

Independent Office,  
New York, April 5, 1870.

My Dear Garrison,

The time is come when I must begin to plan for the next Yearly Meeting of Progressive Friends. It falls regularly upon the first Thursday in June; but I have a suspicion that this year that day comes within the week of the Boston anniversaries, in which case I shall make an effort to have the meeting put off till the 2d Thursday, the 9th of the month. Of all the men in the world I want you to be there. Please tell me if, in case you are not ill yourself and Helen is no worse, I may depend on your coming. Please tell me also if Vida Blake or Rowland

Courner is the better man for such an occasion, and whether I could probably get either of them. And how about Phoebe Hanford? Is she a ready speaker? I believe she is at New Haven now. Am I right?

We shall this year sound a ~~pea~~ peal over the Fiftenth Amendment, and I greatly desire that you may be present. Can you come?

I am app<sup>hen</sup>ensive that Mary Anne, in nursing Mrs. Davis, will lose all that she had gained, or might have gained, by her trip to Florida. Mrs. Davis has been very ill, and Mary Anne's labor and anxiety <sup>on her account</sup> have been great. She was better at last accounts, though still very weak.

I do not know whether Thaddeus will "make a spoon or spoil a horn" by his peace movement. The feeling in favor of union and harmony is very strong,

and I am only anxious that it shall not appear to be the fault of our Society if the object is not attained. Of one thing I am sure, viz: that a new Society, if the Boston friends will <sup>coöperate</sup> ~~consent~~, can be put under such management as would be unobjectionable to them and involve no sanction of the Revolution or the clique around it. My fear is, if Boston stands aloof, that the other side will make a merit of coming in to the new movement, and thus gain in popular sympathy. Neither Mrs. Stanton nor Susan will attend the Conference, and I hope our Society will be informally if not officially represented. My impression is that by good management the movement can be put on a basis that will disentangle it entirely from the follies of France. Mrs. Stanton, I

knows, is disposed to retire from the  
conflict; and it does seem a pity  
that the movement should be distracted  
by personal quarrels.

Yours, ever & always,

Wm. Johnson.