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Leicester,
Dec. 19/68.

Dear friend Garrison,

I saw last week for the first
time your article in "Independent"
on the scandalous & really execrable
(as being so cold-blooded & uncalled for)
statement of Messrs. Steverson, Precher
& Co., - and I read it with a cordial
pleasure, quite reviving the satisfaction
with which, all the way from 10 to 30 yrs.
ago, I used to read the rebukes of the
false, worldly, heartless priests, in the
Liberator. If those men don't
make atonement (they preach it
enough), I hope you will return to
the subject. Indeed you have let
them off with very little, - tho' that
little is strong & to the point. Call
them to the ^{to give their proofs;} witness-stand, & give
them their election between that &
the pillory. - I quite
regularly see the "Independent" -

but commonly, as in this instance,
some days after publication. I
shall soon be looking to read your
article upon the early stages of the

"Roman Question" } The success of the "Independents"
& the failure of the "Advances"
has galled these English gentlemen badly;

(Advance backwards!)
but I didn't
expect them

to
return
to
their
views
again
like
this

While your mind is exercised

On this point of "Evangelical Religion,"
& its arrogant claimants, I wish
you would write the Chapter (for your
Book of Reflections or History) on the
Connexion of the A.S. Agitation with (1.)
Christianity, & the Bible, & the vital
Principles & Spirit of Religion; and (2.)
The Church, Pulpit, & Religious Press of
America & England. — A great
& splendid subject; which ought to be
set forth in a permanent shape, in a
volume meant to live. The Holts
owe it to themselves to vindicate (not
so much themselves as) their cause
— but indeed the cause & they can't
be separated — before the thick-
coming posterity, whose judgment should be

aided, & saved from the cunning
misrepresentations of such men as
Edw^d Beecher & this Stuart, &c.
Everlasting shame on them. But they
have now shown their hand - shown
that there is no repentance in them; that
they are as ready, now, with all the
lessons of the war & its results full
before them, as they were 10 yrs. ago
& more, to malign & blacken the
U.S. Cause & its defenders.

Pray do this. None can do it
as you can; & none can speak to
these points with one half the propriety
& effect that you can.

Excuse the haste with which
I write. I am in the midst of
Cataloguing our Town Public Library
(for printing a new Edition), & am
somewhat behindhand with it.

I hope your good wife is
comfortable. Pray give our love to her.
Our love too to our dear Mr. Webb,

Our parlor is so sunny, bright, & quiet now, that I wish he were here - tho' I wouldn't transfer him with-
- except with his own consent & concurrence - both of which, in due time, we hope will conspire to bring him here.

Excf. before last we had here Lecture No. 1. of a Lyceum Course - given by unan. invitation of our Comtee. by Lucy Stone - on "Woman Suffrage."

Next Tuesday Excf. we have Rev. Jacob M. Manning of Boston on "Samuel Adams?" -

Very truly yours

Saml. May Jr

N.B. I talked with Lucy pretty fully about the proposition of the F. Jackson heirs. She is fully of the mind that \$3000. for the Woman Cause, now, is far better than any reversion they might have many years hence. I shall agree to accept the heirs' proposition, if it be first understood that \$3000. of the good. paid (one third of what is paid in any case) shall go in aid of the Woman Suffrage, - I w^d say be p^d. to Treas^r. of the N. Engl. W. S. Assocⁿ - & not less than 1/3 of the whole, to the Education of the Freed men. If F. Jackson will

himself speak to such a Revision that will carry it, but I presume all will agree, - as W. B. & W. B. 13. I presume to believe the proposition will not be held probably in that instance.