

Write from the Standard to Mr. Chapman  
Mr. Chapman, New York, N.Y. 1843  
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Utica Mar. 8 - '43

My dear Mr. Chapman -

I wrote you a hurried note a few days since but did not pay the whole part of what I wished to, nor do I expect now to say it, but a few lines I deem it necessary to present - "Union is Strength" we all acknowledge, yet we are so given to bringing every body to our standard, not of strict anti-slavery, but to that which necessarily grows therefrom, that constant divisions are growing up - I think you see the danger to the A.S. cause growing out of the freedom we have obtained for our own which inclines us to fly off in a tangent (unless we are constantly vigilant) with us (much clearer as any eye in our ranks - I am would never cramp the soul of any living being, but you would say "a time for every thing and every thing in its time, or place for every thing and every thing in its place" - Now, my friend, allow me to be very plain with you for the cause's sake - Should you take the Standard under your charge, I most confidently believe you could draw around the one grand idea the justness of Philadelphia in, the pecklessness of N.Y., and the pure mad third partyism of N.Y. - I write in confidence, so I will say more than might be prudent otherwise - Our indefatigable friend, Collins, is not, I fear, disposed to do those things that make for peace with the American Society: with all his "unbounded liberality" he is too sectarian, inasmuch as he cannot understand any one who is less so than himself, and thinks ~~to be in a position to~~ <sup>these who differ from himself in sentiment</sup> can scarcely advance the cause - I am sorry it should be his constant aim to remove the Standard from N.Y. - Should it be taken to either extremity, the link which now unites us will be broken - Instead of losing confidence in the American Society, I think it ought to be increased, each remembering that, if he is individually, a friend of the "old platform", he is part of that Society, and the principles on which it is based constitute its importance, and if all will unite on it, we can make it truly efficient and bring about a speedy triumph. - - There is no union, as we are all aware, among third partyists, from Maine to Illinois - Constant vacillations make their cause, necessarily - The Liberty Press is held in contempt by the better part of the people who read it, -

Tory is beneath contempt by most of those who have made his acquaintance, as of course we should expect. His Daily Patriot soon became weekly, and is now so weakly its existence is de-  
spised of - The Man who went into company with J. when the Patriot was started has most happily made his escape - The American Citizen has found its end, not grave, as there was nothing of it to bury - Something firm, settled, dignified and comprehensive is wanted, and would be eagerly seized and patronized - We must have a Standard around which all true hearts can rally - The half-doubled and the hypocrite will be constantly springing up and will live their ephemeral existence; let them do so; but heaven grant grace sufficient to the few to "stand, and having done all to stand"

Something, I am confident must be done by the American Society on the subject of political action - Men will go to the ballot box, and while we are changing public sentiment <sup>for the final judgment</sup> many elections will, of necessity take place. Now we have not had sufficient said on that matter, recently, through our papers - Many converts have come into the ranks within the present year. They want to know in what way to denounce themselves as political. They hear so little on the question through our organs, that they have no idea there can be any political effort except <sup>third party</sup> partyism. For myself, I have no controversy with that political action which makes nominations for the time being, always with the understanding that whenever either Party will put up candidates whose anti-slavery character is above the shadow of a doubt, abolitionists will vote for them - but let it be understood that no candidate can be considered good, whether nominated by Liberty Party or either the other Parties, unless he is a "ser Galateo", giving no support to slavery, either in Church or State - This is the position that is being assumed by the real friends in this section - Many of the Liberty Party men split their tickets, because they will not vote for a man connected with a pro-slavery Church - I am confident we have got to take the ser Galateo ground, and make, I think

is the time - It grieved me to see Mrs Child out against it - This will never do - I have, I presume, obtained some hundred subscribers for the Standard since I have been in N.C., many of them, recent converts and <sup>old ones</sup> some who wished a higher idea than that which runs <sup>wholly</sup> into the ballot-box - These all subscribed for the paper <sup>supporting</sup> ~~it~~ it the total - the only doctrine some of them ever heard put forth on the Anti Slavery platform - What will be their surprise and disgust to see the miserable expediency of new organization, including the Standard - I marvel that Mrs. Child could throw such sentiments into the organ of a Society which stands on the high ground - But I must make a point before long or my paper will be used up, and no place will be left for one - My hope is to see the American Society and its auxiliaries come up to the work of circulating <sup>the total pledge</sup> and enforcing <sup>its</sup> doctrines - The people are ripe for it - This will be "third party paper" by taking from it all that is truly honest, as those cannot vote for those who will receive slavery at the communion table and install it in the pulpit <sup>calling it holy of the Lord,</sup> ~~pretending~~ at the same time to hope to vote it down. This is, I think, the grand desideratum. No person who has any soul will now ask to have non-resistants thrown off the platform, and but few <sup>indeed</sup> who have power can have the opportunity to do so; and I can find none who can say they expect or desire permanency to the third party movement - They acknowledge it to be mainly a place for union of votes for the time being, as unless there is such a place the pro-slavery parties draw away the unwary - Now, should the American Society throw out its pledge test, and then say it has no objections to candidates for the time being, if they are of the true Simon Pure Stamp, and the ~~the~~ other practical parties will not make correct nominations, (we shall unite the scattered forces, and new organization and Liberty Party will meet the doom they deserve. This pledge is to the Anti Slavery cause, <sup>the</sup> total abstinence was to the temperance, and I see in its results that which we are now witnessing in the Washingtonian movement - We are, as a Society, agreed upon its principles and no possible reason exists, as I can

see for its just being adopted - Many hundreds have taken it in Central N.Y. within the last two months. The prospect is that several packet boats will be started at different points on the Canal, and a steam boat at Albany, for the annual meeting. Third Partyists will ~~lose~~, as well as others, and a union must be effected. The third Party abolitionists of this State, as a body, are as sound as our old organizationists and they have no desire for the Party only as a rallying point - G. Smith, Dr. Green, Goodell and Stewart, have changed their tone entirely towards me and I think would be happy of a common ground -

March 8. 1843.  
 Abby Kelley  
 Maria's taking the Standard  
 as Editor. No 5

Maria W. Chapman  
 Boston  
 Mass.  
 Single Sheet



I have now up my paper and have only written a few lines before I must be on my way for a time - have much to do - Maria's paper is not published with the Boston friends and I have no in the subject of the law, a definite opinion - please for your assistance, as I have no ground - I have made but slight progress in my investigation against your taking charge of the Standard -

Ms. A. 9. 2. 18. 19

We cannot keep apart, if our position shall be clearly defined I mean the real abolitionists, of whom many ride under the half-high flag not understanding their true position. Indeed, no person's position is clear, now, whether he be in the new organization ranks, in third Party or in the American Society - We must confess the fact that there is much rottenness in our party. Many can sail against the church and state for its abolition who ~~do~~ cleave to their parties with a death grasp. Do not understand me as urging the doctrine that no one can be a member of the Society who does not sign the pledge. I would only have the pledge understood as the doctrine of the