

Park St. Bristol. February 13. 1851.

My dear Miss Weston,

It was a most generous act in you to write to me at a moment when I should in your place have betaken myself to bed for a week at least; & I assure you I fully appreciate the kindness, for I choose to recognize in it only a free will offering, having guarded most sedulously against your feeling it a compulsory task. If you had not told me so, I sh^d have discovered no signs of your being so straightened for time. Thank you very much for all you contrived to bring in, & most of all for consenting to be "dreadfully egotistical" for not one of your many interesting details has a tenth part the charm that attaches to your individual sentiments. Our warmest sympathies & congratulations are with you on the prosperous termination of the Bazaar. \$400 dollars realized in spite of the defalcation of the wealthy Whig purchasers augurs well for the general progress of public feeling, & for increased ^{another year} results when the present ^{political} storm will have blown over! How triumphant you must have felt at the result of Mr G. Thompson's speeches at the Fair, after having overruled Mr Garrison's scruples as the experiment being made! You seem to me little short of a phenomenon to be able to bring about such a variety of things in such a limited time, & to accomplish them so thoroughly without being utterly bewildered, telling every body the precise details they care most to have as if they were the only ones in your mind! People are much pleased with the particulars

contained in yr letter to Mr A. Thomas, especially the
Pupils at the Blind Asylum, & with Mr May's interesting
details. Bristol has certainly had its full share of acknow-
ledgement for its ~~parts~~ in helping on your work. I shall
wait for the printed reports to take any extensive action
for securing a renewal of effort, tho' we are not idle
now in trying to prepare the soil, as I will show you by
this if I have time to narrate the history of a little revolution
Mr Armstrong & I are applying ourselves to bringing about.
But I can't enter on these & other details till I have further
noticed your letter, which fills me with so many thoughts
I long to express, that you may be sure there is no need to request
your permission to write freely, as if time & strength were
less bounded the danger would be of my going on for ever.
~~Writing~~ Drawing up that Bazaar report must be very
troublesome, but I won't consent to your getting out of it
on the score of its being a duty for w^{ch} you are "not very fit"
as I can hardly fancy you more in your element. I haven't
seen this year, yet but the two last especially the one of
1840 have fitted on to my needs of Antislavery treatises
for people here better than any other documents in our
possession. But I won't enlarge on their peculiar charac-
-teristics, & their special individual charms lest you sh^d laugh
at me as a little fanatical; perhaps their greatest attraction
consists in my being competent (tho' generally finding something
fresh at each perusal) to take in ^{the whole} ~~the~~ meaning with one
very attentive reading, while I am not wise enough to
discover all that is contained & implied in Mr Chapman's
in less than four. It is well to have means of furnishing
you with the measure of my capacities that you may
not overestimate ^{them} how far you will be gratified by such
"very equivocal" compliment to your compositions may
be a different matter. Your decision about the statement
of accounts &c. is perfectly satisfactory to us; whenever
we have put you in possession of the way in which any
money that passes thro' our hands for the Bazaar is
disposed of, our responsibility quite ceases, & our concern

respecting any notice it may receive (except in so far as
the way help us obtained another time or from other
sources) ^{in the subject} by way of keeping up this interest which you have
does not obtrude itself on people here without direct re-
-minders, I think it ^{is} worth while to learn up all parties
about the contributors & their special gifts, what was or
will be calculable &c. &c. so you will understand the
value of your own explicitness, very few of the senders
to the Bazaar know more than that it is something
for the benefit of the Slave, which is motive enough to get
them to add their ^{own} contributions. you would
be amused or astonished to find how few ^{there are that} questions
or know anything beyond; those that do generally
take fright at some vague report of the violence or
-mischievousness or infidelity of the abolitionists, & the
power of our explanations to restore confidence
is always dubious, especially its durability if it
is professed. Mrs. H. Thomas considers ^{it} collecting &
packing the things &c. her vocation, but lets the
subject lumber pretty much in the intervening
months, never thinks of reading any Antislavery
paper, & Miss Carpenter is too busy with the Ragged
School to give any time to the A. S. literature, & both
of them are confounded by Russell in their vague
ideas of the Abolitionists being "very injudicious, intol-
-erant" &c. &c. tho' ^(they consider the object her) that is not to stand in the way of
their doing the only thing they can to help on the
cause. As they know we are at issue with Russell, whom
they cannot stand hearing any fault found with,
they generally shuffle out of the subject with us
whenever we force it upon them... but it would
take a whole letter to give you a correct picture of
that one family with all their virtues & peculiarities,

to tho' I sh^d like to make you acquainted with the
numerous other scenes to wh^{ch} you doubtless off^r
definite & often mistaken ideas, I will let them re-
now in the hope that some of your family will com-
& study the motley group, & give you verbally more &
notions than my descriptions c^d convey. They, the Pa
I mean, have just been most generously making
up for a long period of silence, & I am in a state of gra-
tulation, & my friends of equal ~~jealousy~~ jealousy (my Father
not excepted) at my privileges. You will have all
the news of their party that they give us so I need
recapitulate before the arrival of these commun-
ications. I audited telling you that they had givⁿ
us, your tidings of them being considerably more
~~direct~~ ^{recent} than any such I received direct. We began
to think they were punishing us for having over-
whelmed them with letters newspapers, & parcels
By one opportunity my Father wrote Emma a
letter of thanks for all the favors which only the
treachery of the snails could have deprived us of, &
she has uniformly been said to be writing in ever
communication wh^{ch} has reached us since we parted.
However the cause of silence was made very intell^{ly}
by all the garrulities going forward & Miss Weston's has
been precluded from taking her part in them leaving
Mr^s Chapman to do double duty. We were very much
concerned to hear of Miss Weston's being cut off from part-
icipating in these enjoyments ^{with} which she would be
entirely with peculiar zest, but trust from her report that
she has ceased to be a prisoner ere this. Her energy occa-
sionally outdoing her strength surprises us much
less than her distaste for resorting to the ordinary means
of restoration, but she seems not to have our profession-
al notions of medical skill wh^{ch} we sh^d under similar
circumstances have lost no time in ^{waiting our order of} resorting to. She
has in the place of that faith, a wonderful talent for
describing past sensations & symptoms wh^{ch} I could
more recall or make intelligible, than I could con-

amputate a limb or extract a cataract! I will confess (tho' I dare say you are beginning to think me strikingly impertinent,) that the circumstantial details the gave for my Father's special odification did not make the case very clear to him, nor were the speculations with which they were accompanied more successful; but he means to suggest to her that there are such things as remedie & compesca judges to direct in their application ^{at hand} in Paris, leaving the inference for her to draw at pleasure. I think it is a gratifying proof of her experience in that line not having been very considerable & the recent malady not very severe, ~~that~~ ^{and} being led to the old topic of discussion (without I hope striking you by my very unguarded criticisms on your dear sister) I want to assure you dear Miss Weston that you are still but imperfectly acquainted with us if you imagine that anything akin to "blame" could mingle with our pity for you in your dread of illness. We well know how much temperament & unaccustomedness to this discipline affects the anticipation of it. Would I could ward it off from you & yours, or impart to you something of my own unimaginativeness & apathy to deaden your self-inflicted torments! But in default of this, ^{I know} let me console you by the certificate to the efficacy of the same form of homeopathy which you found so potent a remedy in the Faneuil Hall riot. Indeed I am very competent to give this testimony, for I remember the time when I looked with great awe on one, & another, class of disease & modes of treatment; but when they successively fell to my lot they proved (owing to the blessed provision of their coming singly) so perfectly enduring that the retrospect is rather pleasurable than otherwise.

Ms. A. 9. 2. 11

owing to the power it affords of comprehending what
will make other people most comfortable under like
sensations, & ~~also~~ in the complete composure the
experience yields in contemplation of ^{all} hitherto un-
tried ~~forms~~ ^{ill} that flesh is heir to. This composure
may be attributed to my not knowing much of very
severe suffering, at any rate for long together, but this
deficiency I have, satisfactorily to myself, supplied
from the testimony of others, that it comes (like the
Discontented pendulum's task) bit by bit, not in
the wholesale way imagination would suggest. Now
I own that some teacher our faculty never takes into
account the positive bliss of the intervals of ease
which almost always attend upon these extreme
cases. This is enough philosophizing, ^{if} you do
not want more, & than personal testimony will
supply materials for. I am so thoroughly versed in the
species of trial you describe, that if practice ^{always} makes
perfect I must be a model of patience under the
mortifying consciousness of a gap being left by my
being laid up in many departments which are
one else can fill, & schemes being broken up, &
half executed projects at a stand. There has been
no long period of my life free from such disappoint-
ments, & I admit it does require some reasoning
to be resigned to them. ^{to learn to} ~~to~~ presume upon their recur-
-rence. But this stage has almost invariably
proved ^{to me} one of positive relief from the one immedi-
ately preceding it, in which I ^{show myself} ~~perceive~~ ^{nothing} but a
heroine to a close observer. The perpetual struggle
to rise superior to indefinable miserable sensations,
& to contend against a constantly accumulating
load of small duties, which weigh down from
sheer want of strength, clear them off in their prog-

season, & being all the time looked to as the legitimate
authority, ^{giving directions} for any extra directions ^{meeting any fresh} or demands,
as well as giving directions, ^{receiving communications} & receiving communications.
is to me the greatest exercise of philosophy. When
once fairly driven to bed or sofa, a refreshing sense
of exemption from all drudgery breaks upon
me, & generally ^{wholly} so elates me that I regain a de-
parted zeal for reading or thinking, & rejoice in
the happy consciousness of having nothing to
do but indulge myself without molestation.
You see I have already far outdone your egotism,
yet I can't leave the theme without guarding you
against letting me down as "very good" because I
profess myself "better" for the experiences of illness.
It strikes me that the cause to which you have
dedicated your life has effected, in the self-renouncing
consecration which marked its outset, much ^{which}
with those whose life strenuous warfare has not
clothed them in such unsailable armour, has
needed a more gradual work, & the result of more
inward discipline. However this may be, you would
find if you knew me well, that patience had been
far from having its perfect work in me, & that ^{often} a rebellious
inconsistency substituted for ^{the} cheerful acquiescence
in all dispensations which renders them blessing
to oneself & others. Still I should have been much
more without these salutary checks to my im-
petuosity; I should have pursued my various idiosyncratic
projects with very undue ardor, & been absorbed
in them in all unduly, without being ^{thus} arrested
just when they seemed beginning to take effect,
& reminded of the danger into which I was falling of
magnifying my own importance & losing the real-
ising sense of the only source of my strength. So you

will believe me sincere in affirming that gratitude
for the timely warnings has quite dispelled any
regrets over the broken purposes & blighted hopes
they have occasioned, which might else have
tinged the retrospect. All this very ample testimony
only embraces personal illness & does nothing
towards meeting your needs in the case of other
which is probably a heavier weight. It is from no
want of equally adequate materials that I must
dispose of this with greater brevity. I can fill as many
letters with these experiences as you choose to
demand, for they are among the most vivid & per-
manently interesting to me, & have left the deep
impressions. They are ^{now} greater trials than any sup-
-ings of ones own as far as I can conceive of them,
but here too I think imagination never takes
account of the alleviations. While fully conscious
how hard it is to bear the sight of Love ⁱⁿ pain
which we are impotent to lessen, ^{mind} she has no concepts
till the trial has been gone thro', of the merciful
tendency of this sorrow to remove all dread of the
separation that may close it; ^{if} ^{we} ^{are} ^{incompetent}
to understand this soothing power, it can still
less realize the actual transport which accompanies
the unexpected removal of the chastening, & the
durability ^{than we know} of this morning of joy while the night of
weeping is only recalled to bring out the contrast.
I am sure you need no allusion from me to the
strengtheners of faith that the lone hours of watch
yield, for you ^{know} must have shared ^{with me} the solace which
sustains in nights of anxious suspense by the sick
bed; in the heavenly succor which is never so felt as
as in such seasons of deep need. To anyone whom I
love less than whom I repose less confidently dear Miss
Weston I should not have expressed myself so unre-
servedly but I know when you invited it you meant to accept it in
the spirit in which you intended me to offer it.

It might have saved time to refer you to Miss Martineau's "Essays by an Invalid" (which for the sake of its influence I could wish had been her last production) for example a complete exposition of ^{the} many things I had thought I felt but had never dreamed of being expressed, in copositive with illness. She makes prominent, just the things I have found constitute its chief trials & its redeeming boons. But I must stop the more objective. I have not yet thanked you for the special mention you make of the leather work. I was rejoiced to find was so successful. The genius & inventive skill & delicate execution exhibited are all ^{to be attributed to my Aunt, as I think I mentioned before,} to be attributed to my Aunt, as I think I mentioned before, the chief credit I take to myself, is for having judged rightly that such handy work would take in Boston, & determining (after lighting upon one specimen during a visit to Oxford in the Spring) that some ^{such} productions should go out to America while it was fresh, & bringing it about in the short time that remained for accomplishing the object after our return from Germany. We were not prepared for such distinguished results attending our labors, & begin to think we must be "very clever" ^{to have acquired the art without any teacher from studying two picture frames which we work some miles to be & then getting up our collection in five weeks, during most of which my Father was ill & I had all his writing to do.} This little outburst of vanity was awakened by your specific allusions to things w^{ch} I have scarcely thought of since they were packed & can but imperfectly recall the look of. Any manual performances for the Bazaar never interest me when once completed & consigned to you (except as elements to guide the ^{future} energies of others into a wise channel) for our specific misfortune seems more to sleep alive & hinder the interest of others in your work, & it is for this that we are always greedily seizing all materials that we can lay hold of. Thank you for your message to my Aunt, who would send you an affectionate return if she knew of my writing but I think you will hear from her yourself, for the

like my Father claims you as a special right, & both are disposed to treat me as an intruder, w^{ch} so long as I am in actual possession of my prize they are at perfect liberty to do. If I can find a little note from her you shall see (as you are fond of a peep behind the scenes) the composed way in which she appropriated you. She has heard all my quotations of the longings for your allusions to you that used to escape from our travelling companions, as is as far as we are from regarding you as a stranger correspondent. It is, somewhat amazing to think of my own rapid strides towards familiarity when I remember a year ago feeling it too great a presumption (having no business plea to adduce) to address myself upon you by any specific message in my Father's letters to you! All I can say is, dear Miss Weston, that if my love had grown to perfect as to cast out any vestige of fear with w^{ch} it may once have been associated; the reverence for your sayings & writings & doings which engendered it have only deepened with the closer approach. We were fully prepared for the failure of those portfolios of my Aunt w^{ch} we thought, & deluded of intrinsic value or beauty, & I am quite grateful to you for making point of their association not helping their sale clearly; for have vainly labored to impress the fact upon parties whose own sentiments being called out in that particular line think they cannot make them too prominent. Where the contributions are not damage ^{in consequence} to our mind thinking this manifestation of foreign A.S. feeling may tell, tho' not in a pecuniary sense; but when people will write in books &c. &c. I am mortified at not being able to disabuse them of their error. My Father is better than when I wrote last; but not able to lay aside insalid habits or to get rid of rheumatism which has incapacitated him more or less all the winter. However he is getting on pretty well, & may perhaps be spared more serious maladies by the supposed confinement to the drawing room. He can busy himself with writing & sometimes can manage to use his microscope w^{ch} tantalizes him when his rheumatism forbids his manipulating it. He never has time enough for what he would like to do, & sometimes ^{even} grendges being read to

for the sake of rest & recreation, to which I compel him
to submit. We entertain ourselves with all the American
papers & make out the local & general politics tolerably.
He goes to sleep over W. H. C. Wright's letters, which is a
comfort to me as I can skip the greater part without
detection, like you I never remember what is in them
& I never get this one of my own accord. If the Liberator
did not contain ^{the present} Boston information which has the
greatest charm for us, I sh^d adhere with much more
satisfaction to the Standard, which is the only one
we can dare to show anybody. Mr Quincy always
excites our mirth, especially ^{in his late letters} when the old story
of the emancipation & transfer ~~was~~ is repeated in
fulfilment of his promise. All the allusions to
Jenny Lind go to our hearts, & demand the strongest
exercise of philosophy to keep us from sinking into
despondency over lost opportunities & their wretches
-able neglects. But when my Father adds on self-
reproach I have to stand on the defensive. I brand
him with being in the false position of a Catholic
Penitent. Still we can't forget that we were under the
same roof with her at Heidelberg & might have turned
the scale ^{of her by affluence} by sending ^{her} a few documents & written
words of warning. I throw the chief responsibility
on my companions for laughing the proposition
to scorn in my case, while with my Father the
omission came from inability to compass the
idea at the close of a long excursion & in the midst
of a lively party. There ^{be it} stands however a ~~man~~ ^{man}
-ment of our shortcomings, for you to set against any
real or imaginary services to the cause. My Father is
sending you an Inquirer newspaper by this mail, which
contains a letter he wrote ^{some time ago} in answer to a Unitarian
minister in the North of England, ^{some time ago} & with
no remoter idea than the enlightenment of this one
gentleman, as the hasty disconnected style will show.

More over the suppression of Dr Gaimett's name & Philary
Dothens has involved it still more, but we think you
may not be sorry to see that some broad hints are being
put forth to the American clergy that their language
becoming intelligible to us, & that if they can't bring good
credentials of Antislavery soundness, or stand strict
cross questioning, they had better think twice before co-
over to see our Great Exhibition, or prepare themselves at
least for a cool reception. This is the object on which my
Father & Mr Massie are uniting their energies. Some
time ago the note to entreat him to prepare various
articles to be inserted in newspapers, showing up the
"Locusts who were loosing infest the land," so as to create
a public opinion against the proslavery Americans
The same letter contained an admission that she has
been obliged to make a slight allusion to the labors of
the Abolitionists in a former letter he wrote at her
request, for insertion in the Patriot. (I think a copy
was sent to Mr May) It was, she assured us, from us we
of hers to throw the noble band into the shade that she
had thus excluded all allusion to them, but for the sake
of the cause they had at heart; there being no chance of
this letter or any subsequent one ^{on the subject} gaining a dispensation
if it threw "bro down the corrupt toes" of some of the Patriots
supporters. My Father's answer to her fresh applicat-
was that besides having neither time, talent, strength, or
funds, for such a crusade as she projected, nor being in
the anything quite tangible enough to tell upon the
practical mind of John Bull, the terms on which the
advocacy was to be conducted would entirely discourage any
genuine friend of the Slave from undertaking it. That
to perpetrate such short sighted folly & injustice as to
leave unnoticed those who had done more & were doing the
work of America would be to paralyze all effort & ^{to} ~~be~~
failure. That he showed how unsuccessful every attempt
at Unitarian Organization had proved, why the American
A.S.S. alone had stood its ground, I must be made pro-
-minent, tho' the workers in it wanted none of our pra-
-ise. It would be just as well content with our aid if atten-
-tion is with abuse of themselves. No more of their kind. No
would answer any inquiries about what was being done in

America for the Slaves by looking very holy & saying he
w^d have nothing to do with the Abolition party there
because Mr Garrison says we are not commanded by Christ
to observe the Sabbath day, & Mr Wright says if the Pres
sacred American Slavery it is a worth less book &c. &c.
thus disposing of the Society containing the life blood of
the A. S. movement. So hoping that some cleverer person
than he w^d be found to strike out a useful course keeping
clear of these quick sands, but thinking in all propriety
Anti-slavery people here were like the good south A. S.
Clergy in America, abusing the Abolitionists & doing
nothing them selves, he declined the appointment as B.
Such a long pause succeeded on the ladies side that
I began to fear my Father had checked even Mr. M.
by his plain speaking; but at length a fresh petition
came from her, in as beautiful, & equal in spirit
as ever, hoping he w^d write one article with the express
object of showing up the pro-slavery clergy, & warning
against the erroneous impressions they w^d instill into
unguarded minds when they infest the
land in the Spring. This she w^d get into a London
paper the morning advertiser it's Editor being her
personal friend & thoroughly Anti-slavery, not being
able to conceive anything more diabolical than for Christ
"ministers to uphold slavery" tho' he w^d not go so far as
"herself in giving them up to the tender mercies of Barclay
& Perkins's draymen." That this Mr Grant like many
others had had his mind poisoned as respects the
"excellent Garrison, yet he w^d bid him God speed in the
"good work; & does not think it competent for any man
"to withhold working with another because they differ
"on points of doctrine": Thus encouraged my Father
has been exerting his powers to bring out something
that may be inserted into other papers & make a
few things intelligible to general readers that have
not hitherto been presented to them. You shall have

early intimations of any success that may attend
the enterprise. The cheering reports of the Scotch
meetings doubtless find their way to you. I hope you
saw the Glasgow Sentinel report of their second meeting
when W. W. Brown & the Crafts were present. W. B. assures
they used up the New Organization, & he is in great spirits
at the effect of their progress thro' Scotland on the A. S. Cause,
as well as at the success of his own Panorama. Mr
Paton & Miss Wigham confirm his hopeful statements,
& both speak in the highest terms of W. & E. Crafts, who
seem with living golden opinions wherever they go. Miss
Wigham thinks no two people ever enlisted her sym-
pathy more warmly. She has sent us the last Edinb.
Ladies Emancip. Soc. Report which is as skillfully worded
in reference to the Bazaar as possible under the circum-
stances, & she says she is in hopes most of the parties who
with drew their aid perceive that it was a safe step.
Mr W. F. Powell will of course put Mr Garrison in
possession of the facts he has stated to Mr Paton re-
specting H. A. Garnett & his impressions of the plot, Mrs
Richardson &c. are laying to rest ^{here} the favorable
feeling that may exist towards the American Society.
My Father is at this crisis in the midst of a letter
to the above named lady, telling her a little of his
mind, & intimating that a sharp look out will be
kept on her protige if he comes here lest he should
allow anything prejudicial to the faithful friends
of freedom to escape him; she finds the act, ^{of writing it} so distast-
ful that he begs me interrupting narrative to
inform you that he is ^{not} amusing himself with the
microscope, ^(you will infer) by way of postponing it. } There seems
signs of storm & battle gathering, but we have faith that
the lightning will clear the air & truth be searched out.
My Father is collecting materials for an onslaught
Mr Scoble (did you fancy him so dreadfully belligerent?)
the basis being that no account is rendered of the funds
collected for Antislavery objects; the A. S. Reporter,

the only recognized source of expenditure being full
of Immigration, Coolies, African & Brazilian Slaves
&c. &c. with no reference to American Slavery beyond
what the political papers furnish, no notice of the
Abolitionists, of the Scotch meetings sympathizing
with them, (while there is a full report of one at Mr
Pennington's in Edinburgh, about the Treaties)
no notice of W. W. Brown, the Crafts, J. Douglass, &c.
&c. or anything that anybody would be likely to hear; the
means to call the B. & F. Society, faithful, I would
repeat any facts you will be likely to hear from other
quarters, but give you the history of that little
revolution I mentioned Mr Armstrong & I were
getting up in a thing in this town called a Lifeless
Anti Slavery Society which might with equal
propriety be termed an Anti State Church, or Papal
aggression or Capital punishment, Association, &c.
having been always in connection with Broad St
& of course kept in ignorance of all real Anti Slavery
effort they found nothing to do, met once a year,
& thought they might as well dissolve! Mr A. was
elected a member about 3 years ago, & whenever
she has been able to attend these formal periodical
meetings she has animated them with some
recent letters from Mr May or information
of American proceedings with which we were able
to provide her. But this gave them nothing to do,
& the few vague rumors they heard of Mr Garrison's
society being infidel &c. &c. was just enough to keep
them from wishing to do anything for it or even run
into its merits. Mr A. has so little time to devote to
the object, having 4 little children to teach & work for
& a husband often laid up by illness, & a numerous
set of philanthropic objects to take part in owing to
her position as wife of the Minister of a large ^{Disrupting} congregation
that she can do nothing all last year toward keeping
alive this unhopeful society, but being determined

either to turn it to some account, or withdraw from
it she set to work to enlighten & stimulate the Secret
& well disposed young Lady (an orthodox dissentee
as all the ladies are, about half being Quakers) I bar-
ner & told this young Lady, & her mother who is also a
member, the whole history of the Glasgow Circula-
gave them all the papers in reply, all the newspapers
the Crafts, the Doings of the Edinb^g Society ^{the Scotch Baptists} &c., & the
them Mrs Keapies letters, perceiving their religious
sympathies being with her w^d give her a power
we cannot exercise, & afterwards I got access to
Quaker Lady whose acquaintance with Miss Wigh-
made me hope she might be convinceable, & strated
her in the same way. And oh Miss Weston I must
tell you what a precious implement that letter
of yours to Miss Wigham is to us! Our gratitude
you for writing it is renewed daily; for it satisfies
these people when they distrust all the other letters.
At the meeting of the Committee this Quaker lady
confessed to its having made her a convert, & that
they had a great discussion & Mr^s Armstrong
gave them all the benefit of your letter & melted
the most rigid young Quakers among them, &
brought them round to determine that they had
better put forth their energies in behalf of the Boston
Bayard & take the Standard & get up a little in
in the American movement, provided they had
scribers, on whom the two ladies who we had I print
undertook to call w^d consent to continue; & as
the fund at their discretion instead of forward
them all as heretofore to Mr Scobell. It w^d give you
a speedy answer to yr inquiry about the narrow se-
feeling existing here if I could depict the terror taken
by these supposed staunch allies in the course of
their application ^{for the proposed permission} to the subscribers, at the request of
of the latter that "it" (the American A. S. S. I suppose
tho' the antecedent might be the proposed movement
here in its behalf) was all to spread simultaneous, &
very dangerous, &c. &c. ^{which I got out in manuscript} ^{which I translated into plain English}

It w^o bring them into an undesirable contact with us. However ^{unpacified} they have come round again, I mean to try to conquer their prejudice, if they can be guarded against pledging themselves to anything they don't understand, & having they ^{after} injuries of 3 of the subscribers to forward their donations as before to the Parent Society in London they will let to work for next years Bazaar, & study the Standard. Some subscribers (the wife of a Baptist Minister, of considerable weight in that connection) sent to us most precipitately for some hrs of the Standard to judge for herself of their tendency before replying; & finding them quite unobjectionable & full of interest she ^{returned them with} sent such a strong letter in favour of ^{the} Society that supported it, that the affrighted spirits were reassured, & they have actually invited me to join them, & I mean to meet as often as they can trusting to my bringing something of interest before them. & they have requested me, to ^{write with} ~~write~~ the Standard for their communion w^h I dare say you will undertake to execute. It is to be sent to "Miss Tribe, Kingsdown, Bristol." I had most unexpectedly to finish up this battle instead of Mrs Armstrong; for this I ^{had written} meant to keep aloof from them till they had settled down, & ^{was} ~~was~~ ^{read in my presence} a dignified note to the effect that I sh^d be happy to unite my efforts to theirs as soon as they had arranged for directing them into what I deemed the only useful channel, (a sick child kept Mrs A. at home & she implored me to act as her substitute. I went to the encounter under an oppressive sense of the responsibility of being sole advocat^{or}, but strong in the faith of the power of the scrutiny & I sh^d help them ^{to} make into the merits of the question. Once entered on ^{stage} however, the ludicrous element predominated, for the majority of the assembly were un ^{shall a series of} decided, partially informed talkative, most unbusiness like, quakers, who ^{by the} unfortunate but not uncommon propensity of forgetting one minute what they had been quite convinced of on the preceding one, & so what it was that had convinced them. So they went back wings & forwards in their discursive deliberations, while I watched them with a silence worthy of Mr Chapman himself, having occasion scarcely to say a word to help them ^{prepare to} ~~convince~~ one another that it could not hurt or compromise them to ~~reproach~~ that

I am sorry to have made a confusion of sheets, a type I fear of a certain untidy condition of brain of wh. I must have betrayed numerous symptoms in the course of my unfinished productions. I can make you understand how it comes of my being made up of bits wanting some essential links to form a connected whole. But no more cogitation shall creep in now. Please to call me Mary for I am only "Miss Lettin" to superficial acquaintance wh. you certainly have long ceased to be.

Ever most affectionately yours
Mary Lettin.

That fragment of my Aunt's is I find a very insignificant production to send across the water, but if there is room it shall ^{come} go in. People here are quite horrified at Dr. Doroxy's recent declaration, but respect Dr. Gamwell's "conscientious" scruples; while I think there is something more magnanimous in Dr. D.'s whole sale immolation to his idol, than in Dr. G.'s dumbness, but everyone wh. like the former to be put to the proof. R. Carpenter told us the Unitarian ministers went to the Springfield Convention for "spiritual refreshment," wh. he exaggerated Mr. Ed. Chapman, one of their fraternity here that he wants all those men to be made go & do their work before they talk of having refreshment!

"They sympathizing with the aims & efforts of the American
A. S. S. & desired to co-operate with them by lending a contribution
to its next Bazaar;" one would not let it be worded "fully"
sympathizing, because it was too strong for their limited know-
ledge of the ^{the cause's} cause &c. & then they got up a set of speculations
on these ^{measures} ^{for Mr. Garrison} ^{for the} ^{not becoming identified}
with him, ^{by their} ^{resolutions} ^{Feb. last} ^{they}
came to the conclusion (I can't tell how)
that the so much was said against ^{him} ^{nothing} was
proved, & that he was very good, & did not mix anything up
with his Anti-slavery. I did once put an end to their
questioning & misgivings after they had floundered a
long time by producing the Constitution of the A. S. S.
which having been solemnly read aloud caused a general
sentation first of admiration & then of his pleasure with
themselves at the ^{fact} they had been making ^{the} ^{statement} they
had been manifesting. I could extend the picture but you
will think it already grown prolix over our Lilliputian
stripes ⁱⁿ ^{of} ^{the} ^{field} ^{of} ^{action}. I only wanted to give you a notion
what materials there are for work here, by fostering ^{the} ^{of}
forcing the gradual development of this improved ^{one} ^{of}
think we shall secure at last some faithful adherents. Now
there are elements of discord very discernible in this assembly
free labor partisans, &c. who will probably make a ^{disruption}
separation before long. Still I hope the object of my ambition
will be attained in having a prepared soil for Mr. Chapman &
Miss Weston to sow their seeds in when they pay us their promised
visit. My greatest trouble would be that they should come here & be
wasted for want of machinery to bring together the right minds
in the right place & the right way. Hence we must make ^{prepar-}
we intend to keep ^{our} ^{eyes} ^{wide} ^{open}, & let any who find the
light too strong for them burn their backs to it.
My Father having played with the microscope as long as his conscience
permitted, had resumed & completed the epistle to Mr. Richardson
which I wish you to see! I must leave off chattering to you & copy
it if it is too good to be thrown away in lighting Mr. K.'s fire!
My Father says it won't be put to that purpose, but be sent on a
mission to trouble the repose of the incumbent of 27 Broad St.
How little you guessed when you gave me that unrestricted
permission to write as much & freely as I chose, of the flood
gates you were going to open! And yet I don't feel much
nearer the end of what I wanted to commence with you upon
than when I began. I hope there will be no such long stories
to narrate another time for I like writing thoughts much better
than facts, only there is a class of the latter that seems due to
my Boston correspondent. My Father proposes never to inter-

to make you an Antislavery correspondent, as he has
this day to Mr May, but you shall be sure to hear, when
has anything worth writing, & I am to give you his thanks
for your message & assurance that he cordially reciprocal
all your expressions of friendly regard. He used to talk
very condolingly of you during the Bayard week, & be of
his friend was very tired then. Mr Webb is much gratified
by your message to him, assuring me he is so far from being
jealous of my hearing from you first, that he could
himself much honored by being noticed by such a
(something) abolitionist, unfortunately he wrote to me
for me to make ^{himself} out what he designates you, & assured me
he can't tell, only he thinks you a paragon. He writes me
the most amusing letters, & recites my Father's jealousy
in my, just as I am in the ascendancy, had the assurance
to propose going into partnership with me in our Foreign
correspondence, saying we can show my Father little or
occasionally in proof of our magnanimity! He gives
frequent vent to his best feelings over you in individually &
collectively, & tells me ^{that} we are of one mind on the subject,
my mind being a little foolish, & having your good
estimation reconcile him to other people's undervaluing
him, & a great deal more to this effect, which has compelled
me while sympathizing to remind him of our contem-
porary people whose Antislavery zeal is summed up in devotion
to F. Douglass, & ^{to} ^{warn} ^{him} how intolerable we shall be if
any of ours takes the form of West Indian idolatry. You know
how long ago have set us down as some of the greenest people
you ever had to do with that I need make no apology for
keeping up the character. Mrs Armstrong would very
to send you her love, & I have pledged myself to ensuring its
welcome reception. I would make you love her if I had ten
Prayer offer mine with many thanks for their kind
of regard to y^r Mother & Sisters. I am assured you, if they accept
me as a friend, I feel overwhelmed at having the privilege
of adding to many such dear ones to my list. I always used
to hear "Lucia" described as the poor counterpart of Emma
& "Deborah" as having Miss Weston's lovable ways of doing
all the things essential to be done for people's comfort that
no one else liked to do; so you need have any conception of
all, & shall be delighted at any opening for nearer contact.
How know how much I shall enjoy hearing from you
any time, but pray only write when it is quite convenient.