

Brantwood, Coniston,  
Windermere

Nov: 5, 1833

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To the Editor of the Liberator.

My dear Sir

Through the Courtesy  
of our excellent friend, Miss Martineau,  
I see a copy of her letter to you,  
concerning Mr Holyoake, before that  
letter can reach you; so that my few  
words of reply may be in time to  
print in the same paper.

That Miss Martineau is quite  
sincere in all she ever says there can be  
no manner of doubt; yet in the present  
instance it seems not impossible that  
some atheistic leanings may have warped  
her judgment. I have known Mr.  
Holyoake very much longer than she  
has, have had some months too for  
reconsidering the paper which she  
now answers almost at sight. I am  
sorry that I can only repeat that

paper, word for word.

Miss Martineau wishes she could give you "an idea of the absurdity it is to us in this Country to charge Mr Holyoake with sneaking" (The sneaking is her own word, but I will not object), — "with desiring to conceal his opinions and get rid of the word Atheism." Yet she herself tells you: — "The use of the word Secularism is found advantageous, but it in no way interferes with the profession of Mr Holyoake's unaltered" (atheistic) "views." I said: — "It was convenient to drop the name of Atheism, though he does not cease to disseminate his atheistic folly." Truly there is not much difference between convenient and found advantageous.

like the Secularism I fear Mr "Edward Search" is a misnomer. I have known Mr Holyoake longer than Mr "Search" has; and I can not recollect ever hearing him in public or private pronounce the institution of slavery. Six years' volumes of his weekly "Reasoner"

lie before me, and my search can not find a single censure of American Slavery. The articles (in the "Leader") denouncing the Abolitionists were, I believe, his first notices of the abolition movement. Miss Martineau's known regard for your cause will not enable her to alter this.

As to the "personal inducement before he would help the subscription for European Freedom", Miss Martineau's "only possible answer" — "no body knows of any" — is so conclusive that I refrain from saying more.

Palmerston and Graham (with the Bandieras' blood upon him) are, I judge, tolerably well estimated on your side of the Atlantic. I will only remark on that score, that I attacked Mr Holyvake, not for his thought, but for secretly acting in opposition to his avowed thought.

I would apologize for troubling you with this, but you will see that I ought not to suffer the weight of Miss Martineau's name to make a

faulty balance, and also it is of  
some importance by you and to your  
Countrymen to know what the men  
are who address you in the name  
of our democracy.

I am, my dear Sir,  
yours most respectfully  
W. Linton

P.S. Private

With this I post you some odd  
nos: of English Republic, which I would  
like you to see. It would be a  
great favour to me if you would  
send me your Liberator and allow  
me to send you the ER. in poor  
exchange. May I ask such things?  
W. L.

Wm Lloyd Garrison