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To Dr. Amos A. Phelps, Boston

Boston, Sept. 6. 1840

My dear friend:

60 Your letter of the 1st inst, inviting me, in behalf of the Groton Antislavery Society, to visit your place for the purpose of giving one or more lectures on slavery is another proof among numerous others that have been given, that my course on the other side of the Atlantic meets with the cordial approval of my antislavery friends and associates in this country. I am gratified & strengthened by it - How soon I shall be able to comply with the invitation it is now quite difficult for me to say. Our Non-Resistance anniversary is rapidly approaching, and I have yet a long Report to draw up for the Society: then follow the State Convention to be held in Worcester & Springfield early in October. On Wednesday morning I must go to Concord, N.H. to be present at the State Convention, and to assist in determining the question, whether Rogers shall go to New York to edit the Standard. Our friends in the Granite State naturally feel reluctant to give him up, and he himself shrinks from occupying so conspicuous and important a post; but I am decidedly of opinion that he ought to go, and that, if he should decline going, it would be very injurious to the subscription list of the Standard - which, I doubt not, has been considerably augmented by the expectation, that, on his return from abroad, he would occupy the national editorial chair. Besides, the seceders from us, I think, fear his caustic, racy pen more than that of any other man we could send to New York. It is, however, very doubtful whether he can be persuaded to go; for his local attachments are very strong, and there are some difficulties in the way -

It had come I should like to fill this and a much larger sheet.

with giving you some particulars of my trips to the old world; but I have many letters to write, and a great many engagements on hand, besides a vast amount of documents, pamphlets, newspapers &c to wade through, which have accumulated during our absence. I will reserve therefore what I have to say about matters & things in England, Scotland and the Emerald Isle, until we are permitted to see each other face to face -

So beautiful, so like a Paradise is all England, that, since my return, our lands every where look wild and uncultivated; and scenes which were once full of attraction now seem to be quite homely, as well as homelike in their aspect. Perhaps even Gorton may suffer by the comparison; and yet, for fineness of locality, beauty & grandeur of scenery, and extension of prospect, I am not sure that there are many places abroad to surpass it. At least I am anxious to take another peep at it as soon as practicable, and especially to take you by the hand, and enjoy once more your faithful friendship and generous hospitality -

Henry C. Chapman is now somewhat ill, having had another attack of bleeding internally. How he is today I have not heard. I know not that he is considered dangerous. The worst of it is, he is in the hands of a regular physician! There's a trust for you! Peradventure, all may go well -

I wish to return to the Anti Slavery Society my thanks for their kind invitation, and to be remembered to Messrs Hawley, Brontelle Hall and other friends, in affectionate terms -

Your much obliged friend,

Wm. Lloyd Garrison.