

Anti-Slavery Office,

New York, 16 July, 1864.

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My Dear Garrison,

Let me thank ~~you~~ for your
reply to Prof. Newman. It is admirable,
and will do good at home as
well as on the other side of the
water. I like especially what you
say of Conway. To those who do not
understand the case, your words may
seem severe, but it is a severity as
necessary as it is deserved. He has
done little else than ^{make} mischief in Eng-
land, and I wish he were here rather
than there. When he first went over,
I was sorry, foreseeing in some

measure what has happened. I was sorry that you and others commended him so unqualifiedly to our friends over there. It was generous toward him, but hardly just to yourselves and the cause, for it gave him a power which he used for mischief-making. He came here to get endorsement and aid, but I felt constrained to give him the cold shoulder, and so, I know, did Foster Upham. Indeed I remember, ^{at the time,} we had a talk about it, in which we expressed our regret that he was going, and our unwillingness to aid him. He will now, in his

Private intercourse over there, exhibit
your letter of commendation as con-
tradicting what you have said in your
letter to Prof. Newman, and I fear that
some of his advisers may think your
first opinion more unprejudiced, and
therefore more worthy of confidence
than the last. But I think our best
friends in England must have
seen for themselves, ere this, the evidence
of his want of judgment, and that
what you say to Prof. Newman will
confirm their own impressions.

On one point only ~~is~~ ^{does} your
reply seem deficient. I allude to the
system of labor introduced in Louisiana
by Gen. Banks. I suppose you hardly
knew what to say on that subject,

and so said nothing; but I do wish that some unprejudiced person would look into the case, and show, as I have no doubt such a man could, that while Banks's system is objectionable in some of its features, it is not half so bad as Conway and others pretend, and that he, probably, intended to do what was best for the negroes. The utter want of candor exhibited by Conway and his whole tribe is an offence to my sense of honor and justice.

But I did not intend to write so much about this, for I took up my pen mainly for another purpose. My dear wife is very feeble, and quite discouraged about herself. Her physician wants her to go to the seaside, believing that the bathing and the salt air will be good for her. We have

been talking the matter over, but can
 think of no suitable place. We can
 hardly afford the expense of any of
 the fashionable resorts, and indeed
 her tastes, ^{would} incline her to keep away
 from such places, even if we were
 rich. She would like a quiet place,
 at some farmer's house, where the
 bathing is good and the prices, ^{are} not
 too high. She feels drawn towards the
 East, especially as she has no clue to
 such a place as she seeks anywhere
 in this quarter. We have been away
 from Massachusetts so long that we
 hardly know to whom to apply for
 information. I write to you, therefore,
 merely to ask if you know of any
 suitable place, or if you can give
 me the names of friends to whom

I can write for information. Is
Plymouth a good bathing-place,
and could Mary Anne probably find
~~accommodations~~ ^{accommodations} there? He would go
either to Cape Cod or Cape Ann, or
nearer anywhere where she can have
the sea air, wholesome food, and good
bathing facilities not too far from
the house. We thought of Plymouth,
~~but~~ remembering your expectation of being
there for a part of the time this sum-
mer, and hoping that Mr. A. might be
near you.

I don't want you to take
any considerable troubles about this,
but if you can put me in
correspondence with friends in
some two or three different places

I shall be very grateful, and will
be most glad to reciprocate your
kindness.

We are very glad to hear that
Helen is improving so fast. Mary
Anne joins me in love to her and
to you.

Yours, devotedly,

Oliver Johnson.

I forgot to say that M. A. will
go to Providence in a day or two.
Please write to her, care of Thomas
Davis.

