

you again. Always Dear Mr. & Mrs. Mason.  
Am I yours faithfully  
Mary Mason

An Englishman of position & influence  
(who has been Member of Parliament  
for many years from Cambridge) told  
me some few weeks since - that he had  
"seen & read Porter's pamphlet."  
that Col. L. had assiduously distributed  
it to all the British Legation at  
Madrid - openly confessing it as his  
own production." Mr. Muir (the  
British Consul at San Pedro) was  
here yesterday & said that "if the U.S.  
flag could only be supported in F.O.  
many persons here (who are obliged to  
keep silence) would flock to its defence  
& express their Union sympathies."

Say nothing of my opinions, please. &  
I don't care to have one property  
confiscated. & a Union sentiment is our  
deemed cause for every kind of violence  
with our Confederate friends. If we  
cannot see the end of present difficulties  
I hope to induce my husband to leave  
our interests across seas - & he has  
already promised me a home in either  
England or France. But - for the moment -  
planters must keep silence as regards  
Union feelings. No man wishes to  
be robbed of all he possesses - nor  
to enrich a detested Government. I

may possibly go South next year.  
(As I cannot bear the idea of hearing  
nothing from my husband during the  
winter months.) But - imagine that it  
would be quite impossible to travel  
by way of the West. If I should go  
through Ky, however - my stop in  
Lexington for a few hours - to say  
"hello" to Mrs Duncan & place.  
My plans are most uncertain.

I much fear that by January  
the war will be at its height, &  
"crossing the lines" quite out of the  
question - I saw Mrs Guthrie today.  
& she is extremely feeble & delicate.  
I should not be surprised at any moment

to hear of her decease. for - at  
her advanced age - paralysis is but  
the beginning of the end. Show  
you a grave & dingy edition of  
my interesting self. But - the features  
are all correctly rendered. & - save for  
the too serious expression - the likeness  
is very tolerable. If you have a  
pasteboard resemblance of your own  
Rind face - may I beg it from  
you? also one of your son? Give  
my kindest regards to Mrs Duncan  
& your family. & when leisure  
permits - pray let me hear from