

Boston, May 31, 1853.

My Dear Friend:

121 Peter Still has been in this region for some time past, and as far down East as Brunswick, slowly but perseveringly accumulating a portion of the extortionate sum needed to obtain the ransom of his wife and children. He is as modest as he is untiring, and as patient and hopeful as he is affectionate and upright. Poor man! his is an uphill work, of the severest kind; but I hope it will not be in vain. I feel a fire in all my veins to think of such a man being robbed of his wife and family, as coolly and heartlessly as though he were a mere beast, and they were literally but pieces of merchandise — robbed according to law, according to the American Constitution, and according to American Christianity. Nor is he allowed to have them, as any slave trader can have them, at "a fair market" value — say, \$2500 — but he, because he is the husband and the father, and because they attempted to make their escape in order to be with them, is required to pay \$5000 for them — and then to regard it as a special favor on the part of the miscreant who claims them as his property! How revolting!

Peter has collected about eleven hundred dollars, in addition to the two hundred in your possession. He leaves here on his way home this afternoon, and desires me to request you to send the sum in your hands to Dr. Joseph Parrish, Burlington, N. J., in such manner as may be safest and best.

Our Executive Committee have had a meeting, and unanimously agreed to comply with your suggestion, to hold a special meeting of the American Anti-Slavery Society at Syracuse, on the 29th and 30th of September next, with reference to a grand co-operation at the "Jerry rescue" celebration on the 1st of October. We shall leave the arrangements, as to the place of meeting, and the price of tickets, (if it be deemed best to have any, whether for the day-time or the evening,) to your discretion, and that of the other friends whom you may consult - wishing the aim to be, to secure as full an attendance as practicable.

Our New England A. S. Convention, just terminated, has been a very interesting one, and gave very great satisfaction. The chief topic discussed was the pro-slavery character of the U. S. Constitution, and the duty of repudiating all allegiance to it.

We are all highly favored with health at home. I hope your dear wife finds her own health more and more improving. Helen unites with me in the kindest regards to you and Charlotte, and all the children. As for yourself, we are both

Yours, with boundless affection,  
Wm. Lloyd Garrison.

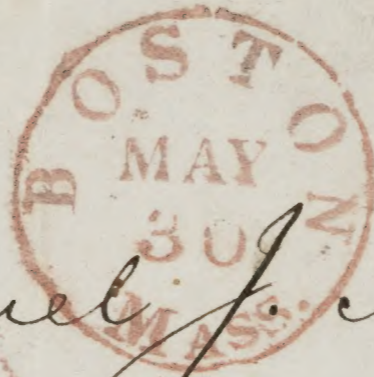
Samuel J. May.

Handwritten characters on the left margin, including 'a', 'e', and 'u'.



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Rev. Samuel J. May,  
Syracuse,  
N. Y.

Wm. L. Garrison  
May 31, '53