

Ms. A. 9. 2. 9. 84

G. G. Whittier

\$11-

paid 30 Oct 1877

Newburyport. Nov 9. 1837

1857
H. 450

Dear Mrs. Chapman

Observing your advertisement in the newspapers, touching the Fair & the Liberty Bell - it occurs to me that you may intend using this year certain verses of mine that were last year too late. I do not know that I should now think them worthy of it; that however I wish now leave to you; & my object in writing is to wish that if they are printed my present place of residence (as above) may be appended, to identify them the more; & further that the printers may leave my capital letters as they are in the MS. - which printers are always loth to do.

I wish to say also that I have taken the responsibility of proposing to my friend Samuel Johnson of Salem (with

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When you may be acquainted (hearsay)
to contribute something to the Liberty
Bell - he being one deeply interested
in the cause, & one from whom no good
other than truthy would ever come.

I do not yet know whether he intends
going so - but thought I would mention
it to you in anticipation of doing so. it.

I shall hope to make a visit to
Boston at the time of the Anti-Slavery
Fair. My own interest in the movement
has long been too deeply rooted to be
capable of anything but steady increase.
I may say the same as to the particular
ground now occupied by some portion of
the Anti-Slavery body. Still, my own
tendency is to liberalism as regards others'
action & individualism as regards my own.
While I seek to pay honor where honor
is due, I have yet to find a body of
Reformers which satisfies me. For
the present at least I am compelled to
stand alone, striving to follow the right

not only strenuously & fearlessly - but
also gently & lovingly - to welcome
all fellow labourers (even where measures
or spirit sometimes repel) - but to
go out of my own appointed way
for none; - seeing only in this cause
any chance for true coöperation.

As I am aware that all this
language must be interpreted by the
life of the speaker alone - & I must
try humbly & patiently to show what
I mean by it. I should not have said
thus much had I not felt sure that
no one is uninterested to you who is
any degree awakened to the great cause
to which you have devoted your life.

I remain yours with the
sincerest respect

J. W. Higginson.

J. W. Higginson

1887

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