

Ms. A. 6. 1. 27
Leicester, March 16, 1847.

My dear Sir,

I once borrowed a book of you (which previously belonged to your father) which gave a full account of the debates in the Massachusetts Convention on the adoption of the Constitution. - I thought I had made extracts, & made such minutes, from the book as would be likely to be serviceable to me. If I did, I have lost them. And now, if it will not put you to too much trouble, I would ask you to give me a few facts from that volume - (I returned it to you, at Lexington.) I wish to get now the final vote, in that Convention, on ~~it~~ agreeing to the Constitution. I wish to get ^{1.} the precise form of the question put, and ^{2.} the State of the vote; and ^{3.} the number of yeas & nays from each County - for, if I correctly remember, the vote is given ~~separately~~ arranged by Counties. If you could let me have this soon, it would much oblige me. I never saw any other copy of the book but yours.

I came from Brooklyon yesterday. I have preached there, with 2 exceptions, every Sunday of this year; one Sunday I exchanged with C. A. Farley, (Norwich), and on the other, I excused myself from going, as I had been the week previous (most of it) in Boston, attending Annual Meeting of Mass. A. S. Society. I have spent the whole of 2 weeks there, and parts of 2 others, making about 3 weeks for visiting, &c., and I am expecting to be there all next week. It would be

best, however, when you write, to direct to me at Leicester.
- Fast day in Ct. comes April 2^d; and, by suggestion, the
Annual Meeting of the Windham Co. A. S. Society is to be held on that
day in Brooklyn. It was to have been held in B., at any rate,
and at about that time. I wish you could be there.

I found that Dr. Whitcomb had recently rec^d. a letter from you,
which he showed to me. I must thank you for your warm
commendation of me. It far outweighs the coldness and malice
of the trimmers, who are thick enough in our ranks. - I should,
on many accounts, find a residence in B. pleasant, and I
might find an open field for labour; but I am far from being
so sanguine in this latter particular as the Dr. & some others there
are. The policy of not hearing the advocates of Anti-Slavery, of Anti
Cap. Bnits, and Anti-War principles, prevails pretty generally in
Windham Co., I suspect. But I have many reasons which weigh
strongly with me against going there; and, as at present ~~and~~ situated,
I cannot feel that it would be right for me to go there. I
noticed particularly what you say of Mr. Ferris. You of course
know, better than we can here, how far he is prepared to meet
such a state of things as exists in Brooklyn & vicinity. Every consideration
leads me to think favorably of his coming, and I was glad to see
that Dr. W. felt the same. He will probably write you soon. He
is very busy now. - I am endeavoring to sell my place in Leicester;
as yet, I am without a purchaser.

You have noticed the letter in the "Liberator", doubtless, about
the Unitarians & Slavery. It is Am. P. Atkinson, now of N.
Bedford, son-in-law of Dr. Parkman (!!)-[Alas! for that poor man-
how he is surrounded with pestilent heresy, & contempt of his

word & commandment.] I have had a private letter from Athens,
he is knowing to the facts about Dr. Whitridge, a brother of whom
resides in N. Bedford. Dr. Whitridge left the Church, in N. B.,
when Mr. Fumes was arguing the Surfularity of Slaveholding.
He owns 120 to 150 Slaves.
A fine man, indeed, for the Unitarians, to honor! Are you
coming on to the May anniversary? Another effort must be
made to purify the A. U. A., or make it take, in face of all
the world, an out & out pro-Slavery position; this dodging &
equivocating is quite too bad, & we have had quite too much
of it. I hope you'll come on. If you don't, I shall be glad of
any suggestions from you. Surely the least we can ask is that
no Slaveholder shall be made an officer, and that no direct
countenance be given to Slavery.

I have not yet acknowledged receiving yours of Jan. 11th -
it came duly to hand, & gave us much pleasure, both in
Leicester & Brooklyn. The pamphlet sermons, & the one on "Festivals",
came duly to hand. Have you heard any more about Tibbald's
leaving Concord? and, if so, what he means to do?

In a previous letter of yours (written last fall) you earnestly
exhort me to continue in the Ministry. I confess, I am strongly
inclined still to leave the "stated" Ministry, - for I am often
~~inward~~ ^{inward} brought ~~to believe~~ ^{to believe} that, in some respects, it is a
barrier to my fulfilling the true Ministry. It prevents my access
to some minds which, otherwise, I might reach; perhaps, on the
other hand, it gives me access to some I could not reach under
the circumstances. Whatever post I may occupy, whatever
situation in life I may be in, I hope not to be found faithless
or idle in behalf of the true objects of Christianity. Does not

our remaining in the ministry - I speak of you, and Mr. Furness, and Mr. Stetson, and Tilden, and about half a dozen more, & I will not exclude myself - does it not, in the eye of the world, give some countenance to the pro-slavery priests who are Legion? at least, are we not identified, in considerable measure, with them? - My success here (J. Hinkley) is a very clever fellow. He is bold, very fearless, determined to espouse ~~all~~ and advocate all the truth he can find, and to keep his mind open to find it. - With such men, or with 25 such, we could shake every vestige of pro-slavery out of the U. S. A. - (of which he, by the way, is not a member, he told me.)

I hope you will go to Boston, at Anniversary time? Can't you? - My wife desires her love to you all. My children are somewhat troubled with colds & coughs. Otherwise we are well.

- Did you know George Scarborough was the owner of a slave, or slaves? Even so. - His brother Perrin does not like it very well. Olivia Gilbert, who went out to see George last December, does not like the place & the way, and is coming back in the early Spring. Perrin is a regular Com. Antis., and an anti-Sabbath man. He rarely comes to meetings, on Sunday. Henry Green's book Converted him. Philip S. has not been at meeting ~~since~~ since I have preached at B., nor have I seen him, except once at his own house. Theodore S. is very sick with a spinal disease, - confined to the bed nearly the whole time. Lucy S. is keeping school at Hingham. Catherine S. returns home this week, to pass the summer. Herbert is at home, pretty well. Mrs. P. and Theodore's wife & Herbert came to meeting, the 2^d as often as she can, the others pretty steadily. John Gray has hired a house in Worcester, & will soon remove his family thither. He will be quite a loss to the Brooklyn Society. With kindest affection to Cousin Lucinda, & your children, Ever yours,
Sam. May 3-4