

Leicester, Mass. June 3, 1861.

Dear friend Webb,

It seems that the Advertisement I inserted in the "Standard", relative to Thomas Sparrow, has taken effect. Today I have received this note, from one who claims to be a son of the Tho<sup>s</sup>. Sparrow, of whom you inquired. - I have written to him, and given him the leading particulars, as to the death of Francis Sparrow, &c., as given in your letter to me of Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> last. - I have never had any reply to letters written to Kingston, Canada, & the 2 Trentons. Perhaps I waited needlessly long, before trying the "Standard". I have given your address to John Sparrow and you may hear from him soon. It seems that Thomas Sparrow is still living.

I have nothing further yet to send you respecting John Brown's book. M<sup>r</sup> Kim, in a letter to me just rec<sup>d</sup>; says, "I hope Mr. Webb will be able to get some material for his

Truly & ever yours  
Samuel May Jr

book from you folks; for we have none here; and a decent Life of John Brown is, at this time, a desideratum on both sides of the water.

I hope you will have duly received my several communications of Apr. 16. May 3<sup>o</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, & 28<sup>th</sup> — all, I believe relating to the said Life of John Brown.

[The above dates are either of the letters, or of the day of sailing of the Steamers which took them, I'm not sure which.]

My kindest regards to Richard. Have I told you that my son Edward had got home, safe & well? He is now seeking business in Boston; but these war-times are very unfavourable.

Much anxiety is felt in some quarters at the course which England will take, and by some of ~~our~~ papers the Queen's Proclamation is criticized sharply. For myself, I liked the Proclamation.

I understood it as prohibiting any participation in the War here, by accepting privateer Commissions or otherwise; and expressly warned that no protection <sup>or redress</sup> would be afforded by the Brit. Govt. for any harm or loss incurred by such participation; but all our people do not so interpret it.

I feel great confidence in the sympathy of the British people with our position as against the Seceding Slaveholders & Slavetraders. Should the Brit. Govt. give the least encouragement, or show the least favour, to the

Engelhardt states, it will be disapproved & disgraced before all people; for nothing could go so far to destroy it as to let the British people see that the British Govt. give the least encouragement, or show the least favour, to the