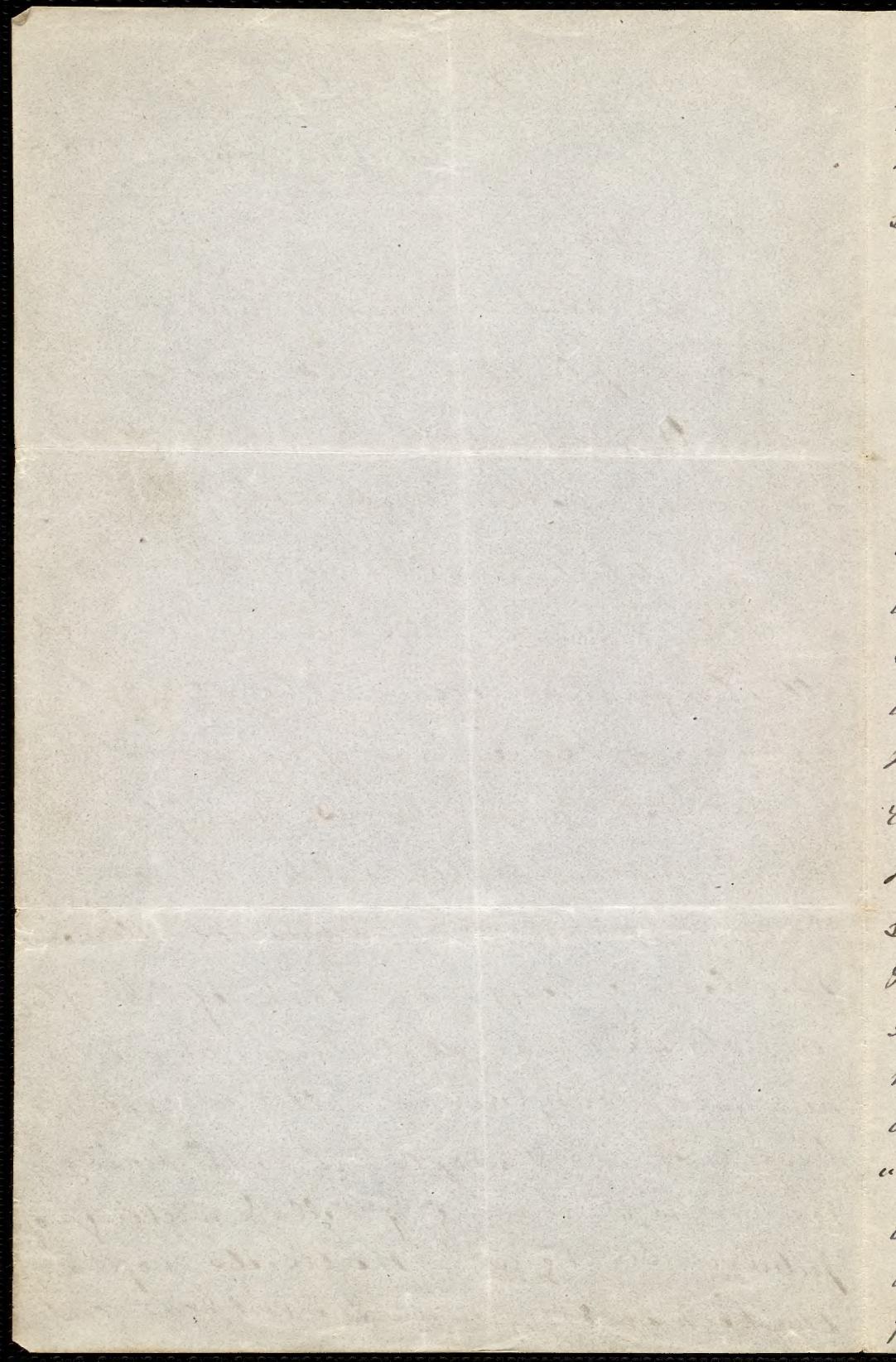


From Mr. W. Chapman,

Boston, Feb. 5. 1865

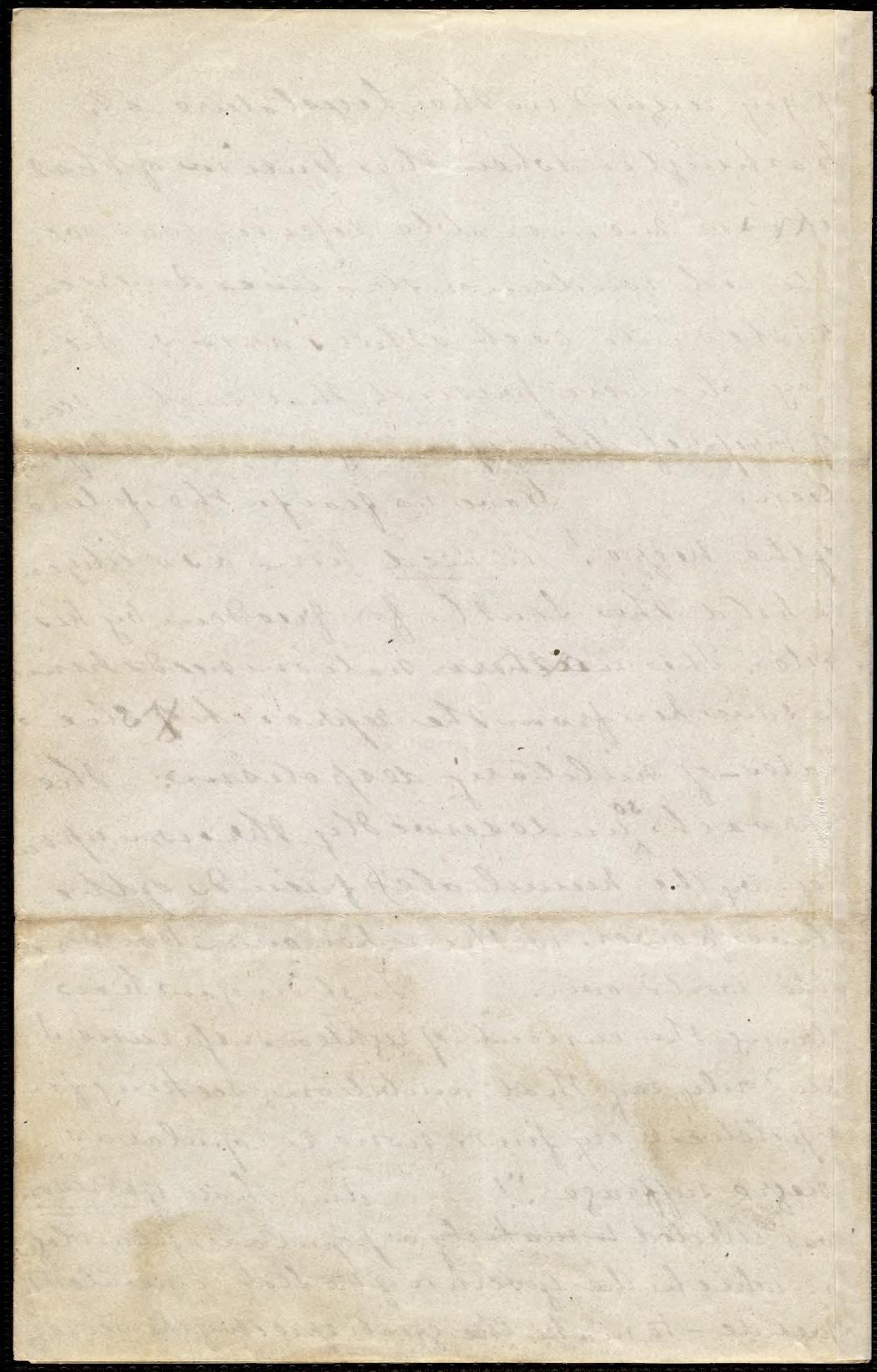
My dear Nancy

The great accomplished work of 1865, - 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 an 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 late, was the first to adopt it. Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania - all the Great States have received & adopted it with firings of Cannon, with ringing of Bells, & meetings of Jubilee. Strangers in the streets stop & <sup>149</sup> shake hands upon it. The wildest exultation



of joy reigned in the Legislature at Washington when the tension of that  
extraordinary memorable session was over. The cool undemonstrative Americans  
rushed into each other's arms. How  
say who were present, that such a scene  
of irreproachable 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 ~~southern~~ nation needs him  
to save her from the reproach & the  
hatred of military despotism: - The  
reproach <sup>so</sup> 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 impulsive.  
The great assembly seemed to be of one  
heart & one mind with him, & cheers  
& weeping came from the depths of their  
hearts at every word he uttered.

D<sup>r</sup> Manning, the clergyman of 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  
<sup>149</sup> 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-adjudicators  
the living & the dead. Your beloved  
father came to mind & most gratefully  
I remembered you all, too!

With affectionate regards to all our  
sympathetic friends I am  
constantly yours Mr. W. Chapman.

