

Father and Mother

Boston, Sept. 25, 1862.

On President Lincoln's  
Proclamation.

Fanny Garrison,  
Care of Oliver Johnson,  
New York City.

Y G 147

Boston, Sept. 25, 1862.

Dear Fanny:

Your mother has just received your letter of the 23d, and wishes me to acknowledge it for her with thanks and gladness, as she is too busy to answer it this morning.

The President's Proclamation is certainly matter for great rejoicing, as far as it goes for the liberation of those in bondage; but it leaves slavery, as a system or practice, still to exist in all the so-called loyal Slave States, under the old constitutional guaranties, even to slaver-hunting in the Free States, in accordance with the wicked Fugitive Slave Law. It postpones emancipation in the Rebel States until the 1st of January next, except as the slaves of rebel masters may escape to the Federal lines. What was wanted, what is still needed, is a proclamation, distinctly announcing the total abolition of slavery.

Still, the proclamation commits the government, in due time, to the emancipation of more than three quarters of the whole slave population; and therein I, with you, and a great multitude of others, "do rejoice, and will rejoice." The President can do nothing for freedom in a direct manner, but only by circumlocution and delay. How prompt was his action against Fremont and Hunter!

I have nothing special to write about. Mrs. Fish, of Hopewale, is staying with us for a few days, prior to her joining her husband in Western New York.

Birney Mann - spent from Saturday to Wednesday with us.

Mr. Bramhall and Mrs. Rand, from Orange, spent an hour with us on Tuesday. They said they had left you at home, and were much pleased with your visit. I hope it was not so long protracted as really to put them to some inconvenience. It was very kind in Phoebe to visit on your being with her two or three days.

Should she accompany you home, you can come in the boat, if she prefers; but, otherwise, your mother and I think you had better come through by daylight, in the cars, via New Haven, even if you come alone. For we think you would not like to be alone in the ladies' cabin, during the night, on board of the boat; and you might be caught in a gale of wind, and be very sea-sick. You would be pretty sure, at any rate, to get very little sleep.

I am very glad you have seen Abby Patten, Lucy Stone, the two Misses Gibbons, &c.; and I trust you will not fail to see dear Mattie Griffith. I am sorry Rosa Hoppen will not be able to give you a welcome, in consequence of her absence from the city.

Mother thinks you had better present Anna's little girl either with a gown of some kind, or a nice pair of shoes, or some other token of love. I enclose some additional money, to be used at your discretion for this purpose.

As you may wish to have a card or two more of my photograph, I enclose a couple, to be given <sup>away</sup> or not as you may choose.

When you come back, I shall want you and your mother to try again at Seaver's. I am not yet satisfied.

Be careful, and do not eat fruit in excess, as it is the season for temptation.

Mother, all the brothers, and Mary, desire me to send loving remembrances.

Was we glad to hear that Dr. Percy has got a commission as surgeon, though we shall be sorry for Anna that he must be absent with the army.

Give her our warmest love. Our regret still lingers that she was unable to make us a visit.

Your loving father,

Wm. Lloyd Garrison.