

Boston, June 5. 1849.

My dear Sir,

I have the pleasure to send by my young friend Miss Emma Weston, & to ask for it your acceptance, the recently-published volume of Judge Jay in review of the Mexican War, its Causes & Consequences. Judge Jay has the reputation of being one of the most careful & reliable of men in all his statements of facts - of excellent judgment & discernment - and whose opinions are always founded on a sound basis, and worthy of the highest consideration. A book of such a character has a place to fill and a work to do in this country; and may be of ^{some} service to you & your (I may) good friends in Bristol.

Miss Weston (who is the youngest of the pretty large family of which Mrs. Maria W. Chapman is the eldest) goes to join her sisters at Paris, & to enjoy, & be profited by, the opportunities which there will offer.

He is said to have peculiar advantages in the world's race

"Lui mores hominum multorum vidit, et urbes",
and why shouldn't it be as true of a woman? Emma Weston has the reputation (in Boston) of possessing considerable personal beauty; she is very bright, moreover, and agreeable. I wish you might see her. By the way, it may not be unacceptable to you, my dear Sir, to know (albeit I would not annoy you with a repetition of mere compliments!) that Miss Anne Weston, (to whom I have occasionally shown your letters to me) is a great admirer of yours, or at least of those qualities which are ~~more~~ conspicuous in your letters. This is not too small a thing to be spoken of; for I think that Anne Weston's approving judgment is well worth the having, and is not given (gentle and kindly as she is) without good reason. - And I may properly add that all our friends here - without an exception - who have ever seen your letters (or otherwise know you) are deeply impressed with the value of your friendship to our cause, & of the many important services you have rendered to it. I am esteemed highly favoured in your correspondence.

Miss Weston does not leave us for more than a fortnight & yet; but as I leave Boston tomorrow, expecting not to be in the city again for a month, I make up my little parcel now.

I saw Mr. Joshua Coffin last week, at the ^{annual} New-England Anti-Slavery Convention, - a glorious meeting, as was ever held for that ~~excursion~~ purpose, by the way -; he was entirely satisfied & pleased with your letter, and said he should at once 'go ahead' with his proposed work. I wrote to him all you said respecting the course you wished him to take if he received ~~any~~ letters from G. Thompson, or others. He has received no letter from G. T., and does not expect to receive any. G. T. never (or almost that) writes to any one here, on any subject.

Already the Misses Griffiths have been subjected to insults here for being in company with a colored man - F. Douglass! On board a steamboat on the North river (between Albany & New York) they were all three vilely insulted, ^{for} daring to sit at the dinner-table with white persons, ^{& they for keeping company with him.} Douglass was compelled to vacate his seat, & was obliged to go without dinner. ^{They left the table too!} Miss G. openly spoke her mind to

With sincere regards to your daughter, Respectfully Yours, Samuel May Jr.

MAY 1841 4

the Captain & the passengers for their base prejudices & their unmanly & insulting behavior to herself & sister, as well as F. D. She told them she had heard, before coming to this country, of the great politeness of Americans to ladies, as well as strangers generally; but after what she had experienced & witnessed that day, she should better know what estimate to put upon them - (or words to that effect.) Last week (they being in Boston) they were attacked, by a low, party newspaper to be sure, but one which has extensive circulation, & in the most grossly indecent manner, and a coarse wood-cut was paraded representing them as contending with each other for the carcasses, &c. of the "Nigger Douglass", whose face and attitude, also, were of the same filthy cast. This said paper tried every means it could devise to excite a mob against Douglass, to drive him off the Anti-Slavery platform & out of the city. Its entire failure to bring anything else to pass, than ^{some} ~~the~~ little noisy demonstrations at 2 of our Sessions, shows that the scurrility I have adverted to finds ^{almost} ~~not the~~ none of that approval, or countenance, it once did; - progress is made in expelling that foul American demon - the hate of ~~the~~ color. the "prejudice", as it is metaphorically called, against color. - These matters, however, you will probably see adverted to in the papers, before you get this.