

Jamaica Plain, }
Nov 26th, 1863 }

Dear Sir - x x

I have received the
kind invitation signed by
yourself on behalf of the
Ex. Com. of the Am. Anti-
Slavery Society, inviting me to
attend its Anniversary at
Philadelphia.

It would give me great
pleasure to accept ^{your} this invi-
tation, which I feel honored
in receiving. Unhappily, I can
hardly hope to be able to
visit Philadelphia at that
time. But whether there
or elsewhere, I shall in
spirit be with you, &
shall sympathize with
your satisfaction & pride

in feeling that the result
for which you have labored
so long & so earnestly is
almost attained. That
Slavery in America is
virtually at an end, I
cannot doubt. The great
act of Emancipation, by the
President under his power
as Commander in chief, a
power given him by the Con-
stitution, is an act proceeding
directly from the Constitution
itself, & is therefore a part
of the highest Law known in
the land. The Border States,
exempted from the operation
of that great edict, with
themselves, following Missouri
& Maryland, decree Emancipa-
tion as a measure of public
policy. Thus Slavery is like

a tree taken up by the roots - the life not wholly out of it, the leaves perhaps yet green - but its roots are out of the ground, & it must die.

The Society over which you preside, has not only reason to congratulate itself that its labors have contributed largely to this great end; but that it has also given a historical proof that no wit however mighty, no ^{abuse} however deeply rooted can resist the power of truth & righteousness clearly uttered & perseveringly witnessed to. Every advocate of justice henceforth, however humble he may seem to be, will be

James Freeman Clarke.

encouraged by your success
to believe that God by ^{him} him
will fulfill the prophecy
which declares that - "he
shall ^{smite} smite the earth by
the rod of his ^{mouth} mouth, &
by the breath of his lips
shall he slay the wicked".
- So that by your fidelity you
have not only helped to put
out of the land this gigantic
evil & sin, but have also
contributed to destroy every
other evil & sin which in
all time to ^{come} come shall be
brought to an end by the
power of truth & justice.

Very truly & faithfully
Yours,

James Freeman Clarke