

Rochester, New York, August 5th 1832.

My dear Sir,

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We beg to apprize you that the Rochester Ladies Anti Slavery Society (whose character and objects please learn from the enclosed circular) intend to publish the first number of an Antislavery "Annual" of about two hundred pages, entitled "the Antislavery Autograph," in which they wish to record the testimony of as many distinguished persons as they can, against the great sin of our age and nation, American Slavery. The Society believe that such a publication as the one contemplated, will be the means of awakening a deeper and wider interest on the subject of Slavery, and of securing the co-operation of many in the Antislavery cause; a cause which alas! for the bleeding Slave, is far from being popular and has few attractions for any but the humane and serious. In this as in most other communities, the majority need the incentives afforded by the example of acknowledged good and great people as well as considerations of justice, love and mercy, to induce them to unite with an unpopular cause. Without wasting our time and energies in quarrelling with this assumed fact, we wish to provide for it. We wish to array all the character and talent we can command against Slavery, that the multitude may see that the cause of the slave is not despised by those whom all regard as blessings to the whole human family. With the same points in view the Society will publish the "Autograph" in an elegant and substantial style. The beauty of its exterior will commend it as a suitable Christmas or New Years gift, while we hope its contents will abound with earnest, eloquent, and faithful appeals to the

human feelings and Christian principles of the reader.
As the name imports the Autograph is to be a book of Autographs
nevertheless the Society hopes that each writer will occupy at least four
or five pages of the book. Now my dear Sir the object of this work
(as perhaps you have already suspected) is to solicit a contribution from
your pen for the forthcoming volume. In the Slave's name and for
his sake, we have been made bold to ask it. May we have your
request? We need your aid and shall be very thankful for it.
Certain we are that nothing but the multitude of your engagements
will stand in the way of our petition. We need not assure
you that your name is of great value to any good cause to which
it is given. It is linked with the nobility of good deeds, and the
love and honor which encircle it are the common property of
the oppressed of every land and of every color. We would
claim a share in this common fame for our heart broken
Brothers and Sisters in chains. They can speak only through
those who "remember those in bonds as bound with them". Their
poor dumb cause, so long neglected, appeals even now, from man
to God! Let us hasten to their deliverance, that we may perhaps
be instrumental in availing the just judgements which ever
follow in the wake of great national crimes.
Communications for the Autograph must be in the hands of
the Secretary by the last of August. Hoping for a speedy response
I beg to remain;

most respectfully yours,

Julia Griffiths
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William Lloyd Garrison Esq