

1 of the Liverpoolians, and they may well be proud of them, and particularly their graving docks  
2 where the largest class vessels are in a few hours left high and dry for repairs or examination.  
3 The St. Georges Hall is a splendid building with faultless classic architecture. The Town Hall of  
4 Palladian-Italian, surmounted by a well proportioned dome. In the hasty glance I gave this city,  
5 I saw nothing very remarkable in its architecture except the extraordinary solidity of all their  
6 works.

7 June 16th. Left Liverpool and arrived in London at dark. Drove to the Langham Hotel. Found it  
8 full. Found our way to a boarding house recommended by our coachman. After breakfast the  
9 next morning, Mrs. Van and I took a cab and started to find permanent quarters as we did not  
10 like our present place. Found pleasant rooms at Mrs. Wrights No 15 upper Woburn Place and  
11 forthwith made it our home. The west end of London where we are located seems to be the  
12 modern part of the city, laid out with innumerable little parks filled with beds of flowers, kept in  
13 most perfect order. Many of these parks are not open to the public, but houses fronting the  
14 parks have keys to the gates and are great places of resort for the little folks with their nurses.  
15 Spent this day in walking around in the neighborhood of our boarding house.

16 18<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Van and the girls out shopping. I got measured for a suit of clothes. Selected coarse  
17 black & white mixed. I expect to make a comical appearance. Extended our walks down  
18 Regent St. Saw many beautiful business houses, but the dwellings generally make no  
19 pretensions to architectural beauty. In fact the great majority of the houses look like poorly  
20 lighted mills or factories. Many of the front doors have some slight attempt at style, the  
21 windows without caps, a simple square hole in the wall. A plain coping on top of wall without  
22 any cornice whatever.

23 19<sup>th</sup>. Visited St. Pauls Cathedral. I found it all that was ever claimed for it. First walked entirely  
24 around it. The space around the building is so narrow that a proper perspective view cannot be  
25 obtained of this wonderful structure. What a pity that it does not stand in some wide park,  
26 away from the smoke and dust of the city, as it is difficult to say whether it is of white or  
27 chocolate colored marble. It is so everlasting dingy that it looks twice as old as it really is, but  
28 this has nothing to do with its beautiful proportions which would gladden the heart of any  
29 architect, not wholly given up to florid gimcrackery, of which there is nothing on all this great  
30 building. The interior is in perfect keeping with its exterior, perfectly simple, yet so beautiful.  
31 (They are engaged however in spoiling it inside by covering all the moldings & foliage with gold  
32 leaf which I look upon as an abomination anywhere except upon a weather cock.) In the crypt is  
33 Wellingtons Monument and funeral car, both very magnificent. Sir Christopher Wrens tomb,  
34 the inscription on this tomb "For his Monument, look around you." The whispering gallery is at  
35 the base of the inner dome. The slightest whisper with the face turned to the wall is very  
36 distinctly heard at the opposite side of the gallery. As we were leaving the gallery, Martha  
37 noticed a young man at the opposite side with his hat on. She thought she would try the effect  
38 of a loud whisper, putting her face to the wall said "take off your hat sir." The young man  
39 jerked off his hat and looked around in confusion to see who had spoken to him, and noticing