

Park St. Bristol March 15 1853

Dearest Miss Weston,

The letter which my Father has commended to Mr May will afford me an opportunity of sending without delay a few words of thanks for your own & your sisters sweet letters. Every word, in both was most acceptable & this assurance must prevent your judging of my appreciation of their contents by the brevity of my response. I am anxious not to delay answering to one or two leading heads, & may not have time for a lengthened communication at present. We received your welcome despatches in London where we have been having a "great time" in the way of Antislavery reunions & introductions & fraternization. I had been spending a month at Hampstead for the sake of the invigorations that place always produces on me, combined with the opportunity it presents for communion with dear friends. I spent a good deal of time in looking up antislavery allies & having paved the way for a useful concentration of forces my Father joined me at our old lodgings in the Strand, & there we stayed a fortnight, cemented numerous alliances that we hope will tend to good. We had two large evening parties, at the first we assembled Mr Follen & his sister & Charles Mr G. Thompson, W. W. Brown, Wm Craft, Edw. Matthews Oswald Murray ^{Farmers} & his wife (publisher of the Advocate) Robt Smith (of Dalton) Harman - Editor of the Hampshire Independent, formerly resident at Cambridge, Messrs Mr Chameroozow, (Scoble's successor) Miss Grant a ^{well} contributor to the Bazaar, Miss Hooper, the two Miss Webbs, W. W. Brown's two daughters & Miss Grant, daughter of the N. A. Advert - Editor. They came at 6 P. M. & were not all dispersed till 2 past 12, i.e. Mr G. Thompson, Mr Chameroozow & Wm Craft kept it up an hour after the rest. How I wish you could have heard the astounding truths Mr T. poured into

unswares into sanctioning ^{the} pro slavery alliances which
sectarian leaders are ever bent on strengthening. This spring
will be a crisis in the ecclesiastical relationships of England
& America; Mr Stowe's presence & the a.s. ferment his book
has caused will keep it up, & therefore we d. long for genuine
abolitionists, speakers, old organizationalists to come to us &
direct the tide aright & defeat the machinations of clerical
abol^{ts} who will surely abound. Is there ev hope of Mr
Wendell Phillips coming to our aid? We are trying to
persuade Mr McKim or Mr R. Purvis to pay us a visit;
but indeed we need all the help we can for our weapons
are very few, & feeble, & our only hope is from having truth
on our side. Your sister will see from the extensive extracts from
her report of the Bazaar which are inserted in the last Advocate, that we highly
appreciate it & think it well adapted for its destined purpose. Nevertheless it
will not go quite as far as the letter of acknowledgements I wanted, but to ad-
dress directly to British contributors thro the Advocate. I rejoice to hear that she
means to exercise an increased influence over the Standard.

the ears of the honest confiding Mr Chamberzow. (2)
But all that pertains to him & the changed aspect
of Broad St. I leave my Father to tell Mr May. ^{to}
You must obtain the intelligence thro' him.
It is a dream like state of things to be in such
confidential relations with the secretary of the
B. & F. Ass. how long it will continue none can
prognosticate. His openness has placed him
quite in our power, however, he is pleading to
feel that he has no fear of our abusing his confidence.
My theory is that the Broad St. Com^{rs} are reduced to
such straits that they will be glad to throw the
onus of their past delinquencies on Scoble (to whom
Mr Chamberzow thinks they ^{all} belong) & to let their
new officer make reparations on his own respon-
sibility. Happily we are become a terror to these
evil doers they find them glad enough to come
by indirect ways into friendly relations with us.
Miss Pugh joined us a few days before we left
know how present at our last, most confiden-
tial interview with Mr Chamberzow. He questioned
her closely about Goodell's book which he lent us,
he is evidently anxious for light, tho' he can't follow
the meager of old brew organization as yet. He
heard last Saturday at our second A. S. party a
full history of the Am. & For. A. S. first from Miss
Pugh & then from W. W. Brown, & since henceforth
to call himself a meeting of the B. & F. Ass. when he
is shaving at his looking glass. We saw from this
little comment that he took in the drift of what
we heard. He is a spirited, witty man, with con-
siderable talent we should judge. We had Mr Grant
of the M. Assⁿ at our second party, & Mr Mc-Donnell,
& young Mr Masie, Miss Aunt Miss Grant, as well
as the Perth Miss G., but several of the others
fell off & we did not quite exister 20. On Sunday

I spent six hours talking over plans & prospects. You were present
with us & we thought it well to let Mr J. see what you told
me about Mr Stowe. We also read it to Mrs Follen, for it seemed
necessary that she should be put upon her guard, as she is
in correspondence with Mr Stowe & hopes to have ^{personal} intercourse
with her on her arrival. You will not I trust think this a
violation of the spirit of your request that it might be kept
private. It shall not go further. We understood your
motive & the import of the facts you communicate & that
be on the watch tho' unconsciously what power we may
have of neutralizing any new organization ^{with which}
Mrs Pugh had been disturbed at reading the card of acknowledgment of the Libelle in the Commonwealth & had feared
it not to us as an inappropriate channel for such a communication.
she may be infected. There are some fresh quarters happily
in which the infidel cry is beginning to be comprehended &
exposed. There is an increased desire to unite with true
workers wherever they may be found. So much Uncle Tom
has done, but people here still see men as trees walking; & may be begins

Mr. Maffie's "protestants" are not the only parties
pained & unfavorably impressed by the ridicule Mr
Leviney & Mr Pillsbury cast on what are to them the
most sacred subjects. It is a standing wound to me
that respect for the feelings of their associates &
regard for the interests of the Cause do not check their
indulgence of such misplaced levity. I cannot refer
now to the particular examples but will remember the
grief with which some of our committee spoke of a
recent letter of Mr Pillsbury's, from the certainty they
felt that a handle would be made of it to prove the
irreligious tendencies of the Am. Society. Mr Leviney's
letters constantly fill me with trepidation & I was by
no means surprised to find that Mr Maffie was
unable to lend the standard in many instances.
Mr May thinks it is only our Abolitionism that
people are so fastidious, but that is not the case
here, the same parties would be equally repulsed
by such expressions, & lose their confidence in
the leaders of any other Cause, who adopted them.
Miss Pugh has been forming Mr Maffie's acquaintance
the work she performed in Leeds was a very im-
portant one. She is now staying with Mr Reid, but
will return to us shortly. Aunt Emma is at Bridg-
water. I will like to hear of the fate of ^{the} Coleridge & his Da-
ughter. You disposed of it very wisely, it is pleasant
to think it is in possession of a good Abolitionist.
Except for the duty of making all the money we
can for the Bazaar we would rather have given
it to him than sold it to a pro-slavery person.
Give my fond loves to all yr circle, Annie just before
most. Excuse this abrupt breaking off. I have not time
to look over these hasty lines or explain the
causes of my sudden stop. ever. +

Your most affect^{ed}
Mary Estlin. + Mary is in bed with a bad cold, & having been

coming all night, fell asleep with her
unfinished letter beside her. She has written
it all with difficulty & am somewhat in
her plight, & had to write part of mine to
Mr. May in bed. We are two poor creatures
yet jolly withal. With love to my friend
Obed & your affectionate
P. M. M.

1853

Miss Estlin

Miss Weston

My dear friend

[Faint, mostly illegible handwriting covering the rest of the page, likely bleed-through from the reverse side.]