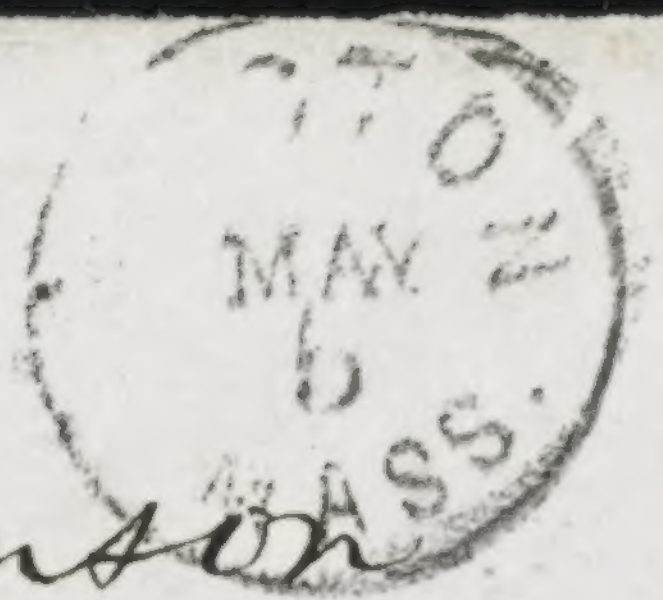


May 5, 1872

Oliver Johnson,
Tribune Office,
New York City.



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Roxbury, May 5, 1872.

My Dear Johnson:

You were very kind in sending me another letter so promptly, especially in reference to the illness of your beloved wife and the nature of her disease; for all the members of our home circle are deeply sympathizing with her in her serious prostration, and with you in the anxiety you must feel on her account. I am not willing to entertain the thought, for a moment, that it is a sickness unto death, notwithstanding it is her impression that it will prove so; for she has many times before been brought extremely low, and yet her constitution, though never vigorous, has carried her safely through. One thing it is solacing to know, that, whatever may be the result, she is well prepared for it; and, whether living or dying, she will be ready for earth or the heavenly

sphere as it shall please a loving Father to determine. No one more clearly perceives than she does that death is simply a transitional experience, a new birth under better conditions than the first; and she has had too many proofs of the continued existence of those who have gone before to entertain the feeblest doubt as to the destiny of endless progression that awaits her.

I have been quite feeble in health since I last wrote, and have abandoned the hope of attending any meetings in New York this anniversary week. I am sorry it so happens, as I want to see you and Mary Anne so much, to say nothing of Wendell and his wife and children; and for another reason, that - as Lucy Stone informs me - Mrs. Livermore, Mrs. Pouligh, and James Freeman Clark, for some reason or other, will not be able to attend as advertised. It leaves a serious gap.

Of course, I am cherishing the hope that I shall be permitted to attend the Longwood meetings.

I am glad to hear that Theodore has received the sum you mention from Mr. Bowen; and also to be informed that he did not write the sweeping impeachments that have appeared in the editorial columns of his paper against Gen. Grant. But he is responsible for them before the public.

I am sorry Mr. Greeley was nominated for the Presidency at Cincinnati, and shall be still more sorry if he makes up his mind to stand - as, in that case, he may so divide the Republican ranks as to ensure the triumph of the Democratic party. His own election is not a supposable case.

Don't take the trouble to answer this.

Faithfully yours,

W. L. G.

(In haste.)

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