



Boston, Oct. 10, 1842.

Dear George:

If this should find you in Providence, I hope you will be induced to return home to Northampton by the way of this city and Cambridgeport. We all want to see you, especially at this crisis in regard to the sickness of poor dear James. He certainly cannot continue much longer. Indeed, for a week past, we have been looking daily for his demise. He is emaciated to a mere skeleton, and is scarcely able to sit up long enough, once in twenty-four hours, to have his bed made. Last night he passed very comfortably, and still remains so. Probably he will die suddenly. He has exhibited a great deal of patience and fortitude during his illness. How far he is really conscious of his situation, and what are his real feelings, if he considers his case hopeless, I am not yet sure.

I want to see you, also, in regard to some pecuniary matters. My expenses, this year, in consequence of James's illness, and in other ways, have been very considerable; so that I now stand in debt, over my salary, \$150; and should James be taken away, the funeral expenses would probably amount to \$50 more. What is worse, the receipts of the Liberator up to the 1st inst. have fallen short of the expenses nearly \$200 — so that I have not been able to get the \$100 due me for my last month's services. October 1st being regular quarter day, and of course the time for settlement with creditors, found me unable to pay either my rent, or my grocer's bill, and my credit is, of course, suffering. What to do, I know not. Loving is unable to loan me any thing; so is Southwick; Philbrick has advanced \$50 to pay the paper-maker; Jackson has lost ten thousand dollars within a year, and is, of course, very much pinched. He has, nevertheless, loaned me \$50. This gives me no special relief. In regard to yourself, I know that

you are crushed under the weight of pecuniary responsibilities, in connexion with your great movement at Northampton; and I have no idea of giving you any trouble. But I should like to see you, and perhaps we may devise something together as "a committee of ways and means." I have little doubt that the Liberator affairs will be made square at the end of the year, by the receipts, and by donations; but it is the present, rather than the future, that now troubles me.

Helen is badly troubled with gathering in her ears, which are extremely painful. The babe is thriving finely. We still keep our nurse, partly on James's account. She will remain only a few days longer.

Yours, affectionately,  
Wm. Lloyd Garrison.

P. S. Since the above was written, I have received your letter of yesterday, containing a check for \$40, in relation to dear Mary's board. I have no doubt it is all right, after the most rigid business agreement; but I kept no account. This will aid me to that amount, and it arrives very opportunely.

George W. Benson,  
Care of Wheaton & Anthony,  
Providence,  
R. I.