

Leominster Oct 31st 1843

My Dear Mrs Chapman

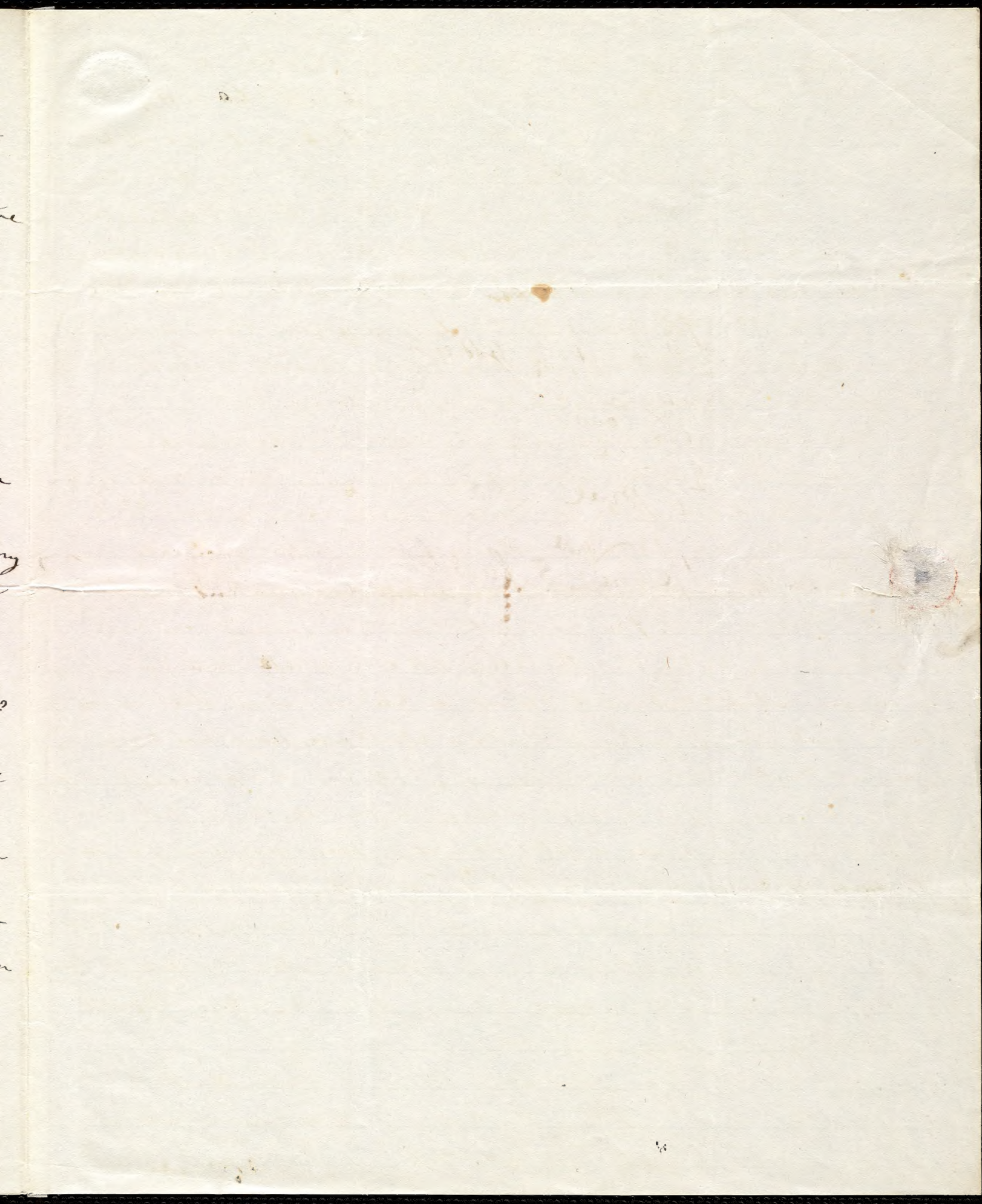
The package containing the silks together with your note was duly received. I fear we shall not be able to accomplish much fancy work, as our society numbers now only five working women. The sectarians have been advising some of our society not to work for the Puff Society, saying their only object was to pull down every good institution in the land &c. they have laboured diligently & done the work effectually, all those who were not thoroughly abolitionists, or were deficient in moral courage, were so foolish as to be influenced by them, & were so ungenerous as to even send in some work unfinished. ~~these~~ women who have been thus opposing us, are the Canada mission advocates, poor deluded mortals so afraid their dear sect will be harmed they dare not even try to scatter light on the subject of Slavery. Still they think they must do something for the cause, as they claim to be anti-slavery. So they devote their whole energy to Canada mission. How long think you before they will abolish slavery if they go on with the work in their way? I have written to Mr Phillips, inviting him to come and lecture for us next week we need his services in our little society, or rather for every woman in town, the handful who are enlightened on the subject cannot, or do not succeed in convincing others of their duty & that they have something to do with freeing the poor slave. I trust if Mr Pean come he will do what we as yet have failed to do, Third party also are using every means in their power to obtain voters for the coming election, last week they had J. G. Carter to lecture for them this eve they have J. Pierpont (I am surprized if he is doing third party work) next week J. Seavitt the far famed Joshua is expected & so on - all of these things have had

A tendency to arouse that stupid class of abolitionists whom I have ever called mere suasionists, the politicians, they seem to feel it is time for them to be looking about and get some help on they shall loose some notes, some of them have even gone so far as to say they should like to have Phillips lecture here. My husband is no voter, but he thinks it will be beneficial to all parties to have a little of Mr Phillips doctrine of "the true ground" I presume I am occupying your time in vain. of course, this cannot be very interesting to you. I merely write it to let you know where we are & what we are doing. —

We are obliged to make some enquiries respecting the wreaths you wrote about. we shall be most happy to procure the articles if we can get the kind you spoke of. I will enclose a sprig of what I call running evergreen. I suppose this must be what you call running pine. all the wreaths I have ever made are wound on a hoop is that what you wish for? & what size? If we gather it soon will it keep green by putting it in the cellar till Christmas. I will send a sprig of evergreen which I think pretty. Should you like some of it. also some box? I am a real novice in these matters. When I once learn how & what you want I will remember. When we get all our things ready to send will it be necessary for us to send them before the time, provided we send some one to take a table? are there places provided for those who ~~attend~~ take tables, in private families, or do they seek homes where they can find them? I donot know as these questions are necessary but they are what we cannot answer ourselves so we trouble you with them I wish you would send to me ~~friday~~ Saturday by Mr Day's stage. I requested Mr Phillips to send with you if you send. —

We cannot tell what amount we shall be able to send to the fair perhaps 25 dollars. I hope more than that however. If the evergreen is what you wish for we will get a large quantity of it & make the wreaths if you will tell us how.

I beg pardon for troubling you yours in great haste
30 of 10. Frances H. Drake



$\frac{3}{4}$ $4\frac{1}{2}$ yds enon

$\frac{1}{8}$ long

$\frac{2}{6}$ price

$\frac{1}{2}$ yd ^{wide}

Mrs Maria Chapman

39 Summer Street Boston

5 ^{bricks}

1843.

F. H. Drake