

Parish, May 28. 1852.

Dearest Miss Weston,

You are indeed a model of forbearance & indul-
gence, & had I been guilty of any wilful negligence
I sh^d. be utterly melted by the coils of fire you have
heaped on my undeviating head. But as nothing but
the force of circumstances has caused my reluctance,
believe, I am simply full of gratitude for your two last
affectionate letters, & trust that a few lines of ex-
planation will suffice to make your patience
hold out till I can give some greater token than mere
assertion that you are not least as much as when we
were under the same roof a part & parcel of my mental
furniture. In fact I am often surprised by sudden
yearnings coming over me (connected perceptibly with
nothing in my thoughts or deeds) to have you close at
hand to love & fondle, sensations that I used to be prone
to in childhood, but which for want of scope for their
exercise have become nearly extinct of late years. I
think it ^{much} comes from not having had a fair share of
you to myself when you were here, for I was not
conscious at that time of your standing out in the foreground
in the midst of the universal love awakened by your
group. However I won't stay to account for the revival
of the phaldis weakness, there it is, & you must be-
lieve, even when all connecting links seem severed,
that there is a sense in which we are together. You
would pity but not scold me I think if you could but witness
an unintermitting tide of anti-slavery work we
have to stand against, & how often we are on the
point of being swallowed up by a sudden avalanche
in addition. We really must both have grown worn

dreadfully strong, to have only occasional temporary ailments & no serious illness all the winter, I never remember such a long period of freedom or a time when I could stagger up again so speedily after a transient break down, & go on as before. You will believe I am very grateful, & very free from anxiety to see my Father able to go about & do so many things, of so many kinds for so many people, as has been his mission ever since you saw him. None of our anti-slavery work seems self-imposed or invited; it comes to us so violent, & there is no escape, no running away, for it would only accumulate, & as the house is already choked up, we sh^d. in case of once emerging find re-entrance impracticable. From this ^{explanation} you see there is as virtue in our working hard; ~~but~~ it is the labor of Sisyphus at least it is a perpetual rolling the stone up a very steep hill without ever coming to a ledge where we may pause to take breath. But I believe ^{we} have never retrograded, & tho' the ascent is very slow, for want of stronger propelling powers, it is very sure. I sometimes am half amused, but most frequently appalled, at finding that my perpetual linking together of all sorts of disjointed & dissimilar members is indispensable to the working of the machinery, & that any omission would break the connection & impede or disperse ~~it~~ the course; & that if anything is to be done by recent openings for disentangling the cause from the all pervading closely woven web of new organization which has nearly suffocated it all over this land it must be by means of this vigilance, direct & adaptation of appliances; & that this one house in Bristol has to do everything in this line that is done, & that we have to keep grasping one & another of these various tapering points of vision to prevent the branches being scattered irrecoverably. This gives a good deal of thinking work, from the compilation of that "Counter-statement" pamphlet (w^{ch} I am amused to

find you estimate so highly, for the tenor of your
arguments led me to imagine you would consider
it the coldest waste of time to put the truth before
people who did not intuitively perceive that Dr.
Campbell & Co. were telling falsehoods, & I had intreated
Mr Webb not to trouble you with a specimen of
that department of our action; (from the arranging
& comparing of this & Mr Webb's Tappan affair -
(the needed documents for it were in my keeping
& the needed matter falling so much more under
my sphere of observation than his that I had to
teaze him with perpetual suggestions w^{ch} he
patiently embodied,) down to the sending out
of Bazaar Gazettes & Liberty Bells, circulating
the said pamphlets ^{together with} Mr Leucy's invaluable
addition plan in every respective town in
(making due arrangements that they sh^d appear to emanate from ^{the} ^{place})
fisted with Broad St. sustainers; doing the
same thing with the Matthews & Scoble Con-
troversy, ^{also composing} preparing, & issuing our ministerial
Appeal & statistics, (which has gone to about
400 clergymen) ^{concocting} ~~composing~~ the notes to be officially
sent with them to various associations, &
writing all sorts of things to all sorts of presidents
& Secretaries of Associations in Miss Tribe's
name, & in addition doing all the local business
of our pretentious Society! You will fancy
from this outline that it has been no holiday time,
if I could fill up the picture with all the hearings,
over lists of subscribers, Baptist ministers, & Independent
& Unions, & Meetings, & all the rewritings & dove-

tailings of disjointed manescripts, all the pre-
correctings, references, extracts, &c. all the ~~letter~~
correspondence - (there are 72 letters on my list
for last month, I know) if you did but watch the
things in their course you wd not wonder that
I have been obliged (for the time being) to resign private
friendships & any sort of general social intercourse
& keep steadily on, bearing the reproaches of friends
near & at a distance, who all presume they
are forgotten, & even the grumbling of your dear
Anne who certainly has been too generous to me
to deserve neglect. Had you been in this country
so that I cd have profited by your counsel, you
wd have been tormented often enough with my
hard writing during this long interval of absence
Each department of your labor too has had to be got
within a given time, preparatory to ^{annual} meetings of one
kind & another, ^{preparatory} to the coming out of Pills
& orials &c. &c. My Father has been quite at the
second, but we have had to take somewhat different
lines. He was in London ^{last month} helping S. Math
in that singular battle with Scoble, (did you wd
see the correspondence in the M. Adv^y of April 15
in wd Scoble sneaked out of his proposed interview
with Wm. because the latter would nominate in
Father, W. G. Thompson, & Mr. Farnier as his friends
leaving Scoble unrestricted as to the number of his per-
tences then W. W. Brown has set upon Scoble for tra-
ducing him behind his back, & threatened to have him
before a jury if he will not meet in the presence of 20
gentlemen. My fear is the sly wretches will chaff
off all their sins on Scoble, & pretend Broad St is pe-
fied as soon as he is shipped off to Canada, & that we
never do! Oh I have not yet told you of my most eng.
work, wd was as urgent as anything because
done at all it must be done now, while we have
Miss Fitch's name. (I am sorry I alarmed you by
libelling her, for she is as hearty an old organization

it should be strengthened / it is of the hardest
steel already) by any additional facts; so
I hope to be able to intersperse a few of Mr
Tride's pithy reminiscences to vivify it. I
took up the tale from last Feb. 9th & was most
when I lectured on the stage, & have brought it
from it ^{step by step} & traced the season when according
to Mr. Tride they saw men as trees walking; up to
its noon day blaze of light, interweaving as much
philosophy as the slender frame work could
support, for the ^{benefit} of those who are weak
in the faith, & giving such a summary of our
last years operations, ^{present} intentions
& engagements, & showing such ^{circumstantial}
evidence & detail, ^{in fact} such erudition &
research joined to such catholicity & ^{impartiality}
kindness, & uncompromisingness of principle
— that altogether the worthy ladies who listened
with open mouths & suppressed enthusiasm
have recognised the immediate overthrow
of the B. & F. Socy, if not of slavery, ^{and} ^{with} ^{ease}.
I am not given to look for results, & shall be
contented with having ^{worded} ^{the} told the truth. I know
if you never have the good fortune to see
this remarkable production, or I of getting
another trumpeter, you will at least have had
one opinion of its merits. Speaking of our recourting
the stages of ^{Committee} progress from darkness into
light reminds me of a complaint of Mr. Chalmers
as a resolution of sympathy with you, & that
Am. A. S. having been published after your departure
from Bristol, to which I have not before had an oppor-
tunity of replying. I am sorry I could not have done
anything unpleasant to you personally or against
objection, but the sole motive for the step was the

extreme importance of seizing the moment when
their feelings were warmed & their recollection of
facts unperplexed by lapse of time or contradictory
reports, to make the Com^c nail their colors to the
mast & proclaim to the world their conversion
to the Am. Ad. Soc. We never meant to take any liberties with
your names, or give you any personal recognition
that would, we know, be ungenerous, it was simply
the first living representatives of a Society
that they had heard of only to be abused, as the
embodiment of all that was dangerous & im-
moral, — that you were turned to account. The
same reason leads us to bring the ^{offending} resolutions
the reproach; these informations collected from
the trials has been recorded before Mr. Thompson's
declaration of the non-entirety of the Am. & For. Soc-
tivity of the Am. ^{comes} Where this opportunity of gaining
your satisfaction from personal intercourse
with members of the Am. Ad. Soc. their result. It had
occurred to me to take advantage of this incidental
notice to insert in a note that Lewis Tappan
^{in his information} told an unarratable story about any thing
having been published respecting him by Mr. Chapman
in this neighbourhood; every proof of downright
falsehood is a wonderful gain to us at this
stage of progress, but if Mr. C. has any objections
to this contradiction there will be abundant
time for her to forbid it in the course of the next
fortnight. You are much more magnanimous
than I am. I shan't at Mr. Webb's dropping the best
bit out of his pamphlet in consequence of a second
edition. I shan't be so much indignant. The

never been able to feel friendly towards the pamphlet
for consequence. You were very ill treated wth to be let
see them; ^(the pamphlet) it must have been one of the occasions when
Mr Chapman did not act up to your ideal of her, &
tho' she did to her own. I am quite unconcious what
effect has been produced on any individual by our
pamphlet, except that Dr Campbell had remained quiet
since receiving it, tho' he ^{had} announced his intention of
carrying the war further into the territory of the infidel
abolition - something may be in store, but I think he had
got into such a jumble with his abuse of L. Tappan, &
denunciation of "brother Chickering" that I imagine he will
the thing alone finding the motley group of "brethren"
could dwell together in unity. Your estimate of the
influence of the pamphlet amuses us, because you do
overlook the wanting link of means of placing it be-
fore the thousands of eyes that have rested on the
Banner's columns. The mysterious ~~haze~~ with which
people are now regarding Mr Garrison must be in-
evitable to you who have ~~always~~ been conscious
with you his name was the terror of the community that had
before the world. Here these opprobrious charges are
only connections in which it ever comes before the
majority, & a request, from any quarter, for anti-
aid is often repelled by saying ^{shall readily} the accounts of the abolition
characters Mr. G. are too revolting for any sympathy to be
felt in their proceedings, & if ~~we~~ could awaken zeal
it is hopeless to give it any useful channel. Miss
has met with two instances of this sort within a week
both brought about by that abominable Banner, &
one ⁱⁿ ^{partly} ^{of} ^{sympathy} some people gave an involuntary shudder
her alluding in terms of respect to Mr Garrison, con-
sidering it a name that she wd escape the lips of
a modest young lady. I know you think all
these people such fools as not to be worth saving,
but they never had light & there is no getting it to
every avenue being choked up, while their power
of mischief ^{is not only by false impressions} is incalculable. So you see we have an
uphill work to carry on, I sh^d like to go into many
details, but my allotted space is exhausted. Ah the first
till I mean to take up yours & Mr Chapman's pre-
cious letters seriatim & discuss their impressions wd
not transact. It is my misfortune never to be able to get
rid of thoughts awakened by letters till they have been
told to the writers who set them free. My Father says he had

Ms. A. 7. 3. 45