

Brooklyn, Jan. 17, 1836.

My beloved Coadjutor:

4
Accompanying this, I send a letter, which, if you think proper, you may read to the meeting on Wednesday next, and then hand it over to friend Knapp for publication in the Liberator.

Boston is yet a strong hold of slavery. By Henry's letter received yesterday, it seems you have applied in vain for the use of a meeting-house or hall, in which to hold the annual meeting. Sixteen refusals successively! And ^{yet} the people of Boston are strongly opposed to slavery! Pardon my ^{hard} language - "they are liars, and the truth is not in them." They stand ready, at any moment, to crush the slaves, and to co-operate with the masters. While such a city behaves so wickedly, I do think we ought to be more tender of the south - or, rather, we ought to be more impartial in our denunciations. Spare not your hypocritical and callous-hearted city, but at your meeting hold it up in all the infamy which attaches to its professions and conduct. Woe unto thee, Boston! for if the mighty works which have been done in thee, had been done in Charleston or Savannah, peradventure they had reported long ago.

I hope bold and emphatic resolutions will be adopted, respecting the murderous proposition of the New Mr Duffie in his message, and the equally despotical suggestions of the Dometian Marcy; for every proper occasion should be seized upon to bear testimony against such dangerous documents.

Strong resolutions should also be passed against the continuance of slavery and the slave trade in the District of Columbia, and especially in reprobation of the inhuman policy and base servility of our northern representatives in Congress, upon this subject.

Our brother Thompson will be greatly strengthened and gratified, if a resolution should be passed in kind remembrance of him and those who sustained his mission. — I think our bro. Stuart ought also to be remembered, inasmuch as he is laboring "with all his might," most nobly, successfully and disinterestedly, in our sacred cause.

Let the south be made to understand, that this is with us a high moral and religious question; that we shall as soon deny our God, and worship idols, as abandon the advocacy of the rights of man; that we are ready to go to the gibbet or the stake, sooner than forsake the cause of our enslaved countrymen; and that, above all things, we are not to be frightened or driven back by deeds of violence and blood. ¶ We receive, them, also, as to the character and numbers of the abolitionists; for they ought not to believe what is said by their northern abettors, respecting our feebleness. We ought, at all times, to speak in brave and confident language of our success and prospects; for we are authorized to do so by facts, and especially by the inherent excellence of our cause. Deliver us from a boastful, vain-glorious, self-confident spirit: but, oh! what dignity there is in christian independence! what majesty in christian resolution! what strength in christian faith! what triumph in christian endurance! Let us use, then, the dialect of christian conquerors.

In the last resort, I suppose you will hold your meeting in the Anti-Slavery Hall, which is sufficiently large to hold more delegates than will attend, although but few of the people can be accommodated in it.

The Annual Report I am confident will confer credit upon your head and heart. You know something of my anxiety respecting its remarks upon Dr. Channing's work: let there be an impartial mixture of praise and reproof. I think our anti-slavery brethren, generally, ought to be warned to give no heed to the Dr's advice to us, to abandon our societies, to give up our watch-word immediate emancipation, to the charge of fanaticism, &c. &c. The imputation upon us ought to be repelled, that, in spite of all our trials, ~~trials~~, sacrifices, ay, and successes, "nothing seems to have been gained!" but "perhaps something ^{has} been lost to the cause of freedom and humanity!" Let us Brute? Our enemies have never ~~been~~ ^{blinded} more deeply than this.

I must rely upon your kindness, (if ~~you~~ ^{it} will allow me to do so,) to prepare an account of the meeting for the Liberator.

Would it not be well to remember Miss Martineau honorably in a resolution — and applaud her moral courage, and rebuke her foul calumnies?

Cheers for Rhode Island! Eight hundred and fifty names, the bone and muscle of the State, appended to the call of an anti-slavery meeting! Here is fanaticism! Now for a dissolution of the Union — after so long a time! Do not fail to send delegates to Providence. Truly, "the call is strong and the response ought to be loud." A small meeting would make us appear somewhat individuals.

My venerated father-in-law is exceedingly obliged to you for your kindness in sending the numbers of the Herald of Peace to him.

I trust you have recovered your health since Henry wrote. Helen joins with the rest of the family in sending special regards to you and Mrs. May. We are all very well.

Yours, affectionately,
Wm. Lloyd Garrison.

P. S. Would not Prof. Follen consent to occupy the place of E. M. P. Wells as Vice President?

In case you should return to Brooklyn in the spring, it will be necessary to choose another Corresponding Secretary.

At the annual meeting, let an effort be made to obtain new members to the Society. If bro. Wright could be elected one of our managers, it would meet my wishes.

I will thank you to tender our kindest remembrances to the Misses Parker and their excellent boarders. — John Edward is well.

Wm Lloyd Garrison
Jan. 17. 1836

Rev. Samuel J. May,

Brooklyn,

Mass.