

trouble to answer the following questions.

- 1) Has the Liberty movement on the whole increased or diminished the amount of interest, reading & discussion in your State on the subject of Slavery & Emancipation?
- 2) Has it lead any ministers, as far as you know, to observe a studied silence <sup>on</sup> the subject of Slavery, who formerly had been accustomed <sup>faithfully</sup> to rebuke Slavery from the pulpit? in other words, has it "tied the hands of any of the ministry"?
- 3) Has it had an influence to ~~decrease~~ increase or diminish Church action <sup>on</sup> the subject of Slavery?
- 4) Has it had the effect to throw the community into a more friendly, or hostile, attitude towards the abolitionists?
- 5) Have you reason to believe that, you possess <sup>more, or less,</sup> influence over the two pro-slavery Societies than you at might have done on the principle of scattering your votes?
- 6) Do your agents find it more, or less, difficult now than formerly to obtain suitable places in which to lecture?

By giving your opinions ~~on~~ to me in writing on the above subjects & questions you will confer a favor of whom the good cause in Crown & greatly oblige

Give my respects to your ~~your~~ family & tell <sup>young</sup> son that I remember him.

your friend & Brother

Isabod Coddery.

P.S. Please state how many good friends of the Anti Slavery cause were thrown off in consequence of your Society's identifying itself with the Liberty cause? Over

J. Codding, Meriden, Ct.

Winsted April 19<sup>th</sup> 1842

April 19. 1842.

Bro Phelps,

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I drop you a line at this time for the purpose of getting your opinion of the Liberty movement & your advice what to do in our circumstances in Conn. Resolutions are an record, passed by the abolitionists of our State, some two or three years ago, strongly condemning the organization of an anti Slavery Party. Our Society, as such, has never been committed to the movement, tho a large proportion of the active & intelligent abolitionists of the State are liberty men & feel that our agents ought to be allowed in official capacity to advocate the Liberty movement & that our papers should take high ground on that subject. On the other hand we have a large number who profess to be abolitionists, who are opposed to this course some of these are true hearted abolitionists, & weaned from their parties. Such men as William Norton & a few such, like tho the mass of this class are very much attached to their old pro-slavery parties. Now what shall we do? undertake to sustain two sets of instrumentalities - or put our Soc. in such a shape that its paper shall advocate the policy of the & the Liberty Party, & also its agents? The question will also come up shall we make the Charter Oak a weekly paper? These questions will be discussed at our next annual meeting & I am anxious to get your opinion & the reasons for it on all these subjects & will you also be at the