

Park St. May 28. 1852.

Dearest Miss Weston,

You are indeed a model of forbearance & indul-  
gence, & had I been guilty of any wilful negligence  
I sh<sup>d</sup> be utterly melted by the coils of fire you have  
heaped on my undeviating head. But as nothing but  
the force of circumstances has caused my reluctance,  
believe me, I am simply full of gratitude for your two last  
affectionate letters, & trust that a few lines of ex-  
planation will suffice to make your patience  
hold out till I can give some greater token than mere  
assertions that you are at least as much <sup>as</sup> when we  
were under the same roof a part & parcel of my mental  
furniture. In fact I am often surprised by sudden  
yearnings coming over me (connected perceptibly with  
nothing in my thoughts or deeds) to have you close at  
hand to love & fondle, sensations that I used to be prone  
to in childhood, but which for want of scope for their  
exercise have become nearly extinct of late years. I  
think it <sup>much</sup> comes from not having had a fair share of  
you to myself when you were here, for I was not  
conscious at that time of your standing out in the foreground  
in the midst of the universal love awakened by your  
group. However I won't stay to account for the revival  
of the childish weakness, there it is, & you must be-  
lieve, even when all connecting links seem severed,  
that there is a sense in which we are together. You  
would pity but scold us I know if you could but see what  
an unintermitting tide of anti-slavery work we  
have to stand against, & how often we are on the  
point of being swallowed up by a sudden avalanche  
in addition. We really must both have grown worn

dreadfully strong, to have only occasional temporary ailments & no serious illness all the winter, I never remember such a long period of freedom or a time when I could stagger up again so speedily after a transient break down, & go on as before. You will believe I am very grateful, & very free from anxiety to see my Father able to go about & do so many things, of so many kinds for so many people, as has been his mission ever since you saw him. None of our anti-slavery work seems self-imposed or invited; it comes no less violent, & there is no escape, no running away, for it would only accumulate, & as the house is already choked up, we sh<sup>d</sup>. in case of once emerging find re-entrance impracticable. From this <sup>explanation</sup> you see there is no virtue in our working hard; ~~hard~~ it is the labor of Sisyphus at least it is a perpetual rolling the stone up a very steep hill without ever coming to a ledge where we may pause to take breath. But I believe <sup>we</sup> have never retrograded, & tho' the ascent is very slow, for want of stronger propelling powers, it is very sure. I sometimes am half amused, but most frequently appalled, at finding that my perpetual linking together of all sorts of disjointed & dissimilar members is indispensable to the working of the machinery, & that any omission would break the connection & impede or discontinue the course. & that if anything is to be done by recent openings for disentangling the cause from the all pervading closely woven web of new organization which had nearly suffocated it all over this land it must be by means of this vigilance, direct & adaptation of appliances; & that this one house in Bristol has to do everything in this line that is done, & that we have to keep grasping one & another of these various tapering points of union to prevent the branches being scattered irrecoverably. This gives a good deal of thinking work, from the compilation of that "Counter statement" pamphlet (w<sup>ch</sup> I am amused to

find you estimate so highly, for the tenor of your  
arguments led me to imagine you would consider  
it the idlish waste of time to put the truth before  
people who did not intuitively perceive that  
Campbell & Co. were telling falsehoods, & I had intrusted  
Mr Webb with to trouble you with a specimen of  
that department of our action; (from the arranging  
& comparing of this & Mr Webb's Tappan affair -  
(the needed documents for it were in my keeping  
& the needed matter falling so much more under  
my sphere of observation than his that I had to  
tease him with perpetual suggestions w<sup>ch</sup> he  
patiently embodied,) down to the sending out  
of Bazaar Gazettes & Liberty Bells, circulating  
the said pamphlets & Mr Leacey's invaluable  
addition, <sup>in every</sup> <sup>respective</sup> <sup>town</sup> <sup>in</sup>  
<sup>(making due arrangements that they should appear to emanate from the</sup>  
fisted with Broad St. customers; doing the  
same thing with the Matthews & Scoble Con-  
troversy, <sup>Also composing</sup> <sup>preparing</sup> <sup>disseminating</sup> our ministerial  
Appeal & statistics, (which has gone to about  
400 clergymen) <sup>concocting</sup> ~~composing~~ the notes to be officially  
sent with them to various associations, &  
writing all sorts of things to all sorts of presidents  
& Secretaries of Associations in Miss Tribe's  
name, & in addition doing all the local business  
of our pretentious Society! You will fancy  
from this outline that it has been no holiday time,  
if I could fill up the picture with all the huntings,  
over lists of subscribers, Baptist ministers, & Independent  
& Unions, & Meetings, & all the rewritings & dove-

tailings of disjointed manuscripts, all the pre-  
correctings, references, extracts, &c. all the ~~letter~~  
correspondence - (there are 72 letters on my list  
for last month, I know) if you did but watch the  
things in their course you wd not wonder that  
I have been obliged (for the time being) to resign private  
friendships & any sort of general social intercourse  
& keep steadily on, bearing the reproaches of friends  
near & at a distance, who all presume they  
are forgotten, & even the grumbling of your dear  
Anne who certainly has been too generous to me  
to deserve neglect. Had you been in this country  
so that I cd have profited by your counsel, you  
wd have been tormented often enough with my  
hard writing during this long interval of silence.  
Each department of your labor too has had to be got  
within a given time, preparatory to <sup>annual</sup> meetings of one  
kind & another, <sup>or</sup> previous to the coming out of files  
or or &c. &c. My Father has been quite at at  
second, but we have had to take somewhat different  
lines. He was in London <sup>last month</sup> you know helping S. Math  
in that singular battle with Scoble, (did you wd  
see the correspondence in the M. Adv<sup>r</sup> of April 15  
in wd Scoble sneaked out of his proposed interview  
with W<sup>m</sup>. because the latter would nominate in  
Father, W<sup>m</sup> G. Thompson, & Mr. Farmer as his friends  
leaving Scoble unrestricted as to the number of his partic-  
lars then W. W. Brown has set upon Scoble for tra-  
ducing him behind his back, & threatened to have him  
before a jury if he will not meet in the presence of 20  
gentlemen. My fear is the sly speakers will chaff  
off all their sins on Scoble, & pretend Broad St is pe-  
fied as soon as he is shipped off to Canada, & this we  
never do! Oh I have not yet told you of my most eng.  
work, wd was as urgent as anything because  
done at all it must be done now, while we have  
Miss Tribe's name. (I am sorry I alarmed you by  
libelling her, for she is as hearty an old organization

as ever) only her thoughts being concentrated on her matrimonial prospects. She has been being divided between willing to her lover by the present regime, preparations of her travels, & planting of friends, & social gatherings, <sup>the idea of</sup> her ever having had any personal relations to the cause. Her dreams, reminiscences of past days, & the consciousness of which she came to fully awake. This of course is to say a trying contrast to the energy she put forth a year ago, & the fertility of resources for devising & executing various brilliant schemes which then characterized her. Now anything that took out of her is at the expense of such an amount of spurring & prodding as my part that the labor is ten times greater than doing the thing outright; never the less there are branches in which her being the agent is to effect that that I am reduced to going that the whole process. By dint however of quite persistent coaxing, & sympathizing a great deal over her maladies (which I fail to perceive) her lover (whom I fail to admire) my machinations have succeeded, & the long cherished wish of my heart is in train - namely the history of the origin & affinities & past & present course of the Bristol & Clifton Ladies' Society. She has made a skeleton, but it is rather too unworkable of an abstract, for what I wish, however it is approved by the Comtee with respect that

Ms. A. 7. 3. 45

I have written this in a hurry  
 & it is very imperfect  
 & I have not had time to  
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extreme importance of seizing the moment when  
their feelings were warmed & their recollection of  
facts imperplexed by lapse of time or contradictory  
reports, to make the Com<sup>c</sup> nail their colors to the  
quash & proclaim to the world their conversion  
to <sup>the cause</sup> secure the permanence of their adhesion to the  
Am. Ad. Soc. We never meant to take any liberties with  
your names, or give you any personal recognition  
that would, we know, be ungenerous, it was simply  
the first living representatives of a Society  
that they had heard of only to be abused, as the  
embodiment of all that was dangerous & im-  
moral, — that you were turned to account. The  
same reason leads us to bring the <sup>offending</sup> resolutions <sup>before</sup>  
the report; the information collected from  
the tracts has been recorded before Mr. Thompson's  
declaration of the non entity of the Am. & For. Soc-  
tivity of the Am. <sup>cause</sup> Here this opportunity of gaining  
further satisfaction from personal intercourse  
with members of the Am. Ad. Soc. their result. It had  
occurred to me to take advantage of this incidental  
notice to insert in a note that Lewis Tappan  
<sup>in his information</sup> told an unaccountable story about any thing  
having been published respecting him by Mr. Chapman  
in this neighbourhood; every proof of downright  
falsehood is a wonderful gain to us at this  
stage of progress, but if Mr. C. has any objections  
to this contradiction there will be abundant  
time for her to forbid it in the course of the next  
fortnight. You are much more magnanimous  
than my Father at Mr. Webb's dropping the best  
bit out of his pamphlet in consequence of a second  
edition. I say that with indignation.

never been able to feel friendly towards the paper  
in consequence. You were very ill treated w<sup>th</sup> to hold  
see them; <sup>(the pamphlet)</sup> it must have been one of the occasions when  
Mr Chapman did not act up to your ideal of her, but  
tho' she did to her own. I am quite unconscious what  
effect has been produced on any individual by our  
pamphlet, except that J<sup>r</sup> Campbell had remained quiet  
since receiving it, tho' he <sup>had</sup> announced his intention of  
"carrying the war further into the territory of the infidel  
abolition" something may be in store, but I think he has  
got into such a jumble with his abuse of L. Tappan, &  
denunciation of "brother Chickering" that I imagine he will  
the thing alone finding the motley group of "brethren"  
could dwell together in unity. Your estimate of the  
influence of the pamphlet amuses us, because you do  
overlook the wanting link of means of placing it be-  
fore the thousands of eyes that have rested on the  
Banner's columns. The mysterious ~~haze~~ with the colored  
people are now regarding Mr Garrison must be in-  
ferrible to you who have ~~always~~ been conscious  
<sup>with you</sup> his name was the terror of the community & his had  
before the world. Here these opprobrious charges are  
only connection in which it ever comes before the  
majority, & a request, from any quarter, for anti-  
aid is often repelled by saying <sup>shall readily</sup> the accounts of the abolition  
characters W. W. are too revolting for any sympathy to be  
felt in their proceedings, so if ~~we~~ could awaken zeal  
it is hopeless to give it any useful channel. Miss  
has met with two instances of this sort within a week  
both brought about by that abominable Banner, &  
one <sup>person</sup> <sup>partly</sup> some people gave an involuntary shudder  
her alluding in terms of respect to Mr Garrison, con-  
sidering it a name that sh<sup>d</sup> not escape the lips  
of a modest young lady. I know you think all  
these people such fools as not to be worth saving  
but they never had light & there is no getting it to  
every avenue being choked up, while their power  
of mischief <sup>is not only by false impressions</sup> is incalculable. So you see we have an  
uphill work to carry on. I sh<sup>d</sup> like to go into many  
details, but my allotted space is exhausted. Ah the fire  
till I mean to take up yours & Mr Chapman's pre-  
cious letters serially & discuss their impressions w<sup>th</sup>  
w<sup>th</sup> transiently. It is my misfortune never to be able to ge-  
rid of thoughts awakened by letters till they have been  
told to the writers who set their brains long before days, he had

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