

R.D.W.
Boston, Dec. 1, 1840.

My dear Collins:

69 Two months have now elapsed since you left us, and yet no one has received a word of intelligence directly from you; - and were it not that, in a letter to me, Elizabeth Pease had announced your safe arrival, and your visit to Darlington, we should all be in a state of disquietude on your account. The Acadia, Britannia, Caladonia, British Queen, and Great Western, have all arrived since you landed in England. You may have written by some one of these conveyances: if so, your letters have never come to hand. We shall expect to hear from you, without fail, by the next packet. I wrote a letter to you by the Caladonia, on her previous trip, and sent it by the surgeon; but, instead of dropping it into the Post-Office at Liverpool, he had the boldness to break open the seal, and read its contents, and keep it in his possession! He has since been dismissed, and Dr. M'Fear, a young friend of mine, of Glasgow, has ~~been~~ taken ^{his} place, by whom the letter has been returned to me. I shall put it in the mail-bag to-day for you, although it contains nothing of special importance.

Elizabeth speaks of your visit to Darlington with a great deal of pleasure. I knew it would be refreshing to her spirits to see another specimen of old organization abolitionism. Is she not a truly superior woman? She is apprehensive that you will not meet with much success in collecting funds; and should her fears be realized, you will, of course, hasten home as soon as practicable - for we need your presence here exceedingly at the present juncture. She will not be able to give much herself, on account of her heavy expenditures in aid of the East India movement, as well as in various other ways. Her heart is large and liberal.

Nothing of special importance has transpired since you left. On the score of health, I believe in the circle of our anti-slavery acquaintance all are well, except the wife of Thomas Davis of Providence, (Wm. M. Chace's sister,) whose demise is almost daily expected.

What has created the greatest stir among us is our recent Sabbath Convention, in Chardon-street Chapel. About fifty clergymen were present at various times, though scarcely one of them deigned to enrol his name as a member of the body. The champions in favor of the commonly received views of the Sabbath were nearly all new organized abolitionists - viz. A. A. Phelps, (who spoke nearly four hours at one time, with a good deal of tact and spirit) - Nath. Colver, who exhibited his vulgarity and personal malice at full length - C. T. Torrey, who said very little to the purpose - Dr. Asgoud, of Springfield, who reasoned fairly and in good temper. Luther Lee was also on hand, charged to the muzzle with "logic," but, unfortunately, he could not get an opportunity to fire it off. Bro. Hawley was likewise anxious to give the anti-Sabbatarians a blast, but failed to get the floor. J. V. Himes and P. R. Russell spoke at some length, in a declamatory manner, in favor of the Sabbath. The latter has discontinued his Liberator, and several others have done so, since the ball of the Sabbath Convention was published in its columns; among them our friend John Smith of Andover, (he has stopped two or three copies,) who has virtually turned his back upon the anti-slavery cause, gone back to his pro-slavery minister Jackson, acknowledged his faults, and connected himself again with the church - and all to show his regard for religion, and his abhorrence of heetics! Phelps made the best argument in favor of the Sabbath at the convention, but the foundation of it was a supposition, and the key-stone an inference. I was sorry that I could get no opportunity to reply to him. On

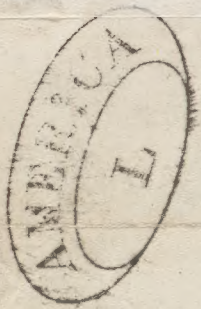
being pushed as to the meaning of the declaration, "There remaineth, therefore, a rest for the people of God," he said it meant the first day of the week!! Taylor, the "sailor preacher," behaved in a most outrageous manner, and exhibited a dreadfully malignant spirit. There was a great deal of rambling discussion, to very little purpose. - Mrs. Folsom interrupted the proceedings continually, and spoke in a very disorderly manner. Mellen had a word to say at the eleventh hour. But you will see the proceedings hereafter. The clergy are out now, every Sabbath, preaching it up as a divine institution; but the who is Lord of the Sabbath, and who is himself the true rest, will confound them.

1 [Gen. Harrison is elected President by an overwhelming majority. At the late election, the great body of abolitionists violated their solemn pledges, and voted for party. George Broadburn at the East, and John Rankin at the West, did a great deal of harm by supporting Harrison. On Nantucket, there was ~~not~~ but 1 scattering vote! Poor Birney, it is estimated, has received some five or six thousand votes out of two millions and a half! The farce is equally ludicrous and melancholy. Yet the Emancipator, Friend of Man, and Abolitionist, seem determined to keep it up.

New organization is drooping to its death. Aside from the third party movement in this State, it has no vitality. In our meetings, we denounce it as the worst form of pro-slavery.]

2 [Rogers has his hands full in New-Hampshire, but he is a moral Richard coeur de lion, and gives his blows thick and fast. He writes both for the Standard and the Herald of Freedom. Bro. Johnson has been in New-York for some weeks past, and will probably remain there during the winter, superintending the Standard.

James C. Jackson is actively engaged in lecturing in western New-York. How they are getting along at New-York, I do not know. In this State, we are doing almost nothing. We have not a single agent in the field - and yet this is the very season of the year when we ought to be up and doing. I lecture as often as I can conveniently, but it is very difficult for me to be absent from Boston. Bro. Bishop is still at 25, Cornhill, but he seems to have a sort of Paul Pory disposition, and has given me an article for publication in the Liberator, calling upon the Board to answer a variety of questions which he propounds to them, &c. &c. Some of



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them he very well knows cannot be answered until your return from England. What his motive is, I cannot imagine. I do not think I shall publish his communications.

[I attended the State meeting of the A. S. Society at Providence, a few days since. It was pretty well attended, and passed some strong resolutions.] Abby Kelley was present, and spoke.

Of course, you and dear Thompson have become acquainted with each other, long ere this. Give my choicest remembrances to him and his lady, to E. Pease, G. L. Remond, Wm. Smeal, &c. &c.

Yours, faithfully,

Wm. Lloyd Garrison