

Queen St. Place, Southwark Bridge, Dec. 27/40.

GARRISON  
MSS.

My Beloved Garrison, My heart had almost burst within me with sadness to think that my anti Slavery friend had forgotten me almost before I had got beyond their sight, as I have been in this country precisely two months & the only letter I have received from my Boston friend was one solitary letter from Mrs. Chapman, but my heart was made three fold glad this morning by the receipt of a large package of letters, among which were two, most welcome, from yourself. How I long to be with you all and unite my feeble energies with the free and noble spirits which cluster around that consecrated spot, 25 Cornhill, for the deliverance of the bondman & the elevation of our race. To be separated from them, & shut out from their presence, their sympathy & their counsel, & to be compelled to spend my days in this country would be, to me, the worst of banishment.

In our country, too much, vastly too much has been made of English anti Slavery feeling & sympathy. They can talk against Slavery, because they have never been corrupted by its presence upon their own soil. The English can condemn our prejudices against color, over negro seats & negro cars while they are exercising the same prejudice against poverty, that we do against color. It is unphilosophical to think that the British people as a nation should be in favor of genuine freedom, for upon an analysis of the principles of the British government, as developed by their system of legislation &c it will be found to be a vast and complicated system of Slavery. In many respects a very much milder system than that of Am. Slavery. It is a dangerous species of Slavery, as it is subtle and intangible. It gives to the poor subject the ostensible appearance of freedom the more successfully to grind him to powder. In this country, as in the Southern States, the law making power is in the hands of the few, who, like the Southern oppressors have converted it to their own advantage. Look at the nobility & gentry of this country, & trace back their ancestry & you will find that they have done nothing but consume & yet have got in their possession, all the buildings, ships, manufactures, & fabrics of any kind, which the working classes and their ancestry have brought into existence. Now one of the first principles of human rights, is that the laborer is entitled to the fruit of his own labor. But we find the poorer & laboring classes in this country, in this respect, precisely in the same condition with the Slaves of our country, & the fruits of the one, are similar to the fruits of the other, viz:

Degradation, licentiousness, & crime, though less of <sup>physical</sup> cruelty & more of mental suffering. This being a correct view of the case, how, I ask, how is possible for the British people, sustaining such a system, to be in favor of abolition as we understand it; which will place the slave upon a <sup>natural</sup> political equality with his master?

Those American abolitionists who visit this country, & do not bear openly their testimony against British oppression, are in my opinion ~~are~~ unworthy the name of abolitionists as those Englishmen visiting America, who carry their anti-Slavery in their pockets, or lean it behind.

I have found but a very few devoted friends of liberty in this country. Mr. Adam is the most fraserless, upright man I have met with in the Kingdom. His soul is free and enlarged, with a large amount of <sup>sympathy</sup> intellect. Dr. John Bowring is another noble & generous spirit, his kindness to me has been my goal. He speaks of you with a great deal of warmth and affection. Ashurst was quite scaly in his appearance & treatment. He did not treat me with hardly the civilities of common politeness. Geo. Thompson, a most amiable and affectionate spirit, though in his nature timid & compromising. His approbation is quite too large for his self esteem. It is hard for him to go against the will of his friends. I have not had the pleasure of hearing him speak publically, as yet. But the most noble of all the English spirits I have met with is Elizabeth Pease. What an enlarged & free mind! How faithful & uncompromising! How liberal & self-denying! How social and amiable! She possesses qualifications, sufficient to constitute her, emphatically, a noble woman.

I have not as yet seen Murray, Smeal, Webb or Haughton, though I have become acquainted by letter with most of them.

You say I must return as soon as possible if I do not succeed in raising money. Though I must confess I found <sup>things</sup> ~~very~~ about as you described it, yet I thank the Lord for directing me to this country. New organization is & has been making good work with the English abolitionists. The Broad St. Committee never ~~formed~~ <sup>fridied</sup> a more crafty & subtle plan for taking revenge upon yourself, than by securing Birney, Stanton & Stuart to travel the country ostensibly to create an anti-Slavery feeling, but really to sow discord & retail falsehood & calumny. Whenever I have fallen in their wake I find the people poisoning the most distorted mind respecting yourself and the genuine Am. abolition. They appear to feel that old organization constitutes the summum bonum of ~~conf-~~ genuine fervor & that old organization, of the Garrison school, is the climax of absurdities. That you are a Unitarian, which is sufficient

reason for casting both yourself and old organization beyond the pale of union  
or sympathy. They really believe, & consider their position indisputable, that the Am  
A.S. Society is but another name for a woman's rights & no human government  
society, & that it was from the continual thrusting in of these extraneous top-  
ics, that such noble spirits as Stanton, Birney, Tappan et al, <sup>compelled</sup> for the  
sake of peace and the pro-~~cess~~ slave, to, peaceably, withdraw  
and form another anti-slavery association. But when the subject is pre-  
sented to them in its true light they are confounded, yet they pass  
this country, deaf to every thing like British opposition, and not in the  
least exciting English prejudices, and also under the auspices of the  
Broad St. Committee, that it is very hard to persuade the English, that  
such kind, gentle & peaceable men as ~~those who~~ B. & F. could advocate  
a false principle, or be actuated by any other motive than that pure love to the  
slave. The contrast between yourself and them was so great that my ar-  
gument loses half its force, as they have seen you both &c. &c. But I am happy  
to say, that my mission to this country had not been without some service  
to the cause. I have got things in such a train that it will be almost im-  
possible for me to leave before the first of February. What I have been  
doing was preparatory, and now I am nearly prepared to storm the Cad-  
dis. The B. & F. Com. have done infinite evil to our cause by holding the ap-  
pearance, to the abolitionists of this country, of neutrality. To make them  
show their colors, I have addressed them a note with my credentials, request-  
ing their aid and countenance. In doing this, I had another object, and  
that was to get before the committee, and if I can get an audience <sup>an explanation of</sup> to the  
real position of our Society, & of all the facts connected with it, I am sure it  
will be divided, & then old organization will soon assume a tangible appearance.

The com. are to meet the first of Jan, and no doubt they will refuse me both  
their money & their countenance, when I shall demand the reasons & when they are given  
shall try the privilege of showing them that the charges have no existence in fact.  
All the quakers upon the committee, that I have been favored with an interview are  
anxious to have me meet the com., but the Rev. is opposed to being disturbed upon  
the question, as a matter of course.

I regret that I have no more to show for my labors, but I can assure you I  
never write so many letters in the same time, & performed so much real hard  
labor in my life. The English are a slow moving people & this will somewhat account  
for it. I had an interview with Gen. T. Buxton, but his mind is so completely absorbed

in his civilisation scheme, which is suffering somewhat from the jealousies  
of the B. & L. Com. and an attack made upon it by "the Times," arising as I  
understand, from some personal affair, between one of the proprietors of that paper  
& Sir Geo. Stephens, that he could not give me much of his time, & so great was  
the demand upon his purse that giving money was out of the question. I wrote him  
several letters & the following note will exhibit his feeling towards yourself and our  
Society: "If I were to show you the amount of drain which has taken place upon my  
"purse in the last few months, for matters solely connected with the Negroes, I am sure  
"you would not apply to me - But feeling sincerely desirous of showing that I am  
"not deaf to an appeal from a Society, to which my friend Garrison belongs, I send you  
"the enclosed trifles (ten pounds.)" I cannot however authorize you to make applications as  
"under my sanction or by my direction, for the truth is, the A. S. people of this country  
"have already been pressed too hard." &c. &c. Saml. Gurney & Thos. Sturge, each have  
given fifty pounds, & with the various influences I have secured I shall be able to  
hold public meetings in spite of the Com. when I have no doubt we shall get some  
money & fully expose the selfishness & deception of new organization. I think I am now  
prepared to do more good for the cause the next month than for the two past months, yet  
if it is the decision of our Bd. that I must return immediately I shall be most obedi-  
ent to their commands. It is the decided opinion of our friends that I ~~shall~~ <sup>must</sup> not leave  
till the middle of May, though their view does not have great influence with me as I understand on points  
one word about Mrs. Bishop & Chace. I exceedingly regret to learn that there is any unpleasant  
and feelings between them. My object in having Bishop remain was to have either him or  
Chace in the field ~~all~~ <sup>all</sup> the times, & for him to take charge of the office & press the book  
business &c. &c. I trust he will not press any thing to involve the Board till I come  
home, as there may be many little things that no one can explain but myself  
& it would certainly be very ungenerous for him to press any inquiries under such  
circumstances. "The Mail" has given me a tremendous blowing up, because I  
did not specifically define his precise duties, as Clerk of the office, Gen. Agt. &  
Editor of the "Offering." I think, I am confident, that <sup>I had secured</sup> Mrs. Chapman's <sup>own</sup>  
promise to write for the offering, correspond with the abolitionists &c. &c. & that I wished him,  
to co-operate with. Little did I think of jealousies & discord springing up. I shall write  
as condoling a letter to him as I can, consecratively. I hope he will let you see  
it. Plead to remember me most affectionately to the Chapmans, Mr. Stone, Lactons  
Loring, Savalls, Chace's, Johnson's & all the true & faithful in the cause of impartial  
liberty. My grateful remembrance to Mrs. Garrison, & Mrs. Johnson & a kiss for each of  
your little ones. May the Lord span them to you, & give you grace to train them for truth  
and Him, that they may more than occupy the place of their fathers, in leading this  
lost world to Christ & Salvation.

That spirit of faith & meekness & of love, in one word, the spirit of our Divine  
Master may be upon you & guide you in all truth and love is the prayer of your loving friend  
J. H. Collins