

The Advocate
No. 27

Received No. 27th

Leicester, Oct. 19, 1852.

Dear Mr. Estlin,

I was in Boston nearly all last week, and while there the first numbers of the "Anti-Slavery Advocate" arrived. As none appeared for me, ~~at~~ I of course concluded ~~they~~^{it} had been sent to Leicester, and on returning here, the last of the week, I found to my great satisfaction two copies, one from yourself, the other from R. D. Webb. - Immediately on getting the papers, in Boston, I opened the Liberator copy, & sat down to my desk for a perusal, meaning to read every word of it, if possible. Various calls did not allow it to be possible then; - but I read the Introd. Notices, with the departments on the Church, and discovered my own signal promotion to the truly honourable post of "our American Correspondent". I must thank you for the honour, while I could wish myself better able to discharge the duties of the place; but I must beg of you not to allow me to monopolize the office or its honours. I hope said "Correspondent" will be not merely a trinity in unity, but that quite a large number will ^{be} united in it. I doubt not your ~~attended~~ intention is to beg upon all American letters, for whatever may be suitable for your columns. But I haven't told you how I liked the "Advocate" - (I love to repeat the name, as Goldsmith said in quite a different case.) - I like it very much indeed; it grew upon me very fast, and soon seemed like an old friend. Mr. Garrison was about leaving Boston, on an absence of 2 or 3 weeks (to attend meetings first at Northampton, then visit some connections of his wife near New York City, & afterwards go on to the Pennsylvania Annual Meeting), and requested me to ~~for~~ write a notice of the Advocate for this week's Liberator. Last evening I did so, after such full and thorough perusal as, I suspect, few reviewers give to the

works they undertake to discuss, & pass sentence upon. I should
of course have preferred that Mr. Garrison might give the Advocate
its first welcome in the Liberator; but, as he was on the point
of leaving home, this seemed out of the question, and I ~~am~~ have
^{written} ~~some~~ what seemed to me proper, - endeavouring to write with
moderation & not too eulogistically. - But into your ear I may
express the full measure of my delight with the appearance,
the contents, & the entire spirit of your little Monthly.
It is made up, as it seems to me, with excellent judgment; -
clear, calm, well-fortified at every point; - has the variety
which is both agreeable & useful; & ought to meet with an
attentive & careful reading, & produce good fruit. I hope it
may have a welcome, and a wide diffusion through your
country. What the prospect of this is, however, I cannot feel
so confident. The B. & F. A. S. Reporter will know, of course,
that the paper is no subaltern of theirs. Its brief allusion to
Mr. Garrison & his paper, & to the Anti-Slavery Societies, is
enough to lose you all favour, & forfeit your claim to toleration,
in that quarter. Broad Street will drag many with it, and
I doubt not you will soon have enemies enough on your own soil.
But I hope the remnant will be greater than our fears; and that
a fresh accession of young blood, courage, zeal, & faith will
come up to your side, -

I do not feel ~~very~~ at all confident about the writers
in this first number. I have been guessing at some of them. I
have guessed that R. D. W. wrote the introductory - that you prepared
the portion ~~relating to~~ entitled in the Contents "Religious", and I more than
half suspect you wrote the Introductory also. I should assign "The
Abolition Movement" to you - the American Colonization Society to R. D. W. - and

beyond that, I stop guessing. - I suspect that you & your daughters
have tasked yourselves largely, to prepare this first number. It
is an offering, I believe, which will be acceptable & well pleasing
in the sight of God.

Boston, Oct. 21. I am obliged to finish this letter
at short notice. I send it by Francis Bishop, with
a copy of the "White Slave", and some recent Speeches
of which you may be glad to have in pamphlet form.
We have had much pleasure in seeing Mr Bishop
& getting acquainted with him. He has looked very
carefully, both at Southern Slavery & at Northern Pro-
Slavery here, and I hope will publish some things
he has seen & heard. His testimony would be
very valuable for our use here, as well as for you.
And I hope, if he delays the matter, that you will urge
him to do it. -

I shall take another oppo. to write more particu-
larly of the Bristol Society's "Report" which Miss Estlin kindly
sent me - which I have perused with great satisfaction -
& which is a noble monument to the zeal & perseverance
of the B. & Clifton ladies.

I hope to see Mr. Bishop again before he
sails (- next week). but my out of town engagements
may prevent.

I shall get some subscriptions to Advocate, & send
them that I suppose will be most direct - to R. D. W.

With sincere regards to Miss E. - I am very truly & affectionately
Yrs. G. May Jr.

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Eng.

MS. B. 1. 6 v. 14, p. 52