

Boston, Sept. 11, 1854.

W. L. Garrison
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My Dear Friend:

180- Yours of the 9th is just received. It comes opportunely; for your cousin S. M., Jr., Mr. Phillips and myself were seriously proposing to announce to you, by telegraph, our conclusion not to attempt a meeting of the American A. S. Society at Syracuse. And for this reason — the prospective and probable lack of effective speakers. Theodore Parker cannot attend — Wendell Phillips cannot — and Lucy Stone says she has made her engagements to lecture on Woman's Rights, in Vermont, at that time, so that it will be extremely difficult for her to get to Syracuse; still, if her presence is imperatively demanded, she will go there. Your cousin cannot go. So that, the only reliable persons are Lucy and myself. It is possible, and not improbable, that William Wells Brown will arrive in season (indeed, we expect him here in the course of another week) from England, and doubtless he can be prevailed to go with us. Then, your cousin thinks Remond, and also the Rev. Mr. Foss, can attend, on their way to the West. Our indefatigable friend, Abby Kelley Foster, means also to be present. If all these should assemble, of course with your help, and that of others in your region, we should be able to get along; especially if (as you suggest in your letter) Saturday forenoon and afternoon be consecrated to the Jerry Rescue Celebration; which arrangement is perfectly agreeable to us — therefore, let it be made.

As for your kind offer of your pulpit on the ensuing Sunday, I dare not promise, now, to fill it for one service, and cannot say whether Lucy Stone would feel like accepting your offer, after so many meetings in succession, but trust she will do so. This matter we will determine when we meet. If neither of us should feel prepared for the service, perhaps you would like to have Rev. Mr. Foss (should be with us) preach for you. I presume he would readily and acceptably do so.

No appointments must be made for me in your region. I shall be necessitated to return home on the ensuing Monday, as, in a few days afterward, I am bound to start for Pennsylvania, and then onward to Cincinnati, Ohio.

Now let me add, that if, in view of all contingencies, you think it best (seeing that neither Parker nor Phillips can attend) that our meeting should not be held, just say so at once by telegraph, and we will omit it — and glad shall I ^{be} to be let off, much as I desire to see you and yours, face to face, as well as some other dear friends in Syracuse.

I will give Mr. Parker your message at the earliest opportunity. You are aware that, unlike myself, he is not "spiritually minded." Alas for the heretic!

We congratulate Charlotte on her marriage, and wish her and her beloved all conceivable happiness.

Our united loves to your dear wife, to Benny, and John, &c. &c.

Yours, with deathless affection,
Wm. Lloyd Garrison.

Rev. Samuel J. May.