

The Reverend
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Anti Slavery Society.
21 Cornhill Boston.



Ms B.1.6 v.6 #53

Weymouth March 17th

1857?

Dear Mr. Aug.

If we did not
all feel pulled two & forty⁺ differ-
ent ways, I suppose it would
be proof enough that we were
untrue to our natures, or incom-
plete in them: & the benefit
of patient thought, & private
reflection & sympathetic com-
munication is that we get the
whole of human faculties into
harmonious play so that they
can pull together. Now few of
us are complete, — but if each
sives of his excess, all deficiencies
are supplied, & thus we hear
one another's burdens in the old
according to the latest phonological discoveries

approved style. But my
hasty letter was neither method-
ical or harmonious or compre-
hensive enough to be worth
the friends' reading. So you
will still oblige me by not
communicating it. As to
Abby & Stephen, they both know
all our Weston-Chapman notions
upon their policy, — all our
affection & value for them, —
all our desire to support them
to the uttermost. There is
nothing, from the republican
party to Stephen & Pillsbury
(in our eyes, & we in theirs
equally,) that is not harmful
more or less to the cause, if
so looked at. And those
dear friends have arrived
+ how to treat harmfulness is the problem. Each for himself. 7

at the point of being a -
bout to find something more
harmful to the Cause than the
Republican party - even far
worse than the American A. S.
Society. Foster went under
the auspices & proclaimed
it & creant through the West
& Pillsbury is this year do-
ing essentially the same
thing. Now we, composed
of people utterly unused to life
& its ways as a general thing,
compose the only body on
earth that would admit such
a thing for a moment - which
is magnanimous in one light,
tolerant in another, prudent
in another; foolish in still
another. They who abuse our
of course individually, but a Society should have a social solution also.

magnanimity, make a torturing
machine of our tolerance; &
our forbearance a means to enact
a sad impudence to their own
& the Cause's harm, have
but half an idea of Fidelity.
They are faithful to their own
hasty & half formed idea - their
own crude conception of duty. but
they are not faithful to us who
do not accept it as a half, but
who add the other half to it before
we act upon it! Edmund's
fine articles on criticism
from time to time, & Wen-
dell's beautiful expressions
in speeches on its internal
exercise, they mistake &
abuse. Those articles &
speeches are the vain, des-

Praying attempt of their
 best Friends, to shield them from
 the consequences of their own
 mistakes in Conduct. Under
 from ^{thus} making shipwreck of
 their influence within & with-
 out the Cause, they cannot be:
 for there is slavery to attack for
me, for you, & for all the
 rest of us; - & we shall not
 dream of attacking them,
 however harmful we may think
 their Cause: - harm does not
 always justify assault; -
 nor is assault any thing else,
 for being called criticism. But
 really & in sober truth, the
 work those friends are doing
 operates subversively. They know
 no other way - they can no
 other - I am not blaming

them — they are elbows
to judge after the judging
time has past, & out of
the place for judging —
talking of the Republican
party in a state where
it is the dominant influence —
not a part but the whole.
I think their intolerance of
Garrison, who is broader &
wiser & more genial than
they, because he is so, for it is
precisely his superiories that they
condemn because they do not
understand, I would be unpardon-
able, if any thing good friends
of the cause do in the sincerity
of their hearts could be so.
I told Abby Summer before
last, all this I have been

Saying to you now. I wanted
her that it would make a de-
cision of heart in the cause.
(You remember the first out-
break, — the stay till midnight
at the N. S. Con. (I think)
where Garrison was assailed
by Pillsbury & Abby, & accused
of what, if true, would make an
unfit leader of the cause? —
& where they would put some
foolish thing or other to the
vote — (a series of resolutions
I think, of Pillsbury; —) excellent
as his individual expression, but
constructed rather to elicit con-
trivency than to express truth, &
a sort of "Johnny Dod's" creed: —
& what no general meeting could
agree to. [She would not
believe it possible. "Why we

only questioned his wisdom
& not his motives. We know
the latter are good." I Ex-
plained as well as I could my
"mean ideas" — as I doubt not
my dear friend thought them,
as how Garrison's wisdom such
as it was, was his motive: that
He was all one creature, &
no more fit for his place as
a fool, than as a Penan.
That the matter had been car-
ried by Pillsbury from meeting
to meeting, & that the Abo-
litionists did not agree with him
& did not work with
the effort work them, was in
fact an assault upon their
pream. They came together to
devise plans to abolish
Slavery by changing ^{the} people's

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them, & they did not wish
the time consumed in
taking up brother or sister
& hanking them over ex-
communicatory coals, & bring-
ing damaging accusations
fit only for a Church-Cousis-
tory. Ably declared, however
as his last word, his conviction
that such things as those
could not make a division of sub-
ing, & forth they went all
that year doing a work of
division - Garrison avoided
discussion with them, stay-
ing away from meetings
where it was likely to arise
for their sakes: - Wendell
uttered excusatory tracts;
of which the exact opposite
is just as true, as is a pin

enough the case where
words are called in to hide
from others our friends' de-
ficiencies of conduct, & from
our own hearts their want
of love & their deficiencies of
temper. Why has it been
found necessary to take the
raising of the funds, & the
beneficial meeting of the friends,
a little aside of the Annual
Meeting? — because of the
time expended & feeling was-
ted in what they call criticism.
I do not mind it, — for my
self or others. But the Major-
ity of the friends do. It wounds
them. An exhaustive argument

about the best method of
managing an influence we
all wish were not sucking
up our supplies like a dirty
sponge, before they can reach
our lips, — have I never
heard in anti-slavery meeting.

And the time had gone by
for it now, for the protest
was taking another shape.

Once we, the Republicans
grow as a national in-
fluence will be of no de-
lusive power. It will be
the democratic or some other
named party, which, as as
an out will vaunting its
Anti-Slavery. The inference

but our friends would be,
oppose every thing that
calls itself Anti-Slavery.
Their present unfitness is
no new hurt:— It was one
fitness. When discrimination
was not needed, they were
eminently useful. unless they
can exercise more, now that
it is needed, their usefulness
(except as providentially instrumen-
tal) is greatly diminished. Our
wisdom will be not to endan-
ger them — to honour &
estimate them aright,
to profit by the good they
do, without dwelling on the
harm. To know it is all that
is necessary. By three

careful observation I see
 that the great obstacle to the
 circulation of the Standard is
 that sort of influence, & that
 the Liberator is none the bet-
 ter for it, though the Libera-
 tor stands as an excuse, &
 makes the matter a difficult
 one to deal with. I think
 it best quietly to decline to
 deal with it. It is now
 but a fact. It would be deplora-
 ble as a controversy. I
 received a day or two ago
 a letter from Abby, charm-
 ing in expression & devoted-
 ness, announcing that she
 could not find it in her heart
 to work for the Standard or Lib.;
 I should grieve herself to the

Bugles. Well - the Bugle
will be well served. —

You see poetry, which is our
duty, & vice versa, is, to push
the standard in fresh fields
& pastures new, just Parker's
Society, Star Kuff, I. F.

Clarkes, Algus, — full of
Libs. What is wanted now,
is, a common sense person
in an agreeable state of
mind, of that order of sue-
ally who would, in business,
set sick, happy to devote all
that faculty to curing the
hopes of the slave, that the
system which enslaves him
be abolished. I should be
glad to have every body dis-

believe the same things that
I do: (& I believe they will
before we are through.) I should
be glad to see the Cause make
of every soul that comes to our
position, because our lives have
crumbled all other ground from
under them, a fine devoted
soul, as ours were when
we assumed that position.
I know it can't be. The
Cause has passed the Fisher-
man stage. It stands in
the palace of the Caesars.
When Caesars become X^ms
or Abolitionists, we may
not expect they will have
^{other than} the palatial virtues & quali-
fications, ~~but not the other~~,
~~facts.~~ And yet Patience

firmness is better than
plebeian firmness. (if I
may use such words for fun
of better;) for it is that &
something else. Foster's firm-
ness in the discussion about
Beecher, was, as you say, a
model so far as Oliver was
concerned. A man could hardly
express his sense of another's
depreciation with more courtesy;
But with Beecher it was ^{referred to}
otherwise; & it will be
a great comfort to Beecher
to have been mentioned in
the same terms that one as-
pires to a counterfeit. Brooker
Honey tells me I don't know
what is going on at New

York nor how necessary all
this is. I know the whole
Orthodox & heterodox Beecher &
New York Xⁿs thoroughly.

They are trying to be more
cultivated, erudite, fashionable & na
than they have been. to culti-
vate all their faculties, to dance
under the cross, have picture
galleries of crucifixions; & they
feel a single touch of ^{wildly} criticism
John so called, throws all
the thunders of the A-S Kate-
com. However true what Fos-
ter said, - however much of truth
in it, it might have been so
much better said, ^{make this} as to, amount
to a wasted opportunity. With
Bro Foster actions ^{little or} is ^{nothing}
- words, - argument, - logic, all.

Abby says in her letter to me, as a recommendation of Jones over Robinson for the "Bugle," — he is more of a "Lafayette." The inexorable logic of events, (as I believe somebody has said before me) never enters their minds.

Forethought enough to put the square pin in the square hole does not enter Fosh's mind. Still, what is not best, we can make the best of. Any thing is better for the Standard than the irreproachable mediocrity of Literary propriety & 4th page veridicality, to preserve which & his own (perhaps very just)

Notions of Personal Insuperable,
Obliged a small pattern of a
Gentlemanly Man, to deny
himself the benefit of an
Association with stronger
& richer minds than his own.

e) But there is such a thing
as cooperative, associated or-
ganization. To set up a part
of time & money & weekly
issues of paper to its service.

& I should deprecate, in the
Standard what I should be
delighted with if it were fair
to place it there. To use
up so much of the public funds
in a manner that narrows
the public apprehensions of
it ^{at this moment}, however good it was twenty

+ It was an argument on a Church-bank, after the
 years ago, in an individual
 encounter ^{with} ~~some~~ ^{some} power good &
 may be ~~some~~ ^{some} in an ~~indiv~~
 work ~~some~~ ^{some} as not best.
 I ~~do~~ ^{do} ~~not~~ ^{not} ~~know~~ ^{know} ~~what~~ ^{what} ~~is~~ ^{is} ~~best~~ ^{best}.
 Now why should my critica
 be called unjustfulness, &
~~that~~ ^{that} ~~is~~ ^{is} ~~not~~ ^{not} ~~best~~ ^{best}.
 I shall simply set them
 be better ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~scamp~~ ^{scamp}. And
 I shall ~~not~~ ^{not} ~~do~~ ^{do} ~~it~~ ^{it}.
 If you will pardon
 an ~~un~~ ^{un} ~~pleasant~~ ^{pleasant} ~~expression~~ ^{expression} ~~at~~ ^{at}
 to world-famous a person, my
 sense of the ~~un~~ ^{un} ~~wisdom~~ ^{wisdom} of these
~~protracted~~ ^{protracted} attacks, (which are, half-unknow
 to them & us) occasioned by a dem
 on the part of these friends

call "the punishment of life" - that
 I have always been a
 the manners & methods of
 and of unwholesome slave
 I would prefer to
 these pleasant & take
 courses, if they will
 years ago we
 what
 substance, say -
 now in conch

I have always been a
 the manners & methods of
 and of unwholesome slave
 I would prefer to
 these pleasant & take
 courses, if they will
 years ago we
 what
 substance, say -
 now in conch

which he gave his brother
 the funds
 "injustice condi-
 as they are whole at
 I shall say
 with me
 I thought he was a very
 "got used to hear
 the manners & methods of
 and of unwholesome slave
 I would prefer to
 these pleasant & take
 courses, if they will
 years ago we
 what
 substance, say -
 now in conch

Now let me express my
conviction that faults of
manner & method & temper
make very little difference
in the long run - that
it will be pretty much one
25 years hence; & that
redeemed slaves never ask
which were the puppet &
which the imperfect instru-
ments of their deliverance.
It is only the Philosopher
Historian that will make
a ~~name~~ ^{fortune} by the book he
will write in three quarto
volumes of the "History of the
50 years revolutionary struggle
of the North American States;"

on what he will balance
the advantages & the disadvan-
tages of "the counter-check general" (some
(as the great Shakespeare would say)
& decide for posterity, by a
reference to original documents,
who were born pretful, who polit-
^{cally} affected selfishness & who were made
pretful by the bruises they got
& gave. In the mean time,
as I am always ready to
drink to all virtuous mecha-
nisms, I cry, success to Hovey's
Pamphlet, & Abby's Bugle!

It is making too much
of matters that finally adjust
themselves, to labour to adjust
them - so I had rather,

But no: he is exactly right for Sumner, as he is

Still, that you should not show any such letters as these to any friends.

If your Bro Cousin Sam were here indeed -

Well! he would crow a little, & think I had profited by his Opinions & Councils of former times, - when I have held his horse's head up to the light & "hove" down all the flaws I could get & cried, "together at them so!"

When Leavelle & Tappan stood on one side, & Sumner & Phillips on the other, & he snowed over the lowliness;

But this situation is not that situation, any more than these men are those men, or Lib. party Republicans. And there again,

Sumner may think of it as a compliment