

Wm Lloyd Garrison

Dec 18 1870.

Wm Lloyd Garrison,

My dear friend,

On my return  
from Chicago, where I had the  
pleasure of passing an evening  
with our friend Wendell Phillips  
& of hearing him speak very  
effectively of you, I find  
your esteemed letter of 12<sup>th</sup> inst.

I am not at all displeas-  
ed at your questioning the wisdom  
of these third party movements -  
for I know that you would be  
wiser than myself, were you  
pro-slavery or downright man.

I refer to you for any man who  
clings to a pro-slavery or downright  
party, because, whatever his pro-

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*[Faint, illegible handwriting on lined paper]*

Officers against slavery or drafts, &  
I cannot trust him. Hence the  
wearing I feel for an independent  
party. That I shall thereby most  
promote the progress of my cause -  
is a secondary consideration  
with me. I know that this "third  
function" are betrayed. The Liberty  
Party are - but for me all  
the parties.

In reference to my putting  
My Kelly on a Committee  
in 1839. I thank God for having  
given me the courage to do so.

I hope from what you say  
of Paul Butler's unprincipled attempt  
to involve us in a war with  
England that you will probably  
criticise him -

So you are 66 & I more than  
73  $\frac{1}{2}$ ! Neither of us far from the  
entirely well! I am in improved  
health. My wife joins me in love  
to you & yours -  
Smithwith

*[Faint, illegible handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]*