

65- Anti-Slavery Office,
New York, 19 May, 1862.

To the Executive Committee of the American
Anti-Slavery Society:

Dear Friends,

The enclosed letter from
Parker Pillsbury raises a question
of editorial duty respecting which
I am constrained to ask your ad-
vice, or instruction. The first para-
graph contains a bitter, and, as I
think, gross reflection upon one of
the ablest and truest friends
of the cause; and the whole letter
is predicated upon what I regard
as a false assumption, viz: that

Leading men in our ranks believe
that the work of ^{the} Abolitionists is
"accomplished."

I am anxious to treat all
the friends and agents of the cause
not only with perfect fairness, but
with magnanimity, and to do
nothing that shall ever seem to
be inconsistent with the freedom
of speech and of criticism that
has always characterized our move-
ment; and on the other hand I
am exceedingly reluctant to make
the paper a vehicle of unfriendly
imputations by one ~~XXXX~~ ^{champion} of the
cause upon his associates. I might
print this letter without comment,
but some of the persons alluded to

might ask to reply. I might print it with comments that ~~would probably~~ ^{might or might not} obviate any wish on the part of others to reply. Or I may reject it altogether. My only anxiety is to do what is best for the cause.

It is right to say that I have written to Mr. Pillsbury a kind letter of remonstrance, asking him to withdraw his communication, but telling him at the same time that I will print it if he insists on my doing so, unless otherwise instructed by you.

Yours, faithfully,

Oliver Johnson,

Ed. A. S. Standard.

