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Petersburg April 7

Wm Lloyd Garrison

My dear friend

38 Mr Miller has just arrived — and among the letters he brings is one from yourself. I am glad to get it — but sorry to learn from it that you decline going to Europe. I agree with you that in some respects our friend Conway is the best man we could send. But I still think that, all things considered, you are the man to represent America in England at this crisis.

Your confidence that I should go has great weight with me. It is possible that I may go — but my way to do so is not yet clear. My private affairs hold me here. Moreover I feel that by remaining here I may be able to do something for my country — perhaps more than by going abroad. Here my concern

for my health makes me afraid to get out of the reach of home. My last sickness made a very great inroad on me: I dread sleeplessness. My brain might sink under it again.

My wife & I will thank you for sending a copy of "True Rest". I believe we had no other copy of it left. I have that in my wife's memory. Her memory of poetry is extraordinary. Her favorite poems, & your "True Rest" has from the first been one of them, she "knows by heart".

I am always glad to see in the Liberator "W. Lloyd G." & "W. P. G." — you are blest in your children. My wife joins me in love to them all & to their dear parents — she has been quite sick for a few days, but is again pretty well.

Your friend

Gerrit Smith