

Groton. August 17th 1837.

Monday morning.

Dear Caroline,

I designed writing to you several days since, but have waited from day to day first to see the end of one play and then of another. Sarah & Angelina arrived on Wed night and we had a most interesting time talking over matters & things, reading letters from the brethren &c. but I will not enlarge, for I wrote all this to Maria, & as Debora will be with you by the time you get this, she can tell you every thing I wrote. Thursday, I wrote by express a letter for Angelina & finished off a petition for Sarah and had much pleasant conversation with both. I felt some what pleased when the hour for meeting arrived for the "strike of tongues" in Groton had been put off, and the hearts of so many seemed failing them for fear, that I longed to have the matter over. The day before the Grimké's came, I went up to see Mr Bagg, for the purpose of strengthening her. To this end, I explained away all St Paul's verses that are "hard to be understood" and charged Mrs R now to hold on to her ground. I told her these were the "perilous times" and now she must stand to her arms. She behaved very boldly, and, indeed, I think very well of her courage, for probably no one in the female society dared to take the ground of defending women's preaching, save herself. The Judge Sader was too shocked to go. Mr Phelps (the Groton minister) declined being in the pulpit with them or opening the meeting. But as Stanton arrived in the course of Thursday he agreed to open the meeting. Accordingly off we all started on Thursday evening. The Grimké's, Miss Grey, Henry Stanton & I driven in a carriage, the Dr's man; the Dr & Mary followed in the chaise. The house was thronged, fuller than it ever had been at any abolition meeting known before. They and Stanton walked directly into the pulpit and after a few minutes, Stanton made one of the most excellent & to the purpose prayers that I ever heard. Angelina spoke on the topic, that the South never has been ready to be emancipated; that circumstances have never been lending that way at all, and that consequently the Abolitionists

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could not have put back what was never forward. She spoke
very well indeed tho' I have heard her when I have been
more struck. Sarah, having a very bad cold, did not speak.
Friday morning Miss Capell, Mrs Rugg, Mrs Dix and a young
man from Dartmouth College called. I received Dr's letter while
in the midst of this goodly company, but had to wait in a perfect
silence till they were gone; I had a feeling as to what was in it. "A
Never was I gladder to hear news of that sort I was so relieved
to learn that there was only one. I was busy part of Friday morning
writing notes of invitation as the Dr was determined to do all
his duty and give a party. When he gave me his list, I observed that
he had asked mainly the people that visited at the house gen-
erally and many good Abolitionists were left out. I remon-
strated against this and the Dr readily agreed to making the
party genuinely den-worship. Accordingly, together with the
Tullers, Frothinghams, Dix's, Robinsons, Bancrofts &c. were asked
those who had better appearance of less note, and in the whole, this
provided a party of 30 or 40. Miss Grey fell to work & made
custards & blancmange and the evening came, & so did the
folks. Almost all came that were asked, so that half the
room was composed of our right opposers. The Greenlie behaved
very well, talked pleasantly & freely with individuals & Clunge-
line harangued circles of brethren which induced some of the
women present to look on with yearning eyes. Stanton
acted very like himself, that is, refused to be introduced to any
body, or to contribute at all to any body's amusement.
The Dr thought that some of the aristocracy felt badly, not at
being brought into collision with Abolitionists, but with
mechanics, &c. I told him so was equal to me, if they all
fell into apoplexies. Saturday afternoon Stanton left us, having
I believe picked off \$200 from the Dr. Money, money, being the
whole burden of his song. Saturday forenoon who should drive
up to the door but Mary Ann and her father. Her face was somewhat
flushed & had that indescribably worried look that features exhibit
when some thing is on the mind; her father was very courteous indeed,
but I perceived that it would not answer to utter the words
criminate on Abolition. The Dr was gone to

and Stanton with him to ride, & the Grimké's were up stairs writing. Mary came into the room and as my suspense soon became intolerable, I asked Mary Ann to go out with me. As soon as we were alone she burst forth; it appears, that the day before, at Dr Cutler's on her declining slave labour, some how or other, the mine exploded & effect she had a good time "Don't ask me to tell you any more" said she "for if I talk I shall get to crying; I can't go to hear the Grimké's and father has forbid my coming over to Boston to stay, at all and he is just going to let me go back to you after vacation." I quieted & comforted her all I could, gave her pie labour blanket merrings & cake, and told her the storm would blow over. Pepperell I suppose was the worst place she could possibly be in, for the meeting house had been refused to the Grimké's, and therefore notice had been given that they would speak in a barn. With things in this state, of course there was not a soul in Pepperell whose feelings were not outraged to the utmost, & who more than the minister's right hand man Dr Cutler? I could not keep M. A. out long. After I returned, Angelina chanced to come in to the room. I introduced M. A. as a stranger to Miss G. & they met as usual. M. A. in polite bowed, and she went in immediately and out. Mr. D. in answer to our invitation to M. A. to come to Boston said she would like to much, but that probably, her engagements would not permit. As she was going out however she whispered her thankfulness that he was going to Boston on Monday & after that she hoped just to ride over some morning. Tell him, I shall ride over there, and "He can't call Ensign Brownington to account" - "At least, I shall like to see him try. He had better attend to his family affairs in the West Indies. So tell you the truth, I could not hear him thro' his manner which was quite in the extreme, but I suppose, I saw him in a prejudiced state of mind. In the afternoon, the Grimké's & I proceeded to Pepperell. He did not go, for he wished them going to appear to be the work of the abolitionists there. Mr. Huntwell, a Pepperell man came & took Sarah, George & I in a carry all. The barn in which the meeting was held was a large one & quite elegant & pretty it looked. There was nothing in it, no hay or weight of that kind

benches were placed on the snows, and in the barn floor, leaving only a little base on one side whereby we proceeded to the flat form which was raised up; - say, just where our back barn door at Weymouth is; chairs were there placed on which sat Sarah Angelina, Mrs Hartwell, Mrs Rugg & I. a carpet was under our feet, a new little table with a white cloth on it before us, & the flat form adorned with branches & leaves. About 200 people were present, notwithstanding the great efforts used to keep people away. Sarah opened the meeting with an excellent prayer, & Angelina then spoke with great eloquence. Her address was better suited to the purpose of people than the one in Groton. Sarah followed & spoke as well as Angelina. We reached home before dark, meeting with no difficulty.

Gratefully
 Aug. 7

Miss Caroline Weston.

Care of Mr Saffarins Sampson.

Durbury.

Massachusetts.

Singlet

From information of our money matter for I shall be pleased inf. our our hundred portion if you do; you or I shall must attend to it. Some to see the distribution, then nice to Elizabeth. This is an hour to 9 in you no I shall say nothing. I shall probably not write to you at following season. ever truly yours M. Williams.

This afternoon we go to Harvard. on Wednesday to Westford and on Friday next to Townsend. They feel able to speak only every other day. They will be here till a week from to day, & they may stay till Wednesday week in order to attend the County meeting. I shall probably return to Boston at the time that they do. I would not well before for putting it out of the question that I am enjoying all this very highly, I feel as though I were of some use here and I ought to stay while they are here. One thing I beg of you to remember. I want you to send me a dollar by mail. I have not enough to pay my passage home by a dollar. I have paid for several society letters and the stage fare has been raised 2/4 of a doll

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