability. Great care is taken to record the names in accordance with the report. In order to show the comparative number of two names, I will remark, that during these 6 months, the name of Arnold occurs at least 70 times, I think. Not one blot or erasure did I see in this mighty record. There is a floating hulk for "Thames Police" kept anchored in the river off the Temple. There are also two vessels (one by London Bridge) used as floating fire engines, in case of ~~need~~ conflagration near the river. These engines are of great power, and worked by Steam, which is ever up and ready for action. a vast quantity of large hose is a portion of the equipment. I heard these boats had no propelling power, but are dependent on towing.

The prettiest interior of a church in London that I have seen, is that of St. Martins, near Trafalgar Square.

29 The I went to a circle in Bedford Row, where some men of science attended, Randolph was entranced, and spoke upon the origin of man that subject having been proposed by an ethnologist. The part that most surprised me in this speech, was a peroration, wherein the objects and bearings of the proposition were examined and explained. This was very extraordinary, and the arguments throughout

were striking and illustrated with great felicity, but ~~the~~ rhetorically, it was much inferior to that at Ashburnies - The room was full, and there was a strongly dissentient element present.
I see "The Right Honourable W. Goodenough Hayter M. P." was at the Lord Mayors dinner given a few days ago
30th. I took a package to Norman Jackson to day, which he will leave at W. H. Newman in New York - It is the third sent to W. H. N.
I saw the tomb of Thos. Guy also of Sir Astley Cooper at ~~the~~ medical museum &c, at Guys hospital again to day. St Thomas Hospital opposite it is a fine institution founded by Edwd 6th. The boy King. His statue is one of the gardens or courts.
At the Custom House I went into the great room 185 feet long, 55 high and 55 wide. Yet it is considered unhealthy for want of proper ventilation - 40,000 £ duty is pd there per day, on an average - Half of England's revenue from imports. &c. In Ironmongers Hall, I saw the nice dining room where about 25 dinners are held annually.
At No 12 Bedford Row I had a treat in the collection of the Entomological society, such as Leddy, but more particularly perhaps Dr. Lecompt, would have enjoyed. This society would be much more excited ~~at the~~ and delighted at the discovery of a new species of lightning bug, than that of a dozen planets. And I don't know why a beautiful butterfly is not more to be admired than a star which we can never see, without ~~the~~ aid of half an acre of lens. At the museum of the Microscopical society near Finsbury circus I saw their collection of Oriental novelties.

comprising a great number of Heathen Deities, some of which appear to me scarcely less absurd than their own whom I believe they consider no heathen. A pleasing circumstance, but only char acteristic of all my intercourse with these Islanders, thus far, occurred to day. I was asking where the Hinterian Museum & College of Surgeons was to be found. The gentleman of whom I made enquiry, re plied by asking if I desired to go there, he evidently perceiving I was a stranger. On hearing my affirmative he remarked a permit from a member of the College (Signs R. W. Cooke) would, immediately proffering one. I gladly accepted it, though I have thus far found them totally unnecessary at the various private societies of science to which I have desired entrance. At Guys to day upon merely asking where was his grave, the Key of its Chapel was sent for immediately and it was given me. A good figure of the good man is there seen raising a disheveled person from the ground. I have this evening received a permit endorsed with his best compliments, from the Lord Mayor to whom I sent a note desiring to see the interior of New Gate, (Signs Thos. J. Viner)

I have enquired a good deal for the ruin of old London wall which is near the Tower, but have found not one who knew of its existence until a Beef Eater or Geiman of the Guard (these things are most fantastically dressed in Red & Gold, and are monstrous men) who pointed it out to me in Trinity Place just out of Trinity Square, There is about 50 feet of the wall & full 20 feet high - This with the piece at Cripplegate church and another, just out of Ludgate Street, Ludgate Hill, are all that is left of that ancient safeguard, World cities, so far

from finding protection therein, have ever fared (21
harder than others. Gohams foundling Hospital
next to Brunswick Square is a nice affair, with
large grounds. Rich do not hesitate to build in
town, where they find large trees.
"Mr D'Oyley" has the best variety of Waterproof over
coats I have seen in London. I forgot to mention
a statue of St Laurence and his gridiron
that stands in the fine entrance hall of the Ironmongers Hall in Fen Church St. It appears he
is the patron saint of fire-engineers, plumbers.
31st I went to the Mechanics Institute in Southampton
Buildings, where they have 7000 vols and a good reading
room. Also to the Royal Astronomical rooms in
Somerset House, where I was politely shown their
lecture room a few paintings busts, drawings &c.
I shall not be able to see the Royal Society rooms
in the same building, their affairs being in a state
of preparation for transit to Burlington House.
At the Hunterian Museum of the College of Surgeons
in Lincolns Inn fields I was much interested.
Also at the Soane Museum just opposite it.
Sir John Soane an architect founded this institution, devoted to his own especiality, but
is an extensive collection of many things not
anticipated in the scheme. 12 of Hogarth's paintings
are of this class. besides many others, some very
fine. Here are many antique sculptures, and
casts therefrom - a plan of Pompei. and most
exquisite models in plaster of the finest specimens
of ancient Temples tombs &c, of Italy, Greece & Asia
Minor. So far as the mere sense of beauty is concerned, I have no doubt more gratifying than
the originals themselves.
Went to New Gate. The Governor said he would be
very happy to show me through it if I desired.
though the hour was 5, and 4 was that of closing,
under these circumstances too, I would not see
it to such advantage, He "would therefore advise
me, if I was not immediately leaving London, to come
another day, and himself would go around
with me". This would be more satisfactory than
a turnkey doubtless. His appearance and manner
is that of a gentleman, much, and I suppose his position

gives status here – A plumb tree is just blooming 27
in Downing square, but instead of the floral glory
it presents with us, is a feeble affair though full
of flowers – Yet it is scarcely a plumb for it has the
purple flower of a wild shrub that is very
abundant in our Southern Forests, a small plumb
like tree; name forgotten. In Upper Grosvenor
Street near to Hyde Park is the house of the
Marquis of Westminster, whose income is equal
to the Queen, and largest in this realm. I
think about 40.000 dollars per week. The
house stands about 80 feet back from the
Street, a very simple stucco of 3 stories
about 60 feet front. But there is a fine
collonade and two gateways therein, in the
Grecian style, that is very good, and the
iron gates of nearly solid and very rich
workmanship – This Colonade is on a line
with the side walk, a mere fence from it
but open so nearly to the pedestal as to ad
mit full view, though nothing of note is
to be seen, many of the older establishments
of nobility are shut out entirely, that have
reputation of being worth a look at. In
many of the short and wide streets of
plain blackened brick 3 storied houses &
cast Iron knockers, and mere Iron bar railings
about the Area, live entire blocks of elite
that convey, despite their rude simplicity of
exterior, ~~great~~ idea of solid wealth, luxu
ry & refinement within. A common frontage
of them here is about 30 feet, but I think
not so deep as good houses with us.
I find at one of the circles I mentioned having
attended, Sandsee attended, but nicety as
is so common here, and I did not know him.
I am struck with resemblance of Barts of Lewes
here to Doctor Hare, and perhaps in some
respects even more like his son Clark.
April 1st. I received a letter from Isaac to day
it must seem very like home among so many

acquaintances in Rome. The rest of the American Public seems to be on its way, here. For some reason London does not seem to be the point of attraction. Can its reputed extravagance effect this. Norman Jackson called to day with a message to go out again to Hale Place, on another visit. A Baronet & daughter is to be there too, on Friday. I intended not to trust myself there again until I got through in London. it is so hard to get away from, more delightful than London for but I must see all this city another week would do - but Friday I shall go there nevertheless. I went to Newgate this morning The Governor most kindly took me all over it. I saw Robson, whom I expected to see looking like a gentleman but he did not. This prison is only for reception of the untried, who remain also after conviction only until they can be removed to other places of punishment. I was struck with the youthfulness of the prisoners, 16 to 25 generally. At the latter age the governor says they have generally arrived at a degree of crime that demands transportation. The way to the gallows on the front of the building in the street, is through the kitchen. The affair being an old one. I saw the shackles worn by Jack Sheppard and Dick Turpin, whose city dens are close by this prison - Until within a few years the great quarter for criminals was in the narrow crooked lanes and courts, close by this Prison, Saffron Hill &c &c - If London were in wide straight streets its crimes would diminish 60 per cent in 10 years, I mean of a serious character. In many of these places, caves have been found underground, running from cellar to cellar under the pavements &c, for purposes of murder and concealing bodies goods &c. One prisoner not long since exhibited a barrel of human bones, from ~~these~~ one of these haunts. Counterfeiting coin is a common crime here, and many women have concerned in it. In one of the wards where were about 10 women, there was not one whom I would hesitate a moment to give the keys of my

house, provided liquor were out the question. A fair confidence would ~~have me~~ with comfortable home would reclaim either of them, and most of the women I saw in Bell Gate. In one ward were about as many boys all under 16, this was a school. On coming out, I remarked to the Governor of one of them, ~~that~~ I desired him to note down what I said, for he would speedily find it to prove entirely correct, that the boy in question would live a career of crime, despite any influences, and all, that could be brought to bear upon him. Said he "I can testify to the correctness of your discernment in so far as his previous life is concerned for that boy left than 16 years old has already been in prison 6 times, we know all about him and consider him perfectly incorrigible" This was almost the only character that struck me as nearly entirely depraved, but I saw several very horrible looking fellows. One man from New Haven, I remarked he had an excellent countenance (and so had several) and was informed he was a sailor who had used a knife in a drunken brawl. I visited the room of the Geological Society Somerset House (Sir Roderick Murchison connected with it I think) where I recognized many things of which I had seen engravings. I saw a specimen, with the name of Doctor Harlan, whom I knew. What a study, to me its lessons are even more impressive than those of Astronomy. We get at the facts therein, without inscrutable mysteries of Logarithms triangles and cube roots. I sent my card up stairs at the rooms of the Royal Society & was immediately invited up, and received with many apologies for impossibility to show me all as they are just removing from Somerset House to Burlington House. It was much honour to be in halls where so many distinguished & devoted men had held deliberation on high themes. Ever since 1786 these rooms have been occupied by them. There are many

fine Portraits on the wall. Here is the great Water barometer too, 32 feet high. I had read of. I am invited to attend a meeting of the Royal Society to morrow night at 8½ O'clock & shall go. A most agreeable gentleman there told me he had travelled in America, and had been so very politely received and treated there by all, he was always glad of an opportunity of reciprocating it. The strangest thing that I know of the Queen and Prince Albert is the fact that I met them twice to day, although I have not before seen either of them during the 3 mos I have been in London. It may seem odd that there is nothing more extraordinary about them than there is about other people who have nothing extraordinary about them. The queen is stout and red faced, any thing but beautiful, but not at all ugly I should think. The Prince is a handsomer man than his portraits make him, I accidently caught his eye and retained it until he had passed by. They were in a large open plain Baroche & 4. Two postillions, ~~and~~ They were preceded by 2 out riders in scarlet liveries & followed by a suite of several plain carriages. I first met them at Waterloo Place Regent St. then in Hyde Park, I saw no other salutation, than that the prince doffed his hat as he passed under the arch at the corner of the Park by Apsley House. He looked very well contented which reminds of the great poet "Some strange comfort ~~every~~ state attend"

I recollect that I never heard the swoop of a Night Hawk until I was over 30 years of age, although I had spent all my days in wandering about at night. But when I did happen first to hear one I heard nothing else for a long time. So I may now see no more but Princes. Mrs Ring told me she gave her seat, in a carriage to which she

had been invited to go and see some fine gardens somewhere, to an invalid whom she thought could not walk so well as herself. This was a sacrifice, but in consequence thereof she met 3 Kings taking a stroll together – Louis Philippe, Don Miguel and King of the Belgians.

As a rule, criminals who have been most frequently in Prison, depart themselves best, the Newgate Governor says. Two escapes went up the angle of a wall 30 feet high not long ago, and were never heard of since. There is a chevaux de frize of Iron bars, sharpened, near the top of the wall too, 4 or 5 feet long & pointing downward. Another escape was brought in to look at the possibility of such a mode of escape. He said he could go up there any time, and placing his back in the corner scaled the height without difficulty. So here is one or two hundred years of Newgate with capacity for 440 prisoners, before this weakness was discovered, and then by "Sweep Hos 2d. I sent my card in at the Royal Institution Albemarle St. (near Murrays, Byrons Publisher & of the Guide Books &c) and was asked up stairs where I shewn several libraries, a different class of books in each, a lecture room museum. This is a literary establishment belonging to subscribers and a pretty extensive affair. I was soon introduced to Doctor Tyndal a man of great reputation here. He very soon broached the subject of spiritualism. He has tried but never yet succeeded in eliciting any facts. when I told him of the experiment of the spring ~~slate~~ scale and board, he declared he would give every thing he was worth (as he is a philosopher this is probably not much) to see it done. I shall try to give him an opportunity when I return to London. This institution was polite enough to say they would be very happy to give me all its privileges during my stay in London if I would enable them to do so by conforming to their established rule which requires a letter from any one known to them. I can

and invited to attend a lecture this evening but had other engagements

get plenty of these. I went down to India House Leaden Hall St. to see the museum but was told it was not the day of admission without order. I simply mentioned that I was an American desirous of seeing London and the door was opened instantly with apology. I mention many of these things not for their intrinsic interest, but to show how much reason I have to think highly of this people, and I have had no other experience among them. This museum is connected with a library also, and pertains chiefly to India. Its gods figure largely, but its more natural history is pretty well represented, and many curiosities of Indian art. Models of all styles of vessels of war previous to used among them. The state chair of Runjeet Singh for surpassing not only in splendour but taste any other I've seen. Tippoo Saeb's mechanical Tiger upon a prostrate English officer is here. I saw at Soanes Museum 4 beautiful Ivory chairs and table to match said to have belonged to either this prince or Shenkie Khan, I forgot which, but pretty certainly not the latter. Some beautifully illuminated books in black letter at Soanes too, one said to be superior to any thing of the sort in the Vatican. I have now been at every institution nearly that I can find in London, but hope to be able to give more full attention to some of them at another time. I took Rail Way from London Bridge to Black Heath, then walked across the heath to Shooters Hill, about 3 miles, a very pleasant stroll. I did not see Byron's Brigand, but enough beggars to assail me — Ten per cent of my small expenses here are upon these poor creatures, mostly women. Shooters Hill is about 2½ miles back of Woolwich, On

its wooded summit (this hill is quite abrupt and high as Chimney Hill) is a tower about 60 feet high from whence I had a pretty view, the ~~country~~ sky being tolerably clear, and country green as a leek. Chystal Palace 7 miles off looked not 3, though hazy. Objects look nearer here than with us, I believe, despite fogs. London lay all before me, and Thames wound amid his level alluvial almost as sinuous as the Mississippi, quite, and similar banks. On the Plain twixt me and the Woolwich Barracks was a review when Prince Albert had taken the new Persian Ambassador, and the Prince of Prussia, to look at some thousands of the most worthless and stupid and expensive of her Majesty's subjects. Large commons are lying waste here too, as all about London, of fine land. The side of Shooters hill is covered with Furze which is "getting glorious" with its over green and ~~open~~ now opening profusion of gold. The Tree with purple flower is Almond, a Pink about the size our peach trees, now in full bloom, Single flowers looking in all respects so like our Peach I mistook it for the same to day, though not so fine & bright. They have a red flowering currant common here. Orchards are changed in colour by swollen buds, nearly open. In a garden I saw fine large currant bushes trim'd as hard as grape vines are, not yet leaved though, quite. Gooseberries in small leaf but not so forward as I have seen them at this season at Peau Dale. English Thorns have some very small leaves in sheltered places. Elders are in their foliage — Lilacs not quite open buds, and Horse Chestnuts just

behind them. Daffodils are in flower, so are Dandelions, on the sunny banks, I also saw on the deep cutting of the rail road a yellow flower in great profusion on upright stems (singly) 6 inches high that look like gold cups but I could find none on my walk to examine. I walked over a common to Woolwich, and took steamer to Blackwall thence by Omnibus home. The 2d class cars which I tried to day, I find uncomfortable, as compared with those of the North, and the 3d class appear to be ~~very~~ not much better than our Jim Crow, except they are bright coloured enough. The passengers in them were no apparently so objectionable as I have very often seen in our first class. The World seems agreed that Doctor Kane shall be a great man. He is much regretted here. I went to the meeting of the Royal Society this evening, very much like that of the Academy of Natural science in Philade, excepting the apartments here are princely - & hung with many fine Portraits among which is Franklin, at the Royal institution Thompson, Count Rumford, was pointed out to me as an American. We had tea and bread & butter served, after the meeting which held an hour. Not over 25 people attended. About 50 wax candles (or Sperm) were burning, the Inkstands de of solid gold, with a man of same metal, half big enough for a Dove cot if the handle were only stuck in the ground, lay on a plush cushion on the table before the president, who I thought will nigh fell asleep, while some one paper was being read where a proposition something like this, made it appear as clearly as possible that $x^2 \times \sqrt{ab} + \frac{cd}{2} \times a^2 - b^2 = y$, and why not? let any one dare to say, and I

will add, wherefore to boot. I feel like a fool when I think how clear these, to me, abstruse things are to others. A very learned paper was read upon Silicates. I saw this morning diamonds reduced to charcoal by Faraday said to require far greater heat than ignition. ~~"Mann Holyman" is a ship Master in Blackwall close by him are Nixon, an Optician~~

"Mann Holyman" is a Naughtycal (Nautical) instrument maker in Black Wall, and close by him is "Nixon" (Nickson?) Optician, also "Mr. Boxall" also a Mr Lewkin, who is perhaps related to "Mr Goodenough Hayter M.P." By the way the liberals are gaining ground in the new election here, they say. I was surprised to see shaving is done for ½ d and hair cut for 1 d. and they say very well too. for common people. The little street shoe cleaners, who do the work very nicely, and often on boots that do not get it every day, charge but ½ d, I hear. As a rule, people here have their shoes polished very often, even of the lower classes.

I am going out to Mr Jackson to day for probably a week. My kind regards to Mr Peace and Doctor & Charlie, also to the Whites in Arch St and Miss White. The Payes also whom I hope to see in France before long. If Charles Richard Weld (Royal Society) should happen to come along any of our family will find him a most kindly agreeable gentleman

Yesterday a gale of wind blew away some of the fog and clouds, but they are in their usual force to day, ~~but~~ Very little rain has fallen in 3 months January I mark with 8 days only on which I saw rain (if I see 20 drops I call it rain)

February 24 days no rain or snow

March 16 " " "

During these 3 months I have scarcely gotten my hat wet, though I use no umbrella & have not dodged

a drop. Yr affectionate Brother Jos
Remembrance to all at Mr Randolphs, Mr & Mrs Foulke and the Powels.
Please envelope note to Mr Capron & forward it