

Bristol. Nov. 30 - 1854.

Dearest Annie,

You may perhaps have already received
Unpacked Mrs. Hoopes' Box of articles for
the Fair, if not you will do so very shortly;
Among them you will find two knitted
table covers that I was unable to ^{set} finished
in time for the Bristol box. Probably your
Scotch contributors may have furnished
you with ^{superior} specimens of the same manufacture
but, as they are of rather recent introduction
here, I thought they might be a sufficient
novelty with you to make people wish to equip
themselves with the wonderful balls of worsted
that develop such gay groups of flowers by
means of straightforward knitting. So I have
sent two of the balls, & the proper eyed knitting
pins, & if there is much demand for them
you must let us know, that we may invest
money donations for the Fair in them next
year - that is of course if they bring in sufficient
profit to make it a wise outlay. This is
all my business except for writing to you now

just as your busiest time is coming
but I must add a suggestion that has
several times occurred to me to make; - that
you or Mr May would ^{immediately} on the receipt of
the Bazaar boxes send a few lines of acknow-
ledgements to the "Advocate." It might ease
your writing separate letters while you are
in the thick of your labors, but in any
case it would go much further - letting a
great many more of the ^{British} contributors that
their donations had arrived, & stimulating
fresh hands to take up the work. Excuse
my officiousness, but you have often de-
sired me to tell you of anything likely to be
helpful to us in keeping up the annual
collections for the A. S. Bazaar, - a task
that falls pretty heavily on a select few.
Thrs Mr Steinthal I learn that I am
in disgrace with you for letting a por-
tion of one of your letters to me, (containing
intelligence not to be had in a sufficiently
small compass or descriptive form
from any printed source) be inserted

the Advocate, the name of the writer
being carefully suppressed. I am sorry
to have done what was contrary to
your wishes, & now I have been acquainted
with them. I will of course avoid a
similar offence. It certainly never
entered my head that you could object
to my giving Mr Webb the permission
he asked, of extracting from your nar-
-rative of a peculiarly interesting state
of things in Boston, such parts as he
thought suited to awaken sympathy
for the Cause amongst the readers of the
Advocate! I remember that the very
first letter I ever wrote to Mr Chapman
- which was a most uninforming, juvenile
effusion, was printed in full in the
Liberator & Standard, with my name
& ^{of some others - from Miss Carpenter, Miss Hilditch &c. Sunday}
& address, & when I ventured to express my
astonishment & dismay Mr C. seemed to
think me very fastidious, & said the Abolition
were then & there so accustomed to that sort of
notoriety they were willing to endure it when any good
was likely to result to the Cause that they were

unable to estimate properly the
English people might have to seeing or
named reproduced in print. So it was far
from my thoughts that you would be averse
to our availing ourselves of one of the few which
we possess for binding other hearts to your
cause by ^{sharing with} ~~reporting to~~ them some of the light
brought you impart to ^{ourselves.} ~~us.~~ I will however
take care that you have no ground to complain
of a similar offence in future, I would only
add that ^{as} if you deprive us of so important
a ~~tracts~~ resource for rendering the Advertiser
useful & attractive you will I trust feel in-
duced to supply it with the substitute of
original communications. You, who are
living in the midst of all the enactments & the
excitements ^{connected with} of the ~~British~~ ^{the} slavery, whose
eyes are ever fixed upon its atrocities, and who
are alive to all the requirements of Abolition,
are unconscious of the toilsome work it is
to us to press the question home to the hearts
& sympathies of our countrymen, ^{nearly all of} who have the
most notions about America - North & South
Free States, Slaves, Abolitionists &c. &c. It has
been solely from finding ^{that such ignorance} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~reading~~ ^a ~~pre~~
utter from the field of action often effected
hours of argument or statistical details

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by the Assoc. cat's help

feel to touch, that we have tried to reach
 a few who were out of hearing of our actual
 voices. If you knew the utter indifference
 of the readers after all as to the names of
 our informants, - how ^{for instance} people can ^{even} now
 recollect from one year to another to what
 address they are to send their contributions -
 you would not harrow yourself very much
 at the liberty Mr Webb and I have taken with
 your communications! I must, however,
 confess to the discovery that Mr W. is not
 always a judicious selector. He tells me
 he has defended himself against a volley
 of your wrath (which came to him thro' Mr
 Leinck, in connection with a similar liberty
 taken with one of your sister's letters,) by
 saying that he did the deed after consultation
with me. This was only so far the case as
 that I consented to his using ~~the~~ ^{other} informa-
 tion if he suppressed the names, & as he
 had his wife to take counsel with & spoke of
 having read the extracts to Mr Wigham (I
 think) it never occurred to me to request a
^{sup} inspection of the choice he had made
 before publication. When I saw how many

private details he had inserted I felt
a pang & inwardly resolved that it should
be the last time of my giving an ardent
friend carte blanche, but I did not tell him
so as the thing was just-real; & I have
not since undeceived him as to the measure
of my responsibility. Perhaps it is unhand-
some to say this to you, as I have not done
it to him, but my motive for abstaining
was only that he would fret over the thing,
blame to heart, especially the idea of my
not-reposing in his discretion. I know
how correct he is to go as far as, & no further
than, we think judicious, & how grieved
he would be to be considered to have trench-
ed upon private confidence. So please not to
disturb his serenity any further, you may
abuse me as ~~much~~ ^{long} as you can derive relief
to your aggrivated feelings by so doing. I am
seasoned to being blamed for acting according
to my "best-wisdom"; & I often ^{while} ~~do~~ more cer-
-sure than I receive for neglecting to use
due consideration in my proceedings. You
have had reports of us direct & indirect latterly;
& these I will not use up your time or my own
by repeating. My Father's state is satisfactory,

his is contented with tranquilly amusing
himself & does not struggle to shake off
inveterate habits. He has the advantage
of a country-house & a town one, & can
vibrate between them. The repose &
freedom, & lively companionship is all
in the country dwelling, however, so that
the scene of his forty years of a active ser-
vice is less frequented by him than the
temporary residence where he has no
associations with past interests & departed
pursuits.

It grieved us much to
hear of dear Miss Cabot's serious illness.
I trust she is restored to you, all & to our
beloved Mrs Tollen, who lives in the af-
fectionate memory of all, who had the
privilege of knowing her. I meant to
have written by this post a few lines of
thanks to Miss C. for her most welcome
& unexpected letter by Mr Channing. But
after receiving the tidings of her illness
I shrink from addressing her till we
have improved accounts. Will you tell
her so with my best love, & give Mrs Tollen
the same. Please when you see Mr Hoovey

to thank him for his message thro' Mr Pillsbury
& tell him I rejoiced over that letter of his
to Mr P. We are looking forward with
eagerness to another visit from Mr P., one
which will I trust leave behind pleasurable
recollections than he derived from his
former sojourn under our roof. His health
seems improved, but ^{it} fluctuates, & mental
causes influence it so seriously that I
cannot imagine his being equal to encounter
opposition, ^{any more than} or fatigue, for a long time to
come. It is striking to notice the change
of key in his different communications
to us, occasioned by the latest experience
that he has met with. Sometimes a man
development of sectarian anti-abolition
throws him into despair, & the next time he
writes he has regained his equanimity &
become almost sanguine, under the genial
atmosphere of some affectionate appreciative
domestic circle, but the worst of all is when
Mr Webb, or I, or any of his especial friends are
unfortunate enough to reply to some query of
his in terms which his lively imagination
can ~~take~~ any possibility construe into a dissent
from his views, & a consequent (?) censure of his
course! It would amuse us, if it were not an
indication of undue sensibility, & one which we
is attended with much suffering to him, to count the in-

intimate knowledge to contradict false statements, which are neither few nor far between, to keep alive an active interest, and be a medium of communication among the different Societies in gr. Britain - We have felt the great advantage of this since Mr. Pillsbury came, who though weak in health and old, what he calls up to ~~the~~ his work, has touched more hearts, and given more light than we can ever have the power of doing. If we could but keep him to scatter the seed broadcast over the land, and to wait to see the first green springing of it afterwards, a great work would be accomplished - but one feels doubtful as to urging the subject on him remembering his long absence from his home and family. When thanking him for something he had been doing the other day, he replied, "I can only think of myself as lying at anchor within sight of land for the last twelve months, I have been taking in all the beams, &c." as he said so I longed to ask him to step ashore and go on his way rejoicing, if not his own heart, at least ours - and were it not for his home ties, and the duties that call him there, I think he would be ready for the work, and find it worth his

doing - it is a comfort that he sees and
comprehends our necessities - It is most im-
portant for us to have an American author-
ity to refer to - I wish you could have been
present at the small but pleasant gathering
of A. S. friends here - The eager enquiries to what
score but an American could have given a
satisfactory answer - The light which a short
conversation shed over the circle, the strength
unity of their hands for the work before them,
the deep sympathy awakened for himself
and for you all coming out with fresh joy
each time they met; these are things worth
ministering to, and it is not confined to this
place - There are deserts now which might
be made to blossom as the rose, but we
must have American gardeners to dig up
the soil, and to train these flowers in their
early growth in a right direction - Under
these circumstances it is neither unrea-
sonal, and I hope not very selfish in a few
earnest spirits to wish that we could keep
Mr. Pillsbury through the summer, but our
lips are mute - tell us what we ought to
do. I cannot help hoping as he sees it so
strongly, that he will stay over the May
meetings - without him there will be no

swatther of the pro-slavery clergy at the
religious anniversaries, and this year pro-
bably their name will be legion on account
of the Paris Exhibition. - Neither can any one
be sure of what the Broad St. people may
be concocting for that time of lengthy speak-
ings and small doings, except in the way
of mischief we meet a sentiment to be at
his post, and none can be more true and
staunch than Mr. Pillsbury. - I am thankful
that I know him, though I have had that
pleasure only within the last three weeks
but I can echo H. Wright's words in his late
letter to him in "The Liberator" - "it is a great
thing to be an abolitionist" - with what heart
does it make us one - with what love and
reverence does it fill us for the seen, and
unseen, and with what faith, hope, and
charity. I feel that the cause of the slave
has done more for me, than I can ever do
for it - it has given me back from sorrow
to a higher life than I ever had before - but
I will not talk of myself. - You have heard
positively talk than ourselves from Paris
our last accounts from France were good,
all were well, and the same at Rome -
direct communications from the latter

place have not reached us. What a time
that is of Mr. Barker against Mr. Stinch-
the very man, who when he was speaking
at Manchester was stopped by the stamping
of feet and rattling of umbrellas and hooting
of a crowd of people - at the moment when his
voice was at its height, and not a word Mr.
B. uttered could be heard, when he stood alone
Mr. Stinchall sprung to his side, and ^{by} every
action encouraged him - he felt that freedom
was involved and hesitated not a moment, a
free soul than his cannot be well imagined
no one who claims it more for all - I know
that some people have shaken their heads and
condemned his fearlessness saying he had better
not have taken the course he did ^{at Manchester} - he did
it because he thought it right, and wherever
in his apprehension that leads him, there he
will go. I cannot imagine why Mr. Barker
should have made such an unjustifiable
an attack - but his assertions in many parts
of his letter are by no means what we should
call facts - What a contrast is Mr. Webb's letter
in the same paper. And now farewell
I should be almost ashamed of having written
you such a long letter, if you had not told me
some time ago through Nancy to write a few - ac-
cept it then as a good intention - We all unite
in kind love to you - I hope your brother's

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in which he jumps to the conclusion that
if we say "I don't think so, the thing strikes
me in a different light, there may be some
circumstances yet unexplained which would
modify your judgement" &c. &c. - we mean
to reproach him with having damaged
the Cause, become an unfair representative
of the Abolition, & all sorts of sins! Then he
begins to regret his ever having come to
England, determines never to speak another
word about the Cause, or its foes, or its
friends, - & ranks himself among the chief
of transgressors! Then we have to elaborate
& explain, & soothe, & pacify him till his
self-esteem is restored (to "pet & dandle
him" W. Webb calls it) ^{until} now we have
learnt to be extremely cautious how we
express ourselves, & to give forth our opinions
of his proceedings as sparingly as possible
the expletives "but" or "if" might stand a chance
of creeping in. I hope you will not
suppose I am laughing at our beloved friend
who becomes more beloved & more respected
the more we know him. I tell you of this
tendency he has to self-crimination & excessive
sensitivity that goes his friends may not
urge his returning to harness until he has
gained rest a greater chance of reinvigorating

& hardening his spirits. Please to let only Mr
 May & Mr Garrison, & anyone as intimate as
 they with dear Mr Pillsbury know what I have
 said about his somewhat morbid state of mind.
 When he is here I shall understand better what
 the state is transient or habitual, & will report
 whatever will serve for guidings; I feel very much
 drawn to his wife since he has over done his duty
 enough to read or show me some passages in her
 letters to him. They contain such unselfish sentiment
 blended with such true affection & earnestness of purpose

Miss A. M. Weston.



Miss Weston

Will you if you see Mr Pillsbury give her my kindest
 regards. She overestimates the advantage her husband
 has derived & can derive from proximity to her for
 our only meeting ^{in a low office} was not four days best. I paid
 to Belfast while he was staying there. The only thing
 I can do is to write him an encouraging word now & then
 insist upon his coming here if illness takes hold of him.
 Good bye, dearest Annie, there are so many things I
 want to write about that I enter upon none. But
 remain your ever affectionate friend. Mary Weston
 with you remember us office to C. W. & W. Phillips & our other friends

Ms. A. 9. 2. 28. 33