

Groton April 4. 1842.

Dear Anne

Your must have heard before this of
the termination of my law case - damages \$150 -
& costs \$500, or 600 - We shall have a hearing before the
whole Bench, as it is doubtful whether they Judge
instructed the jury right. I never had any faith
in judicial proceedings, & I shall have less confidence
in them hereafter. Seeing, as I have ~~seen~~, men swearing
to what they know to be false, & a corrupt lawyer
putting up witnesses to swear to that which he knows
is wholly untrue, merely to enable him to get
a fee, & they to gratify their malignity, surely
has no tendency to begot respect for legal measures.
Our criminal trial comes on in June, when we
shall be again at the mercy of our enemies, &
a jury, nine tenths of whom are prejudiced against
abolitionists. So the world goes. By taking Bancroft
& myself together, I shall be compelled to pay the
whole fine, costs, Lawyers & all, for B has got
nothing to pay with. "Blessed be nothing,"

I have just received a circular from Collins
calling on every body to go to N York. Shall
you go? I shall not. I settled that matter
a year ago, & hope for grace sufficient to carry it out.

The determination

The temptation is greater to change as the time draws near. When we see others beginning to move, there is a strong inclination to move with them. I should like to see again the "big ship," freighted with abolitionists, plunging its way through the Sound, & landing its valuable cargo at the wharves in New York. But, taken as a whole, the journey is a tedious one. I had rather journey with less numbers, & take my own time for every thing. The hurley burley of getting to New York & back, the bad feeding & worse lodging while there, & the numerous petty disquiets to which one must be subjected, more than balances my enjoyment that otherwise might have been expected. I tripped it with Collyer & Remond to Albany the other day. Of their polite reception by the Abolitionists you have doubtless heard. We were in no little danger of being lynched - the Irish soldiers at least were in danger. I quit the next morning, via the R.R. road, & next day Remond came by the way of New York, & through Vermont. Stanton, Pritchard, Brown, & others, were filled with all anxiety. The bare remembrance of A. C. G. will set them foaming like mad dogs. I do not think their success equals their expectations, for, if it did, they would not be so sour. People are generally very good natured so long as things go to please them. I would advise all who go west to be sure to go well armed. G. W. Smith behaved well while I was there, but the next day was as bad as any of them.

So says Remond.

We had an excellent meeting at Lexington on the 26th
audience small, but of the right sort. Garrison went
for dissolution. To some present it was startling.
Some opposed, some in favor of the measure. As it
regards myself, I think it is full early to commit
the cause on that measure. It is well to debate
it in town & county societies. Let there be a full &
free discussion, & at the proper time (some time
hence) let the State & National Societies take
up the matter. But it is premature for the
National Society ^{now} to act upon it. But I have no
doubt it will be acted upon, & the Society
committed at this very annual meeting at
New York. Garrison went so far as to say (at
Lexington) that it was to be "the test of a man's
abolition." How long is it since he objected
to any new test. He must take that back,
or the Philistines will be upon him.

Foster stop'd here Friday night on his return from
a tour into N. H. & Vermont. He has been very successful
in getting subscribers for the A. S. Standard, & some
for the Liberator. But he says that the Herald
of Freedom is no go. can't get it off at any rate.
Every body is afraid of it. I am sorry, for I
think it a good paper, & hope it will be sustained.
Garrison is somewhat alarmed at the erratic
movements of Rogers, & in turn he is troubled
by the holding back of G. Affect A. Farnsworth

Mary sends love - Give my regards to your friends.

MEMBER
THEM THAT ARE
IN BOND AS
BOUND
WITH THEM.
Feb. 23. 3.



Paid
A. F.

PAID
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Miss. Anne W. Weston

Weymouth

Mass 113

St. James
May 1842

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