Boston, June 1, 1846.

Mr. Garrison:—

Dear Sir—An incident occurred at the late Anti-Slavery Convention, in Faneuil Hall, on Thursday last, in relation to myself, which I think it proper for me to notice. I should have sought an explanation of it, at the time, but the Convention being almost in the act of finally adjourning, and every moment seeming to be required for the despatch of their business, I did not wish to interrupt them.

When papers were being circulated for pledges of persons not to sustain the Government, in any event, in the present war with Mexico, a gentleman, whom I do not know, came to me, and prefer[illegible] me to sign one of them. Feeling that I could not sign the paper, and wishing, without touching the merits of the subject, to give him my most prominent reason for declining, I softly told him that I was under oath to support the laws of the country, and must, therefore, be excused. It is generally known, I presume, that a lawyer has to take this oath, before he can be admitted to practice.

To my great surprise, a few minutes after this, I heard this gentleman, in answer to some question ~~from the pl~~ as to his progress in getting signatures, openly announce, to the whole house, that I had

refused to sign the pledge.

Now, I assume, primarily, that, in the fact itself, whether I did, or did not, sign the pledge, there was not, nor could there possibly be, the slightest importance, not equally applicable to the like action on the part of any other person at the Convention. And I charge that the conduct of that gentleman, towards me, was highly indecorous. It was a breach of good manners, and conventional usage, and a wanton disregard of one's feelings, which I did not expect would be committed by any one who had any duty assigned him in so respectable a meeting. Why was he thus personal? — singling out an individual. Did he wish to hold me up to the public animadversion, upon his partial statement? Did he wish to make it appear, that I care not for the condition of the slave? ~~yet~~ so, my own conscience acquits me of any such imputation. Though not in the habit of declaring what sentiments I entertain, deeming it of little consequence, I trust it will not seem presumptuous if I embrace this occasion, thus brought about, to say, that I sympathize as strongly with my brethren in bonds — with whom I am identified in almost every particular — as my nature, not a cold one, enables me to do; and, according to the light that is in me, and my humble ability, am ever ready and willing to do all I can for their melioration. The cause of the colored man, in whatever section of our country, especially, is really my own cause; and it would be monstrous indeed if I did not so regard it.

I ask any friends who may have been prejudiced against me, by the course of the gentleman, to be assured that there is no cause for such prejudice. With Great Respect, Macon B. Allen.