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Leominster Jan 19th 1847



My Dear Friend Garrison

4 Our indefatigable & whole souled friend Pillsbury has just closed a three days work in this place. & such a work has never been done here before. Our people have been determined ever since they first heard him in convention last year not to like him or his principles. I have been equally determined they should like both him & his truths. I longed for an opportunity for him to present his views, the time has come he has spoken & to the purpose too. The blind have received their sight. Anti-slavery never stood so high in this town as today. We had a grand meeting Sunday. Although some of the ministers told their people to go to hear Parker Saturday, but Sunday they must go to the house of God. They did not heed the latter but on the contrary went to the house of man, & heard the truths which they received gladly. The field is white already to harvest. The people are ripe, "rotten ripe" for truth, & I say let it come in your person. Now is just the day for you. I have spoken for the Unitarian house for you, when you shall come, & let me tell you. Mr Withington Unitarian Minister called on husband Saturday last, & says to him. "Mrs Drake told me Mr Garrison is to speak here in a few weeks, do you think he will be here on next week of Saturday? if so I will give notice tomorrow from my pulpit." Now this may not seem much to you, but to us it is very cheering. I am determined to do all in my power to have anti-slavery meetings once in two or four weeks through the winter. It can be done & must be, & if so there is yet hope of us as a powerful aid in the cause, for we have good hearts & heads, & full

purposes among our people. & you & I want the benefit of these
instrumentalities in carrying on the work of God. Now the
question is shall I make it known to the people that you
will be here to speak on Saturday the 6th of Feb & through the
day on Sunday? The people have had a hint of your coming & are
all on tiptoe, nothing else will do. I hope you will bring Moody
with you. as he is generally liked here, & it will be too much
for you to speak four times in succession. he could give you
time to rest & at the same time carry on the work to advantage.
As this is the first & it may be the last time you will visit us
I hope you ^{will} stop as long as possible. I propose having a social
party at our house on Monday evening after you have rested from
your Sunday labors I shall depend on this, as there are very many
of our influential people who will embrace the opportunity of forming
an acquaintance with you. Probably you think I am quite in earnest
about this matter. I confess I feel so. Please give notice in the Lib. as
Westminster & Princeton friends are hoping to be present.
Please also drop me a line lest I should not get the Lib. in season
to give one Sunday's notice. If you come on the 6th. I must have word
next week on Saturday. I ought to crave your pardon for troubling
you with this scrawl, or at least for taking up so much of your time.

With best wishes for you & yours,

I remain yours to the end

(Mrs.) A. H. Drake