

Boston, April 29. 1854.

Dear Mr Webb,

I shall lose the pleasure of seeing Miss Shackleton (who goes out to England in company with Joseph Barker & others, I hear) - as she has not yet made her appearance in Boston; and on Monday morning I go to my house in Leicester (which has been closed for 3 months), to superintend a little painting, &c., & do not expect to return hither till after the Anniversary in New York, which will be on the 10th, the very day that Ellip's & her party are to leave Boston. - I have however got the little volume - "Paffion Flowers" (by Mrs. Howse, wife of Dr. Sam^l G. Howse, the Director of the State Asylum for the Blind), which I shall put into Mr. Walker's hands to ~~be~~ put into Ellip's. - By the same conveyance I trust you will receive this; and I take the opportunity to send herewith a statement of our account, which in my turn I beg that you will criticize & comment upon. I must first however acknowledge yours of March 31, - rec^d. April 16 - enclosing draft on Wardlaw & Livingston, New York, for £15-16-6^d, which I cashed at the rate of \$4.80 to the pound, it being impossible to do better. - By my first ^(herewith send) account, dated April 29, & balanced at \$66.88, you will see I credit the receipt of \$15.75, for the second year of the Advocate; at ~~75~~ seventy five cents to each paper.

and not $\frac{1}{2}$ etc. as you thought in former
account. I made up this account, and
squared it by a sort of forced balance, before
receiving yours of March 31, which contained your
remittance; this I did, in order to bring the
Bazaar Acct. to a close, & pay over the balance
in my hands to Mr. Jackson. That was not
a regular way of doing, as it left me nothing to
pay you for the 2^d year of the Advocate, and
as you have since sent me ~~the~~ the whole balance
of Aunt's law's money in your hands, you have
nothing left to pay yourself from for the Advocate,
which makes me sorry that you sent me so
much money. I wish I knew if you would
like to have me send back by Miss Shackleton
so much as is necessary to cover the Advocate
subscription, or if you would prefer ^{have me} to retain it,
for future uses. - In this uncertainty, and as
I am not to see Miss Shackleton myself, I
conclude not to send it, but will at any time you
choose to call for it. - I forced the balance,
& settled my account with you as enclosed, for
the reason that I preferred to make the whole
matter an account between you and the Bazaar,
so far as I am concerned; otherwise, I should
have to open (so far as I care see) a long

number of accounts, ^{some} on your side of the water as well as ours. - I shall give you, of course, all the items, even to the minutest detail, and you will please to re-arrange it in your own account right. - We all feel, as I surely need not tell you, the most entire confidence in your correct keeping of the accounts; - we are more solicitous that you shall not do yourself a wrong in the matter, either by paying for the Papers and getting no payment in return, or by being kept out of the money that is due you longer than is reasonable. And whenever any sum is due to you, over and above what I may have of you in my hands, I shall consider the ^{Duty of} American A. S. Society to discharge the debt, and I have no doubt they will all feel the same. - Mr. B. In sending all subscriptions, new or old, it is highly desirable that the name should be written in full, the name of residence or postoffice address in full, and (if possible) the time from ^{and to} which the subscription money paid is supposed to extend.

I am very glad of the arrangement you made to receive the Box yourself - & not allow it to be opened at Liverpool. Your reasons are very satisfactory. I have not the slightest doubt that it is the best economy of money, as well as the most certain way, to ensure a correct & prompt distribution of

the parcels, to have them go to you. - I am sorry that Mr. Farmer turns out the man he does. How well he exposed, as I have always supposed, Frederick Douglass after the latter's base attack upon Geo. Thompson! But I now presume that G. T. did all the real work in that case, leaving Farmer to put together, arrange, & fill up.

I have had a very pleasant letter from Powell, at Liverpool. He is as much in the cause as ever, I should think, and seems desirous to serve it. He thinks that, another year, he can forward the boxes more understandingly and correctly than the last; and I suppose the notice which Anne Weston gave at the close of her last Report may induce our friends & donors to send their contributions through his hands.

I hope soon to hear from you of the Pot's safe arrival. -

I shall look, too, with interest for your comments on what I wrote to you respecting the "Standard", and its value as one of the objects, & the principal object upon which the Means of the American Society are expended. I am very clear in my own mind on the subject. I ask myself - How better, how else, could we spend the money, ~~even~~ (supposing that we should be able to get it) if the Standard did not exist? Should we bestow it upon such Anti-Slavery papers as

the New York Evening Post? - an admirably conducted paper in many respects, with ~~an~~ a decidedly anti-slavery character, with Wm. C. Bryant & other able men to edit it, with a large circulation, and of considerable influence with the Democratic party, - but which, when the pinch comes, goes for Franklin Pierce and his Cabinet of unprincipled Scoundrels to be our government, and openly approves his vile Inaugural Address! Or shall we give it to the New York Tribune, a very anti-slavery paper, with some of the ablest ^{& strongest} anti-slavery articles I have ever read in my life appearing in its columns since this Nebraska business has been before the country, edited by Horace Greeley and a corps of able assistants, with a circulation of 150,000 copies? Shall the Tribune have our money, and use it to promote ^{another} Zachary Taylor's election to the Presidency, or Winfield Scott's, the man who declared if he didn't enforce the Fugitive Slave Law, we might write infamours after his name and kick him into the gutter. The Tribune supported both those men, and has declared its readiness to go again for Scott. Or shall we make over our funds to the Liberty Party - with their false & chimerical construction of the Constitution, & their saddling the Ab. Cause with forty other matters, some of which are held in

much more esteem by their leading men than
Anti-slavery itself, if we may judge by the
amount of attention they give to these respective
Subjects; - or to the Free Democrats Party,
with its continual compromises of principle,
of justice, of consistency, and of honour, in
order to secure votes? - Or, as our excellent
friend Pillsbury would probably advise, Shall
we expend it all upon Lecturers, those that
we have, and all others, the best we can get,
and such as there are? (thereby leaving compara-
tively dormant and unemployed the talents
with the pen which is now connected, ~~more~~
with the Cause, and by which very many are
reached every week, who would be seldom
visited by the lecturers.) Supposing we take up
with that advice, & resolve next year to employ
Lecturers only, abandoning the Standard. Those
lecturers go forth and speak. Their converts
immediately ask, "What publication is there which
shall regularly bring to our doors tidings of this
cause, and carry forward the work you have
commenced? - what paper is there upon which
we may depend that it will not befog and
mislead us for its own selfish or party ends?"

What paper has the great Anti-Slavery Cause
manly & supremely at heart, and will
adhere to it, and to a system of thorough &
uncompromising warfare upon it, in the
face of all opposition, in spite of all temptations,
manfully, to the end? And what can they
answer? What can they recommend? The
Liberator will not answer the wants of a
large proportion of such inquirers. It is not
alone an Anti-Slavery Paper. It discusses every
thing the Editor pleases, sacred & profane, in
Heaven and upon Earth. Those who can
grasp the Liberator in their hand, and walk in
its company, are ^{among} our strongest men & women.
But there are others, of great excellence, of high
character, and of deservedly wide influence, who
are not ready for it. And a paper, of the
general idea & character of the Standard, would
have to be supplied, if it did not now exist, -
- In former years, I have not been without my
doubts & difficulties as to the Standard; but they
long since entirely ceased to exist. Now I am
fully persuaded, that if we would keep the
Evening Post, the Tribune, the Free Democrat,

Party and its Organs where they are, and
make them better (of which there is a
most enig need), we can do nothing
so effectual as to keep up our radical
Organization, and ~~our~~ ^{its} radical, uncompro-
misig Organ and Advocate.

But I shall gladly welcome your
farther ideas & comments on this subject.

And here, for the present, I must
~~close~~ close. We hear, from week to week, good
accounts of Pittsburys health, although he is
not yet relieved of that pain in his side, which
is ~~a most unfor~~ an unfavourable symptom,
And all we hear of our dear W. Estlin leads
us to feel, deeply & sadly, that ~~our~~ our cause will
soon lose the help and comfort of his earthly presence.
Would that we might all be as ready for our
departure as he! I fear that in the last Libera-
Garrison has spoken too personally of him & Mary &
to suit them. All the while he thinks himself very
forbearing, and as saying almost nothing.

Farewell - Affectionately Yours
Samuel May Jr

Ms. A. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1.