

Athol April 2<sup>nd</sup> 1860.

My dear Sir,

I have, this moment, read your Note of March 31<sup>st</sup>, and hasten to reply, that the declaration in my Note of March 10<sup>th</sup>, that I had "no idea of being made the <sup>slave or</sup> tool of the Managers of the Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society," related rather to the future than to the past. It was based upon the fact, that, after I had made the necessary arrangements for two lectures, - one at the Town-hall - the other at Union-hall, Depot Village; and had given extensive notices of the same, your Agent, Miss Holley, virtually ignor- ed my agency in the matter; talked and acted, as if ~~nothing had~~ <sup>no</sup> prepar- ation had been made for her re- ception; and even after she had been brought face to face with fifty people who had come together, through my

to the relations to the people and for whom she labored

and snow, to hear her, could, with difficulty be persuaded to fulfil her part of the arrangement. After much hesitation and delay, she reluctantly consented to address them.

The arrangements for the next evening, she disregarded altogether. The people had been invited to the Union hall, Depot Village, to hear an Anti Slavery Lecture from Miss Kelley. At the hour appointed, the hall was duly warmed & lighted, but no Lecturer came. She slid away and disappeared, I know not how, and although I addressed a line to her at Gardner, where she was to give a lecture a day or two after, I have not heard a syllable from her since.

I have seen, however, in the last Liberator, a notice that she will give a lecture at Baldwinville on Fast day, April 5<sup>th</sup>. What if somebody should undertake to make

the necessary arrangements, give the necessary Notices, and the people of Baldwinville and the neighboring villages should in consequence of those notices assemble to hear an Anti Slavery lecture, and the Lecturer, although upon the spot, should fail to meet the appointment, or, in still stronger terms, to fulfil the engagement?

Shall I, or will any body show much "alacrity" in making arrangements for ~~of~~ Anti Slavery lectures in future? And if we do, will the people come out to hear? I tell you nay, if such disappointments often occur, it will, ~~in~~ a great degree, cripple the efficiency of the lecture system, and that means of Anti Slavery agitation must cease. The Anti Slavery Apostles or Missionaries may as well retire from the field.

I believe in the ultimate efficacy of preaching; in the <sup>faithful</sup> application

Wm. Lloyd Garrison

of truth to the consciences of men  
 and I have always been willing and  
 desirous to do what I could to sus-  
 tain such preaching. Hitherto I have  
 regarded Miss Holley as one of single  
 hearted, truthloving, earnest, devoted, dis-  
 gressant Ministers in the Antislavery Reform.  
 When I was requested, therefore, to make  
 arrangements for her lectures here, I was  
 glad to do what I could to give her an  
 opportunity to be heard. I did it in good  
 faith, in the hope that I was thereby  
 doing something to set the people right  
 upon this subject.

With my views of the case,  
 had I undertaken the office of a pub-  
 lic helmsman, had I been sent forth  
 in that capacity as an Agent of the Mass. Anti-Slavery  
 Society, it would have been, for me, a  
 gross dereliction of duty, had I refused  
 to meet the appointment. Doubtless  
 she is conscientious. To her own Master  
 she stands or falleth. I hope, therefore,  
 that you will expostulate with her,  
 and if possible, show her the error of her  
 course, and persuade her to be more true.

and for what she takes  
 who she is  
 the relation to the people