

Oct. 11/873.

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Dear Mr. Potter - ~~At the time your letter~~
~~was written, I was not to be in N. Y. next~~
week, & therefore shall not be able to attend the
Con. of the N. E. A.; but accept my thanks for
your letter, inviting me to be present, & to participate
in the proceedings.

The longer I live, the more I see the
importance of asserting the right of free thought,
free inquiry, & free speech, in matters ^{of importance} of religious
intolerance and theological dogmatism, ecclesi-
astical authority and priestly infallibility.
From the standpoint of the R. C., there can be
no question that she is logically consistent in brand-
ing as heretics those who insist upon doing their
own thinking, taking nothing upon trust, forming all things,
acting in accordance with their highest convictions,
and maintaining the individuality & independence
in pursuit of religious truth. But how there
can be any heretics ~~where every one is among~~
these dissenters, in consequence of any dis-
sent ^{ment} in proportion as it is deemed dangerous, &
~~truth & right~~ or stigmatized as incorrect,
is the evidence of religious corruption &
prevaling cowardice.

The question is not how far we
are in agreement or at variance in our
Biblical speculation interpreted or theo-
logical

New York Oct 6th 1878

William Lloyd Garrison:

Dear Sir:

Would
you be kind enough to
have me with a list
of the members in the
Schoonmaker, also with a list
of the members of the
Schoonmaker Anti Slavery Society.

Yours truly

Wm. W. Chapman

507 1/2 Leonard St
New York.