

My feeling about Garrison's views and those who
think with him is that they are ^{may 23} most likely to
be the wise ones - but that if Wendell Phillips
and his allies think there is work to be done by
them as a Society very little harm can result
from their trying to do what they can in their
own way so long as they refrain from unpopu-
lar notions of those who agree with them; this
I think they do, at least in public. I see
nothing of the kind in the Standard which I still
take and am glad to see, as, except for it, for
the Nation I would be badly off for American
news. Still it is lamentable that at this end of
the Battle there should be a schism between so
fine a band of men & women who ~~have~~ have stood
shoulder to shoulder so nobly & so long.

Now that you have left Paris by far the prin-
cipal part of the inducement for me to attempt a
journey there is gone. Though I look as well as
most men of my years I am unable for much
fatigue or for much walking, and there is no exhibi-
tion here half the attraction for me that would
lie in the faces of those I wish to see. Still, if
it had not been for a stupid oversight of mine I
would have crossed to Liverpool to welcome Garrison
on his arrival. I had a cordial letter from him by
the preceding mail & he brought me a welcome
note from Mrs Chapman rejoicing in the circumstances
which attend his present visit

All that you say about the folly of the Fenians
in running their heads against a stone wall is
quite true. Still they represent the feelings of
of millions of the poorer classes and if the Government
have any of them they will make a great mistake.
In my opinion England is not bound by any of the
Irish Catholics who are not placholders in fact or
in expectancy. Nor do I think that the English
sentiment of loyalty counts here. The English are
an insubordinate nation & have abused & redounded
in so persistently through the times that I think a
very general feeling is one of alienation. I am utter-
ly destitute of any feeling of pride in British citizen-
ship. My son Richard in Nevada left us with
very English preferences. In a late letter he sent
an order on his father to give £10 for the relief of the
families of Fenian prisoners. When I see how the
North has behaved to those cruel, bloody Southern rebels
I wonder that the English Government should be such
fools as to have any of them poor foolish Fenians,
considering that many of them are aristocratic & have
done their best to help the Proslavery rebellion. My
son Alfred who is my partner & indeed the chief man
of my business feels very warmly that most of the
Fenians have been animated by patriotic motives
has written several letters to the Papers, some of
which I enclose for your edification.

I have asked Mr Chepman to let me know of his
movements - but have got no reply. He will probably
stay a while in Paris & then come to England again
for a while. I think Emma will be engaged soon
here & you affectionately
Richd Webb

Ms A.9.2.30.70A