From Mrs M. W. Chapman.

Boston Feb. 5. 1865

My dear Mary

The great accomplished work of 1860,—accomplished by the resistance of the United States to the Slave Power, has received the legal seal of the Nation. The constitutional amendment abolishing slavery has gone through all the forms,—received the requisite signatures, & is in act of ratification in the State Legislatures. Maryland, so lately a slave state, could not await the forms, passing it in advance. Illinois, that land of Egyptian darkness till of late, was the first to adopt it. Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania—all the Great States have received & adopted it with firing of Cannon,—with ringing of Bells, & meetings of Jubilee. Strangers in the streets stop & shake hands upon it. The wildest exultation

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of joy reigned in the Legislature at Washington when the tension of that ~~session~~ memorable session was over. The cool undemonstrative Americans rushed into each other's arms. Men say who were present, that such a scene of irresponsible rejoicing was never before seen. Have no fear for the future of the negro! We need him as a citizen to hold the South for freedom by his vote. The ~~northern~~ nation needs him to save her from the reproach ~~&~~ she hates — of military despotism. — The reproach so undeservedly thrown upon her by the humiliated friends of the slave power within her own borders & the world over. To show you how strong the current of righteousness runs, I need only say that ambition, seeking for a political cry finds none so popular as "negro suffrage"! — And that Garrison was selected ~~to make~~ by a popular assemblage at which the Governor of the State consented to preside — to make the great speech of the occasion,

I never heard Garrison so impressive. The great assembly seemed to be of one heart & one mind with him, & cheers & weeping came from the deps of their hearts at every word he uttered.

Dr Manning, the clergyman at "the Old South" - that strong hold of Slavery in the earlier times, - now the Bulwark of Freedom, - talked to his congregation of "the toil worn laborer of Freedom's year, who touched every heart last night by his pious ascriptions "to God the Glory!," (& this was a communion Sabbath too!) Garrison quoted the Star spangled Banner - our favorite national song. The audience, loyal alike, all unionists to-day - stood up together to give it a thundering utterance. The hall, was hung with it - enough to overshadow a navy. There too was the British flag, & the flags of all the nations.

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I thought of all our English co-adjutors the living & the dead. Your beloved Father came to mind & most gratefully I remembered you all, ~~and~~

With affectionate regards to all our sympathising friends I am constantly yours

Jr. W. Chapman.