

Weymouth

Jan 17

My dear Loggyn.

I don't know that I can tell you any thing that has not been already told, unless I confine myself to my own individual experiences. I passed one day in Boston last week & saw a great many persons - ex-pro-slavery people, & was astonished at their change of mind. They had all lost more or less of their dear friends in the War & their eyes had been unsealed by tears, it is but fair to suppose: for I never saw such readiness to express regret & repentance for past complicity with Slavery. The common formula was - ah - you were right & we were wrong.

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There is not the least hesitation
on the part of those I meet in
saying this. But then they
cannot but feel that my real
sympathy is anxious to spare
them the punishment of
so the confession becomes a
pleasure to them. But it is
not uncommon to hear from
atheists, what, tho' a truth
is an unbecoming cant under
the circumstances — "we told
you so!"

And some of our abolition-
ists talk by weeks together in public
lectures, of carrying ^{our} republic
institutions through Europe by
fire & sword, saying at the
same time they are not worth

the Country, because we have
never known & may not hope to
know a Congress that could not
be bought for 20,000,000.
All this is ill-judged. Some day
too, that Seward is only fit to be
called a traitor, if it were not
Chiltons, - that Chase is unfit
for a high place, & that Butts
or Remond ought to be in
Lincoln's place. All this strikes
me as unwise to preach however
true it may be, in a philosoph-
ical sense, when spoken with
no comparative reference to the
past. These are our best friends
& most eloquent speakers,
our most patriotic & ardent repub-
licans in principle. But my
consolation is that the people
are wiser than to do this or

on such matters - but as far as I can see

to take exceptions to it.

They let it pass, - & will probably
elect Lincoln again.

Yesterday I spent at Muller's
Mill saw John Jones, who
most spent with filling up the
quota of recruits for Muller,

getting up mechanics & paying

money for the freed men on the
Mississippi, - raising horses for
his son the Major, in the
Mass^{ts} Cavalry down in Calif.

Now - trying to abate Sumner's
enthusiasm against the
English Government & nation

&c. &c. You see people will
differ, - even the best of people
as to the method to be pursued in
revolutionary times: & my

method is, not to hate them for
any such differences. I have

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very natural. We were trained
to a preparatory work, & well
we have performed it, but that
work is no longer needed. All
looks well, in camp & field, &
I am confident we have got
through the worst of the war.
So much for the near future.
For the far future, - when
the effect of 'public debt'
with the cessation of war-making
industries begins to be felt, & be-
fore recuperation takes place,
- "why that I must leave," as
good Aunt Phoebe used to say, &
doing the nearest duty, I doubt
not the path will make into the
darkness, to the next. I have
got from Mrs Shaw, her sons

done to Laurel & the infant

N. York custom-house, which is but just stopped. Mrs. San-

Photograph: He was not ham
some, like John Forbes' son, but
looks in the picture serious &
tanned, manly, intelligent; &
so he stands, — in the beach scene
as Lowell says. I am ordering
a frame for it out of Chestnut
wood & pine-cones. Henry & Eleanor
or have sent for Anne to come
to them & I hope she will
go. I had a talk with Garrison
the other day. He thinks as I
do about the wrong & impolicy
of charging Land & Tams & Proe
bucks upon England as a nation
or a government. As well charge
Fernando Wood & the Amuni-
tion he sent in spite of us, to
the South, to our government. As
well discredit Abm Lincoln with
the blockade-running out of the

March 26 1862