

Dromochy Cottage near Putnam's Arch,  
Dublin, July 1. 1857.

Dear Mrs Chapman - A few days since I had a letter from Parker Pillsbury in which he alludes as it were in the postscript to the state of his health and to the suggestion that he should come over here as soon as an opportunity should be offered of the change. He asks for my opinion, and says that however much he would like to come he looks to duty first, and therefore it is important to him as his coming should be recorded in the light of the benefit it may produce to the cause. Now I like much his letter, and very well knowing his diffident, shy, sensitive disposition, I will not find it easy to do so and to take the whole truth. But as a letter from you to him has been on this subject and most likely has been sent for my reading, I think it better to try as hard as I can to put you in possession of how matters stand. In the first place it is hardly probable for you to imagine the extent of the feebleness and timidity of the anti-slavery spirit that we are acquainted with in the three Kingdoms. Mrs Will has just remarked to me that she had heard of any anti-slavery society that would stand the pressure, an opinion reading of a Liberator, and that Parker is a Liberator. You remember the table we had one evening at Mr Higginson about Ed. Quincy, for application of Bible language - words, Patriotic touchiness on this point is an exquisite sensibility. Fanaticism is powerful, and those who are not formed are little for anti-slavery. I who am a sceptic, who has had Dr. Martineau as my guest, and who have been the home of most of the abolitionists who come to Ireland, am at home almost isolated. I imagine the fact of a man slipping it away from Parker's high flown, somewhat hyperbolic style, and his occasional statements that fly over the heads of English hearers, are calculated to frustrate the true religious claim, and to shock the taste of that fine narrow upper class of educated people with whom a lapse from the laws of taste is a fatal disqualification. Personally, I would be rejoiced to have Parker as long as he chose to stay, and as often as he pleased to come. But if the fact could be (as it might easily be) settled that attended as place of worship it did not believe in the infallibility of the Bible, he would be a marked man wherever he went and would do little to extend the knowledge of the cause or to promote the funds of the Boston Bazaar.

Ms. A. 4. 2. 29. 11 A



If he came, would this V. Linn with  
 her, and how should they be supported. Some who have been very active  
 in assisting the Bazaar Child they express a warm personal regard  
 for our friend, have especially said to me that they thought his coming  
 as an agent would hardly be of substantial benefit. ~~For~~ let to  
 a fact in any of the anti-slavery people in Great Britain, P. P. has  
 seen very much more of them than I have and know better how  
 far his return would be acceptable to them - but then it would be  
 difficult to find this quarters to him. I dislike to hear to speak in  
 this way of one whom I have a real affection & respect, whom I would  
 receive as a friend & brother, with a hearty welcome. I would rejoice to  
 have him here, to make him feel at home, and as comfortable as  
 we could make him. But as an agent I fear there would be  
 difficulty, and disaffectionments & I think it most desirable that  
 should have her been in the way in which it will be regarded  
 by others. I had a letter today for some books & engravings from  
 Arthur Armstrong. He has asked me to write for them for him & you  
 will take much more in to procure them through Mr. May who  
 would I doubt not understand the commission. If there be an  
 opportunity these matters might be sent to me & I would forward  
 his share to Arthur Armstrong.

Since I parted from your sisters Caroline, Anne & Emma at  
 the Johnson office in Rome the day I left the Eternal City  
 I have not had one line from any of them, nor do I know  
 where they now are. I would be very glad if you would take care.

When Armstrong writes for Pictures of Slavery in Church State by H. Long  
 noticed in Liberator June 12 page 4, column 1.  
 Also ~~Let~~ Report of late Y. meeting of Progressive Friends, also  
 (see note) - 2 groups of Representative Women including L. Smith, M. W. C. Fother, also  
 1 Previous group containing W. L. Garrison, Gerrit Smith, & also  
 2 Pappan Colburn in his Person etc - which he says he would much  
 like

I enclose two notes, 1 sent to day from Miss Whitelegg - another to my wife from  
 Mary Edmondson (formerly Wigham) of Dublin - both good ones - which will help  
 you to form an opinion about P. P. Put his own sake and my sake I hope he may  
 be able to come with an easy mind - the latter is one who has my entire regard  
 & confidence and all our household like him. Yours ever truly Richd D Webb

Will you please enclose this green letter every case to Mrs. V. Linn at Franklin Mills, Summit County, Ohio.

Mrs. White also called on you in your way from - and if so, when would they be in the way - I am very much obliged to you for your kind notice to have papers to America. It is from my wife's