

To Miss Sarah F. Earle, or
whom it may concern;

This is to testify that Henry
B. Blackwell and Lucy Stone were
joined in lawful wedlock by me,
according to the usual Congregational
forms, at her father's house in West
Brookfield, at 7. am. on May-day
1855, in presence of her family &
invited guests. Also, that there were
the proper accompaniments of a wedding,
as smiles, tears, breakfast, wedding cake
& orange flowers, - or to speak accurately
one of the latter, they happening to be scarce
that Spring. Also, that the Protest then
signed was drawn up by Mr. D. & was simply
a renunciation on his part of all ^{right} to control
the person or property of his wife. Also, that
his marriage is only recorded with the
Town Clerk of West Brookfield. Also,
that to the best of my knowledge &
belief they have lived together in

unbroken lactation for more than a
year and a day, & might with
propriety claim the flitch of bacon
mentioned in the "Spectator". Also,
that if any young mother ever
wrote a more eloquent description
of her first born baby than several
which I have had in writing from
the said Lucy, I should be grateful
for an attested copy of the same.

Proasbr. Feb 21. 1859.

J. W. Higginson

Mary E. Higginson.

(Witness to the signature & also to the marriage.)