

Groton 30. Aug. 1838.

Dear Anne.

Your letter of the 18th found me at
Littleton. I have distributed all the circulars you
sent me which were addressed, except the one for Bedford,
& that I shall have undoubtedly an opportunity of soon
forwarding. It is rather late to write about our quarterly
meeting, & the more so, as you will have seen what we
did in this weeks Liberator before this reaches you.
But it was such a good one, I must speak of it. It
held on two days, which was an innovation upon estab-
lished usage. We had a very good supply of speakers, tho'
Stanton did not come. By the way, if I ever place the
least dependence on Stanton's word, may my right hand
forget its cunning. He has deceived me once too many.
He pledged himself to attend that meeting over & over
again - nothing should prevent him. Accordingly I
gave it a very extensive circulation in all the towns in
this region. I stated it in I suppose twenty letters.
You will readily believe I was much provoked on
receiving an apologetical letter from him, informing me
that he was going to Concord. And I was still more
incensed on hearing that the very next day after
solemnly pledging himself to be at the Littleton
meeting, ^{of his} coolly debating whether he would go, or not!
Such effrontery is insufferable, unpardonable.
But I have wasted more ink about the worthless
creature than he is worth. Give me the man whose
character is in other respects, as black as the sides of the
bottomless pit, rather than one who utterly disregards his own promises.

I must direct this to Boston - preserving
in the impossibility of your keeping from it long.

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such a man cannot be a good man. He wants the stratum
the first foundation stone, on which rests a good character.
But I'll say more. -

We were not so happy as to be without any "peelers". Woodbury
& Wilder were there, & I am sorry to say that Burrup's exhibiting
more prejudice than I wish he did. The 12 abolitionists (if they are
published in the order in which I sent them) is Woodbury's, & was
introduced for an opportunity to talk about many things. It
brought up the woman question which he dwelt on some time, &
talked hard about Garrison. Johnson defended women's rights fully.
Indeed, W. was very willing to draw off from the battle field.

The second day we had a large audience. Rev. Horace Moulton, now
preaching at Marlboro', of the Methodist persuasion, was for many
years an overseer of slaves in Georgia & S. Carolina. He gave a
detailed account of their treatment, which excited an intense
interest in the audience. He declared that abolitionists had
not yet begun to tell the story of the slaves' sufferings. Audience
& the speakers seemed to have taken fire. The tongue was loosed,
indignation thundered & lightened, & wit sparkled. I never attend
-ed a meeting where the interest was kept up better. Johnson
did us good service - he addresses an audience better than
he used to do. St. Clair did well, though he confessed, in
reply to Woodbury, that Garrison had often done a very wrong,
to have would dispute the truth of that declaration, but I
thought he was not called upon to make it at that time
& place. When every cur is barking, I do not like to see a
dog of any pretensions to good manners join the chase. We
had a very odd speech from a Mr. Bradford, at present
the preceptor of Westford Academy. He was recently,
& I learn, from Barbours. You may know something of him.
His manner was that of a maniac. His extemporaneous
was very violent, he foamed at the mouth, & moved
like a mad man. I saw him a few days afterwards. He
appeared as different as possible, very gentlemanly, & I am told
he is a thorough scholar. You think of those present, I have
no doubt believed him to be denuded. A. Farnsworth

not at all known