

I have for some time been busy in condensing  
and reconstructing my many years accumulated  
of letters. Paper and other such matters - a tedious  
Head aching. Hand tiring Job. - among them many  
gleaned in my Boyhood Days. - During the preparations  
for the Colored Faneuil Hall Convention in 1852. I hunted up  
a letter that Anne Greeley wrote to John C. Robinson Esq  
of Rochester while I was there in 1852 - referring me a point  
in the Tribune office &c on the ground that Colored  
men should not so aspire. but go west. Teach  
their own Color &c. Well. Langston wanted it for  
an illustration - unaccountably to me it got lost and  
to this day has not come to hand - that I have  
also lost some important matter for my Book and  
have already written about a dozen letters in view  
of replacing. - In one of my House removals missed  
a valuable Book - the gift of Theodore Parker. His  
Court argument &c - I shall try and be specially  
careful in future.

I don't know what you will think of  
this loose pen use. but I yielded to the  
impulse knowing who the indulgent  
friend is to whom it is addressed.

Please tender my respectful remembrances  
to Mrs Garrison and the Family  
and Believe me Ever  
Gratefully and Sincerely Yours  
William C. Bell  
- William Lloyd Garrison Esq.



my 12 Years service (9 of course except the annual few days Vacations.)

I am soon again going to visit Remond who though very poorly. Yet these are hopes indulged of his recovery.

The solicitation for Your Autobiography moves my mentioning a promise of mine to Your son Frank the furnishing him with some reminiscences of his Father. I hope soon to put them in some shape which may serve You a him as agreed upon.

It occurs to me telling You of some other matters I have on the anvil. for perhaps newspapers publishing I regret that in William Stells Book so little is made of Boston during the Fugitive Slave excitement.

Quite a romantic - instructive and Historical Chapter could be compiled. Special of Boston as You know. I feel moved to use my resources accordingly. Then I have a personal as well as general interest in the progressive movement of the Woman's Rights Question. of Your early efforts &c.

Then some facts illustrative of Celophobia; of use to but little known to those of the present times - including a deserved tribute to Thomas Barry of the Boston Theatre (a separate article) - again my experience and observation relative to Spiritualism - these disposed of. Then to finish my long Job. the Book embracing Colored American History &c.



for many years past. but enough on this string now

A prominent feature in my change of residence is the relative distance from the Post Office. Until within a few weeks past. my Post office ~~hours~~ <sup>duties</sup> commenced at 5. A.M. but I had arranged to get the Car leaving Roxbury Post office at 5. and the various experiences through the winter. sometimes riding out to Roxbury to secure the seat etc but if later why walking the 3 miles. But I reconciled myself to it in part by noting what was true of my Fellow Passengers without reference to the Men, on Arnold Street resides a Lady Post Office Clerk. who was my rival in getting the Car - and also 2 Women (Colored) doing morning <sup>work</sup> in Sears Building - bidding their time also: and says I to myself.

"Well if they can stand it - I can. and so I accepted the situation:-

Post office work has so increased. that I have been detailed to put through the Night mails, and relieve the morning gang. I go on now at eleven. and generally leave at 5.30. morning - my regular time however being 6.

when I first went into that Newspaper Room 3. Clerk did the work now we have 12.

<sup>4 of them Colored. and ~~one~~ <sup>eleven</sup> in other departments Colored.</sup> I happened to be the first Colored man employed about the United States Mail.

I consider myself fortunate in that except when detained at home by a surgical process upon my hand: I have never lost a Day from sickness or any cause during



Boston April 9<sup>th</sup> 1873.

Respected Friend

I should not have been so tardy in acknowledging the reception of Your kind letter enclosing <sup>(and for that)</sup> Ticket for the Entertainment in aid of the Colored Womans Home. My Wife, Sister and her Cousin with another lady who very gladly accepted the opportunity, richly enjoyed the treat - I seldom go out evenings, but had intended being one of the company at this time, but waived my chance for them, and occupied myself in part at home with the care of my Two Boys. You will please accept mine and their thanks for the treat Your Presentation afforded.

I hope You have by this time recovered from Your indisposition. I am meaning soon to come to Highland Street and see for myself.

I am not aware of Your knowing that I am so nearly Your Neighbor. For several seasons past with my Wife I removed last June from No 2 Phillips to No 88 Kendall St renting with Lieutenant Trotter and sharing rooms with my Eldest Sisters Family, and find the change in many respects advantageous, and agreeable. Though always trying to be useful without personal prominence in Colored Ward Six politics. I am of course <sup>now</sup> free from the unacceptable under current wife pulling and ambitious rivalries, and classish demonstrations, so prevalent these