

No Marshfield July 31<sup>st</sup> 1839

Mrs Chapman.

In answer to yours of the twenty-first which was not received until the twenty-sixth, I am happy to inform you that petitions have already been extensively circulated, both in North and South Marshfield.

We find but little difficulty in procuring signatures; but there is a feeling of indifference to the subject which I heartily wish might yield to a deep and abiding interest. We frequently hear the remark,—"I'm willing to put my name down; won't do any good nor any harm." Others are perfectly willing, if we don't want money, and a few refuse because their husbands think "women are meddling with that that's none of their business."

Ours is not, generally speaking, a reading community. A good lecturer will do much to promote the cause; and I am happy to hear that Mr Godding has commenced his labours in this County.

We think of forming a Ladies A. S. Society. Will you give us some advice? Marshfield is not thickly settled. There is no village, and the centre of the town is woodland, consequently, the No 2 & so parts of the town do not have frequent intercourse. Had we better form two societies? The people are, in comfortable circumstances; none are very poor, and few can be called rich. There are seven relig<sup>ous</sup> societies here in a population of sixteen hundred and thirty. You can readily perceive that pecuniary aid from this place will be small.

If your Society in Boston will allow us to form one or two societies, Auxiliary to yours, furnish us with work

lend us books, which shall be used with care and returned; allow us a certain share of our proceeds for the County Society, and take the rest for the support of the general Agent, I think we shall succeed much better than we shall to act independent  
ly.

Please send us a copy of a good constitution and your advice I think we should have more members by obtaining sewing, than we should, to pay a certain sum yearly; but people here attend to their own sewing, and the profit is very small, when we purchase materials and make articles of clothing for sale. We have sometimes formed societies for the purpose of raising money; but they inevitably go down, for want of work.

If I have an opportunity to give the petition to the Senate into the hand of the Hon. Daniel Webster, shall I do so?

Any papers or pamphlets for distribution can be sent free of postage to Daniel Phillips, P. M. No. Mass. fields. and should you answer this, please direct it in the same way - as my name too renders it liable to a charge of postage.

We shall be happy to welcome any agent who travels in this vicinity to our house.

There is a Juvenile Society in No. Mass. fields which would do well if there was only something to keep up the interest.

The Rev. Mr. May will visit them this week; and if the Juvenile Society in Boston, can lend them books & correspond with them occasionally, it will have a good effect.

As an individual, I shall do all I can. I try to persuade people to take the Liberator but it is the last thing they will think of, to increase their expences in that way.

Hoping, dear Madam, that the object for which you have so long and ardently laboured, and which is now peculiarly dear to me, will be speedily accomplished by the Great Ruler of all things; — I am,

truly yours —

Louisa Phillips

No. Marshfield Ms D. Phillips P. M.  
July 31<sup>st</sup> Free

Mrs M. W. Chapman  
Boston  
Ms

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1837  
Doro Wheeler  
Marshfield