

Boston. March 14. 1845.

I write to you with great pain, but I feel that
truth and sincerity demands that I should make
you acquainted with my present state of mind.
We parted in Boston with much appearance of
affection & friendship - that appearance was seen on
my part. Though I thought that you had acted
unjustifiably in denying that the N.H. Anti Slavery
Society owned the Herald of Freedom & tho' I regarded the
~~spirit you had~~ manner in which you had
treated Garrison, Quincy & other friends as exceedingly
unkind & unjust, I imputed it all to ~~the~~ delicate
health, disordered nerves, personal regard for Mr Smith so strong
as to impair your judgment, ~~and~~ ^{and} above all to new views
~~and~~ ^{on} organization, freedom of speech, ^{rights of property,} & kindred topics, which from their
very novelty had produced great disturbance in your mind.
I ~~did not~~ ^{trusted} ~~thought~~ that renewed health & leisure would
induce you, so far to retract your steps that the past might
be forgotten & the confidence of former years restored.
I can no longer hope so. You hesitate not to affirm
that the Mass friends came to Concord to ~~obtain~~ to settle
the ownership of the Herald of Freedom really "to beat down
the idea of volunteer press - & unite separate Anti Slavery
actions." I know for what I ~~must~~ ^{came} to Concord. At a very
inclement season I left my own home, with severe sickness in it
and went thither solely from motives of personal friendship for
yourself

I had hoped that by mutual consultation & explanation
the whole matter might be amicably arranged. In
Mass. we had never thought of you as an alien or a
stranger. We did not think you should be deemed such
by you. I ~~love~~ love to you

The opinion that I formed & expressed as a member of
the Committee in Concord was entirely uninfluenced by my
views on organization or Societies. I have ~~told~~ you
I wrote you this while in Concord. yet you do not hesitate
by implication to accuse me of the meanest hypocrisy.
I know myself innocent of this imputation. I believe the
other members of the Mass. Board equally so - consequently
I must feel that the great affection & respect I once
even ~~traced~~ were founded on erroneous conceptions of your
character. I had thought that your ~~very~~ faults were
the virtues of magnanimity and generosity carried to
excess. - But I will not dwell on what is so painful

If you ever had real friends on earth, friends who
~~do not~~ would have done any thing ^{to please} & sought to serve you
that did not involve a compromise of integrity & principle.
they were ^{in Boston} the men & women whose feelings you have
outraged & whose principles & conduct you have misrepresented.
I have not written this as an Abolitionist, but ~~as~~ because
~~some thing due to personal friendship~~ we were once
intimate personal friends; therefore you will, I trust, perceive the
impropriety of publishing this note in your new paper.

I wish to stand before the Anti Slavery world in the
same category as the other members of the Miss
Board who went to Concord. I feel that there is
ample evidence to convince any right minded
person of the rectitude both of their motives & conduct,
the report of the Committee is before the world & will
receive whatever credence the personal character of
its members may secure - ~~that~~ ^{for all of} Your declaration
that it has not obtained yours must of course
resolve ^{all} former ~~intimate~~ ^{friendship}. That I feel it to be thus
is a matter of ~~very little~~ ^{no} concern to the Cause -

My best wishes are with you & your family.
It is an additional grief to me that your interesting
children should be injured as they must be by your present
course. Pardon my great plainness on so delicate a
topic, but ~~to~~ your unjust & bitter feelings cannot fail
to exert a prejudicial influence on their sensitive
& enthusiastic characters. You have put easily between
them & those who could ^{more} warmly have appreciated
their genius & warmth of feeling. heart

I am with feelings of perfect kindness

A. W. Weston.

Copy of a letter
to W. P. Rogers
March 19, 45