

Boston, July 8, 1842.

Dear bro. George:

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The bearer of this, Mr. Wolcott, has been introduced to me, by an esteemed friend, as an individual of amiable disposition and high moral worth—a true abolitionist—and a friend of reform. He has become interested in your social and fraternal community at Northampton, and now visits this place for the purpose of seeing with his own eyes, and hearing with his own ears, and coming to some definite conclusions as to his future course. He is a mechanic, and the more to be respected and appreciated than if he were "a gentleman." I believe it is his wish to connect himself with your association, provided that step can be taken to mutual satisfaction.

It is now uncertain, whether I shall be able to visit your place this summer, as the state of Helen's health will not allow her to accompany me. Our dear mother would be gratified to see you all in N., and would gladly seize the first opportunity to do so, were it not for her reluctance to leave Helen, under present circumstances. Still, it is possible that we may conclude to take a hasty trip to N. in all this month.

Anne has been in Providence, as you are doubtless aware, for some time past. Yesterday, Sarah left us, to spend the remainder of the summer in P. I have no doubt that their health and spirits will be improved by the change, though we are sorry to lose their company. There is no society for them in Cambridgeport.

I saw Dr. Hudson yesterday morning, on his return from Maine, where he has had some interesting adventures, and made some stir with his anti-slavery "fanaticism," in company with George Foster. He went as far as Bangor. - He left here in the afternoon train of cars for Millbury, in which place he was to have lectured last evening. He showed me a letter from you, in which you requested him to procure a suction breast-pipe. I told him that I would attend to the matter, and will do so without delay. I happened to see, fortunately, a new breast-pipe, which has been recently invented, combining all the good properties of the old, and adding others to them, so as to make it far superior to any thing now in the market. It has the recommendation of Warren, Channing, and other of our eminent physicians. Its cost is \$3:- the all one cost \$3,50. I have not yet ascertained where it is for sale, or I would forward you one by Mr. Wolcott. I intend to purchase one for my own family use.

How did you spend the 4th? Not in noisy revelry or "patriotic" display, I know. I went to Lowell, and addressed a large, respectable, and most attentive assembly, for the space of two hours, in a beautiful grove: -

"The groves were God's first temples" - and they are far better places in which to plead for suffering humanity, than any of the "steeple-houses" in the land - provided the weather be favorable. I used the largest liberty of speech, on the occasion, and spoke, I trust, in the spirit and with the earnestness of one who felt that he was bound to "remember them that are in bonds as bound with them." My speech was very favorably received.

You must try to get up a celebration on the first of August. Child, Adam, Hudson, Hill, Scarborough, &c. &c. shame on you, if you fail to remember that day in a manner that will 'tell' upon the anti-slavery enterprise! You have got an abundance of materials to work with, and see to it that you astonish and overwhelm the quiet, rest-loving people of Northampton with your glorious rant and revolutionary fanaticism on the birth-day of West-India emancipation.

Collins is now acting as General Agent, pro tempore, of the National Society. He will do for it all that zeal, energy, tact, and indomitable perseverance, can accomplish. We are laying our plans to bring on a general engagement with the enemies of liberty, with the least possible delay. Look out for a spirited fall campaign!

What a horrible state of things exists in Rhode-Island! What calamity can be more unendurable to a free people, than to be placed under the absolute despotism of martial law? For that is a law which tramples all civil government into the dust, and repeals all the laws of God. With the Suffrage party, I have very little sympathy, because, while they protest against a law killing white supremacy, they insolently and basely exclude, by their Constitution, all colored citizens from voting at the polls; but I have still less sympathy with the Charter party. They are behaving in a way that will assuredly bring a fearful retribution, ere long.

Mother, Helen, and James, (whose health, I am happy to say, is no worse,) unite with me in wishing to be cordially remembered to Catherine, M. E. Sallaway and husband, &c.

Affectionately yours,
Wm. Lloyd Garrison.

S. 9

George W. Benson,
Nathanpton,
Mass.

Forward by Mr. Wolcott.

