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New Bedford April 15 57
Thursday.

My dearest Maria

I have postponed answering your letter concerning the coloured woman, from day to day in hopes that I should have something satisfactory to write at last, but I am constrained to say that I think a school here would have no sort of a chance for success. To me it is hardly desirable that there should be an exclusively coloured school established, for the public schools are all open, and black children admitted on terms of the most perfect equality. The coloured people are not willing to support it themselves, and the white friends think that the exertions that they made last summer to keep Judith Cook's school open did no sort of good. I have done what I could in the matter, but my school is so large and at night I am so exhausted that I can do but little. I have 44 scholars & I assure you I never worked so hard in my life. It ~~does not~~ seems to me as if I could not stand it going on at this rate all summer, I have been so tired for the last week that I could not sleep at night, & that is something wonderful for me. Perhaps I have been more fatigued on account of my arduous anti-slavery

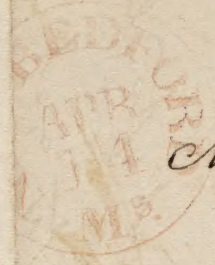
labours. It is a great comfort however that I have not laboured in vain, Tell Anne that she need not trouble herself about documents, ~~for~~ ^{for} ~~seeing~~ ^{seeing} Dr Ely for as Providence would have it, every thing was in that old bundle of anti-slavery papers that Knapp gave me. Mr Emerson & Mr Underwood both deacons in Mr Holmes church refused to hear Dr Ely preach, not even upon week day. And Mr Emerson has not had the Liberator containing the account of the anti abolition meeting at which Dr Ely officiated, out of his pocket for the last week. Monday morning Mr Pope Mr Charles's father in law flamed out in the Gazette I send it to you and also Mr Holmes answer which came out this morning. It is thought that Charles assisted Mr Pope in writing it, & that bit in Holmes letter about people smelling of alcohol is at Mr Charles. It has made great excitement, & this is by no means the end of it. Mr Holmes said to Mr Emerson the other day, "However wicked & hurtful you may think slavery to be, you can't think so bad of it as I do of the abolitionists." All this I write for Anne's benefit. Quite a number of the New Bedford people, went over to Fall River to the County Anti-Slavery meeting, Mr Emerson among the number. Aunt Sally wanted to carry me very much, but I could not leave. Stanton & Dresser were much admired.

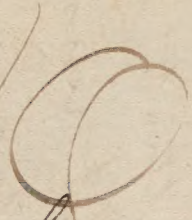
Tell Anne I got the box by Ably Osgood in safety, Anne's gown looks exactly like her to me, & I do not wish to wear it - for fear it will loose the resemblance. The last time I saw her wear it was at our house. How beautiful Mrs Child's notice of her death is. O hat, ~~and~~ Anne's poetry is very much liked here. Oh if I could but see her.

I am very glad that Caroline is not going to Providence. I do so hate to have her leave Boston. If you hear of any situation near Boston you may engage it for me, for I really think that I do more than my share here. I am really in a state of slavery. Tell Anne I will send the slave the first chance. Write me word when the convention is to be in Boston, for I aim to arrange my vacation by it. Charlotte Baker is just gone. She is at Northampton. They had a letter from her husband saying that she was so weak that she cannot raise her hand to her head. They expect every day to hear of her death. She appears to know nothing of her situation, or to feel in the least how ~~poor~~ ^{poor} she is. The Drovers here are very anxious that Angelina Grimké should be here in June to attend the yearly meeting. I am writing in great haste in order not to lose the mail for I want you to get this by tomorrow night. Write to me soon. Give much love to the Chapmans, to ^{the} Henrys & to all. Read the papers & give them to Anne. be sure.

most truly yours A W

Ms. A. 9. 2. 9. 27




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