

Part of a letter of  
A. Larnsworth  
1845-

Boston July 20 1845

Dear Anne

So, your little mischievous, your have begun  
to call names in your comment. new ones, warbling - cut  
away; and then willy nilly tell me that to be thus branded  
must be worth the postage, 5cts. an example of cool offputting  
unpardonable. The Garrisonian School must be used when  
young ladies so readily learn coarse language, & hard epithets.  
But I am unimpressed. not a fibre of my frame is ruffled. I  
can receive longer periods of assault upon my desecrated  
head with Christian meekness, yes, forgiveness. Go on then  
pour out a full stream of your indignation till the  
fountain be dry, if that be possible, I shall still  
remain calm as the summer sea. The truth of the  
matter is, you have gone to the end, & your post off,  
& now as you find yourselves sinking lower & lower, you look  
up & make mouths at me because I too want your off.  
The cause of it is, that with nothing to stand upon, & falling  
every moment with increased velocity, you should call it  
taking high ground!! It is the greatest humbug imaginable,  
high ground! The welpet at the ropes end, swinging between  
the heavens & earth, with out much propriety may say he  
is on high ground. He would give much for a little solid  
earth under his feet, & so will you or I shall be mistaken.

But the less serious, The M. C. S. Society has adopted a course  
of policy which, I believe, to be not only, injurious, if not  
utterly destructive, to the unlucky <sup>cause</sup>. Their aim, at this  
time, is quibbling, their object entirely beyond their reach. If  
they could accomplish their main object & annihilate the U. S.  
constitution (of which there is no danger) I believe they would  
do a very bad job, it would be the greatest calamity that  
could happen the other slave. How then can I assist or aid  
in the work? I cannot do so & be an honest man. I would  
see that the means resolved upon to accomplish an end  
are appropriate. Have some apparent tendency to accomplish  
that end, or I cannot work. It is not sufficient for me that  
others say they see. I must see also. I can see no tendency  
in the efforts now making by the society to rid the land of  
slavery. On the contrary, as I view it, they ~~have~~ <sup>throw</sup>  
directly in the way of the U. S. Gov as great an obstacle as they  
possibly could, if it will never move on, by their instrumen-  
tality, till it is taken out of the way. But you will say  
it is the constitution that supports slavery. Take that away & I fall.  
You are sincere in so thinking, I am equally honest in  
believing just the reverse, & till I can see as you do I  
can not act. I believe those who differ from me to be honest  
& I shall look for a change of action as soon as they see  
their error. I have no doubt you will be with me  
within one year. One, an officer in the Soc. has changed his  
views materially already. more will do so. In the  
mean time I will patiently wait till <sup>the</sup> change of the  
Society, come, for come it will, or go into annihilation  
Do you now "know where to take me up?"