

Dear Father
April 12th 1844

Embrace the present opportunity of addressing you as I expect it will be the last this side of the commencement of the rains, and being from persons in this place during that season is very uncertain. I am happy to say we are at present both of us free from sickness, tho very weak from what is here called a very slight attack of fever. On the 8th I had been engaged all the morning in the till about 2 o'clock I then went into the House and had not been in 5 minutes before I was taken sick, & tho I had not the fever above 4 or 5 hours yet its violence was such that it has left me very weak indeed and the weakness still continues. B. G. has not had the fever but has suffered much from cold & is at present not very strong. But we hope this will very respect be for our good. As it respects our health in the present sickness there is no unreasonable to him, as people who have slight attacks at their first coming out really do better when the fever becomes more severe. And it respects our soul, here I trust it will be of great good as it teaches us the necessity of living in a prepared state to die. Thank God when I felt the fever burning rage & the dreadful thirst which accompanied it, yet in that hour I felt sweet Peace and an overflowing sense of the divine presence, and could feelingly say "Father thy will be done." We have nearly got every thing ready for our school at Congo Town (where as I mentioned in my last we have a Chapel building which we intend keeping in our own but till the Chapel is finished. Here we mean to reside alternately 2 or 3 days a week as we wish to pay as much attention to this school as we can we intend going over to Monrovia to take down the names of the children and make a beginning. The 50th Anniversary which you gave us leave to draw for female schools has been for the first year) applied by Mr. Benson (as he will inform you) towards the erection of the Chapel at Congo Town as this will be the school house. But it is my intention to send in a petition to the Governor to grant us a waste spot of land which lays between our garden fence and the street which if we obtain as I doubt not but we shall it will be of great service to us in 2 respects. 1st It will bring our premises forward to the street and thus prevent any one from getting this waste spot and building houses or other structures which would be greatly to the disadvantage of our premises which is now increasing in value every year. 2nd Hence we can erect a