

Miss Deborah Weston.

Copied by
R. G. S. V.
Nov 1850
Letter of A. S. L.

Ms. A. 9. 2. 25, 37

Boston. Nov 25 1850

Very Dear Friend,

No one but David is aware of my intention of writing to you & I know you will excuse what I do write inasmuch as I believe in Magnanimity sufficiently to think that you will feel that all which I shall say proceeds from the most sincere personal regard on my part. I will give you a little account of the day's experience that you may the better understand that if I am full of what you may think a foolish grief & anxiety I am not alone in it. After dinner I called at the office & saw Garrison. After other matters were had been discussed the conversation naturally fell upon you. I saw plainly enough that Garrison was hurt & wounded by the course you had taken with regard to the Chro. type. I asked why he did not say this to you frankly & he said he felt delicate in saying what he felt on this subject, that he was so personally involved it would not be pleasant to do so. ^{He} Garrison then expressed

himself in the strongest terms as to the extreme
amissness of your character & temper & finally
seemed to proceed in convincing himself that
it was a trait of English character never to feel
such a disapprobation of any body's course or
conduct ^{as to} ~~excite~~ us to suppose it to affect one's private
relations at all.

I then proceeded to Channing, Mr. when Wendell
came in a few minutes & expressed himself
happy to meet ~~me~~ ^{me} as he wished to tell me
about your May 1st arrangements. He appeared
troubled & unignave, did not sit down, but after
he had finished his business said "You shall soon open
his Sunday in writing me his speech for the Chronicle
We had ^{now} had a reporter to furnish it verbatim for
the Liberator but he was ^{now} hardly willing to look
it over. He was evidently ^{alleging that he had already written to us for the Chronicle} feeling a great deal
He could not feel more than I did, but
I as I did not wish even Miss Chapman's attention
to our conversation I merely said "he does not under-
stand the state of things" & changed the conversation
& he went. The enclosed letter from E. L. was left
at B. Place for me. I kept the contents of these
to myself & came back to Poplar St. mood
thoroughly unimpaired. Garrison drank tea
here & we soon as he was gone I felt so impelled
to write you a few words that ^{the feeling} ~~it~~ became what
the Quakers would call designate "a call"
My dear friend, what can be your motive in

permitting me such a course with regard to
Mr. Clayton Wright as however you may mean it
is understood by all claps friends & foes as a
manifestation of his ^{in some sense} own language & conduct.
You may say that in your eyes it is no
manifestation at all. If you wound the
feelings of your dearest friends, if people who
have loved & honored you in no common
measure feel chilled & repelled by you forced
on it seems to me a small sacrifice
that of causing to make the Chronotype
your organ. You have expressed respect for
the character & regard for the ^{opinions} persons of
such people as Garrison, Phillips, Loring &
Maria Chapman. They have been dealing
with the spirit of new organization 10 or 15 years
& may ^{be} supposed to understand
the ^{its spirit} ^{management} better than you absent from the
country so many years can do. If they regard
this condemnation on your part of C. Wright as
help & comfort to the extent why can you
not abandon it, see it be in deference
to their feelings & opinion? It cannot be a
matter of principle with you to present
yourself before the A. S. public in a position
that all the friends of the organization I
positively ^{respect} know with as a virtual abandon-
ment of Wright.

You know the love & respect that Garrison
bears you better than I can do. Wendell & I
were not personally sure to go but were
prepared to meet you with the ^{most cordial} ~~cordial~~ friend-
ship. Their anxiety that your visit should be
pleasant successful, triumphant has been
very great. I must confess I never esteemed
Wendell so much as when I saw his earnest
how ardently he seemed to desire that no
opportunity should be omitted by which the
your ~~billions~~ ^{in the offering of} broadest field might
be obtained for your great power as a
public speaker. He has been the favorite
man of the cause, but has never appeared
to know an unworthy estimate of
the greater prestige surrounding your
name. The sole denial of the Mass Board is
your glory & success, & had you literally
thrown a pair of cold water in the face
of us all we could not have been more
as punished than by this easy way in
which you put yourself on terms with a
man whose constant shew of us used to be
not even ^{been} considered in gentle manlike &
his own language.

Many people kindly disposed
to Wright, not knowing or caring much

about Abolition, were astonished & dis-
pleased at ~~the~~^{my} bare attack on Sumner
& Garrison & will be thoroughly surprised
that your speaker should continue to appear
there.

I know you noble & magnanimous nature
& therefore I will not make an appeal to
mere worldly notions & maxims. Were I willing
to do so I ~~would~~^{should} point out that the Chronotype
is a ~~very~~^{vulgar} paper, full of slanders & folly, &
one with which I should not as a gentleman
merely, wish my name connected.

Want of taste & want of manner & power
are too bad to associate when joined with
moral worth, but I conceive them no
claim to regard in & by themselves. I
am truly sorry for Mr Wright if he is poor
but cannot wish any better fate for him
as an Editor than those which you desire
for other profligate Editors that he may
be starved out. He only wishes you speak
as means to make money & would write
as readily against you as for you "for a
consideration."

I am sorry to write any thing that
you will not agree ^{with} to appear in your
eyes prejudiced or narrow or envenomed, but
I know that in this case I am not so, & there

I am influenced by nothing but an ^{entire} disinter-
ested regard. I know in ~~deed~~ ^{on your arrival in the event} that you could
hardly have remembered more of me than my
name & that you know too little of me now & are
~~too full of other persons~~ than as the friend of a
few hurried & busy weeks ^{remembered}.
in time to come, I shall be at the best
but in the pleasure & acquaintance of a
few months. But my sense of your great
~~addition to the world & exultation~~ ^{great gifts & exultation} has been
~~so great~~ ^{so great} that I have
pursued your career for many years with
the liveliest interest & it would pain me
very deeply to be disappointed now.

Believe me your very faithful &
affectionate friend Anne Weston