

Frederick Douglass to Hugh Auld

Rochester, New York, 4 October 1957.

Manuscript letter, 1 page.

Rochester Oct. 4th (1857)

Hugh Auld Esq,

My dear sir.

My heart tells me that you are too noble to treat with indifference the request I am about to make, It is twenty years since I ranaway from you, or rather not from you but from slavery, and since then I have often felt a strong desire to hold a little correspondence with you and to learn something of the position and prospects of your dear children – They were dear to me – and are still – indeed I feel nothing but kindness for you all – I love you, but hate slavery, Now my dear sir, will you favor me by dropping me a line, telling me in what year I came to live with you in Aliceanna st the year the Frigate was built by Mr. Beacham – The information is not for publication – and shall not be published We are all hastening where all distinctions are ended, kindness to the humblest will not be unrewarded Perhaps you have heard that I have seen Miss Amanda that was, Mrs Sears that is, and was treated kindly such is the fact, Gladly would I see you and Mrs. Auld – or Miss Sopha as I used to call her.

I could have lived with you during life in freedom though I ranaway from you so uncerimoniously, I did not know how soon I might be sold. But I hate to talk about that. A line from you will find me Addressed Fred^k Douglass Rochester N.York. I am dear sir very truly yours. Fred. Douglass