

A. A. Phelps.

Aug. 17. 1837.

Friend Whittier

Boston Aug. 17. 1837

PPHLEPS  
MSS.

I have just seen your remarks to H. W. Stanton in relation to the recent controversy here - also the squint that may in the Emancipator. Now so far as Stanton shows that letter & so far as the remarks in the Emancipator are understood they will be regarded as a censure on the course of Garrison & myself in our reply. Now what I have to ask is this 1. That you will not pass judgment on a case of which you know nothing; & 2d that you will not condemn us for getting out of a scrape into which you plunged us, in the best way we could. You sent us the Miss Grimké's - you saddled the Liberator upon the State Society. You sent us Henry C. Wright, with his no family & no civil government notions. In a word you have yoked the abolition question here with three extraneous questions, & it is these & what has grown out of them that have produced the explosion & threatened us with a secession & a new & separate organization, nay even led to incipient steps for its formation. Had now forsooth, when we set ourselves to meeting the emergency in such manner as we think the circumstances of the

Dear Sir, I'm, "having a letter to you?" I have, but in vain for any other on the subject. I had a "most interesting" conversation with you in New York. A. A. P.

case require, you set down the controversy as foolish wicked &c, throw out your hints condemnatory in the Emancipator, & are very glad your agent don't meddle with the matter! Really! If you & your agent will but undo your own misdeeds, you will not be troubled with any foolish or wicked controversies from me, or Garrison either. And as you have so far meddled with the matter as to condemn our mode of meeting the emergency, I have put that condemnation where it can be shown, on occasion; to others ~~and~~ will just suggest some other things for you to do.

1. You (the Com<sup>y</sup>) must quit the society entirely of responsibility in respect to the Miss Grimké, & that not in a blind & indefinite way, ~~that~~ <sup>which</sup> no one in ten will notice, or if they do, will understand.

2. You (the Com<sup>y</sup>) must dismiss Henry C. Wright from his agency, unless he will consent to waive the promulgation of his ultra anti-government notions, & to ~~stop weaving them~~ either through the press, in public lectures, or by weaving them into his anti-slavery lectures as a part of his abolition.

3. You (John G. Whittier & Henry B. Stanton & co) must induce Mr. Garrison, if you can, to waive the discussion

in the Liberator, of the sabbath, ministerial, peace, women,  
& government questions, & make the Liberator part to the state  
society, what the Emancipator is to the friends, a purely  
abolition paper; or you must undo the connexion  
of it, which you yourselves formed, with the state  
society, so that the society as such can be quit  
of all responsibility in respect to it. In a word,  
on all these points you must put matters back  
where they were before you muddled with them;  
& our troubles & yours will then cease. And until  
you do it, it is not very generous to say  
the least to make people trouble & then blame  
them for getting out of it, the best way they can.

In respect to the above suggestions, let me say that I  
have been to Andover & have seen quite a number  
of our abolition clergymen beside, & they will be satisf-  
-ied if the above things are done, & will not unless they  
are. And let me add, if at all, they must be done  
soon, & done intelligibly. It wont do to say a thing &  
then unsay it in the same breath.

And further, let me add that as general agent of the  
Mass. Society, I for one, (& I doubt not I speak the language  
of all our friends here), am ready to render the most vigorous  
& generous support to the American Society. We shall do all we  
can to sustain you in the matter of funds & in other ways. We mean  
in this to be second to none. But I wish you to remember that

