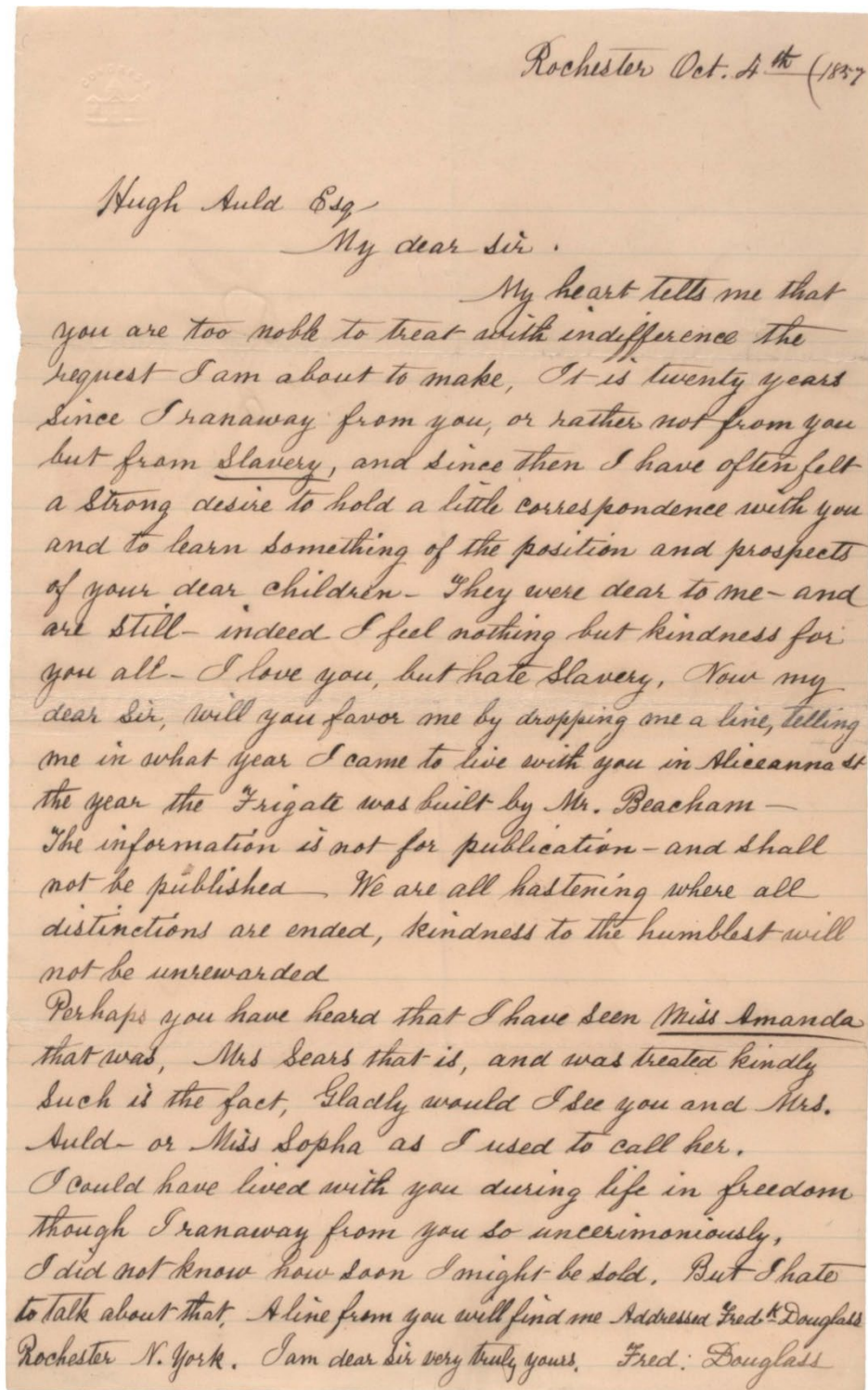


"I love you but hate slavery": Frederick Douglass to His  
Former Owner, Hugh Auld, October 4, 1857

Image



Rochester Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> (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 ran away 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 Micanna at 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 Beacham - The information is not for publication - and shall not be published.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 Sophia as I used to call her. I could have lived with you during life in freedom though I ran away 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<sup>d</sup>: Douglass Rochester N. York. I am dear Sir very truly yours, Fred: Douglass

Frederick Douglass to Hugh Auld, October 4, 1857.

(The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History Collection, GLC07484.06)

“I love you but hate slavery”: Frederick Douglass to His  
Former Owner, Hugh Auld, October 4, 1857

**Transcript**

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[draft]

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