

Middleville Aug 22 - 1851

My dear Friend -

Yours of 12th inst. did not reach me till last evening, having been remailed at West Dindfield - The announcement of your change of decision in relation to a visit to this State greatly surprised me and my regret - ^{more, my} grief - was far greater than my surprise -

Your friends, and especially those who see the importance of the true measures for the overthrow of Slavery being developed and set home on the minds of all who sympathize with the anti-slavery movement, will not, I know, be reconciled to this step. - - New York has a large amount of anti-slavery sympathy within its borders - This sympathy has been bedazzled by the glitter of political machinery, again, and again, and again, ^{and} which has failed to accomplish its promises. This sympathy has been made the prey of various schemes, professedly to accomplish the same object - Such, for instance, as the running off of slaves, for which large amounts of money were collected and for which no body was made responsible; and then again the friends of the slave were deceived for the professed object of educating fugitives - - Nothing came of either scheme except the "failure" of raising \$30,000 for Chaplin - And now, here are these so often cheated and oft long enduring people, eagerly asking "What shall we do to save the slave, ourselves, our country

Humanity? — Shall we leave them to be still again
imposed upon by those selfish, those Knavish creatures,
Chaplin, Jackson (and Hathaway? Or worse by Douglass?
Who is less openly dishonest than I fear in the end he
will be proved to be really worse than either of the
others.

My dear friend, it will not do to let the present
glorious opportunity slip by — The honest-hearted com-
mon people are not yet re-committed to any politi-
cal scheme. They have been so often disgusted that
now they are longing to find a more excellent way.
O! I pray you, let us seize ^{it} on this golden moment —
The Pennsylvanians are well instructed — They are
steadfast (and we need have no fears for them.
Should they be fully informed of the greater necessities
of New York, I am confident they would say
we will give you up — And, again, New York has
a prior claim in the matter ^{as} your engagement
to come here ^{was made} so early as last Spring and ~~that~~ ^{it} has
been repeated over and over again. Mr. May told
me, just before I left home, that you still ad-
hered to your East Springs purpose, and I have
given extensive ^{public} notice of the fact in almost every
place I have visited, with special reference to the
object for which I ^{mainly} come out this summer, ^{mainly},
that is, to make arrangements for the work to be done
here in the autumn and winter by the American Society.
I have been raising funds and obtaining pledges for that

Purpose, not only by my individual efforts, but
by correspondence with reliable friends in different
parts of the State. To all these also I have said you
were coming.

Can I say your friends advise against your undertaking
this arduous work at this sickly season - My dear
friend, I know your invaluable life and health are
as precious in my sight as in that of any other of
your friends, and never could I counsel a step which
could put either in jeopardy - - - If Sept. is
not the best time, then commence in Oct., and leave
the Conventions so far apart in time as to give you
ample ^{opportunities} ~~time~~ to rest. This is the way we arranged
for Thompson, but he would fill up the intervals
and so became exhausted - But you shall, in the
cool of your own winter, before you get into the
excitement of the battle, take counsel of your wife,
(and she shall say how often you shall attend a
meeting, and then we will stand pledged to keep
you to the arrangement. And, again, you shall
say whether you will give three weeks or six to
this State, and we will be thankful (and satisfied
with even a very little of your time, which we
know, full well, is of such inestimable importance
to your family and the Liberator. But a little we
must have. I feel that my honor is at stake, but
this is nothing to you, which is also at stake, and
both are a trifle to the necessities of the cause which

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