

90 E. 12th St., New York,

Sunday Evening, Nov. 13.  
1864

My Dear Garrison,

182 I came home last night from Pennsylvania, whither I went to attend the annual meeting of the State Anti-Slavery Society. I had ~~concluded~~ <sup>determined</sup> not to go, but on receiving an intimation that the course of the Standard, <sup>in the recent election</sup> might possibly be discussed, I concluded that my presence in the <sup>meeting</sup> might be of service to the cause, and therefore went. It was a one-day meeting, and no speakers from abroad were invited. James & Lucretia Mott, J. M. McKim, <sup>Sarah Pugh,</sup> Mary Grew, Abby Kimber, Reben Tomlinson, E. M. Davis, <sup>B. C. Bailey,</sup> ~~and~~ Robert Purvis, and W. H. Furness were the principal persons on the platform, while on the

floor were ~~many~~ a goodly number  
of the ~~Admiral's~~ old-time friends  
of the cause, chiefly from the  
region around Westchester, where  
the meeting was held. James  
Mott presided, and Reuben Tom-  
pkins acted as Secretary. B. C.  
Bacon, Cor. Sec., read a brief and  
very feeble report, which, after  
some discussion, was referred to  
the Ex. Com., to be disposed of  
as they should see fit. I doubt  
if it ever sees the light, for, though  
right in sentiment, it was wholly  
inadequate to the time and the  
occasion. No Business Committee  
was appointed, but Mary Grew  
introduced a series of resolutions,  
a copy of which I will enclose  
in this letter, so that you can  
print them this week if you like.  
They are <sup>sound</sup> ~~correct~~ in sentiment and  
felicitous in expression, and will con-

would the assent of every true Aboli-  
tionist. They contain not a line or word  
of endorsement of the characteristic  
notions of Phillips, Pillsbury & Co., but  
only assert our old-time doctrines, with  
in phraseology adapted to the crisis.  
The members of the <sup>Ex.</sup> Com., with the exception  
of McKim and Bacon, are somewhat  
Phillipsish in their sympathies, but all  
except E. M. Davis (and perhaps I ought  
not to except him) were <sup>anxious</sup> ~~desirous~~ not to  
introduce the Phillips controversy into  
the meeting. But it came up in this  
wise. During the morning session, by  
advice of some of our friends, I took  
occasion to mention the project for  
a union of the Standard and Libera-  
tor, stating that it was under considera-  
tion of the Ex. Comm. of the Am. Society.  
I remarked that, as the two papers  
circulated considerably in Pa., and  
quite a number of their subscribers  
and readers were present, I thought

they might well express their feelings on the subject if they were prepared to do so. The announcement appeared to excite a good deal of interest, but as the hour of adjournment was near, no one spoke on the subject.

In the afternoon, Mary Grew again read her resolutions, and McKim offered the following, ~~which~~ which he hoped the Society would adopt. E. M. Davis, ~~while~~ ~~of~~ ~~no~~ ~~more~~ ~~prepared~~ ~~to~~ ~~oppose~~ ~~the~~ ~~union~~ ~~case~~

Resolved, That we have heard with satisfaction that the Ex. Committee of the American A. S. Society has under consideration, a plan for uniting the Liberator and <sup>the Anti-Slavery</sup> Standard in one paper, in the conduct of which William Lloyd Garrison shall take a prominent part; and that we earnestly hope the plan may be carried into effect at an early day.

E. M. Davis said he was not prepared to oppose the union, but he

understood that Wendell Phillips was opposed to it, and he thought the Pa. Society, in view of that fact, should not express an opinion, but refer the matter to its Ex. Com. He took occasion from the resolution to relieve his mind in regard to the course of the Standard and Liberator during the Presidential election, charging them with partizanship, unfairness, etc., and substituting expediency for principle. He spoke in perfect good temper, however. The subject being thus opened, there was considerable discussion, of which I can give you no accurate report. Of course I defended myself, and, as I think, successfully. McKim spoke well. He said the idea of writing the two papers ~~was~~ was older than the Phillips controversy and had no legitimate connection with it; and he hoped that the Pa. Society, composed of

the supporters of the two papers, would express their feelings on the subject. He could see no propriety in referring the matter to the Ex. Com. The Society adopted the resolution by a loud aye; and it was opposed by only a single nay. In private intercourse a great deal was said on the subject, and there was but one opinion. E. M. D. indeed said that he could himself do no objection to the union, and I believe every member of the Ex. Com. is favorable to it. A considerable number of subscribers to the Liberator took occasion to say to me that they highly approved the plan and hoped it would be adopted. I had no thought when I left home of bringing the subject to the notice of the Society, but Sarah Pugh told me, on the way to Westchester, that she thought it would be well to do so, and

Others appeared to be of the same opinion; and therefore I concluded to speak frankly on the matter, and see how the proposition would affect those in attendance on the meeting. You have the result in the foregoing resolution, which you may print if you like with those introduced by Miss Grew.

The desire of those who have sympathized most with Phillips is now that the election is over to "let bygones be bygones." I don't think they will go with him in any effort to divide our ranks. When I told them (privately) of his feelings toward me and of his desire to kill the Standard as "a fraud and a disgrace" to the Am. Society, not one ~~appeared~~ seemed in the least disposed to agree with him. Of course I had much private talk with E. M. D., Mrs. Mott

and others, and I believe they feel perfectly friendly and kind towards me and the paper. Their notions about the matters at issue between you and Phillips seem to me to rest not upon reason, but to grow out of a morbid personal sympathy.

Mary Anne joins me in love to you and Helen and all your household. I hope Dr. Mann has taken Helen's case in hand before now, and that his treatment will be efficacious.

What a glorious victory we have won! Even Dr. Cheever voted for Lincoln, as I prophesied he would.

My love to George Thompson when you see him.

Yours, ever,

Olive Johnson.