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Dublin, 17th of May - 1844

GARRISON
MSS.

Dear Mrs. Chapman. - Richard comes, in all haste from the printing office to say that we may write a line to thee if we do it at once - (we being Lizzy Poole myself) - there is but one hour to write in, before the post goes, but it were a sin to lose the opportunity (as it costs nothing) & Richard has not time to write himself - so thou must only take the luck of what comes uppermost - Lizzy Poole (you know her in the West) is here for a few days, - we expect soon to return with her to the country & to visit near the sea for a couple of months, & forget the smoke & dust of the dry city - I long for the country for the children, but for myself I should not like to live there all the year round - I like to be among the people, & to hear knocks coming to the hall door every now & then. Lizzy & I have just been talking about miracles, & whether they are to be believed in or not - don't suppose we are so innocent as never to have doubted before, but it rose up now in our minds in consequence of some of Rogers' dashing talk in his Herald. It can but make but little difference in faith or practice of edifying acts, whether we believe them or not - certainly they are very unlike our present experience of the course of God's dealings, the "even tenor" of his way, & the inevitable linking of cause & effect which we see & feel at work all around us with unerring certainty - then, God changeth not - Miracles do not even seem to have been necessary - but if you disbelieve them, what sad uprooting it makes of the Bible. well, we can't dwell it now, well all be wiser yet.

Richard wishes thee to read the enclosed note directed to Sarah Pugh - the subject is the condition of the Polish Exiles in the United States, & it is the cause of this letter going off in such haste - we want to have an answer in time to write to Frauchburg before Henry leaves it, as he is to deliver for the information - Perhaps thou couldst give us good information on this subject at J. L. Coffin, as to the position prospects &c of the Poles in the United States, & whether it is a desirable place of refuge for them - If so, be so kind as to write by next boat, as no time can be spared - This is hardly fair, for they time is so fully & so well employed, but it is often those who do most that are most ready to do more, & we have somehow an idea here that Maria W. Chapman can do any thing she sets about & that nothing is too much to expect. are we not unreasonable people? Please post the two enclosed letters & direct them more fully if thou knowest the direction & if they require it. - Richard seems to think that thou add'st the gift of prophecy to thy other gifts, for he tells me to ask "will Texas be annexed?" - perhaps it has, or this become matters of history rather than prophecy.

More business - Please stop a Herald of Freedom hitherto sent to Cork - containing nevertheless to send one to Miss Jennings in that city. Richard says further, "send a Herald of Freedom to Richard Allen, Dublin, for which I will pay, & which he won't read, but his wife will - his blood would run cold if he read some of Rogers' eccentricities" A wonderfully fine fellow Rogers is - I can't always keep up to him, yet I have a kind of faith that he is right by intuition - he has a keen eye for moral truth, he is far-sighted, he can see in the dusk - is not the dawn growing brighter & brighter by degrees? I am confident it is, & you in America are some of the brightest prophecies - When I begin to sometimes to flutter my little wings in anticipation of all this growing light, Richard clips them in "no time", turns me round & makes me look at all the darkness still around us - the hanging, the fighting, the bigotry, the poverty, the selfishness - the British & bleeding subjects of the French Emperor of Russia - & down I come at once to the ground - yet still there is a strong faith in the future under all, & Richard himself feels it too, but he wants people not to be in a hurry, not to look for fruit when the trees are scarcely in bud yet - surely it were unprofitable not to hope & trust.

We had great enjoyment in thy letter about the bazaar, angels wings included - The bells are pretty & good, but not of deep interest - we also are fed on original letters & articles, with Rogers & Garrison's editorials into the bargain, must needs grow vain - J. R. Lowell's poems are truly delightful - here is a genuine poet - Goodbye my dear friend, from Hannah Webb

My dear friend - Hannah leaves me the pen a few minutes before post time, to thank thee for the said Lowell's poems, & say any other prettinesses that may come into my head - I am indeed very truly obliged for the remembrance of me, and for the book. It is long since I met with any ^{new} poetry so well meriting the title - so liquid & musical & fresh - It was "greatly" praised in the "Inquirer," & most of that beautiful Ode quoted - But must not linger too long over this subject, as Richard seemed to expect ~~me~~ to give some news - I'm sorry my bell pulls didn't sell. I am putting a silk-quilt together, but it is a disputed point whether it shall be sent to Boston, or the anti-Corn-law bazaar to be held in London in July - "Consequential news this!" you will say - I may as well confess nothing consequential is to be expected from me - I feel not myself, I am so in dread of Time; & even if I were myself I should not be much better - beside I began in the Quaker style, which is unnatural to me, but used in this house - Of course you have every right to reckon on us as contributors to all succeeding bazaars - Why should not we stick by our point as firmly as the Repealers, since we have at least as much chance of success, and a holier cause? - O'Connell isn't in town, of which I am sorry - Sarah's thanks for your "Bell" - she isn't here to send it herself - Very sincerely yours
Lizzy Poole

Read Richard's colored note to Daniel Puckett, by which thou wilt see his opinion of our friends here - Sectarianism & its interests are a great safety valve for drawing off our religious feelings, &c called -