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Rev. A. A. Phelps

Boston

Massachusetts

Wm. Lloyd Garrison

MS.A.21.11.50

Do Mr. Emig & his friends really believe,
as their language represents, that the abolitionists,
who vote will generally, very almost universally, give
sustaining votes? I am confident - that 19/20
of the abolitionists of this State who ^{shall} vote
on abolition principles, will vote for Mr.
Binney. I should think that ~~Mr. E.~~ & his friends
would be very much disappointed & chagrined
if more than half of those who in all the
free States, shall at the coming election
cast their votes on abolition principles,
shall be found voting for Binney. I believe
that more than $\frac{3}{4}$ - yes more than $\frac{7}{8}$ will
be found doing so.

Wm. F. F. F.
J. P. F. F.
F. F. F.

The addition of a new National Society does,
in my judgment, but tend to aggravate the
ills under which we are now
suffering. The two Organizations will extend
"the Department to ground" on all the
free States, as you two State organizations
have spread the national scope of abolitionists
all over your State.

Why not drop Antislavery Organizations
entirely? Let Conventions of abolitionists take the
place of meetings of Antislavery Societies. Conventions
might be called to discuss questions of abolition
more especially political action - and Conventions
might be called for papers & conference on
various subjects. You heavily sick of Anti-
slavery Organizations.

By the way I have just seen that
a National Temperance Convention is to
be held at Saratoga Springs in August. You
know that Saratoga is full of Southern
people at that season. Why would it
not be well to have a great meeting
of Abolitionists at the same place to begin
say a couple of days before the Temperance
meeting begins - or a couple of days after.
Think of this.

Gerrit Smith

Petersburg May 22 1840

Rev. A. A. Phelps

My dear brother

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I take the liberty of enclosing to you a reply to a very disingenuous attack made upon me by W. Garrison in a late No. of the Liberator. Will you do me the favor to hand it in at the Office of the Liberator, & to request its speedy publication? I send the reply to yourself rather than to Dr. Garrison, because I suppose, from what I have just heard, that he has said for my sake he is certainly a strange man.

I have not recently returned from an excursion to the West - undertaken chiefly for the improvement of my health, which I am happy to be able to say is greatly improved. [I learn that the Bowling Meetings of the Am. Antislavery Society were about as dignified & interesting as they were a year ago. I learn too that a new organization was got up. For this I am sorry.] It had seemed very clear ^{to me} for a month or two before the late Bowling Meeting, that, unless the abolitionists should come together to that Meeting, in a spirit of justice kindness & peace toward one another the disputation of the Am. Antislavery would be altogether expedient?