

Hingham, Oct. 31, 1835.

My dear Miss Weston,

I have not seen you so long I am almost afraid you have forgotten us. I hear from you, however, occasionally. The last account I received was by the way of Miss Henrietta Lincoln. I hear also you have expressed your sympathy to Mrs. Moorfield and family, for which they feel warmly grateful. They need our sympathy; and we must all feel deeply for them; but I comfort myself in all such cases, that, although man may rush rashly into the presence of his final Judge, the throne on which he sits is emphatically and most truly a throne of mercy. Mrs. M. is quite calm, and is very happy to have her friends call.

I understand you were one of the Ladies who were driven from their meeting a short time ago. You know my fel-

ings on the subject of the present excitement. You <sup>know</sup> that I do not go with the abolitionists in the measures they are pursuing; for I think these measures wrong. I see no need of challenging persecution. God, I believe, will work his purposes in his own good time. Stop a little, and let the sparks into which society has been thrown pass off. The mob-spirit which pervades our land, is of most fearful portent. I did hope that the burning of the Convention was enough for New England, for one quarter of a century at least. However orderly the sovereign people compelled you to disperse; however orderly they proceeded to take down your sign; however orderly they called for Thomson and Garrison, & however kindly they intended to treat them; it was nothing more nor less than a mob; and it grieves me to see with how much levity it <sup>is</sup> spoken of. But I will not say any thing further of this <sup>at</sup> present. I return your book. I have had it for a considerable time; I have not read it all, however. I am not very fond of detail. Its general principles I have obtained.

Are you not coming to pay us a visit soon? I wish to see you very much, and before this lovely Indian summer is gone. I will talk with you, or rather, which will be more for my benefit, I will hear you talk on slavery, or literature, or any other subject which may be most agreeable. If you will let us know when you could be here, I will invite in a few of those I love best, and with <sup>your</sup> assistance, will give you what Carlyle calls an aesthetic Tea. I am going to meet with the Young Ladies' Reading Society a few times. I am going to give them the first evening the substance of the 6th Aeneid, with such remarks on Greek and Roman Mythology, the character and position of Virgil, Greek and Roman literature in general, and many other subjects suggested by the said 6th Aeneid, which I may have time and ability to make. I do not know how I shall succeed; but there is nothing like trying.

Mrs. S. and Maria send their love to you and wish me to tell you that they would be very happy to meet you as formerly at our fireside. I have only room to add the assurance of my respect and friendship. Increase S. Smith

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No 88

Miss Caroline Weston,  
Boston.

Boylston Street.

1835-

James J. Smith