

London, Dec. 3, 1840. 6 Surin St. Place, Southwark Bridge.

My dear Friend,  
Morn'g of the 30<sup>th</sup> of Oct. was near the 24<sup>th</sup> of Ultimo, for which you have my grateful acknowledgments. Would that I could be placed within the doors of 11 West St., this evening, & listen to all the marvellous things that have transpired since I left. Could I spend one hour with some seven or two of those faithful, true, & true friends whom I might name, one or two months more of banishment might be made tolerable. I never knew before what it would be to be homesick. Had I visited England under any other name than Garrison abolitionist, with but one exception, that is, I should have been more cordially received. Even A. R. Gurley, of colonization memory, can gain a hearing among abolitionists, who treat me with contempt, & with a scornful anti-slay in this country. <sup>would be ready</sup> I am, however, with us, Genuin abolitionist, in this country, as Isaiah, the prophet described the daughter of Zion to be, "desolate as a cottage in a vineyard, and as a tower in a garden of cucumbers, as a besieged city, except the Lord of hosts had left us a very small remnant, we should have been as Sodom & we should have been like unto Gomorrah." Though the whole horizon is beleaguered, <sup>with the exception of</sup> ~~yet there is one clear spot, no bigger than a man's hand, yet that~~ will ultimately scatter, devour & annihilate the whole fog and smoke, consequent upon the influence of crafty priests & politicians, & bigoted & dishonest people.

I have put off writing, hoping from day to day to get something encouraging to write, but as yet, I have met with discouragement from almost every quarter, <sup>there is</sup> but my few indeed, who <sup>ful</sup> can but very little about our American trials. Those friendly to our measures, <sup>on account of the</sup> great opposition they occasion, do <sup>not</sup> feel prepared to take sides openly, whole trade unfriendly than matters money, time, nor pains to combat them in any form and shape, and as a general principle, either by means, foul or fair. I will make no apology however for not writing, but will give you such information as I can upon this sheet, more or less.

As you have measured the waters of the Atlantic, I will pass over the history of my sea voyage by stating that the British Surin, the vessel in which I crossed, is a spacious, ~~exceeding~~ <sup>well</sup> ship, with good berths, & fair and accommodations unequalled by the first hotels in Boston. Had on board between 80 & 90 passengers, most of whom were of social, wine sipping gentle men. Had had mind most of the voyage - encountered one severe gale, in which, we carried away some sails, broke in our deck lights & were under the necessity of putting the ship before the wind. - Saw a brig with most of her sails set, top gallant mast carried away, & spanker boom unshipped, top sails ruff, lugged & forsaken; this brig in the middle of the ocean was a distressing spectacle & for four and twenty hours, cast a deep gloom & melancholy over all the inhabitants of our little Kingdom. In 17 days from the time we left N. York we found our selves in the ancient harbor of Southampton, & the next morning found us in London, the distance by land being but about 60 miles.

Seventeen days of idleness and indulgence had produced such a change in my dimensions, that my clothing actually refused my mortal coil admission. So you may not be troubled to guess, to whom I first paid my respects. I next delivered my introductions to Dr. John Bowring & W. H. Ashurst, solicitor, i.e. a lawyer of the third rank. I found Bowring to be a gentleman, whose time was greatly occupied in governmental affairs, but exceedingly interested gave me a most cordial welcome, but as he is a political man, the <sup>circumstances</sup> which he moves on so much interested in why inform that they think can see but very little <sup>about</sup> negro emancipation in the U.S. But Ashurst I found to be a cold, selfish mortal & very indifferent withal, who, after about three minutes conversation indicated that his time was money, upon which, failing to interest him, bid him good morning & was off in a twinkling. I called upon Prof. Adams, & though very limited in his influence from his short residence and limited acquaintance, rendered me every possible assistance in his power. He is one of the most bold, zealous, inflexible & uncompromising abolitionists I have met with in all my intercourse with British Philanthropists. For his assistance, though ineffectual, the Am. Abolitionists, are under great obligations to Mr. Adams. After spending better than a week in London, laboring with indefatigable zeal, in endeavoring to interest some leading characters, so as to be able to have a social meeting

The present Ministry have ~~admitted~~ <sup>admitted</sup> the independence of the African continent. It does not create much disturbance. The British people are rejoicing in account of the birth of a new cult. Bowring had written Mr. Gurley a very excellent letter. I would forward it but Birney took one home with him and I presume it is put into his hands. But you had decided not to write him.

for advice & succeeded in getting four together. Such jealous spirits returned physics  
 and tones & church men & dissenters, that it was thought inexpedient for either of the gentlemen  
 composing my most august assembly, to introduce me to Buxton, Coney St. at of that  
 stamp, but advised me to visit Geo. Thompson, to whom I had previously forwarded my letters  
 & on my road to Edinburgh I visited the Peasop of Dodington. I found in Elizabeth a host of  
 herself. To meet such a spirit in England, was like, to me, the perched Arabians of the burning desert  
 lighting upon an oasis. In strength of intellect, freedom & enlargement of soul, liberality, & in  
 firmness of purpose, she ~~is~~ is inferior to but few of any of Freedom's daughters  
 in the United States. She gave me fifty pounds. Her father is literally a man of one  
 idea. British India is his hobby. It is with him, the universal panacea for all the  
 ills flesh is heir to.

I next visited Harriet Martineau, as I proceeded to Edinburgh. I found her quite infirm  
 though nothing so feeble as I had expected to find her. She remarked, in the commencement  
 of our conversation, that she could not do any thing for me directly or indirectly  
 as she had exhausted all her resources, both pecuniary & influential upon Kepp & Davis  
 for the Oberlin. In fact I could not interest her in the subject. She would not be moved  
 to believe that the salvation of our Society or the cause could be dependent upon a  
 few thousand pounds. I show a letter from her, which you <sup>may</sup> judge for yourself.

Geo Thompson received me most cordially, and professed me every assistance in his power  
 to enable me to succeed & was almost the only being who gave me the least encouragement.  
 yet, ~~he~~ poor fellow, <sup>had he</sup> been acquainted with the party their existing, in his own adopted  
 city to cripple his influence, he would have talked very differently. Stanton, Birney & Scoble  
 had been in ~~Edinburgh~~ <sup>Edinburgh</sup>, but the presence of Thompson & Remond greatly embarrassed them in their  
 movements & so they resorted to stratagem to rid themselves of these two, whose influence they  
 greatly feared. A committee meeting was called at which Thompson was invited, but Birney  
 took quite his head to go out into the country to visit some Scottish scenery, so he persuaded  
 upon Thompson & Remond to attend him & meet Stanton & Scoble at Glasgow. They not discovering  
 the trick, consented, when the remaining two had full scope. They succeeded effectually, in poisoning  
 their minds. When Thompson introduced ~~me~~ <sup>me</sup> among his friends as a delegate from the American  
 Society, the question of Garrisonism was instantly raised, & when inquiries were made  
 as to when & where they had received the information, Thompson discovered the trick. He then succeeded  
 in getting a committee meeting, of the mens Society, called, to hear me give the other side of the story,  
 but a day previous to the meeting, who should present himself, but that ignorant tool of Joseph  
 Slizer, Chas Stuart, who is travelling the Kingdom, ostensibly to wake up the women, but really  
 to split in New organization & get the secretists to become auxiliaries to the Br. F. Society. Stuart  
 remarked that he made it his duty to enlighten the people, the first thing, on the subject of new  
 and old organization. I think him the greatest ignoramus, on this subject, I ever met with.  
 He knows just as much about the Am. Controversy, as it knows about him. I found  
 that it had been industriously circulated that Garrison was a Socinian & in that place nothing  
 that could be said of him, could have murdered his influence more than this.

The day of the meeting came & I resolved to say nothing of the difficulties until forced  
 to by Stuart or some of his friends. I talked for something like an hour on the great change  
 wrought, within a few years, in public sentiment, with respect to the subject of Slavery, the great interests  
 to our country, to the cause & to the world, dependent & upon the existence of free society & winding up  
 with an appeal &c. when one of the disorganizers wished to know how much the woman's rights  
 question & no-government theory contributed to depress us. This opened an opportunity for me to  
 go into the subject. Thompson by some remarks gave the com. to understand when they might find  
 him & Remond made some very good remarks. Stuart said, notwithstanding the new and Sapphisty  
 which had been introduced the subject really had but one side. That the Society which I repre-  
 sented was entirely unworthy their confidence and support, that it was any thing but an abo-  
 lition Society, & that the Am. & F. A. S. was the Am. Society - that the colored people almost to a  
 man were with Zappan etc. etc. & begged the com. to have another meeting to hear and continue our  
 statements, which was granted. The com. with but one or two exceptions sign pathos with him.  
 The next day the female com. convened to hear statements from me, when Stuart thrust himself  
 in & reiterated the old stereotyped objections. The subject being thus opened, Stuart Thompson Remond &  
 myself continued the discussion for better than three hours. Thompson acquitted himself at this  
 meeting most manfully. He talked like an old organized abolitionist. Some of the women, who could hear  
 Garrison & his coadjutors traduced by Stuart, were exceedingly horrified when I exposed the duplicity and  
 treachery of the Neworganizers, & would by me to desist, as it was so painful to hear such good

men as she was confident some of the new organizers were, implicated in this but few exceptions  
we found that the women, having left their father's house & cleaved to their husbands, were one with  
their lords, in this sense, at least. Thompson was poorly prepared to see matters turn thus, especially  
in Edinburgh, when his influence had been, previously almost omnipotent, & from a class too,  
who had apparently drunk deeply at Freedom's fountain, & who hailed his return with such  
rapturous joy, from America & his twin brother Garrison, & pledged themselves to be one with  
them, in principle, action, hope, fear, victory or defeat, till their heads were mingled  
with the earth or the sea, & then into freedom. Instead of being armed with additional  
strength, sufficient for the occasion, he appeared disheartened, & gladly availed himself of  
an invitation to visit Manchester, to leave the place before the next committee meeting. This  
engagement was previously made, but he might have spent 12 hours in the place longer than  
he did & have reached Manchester in season when four hours delay would have permitted  
him to have attended through the winter meeting. Though Thompson's heart  
soul & sympathy is entirely with us, yet he sighs for his influence. He lacks faith in God though  
strongly, bold, free and enlarged in his mind, he is not the man I once considered him. Situated  
as he is in this country, I think his speech on Mrs. Motte's admission, <sup>to the W.C.S.!!</sup>  
convention, is what should have been expected from him. He is in my estimation, emphat-  
ically, a creature of circumstances. With the bold and daring, in a cause his conscience  
approves, Geo. Thompson would be bold & daring. If then should, in this country, arise a party  
advocating the cause of religious liberty, Thompson would associate with them & be one of  
their faithful champions. In the U.S. he would be bold if he should happen to get under the right  
influence. He is not prepared or qualified to lead a cause through the assaults of its  
enemies & the treachery of its friends. He would ~~be~~ a most valuable auxiliary to us. His eloquence  
is captivating. He would be glad to remove could he be cleared from the British India Society, but  
he is so intimately connected with that Society that I think it doubtful whether he can be  
dissolved his connection with it <sup>at once</sup> without great loss to that Society. He says  
that Rogers had no message from him to state that he thought of coming to the U.S. He wishes  
nothing may be said in our journals with respect to his visiting our country, as proposed by  
him as it might lessen the confidence <sup>of the com.</sup> in him. He wished me when I wrote home, to remember him kindly  
to yourself, his wife, & all who might enquire for him.

One word with respect to the next committee meeting. I had previously, to the meeting, written  
Stuart suggesting him to discuss the merits of new organization on the alleged ground of division,  
by its friends & had laid down in its official documents, each to speak alternately, for 20 or 30 minutes  
until the subject should be used up. This he refused to do but wanted me to close my speech & then let  
him have the entire field. The day arrived, & I laid before the com. our correspondence & remarked to  
that such and such were the charges brought vs. our Society & represented as the ground of division  
that if Stuart could sustain those charges, the Am. Society, would stand acquitted guilty, &  
for them, but if not, they finally ruled that I asked too much, but as a  
compromise, they gave Stuart 3/4 of an hour to make his speech, whereupon he pulled from his  
bosom a small book from which he read for about 35 minutes, a most in different, & prosy, & spang,  
reiterating the same things previously stated, such as that the Am. Socy. was a woman's rights in-  
trusion Society, that Garrison was an apostate, that Unity Smith & Beniah Grove had done as much as  
Garrison to put down Colonization, insinuating at the same time a compliment to Chas. Stuart, that  
Garrison entertained sentiments which his soul abhorred &c. &c. You of course can anticipate my arguments  
& the class of facts I should introduce. The com. being entirely composed of evangelicals & mostly of the clerical  
order, their prejudices were strong against me & did not mean to be convinced. However, after this  
meeting I found a change. Invitations began to flock in, to breakfast here, dinner there & sup somewhere  
else, and I was resolved not to leave the place until I had broken down that prejudice & to  
a considerable extent I flatter myself a good state of fertility was produced. I truly believe, that soon after  
Stanton had visited that place, those who received Garrison with such enthusiasm would <sup>not</sup> have treated  
him with common civility. Stuart left the place greatly disheartened, but took his influence along  
with him as a goodly number of those who gave him at first a most cordial greeting, became my warmest  
friends.

There is one lady in Edinburgh <sup>who</sup> would be a very valuable woman ~~for you to~~ with whom to correspond. In  
personal appearance she reminds me of Mrs. Child. In variety of talents, & enter tact, powers of endurance  
she reminds me of Mrs. Chapman. She is also a woman of a Superior mind, very liberal in her views, though  
connected with a most bigoted baptist Society. My labors were so great in E. that I became completely ex-  
hausted. She took me to her house, nursed me up ~~there~~ and performed much of my labor herself. Her address is  
"Mrs. Harriet Gairdner, 16 Warriston Crescent, Edinburgh." She is the wife of one Dr. Gairdner, who has  
not much interest in the cause. I raised only about 50 pounds in this place.  
Remond & myself next proceeded to this city, when we have been for some time negotiating with Buxton  
the Dutchess of Sutherland and others of that school. I have but little hopes of succeeding with Buxton.

Ms. A. 9. 2. 14. 70

as the Committee of the U.S. is an. using all their power to crush ~~him~~ more recently the London Times had come out against his scheme threatening to devour it. It grows out of some personal considerations on the part of the Times & on the part of the A.S. Committee from a jealousy that their influence will be made to suffer somewhat. I perceive from the last Am. & F. Reporter, that they disclaim all sympathy with Paine's Scheme. I mean by this the newly organized Committee. I look upon A.S. Organization as a subject of great moment. If I can succeed in getting a start from a few of the influential I shall drive into the country to endeavor to hold meetings but without such an influence it is impossible to get up a meeting. In this country, very thing goes by the influence of great names. I think I shall succeed in raising something if my health permits me to labor, but I am almost disabled by the London fogs, which are so dense as will almost prevent one to rest by leaning upon them. I am reduced to almost a skeleton. My cough has increased to a fearful degree. I am advised by the Medicals to quit the country for Rome as soon as possible, which I should certainly do were it possible. But this crisis, my purse forbid, I will be satisfied let the issue be what it may. It is well I visited this country for I do not raise a farthing. No organization flourishes in the dark and cannot succeed only by judicious, false & treacherous means, which I have succeeded in dispersing & hope to do more.

My time is more than occupied. My laborer incessantly add to this a large correspondence which I deem it necessary to sustain & you will not wonder that I have not written home more frequently. Besides, I have not received from any of the A.S. friends in the U.S. neither a letter paper or pamphlet, nor that solitary letter from yourself. I have received more kindness from my proselyte friends, as I have had a few letters & papers from them.

~~I shall not~~ I will remain in this country longer or return home according to the decision of our Board. I hope to get into the work soon but cannot predict with any degree of certainty. If I feel it will not be my fault I can assure you. Then I fear to visit the country without making an appeal for funds, on my own responsibility, I could get up meetings without difficulty & produce an amount of influence which I cannot now do, as an appeal for funds, in this, as in all other countries, predisposes the mind to take the opposite side of the question to satisfy their consciences for not contributing. Any individual in this country from America, that would adopt such a course would be sustained by private contributions.

I feel greatly interested with respect to our cause in the U.S. As soon as the public mind becomes somewhat subsided, as respects the political excitement, and the times become somewhat improved, I hope an attempt will be made to raise funds & lecturers sent out as soon as the people can be made to listen. I wish myself now in Mass. to take hold of the work.

Ms. A. 9. 2. 14. 70  
1840

Mrs. Maria Weston Chapman  
Boston  
Massachusetts  
United States.



Have been unable to do any thing with respect to the paper  
wrote to someone today's letter they either did not receive it  
communication or made good, to Mr. Garrison, a satisfactory  
doubt.  
I am making an attempt to have English & French publications  
this country & of. I receiving which is very difficult but  
have wanted a few things added, such as Mr. Paine's letters  
standing - handkerchiefs of the same size for the same purpose.  
Also delivered by the Am. Society to be published in the U.S.  
next year. I have picked up the  
3/4 of the same (wax seal) made to a Seal before he said for the  
to that an agent might be sent to this country to make  
only to sustain the ~~cause~~ Standard, but he hopes  
could not be done, as he thought money could be gotten  
apart of that it would not be much of a loss to him. It is  
now. What does all this mean? Can it be all right to let  
them know that F. C. Garrison had written to him this  
morning & was in France  
with a statement on account of the length of his letter & that  
it is the property of you, do not let me  
it is in your private use only - (written to be published)

I trust, that there will be no great difficulty growing out of Bishop's connection with Chase in the office.  
There is certainly labor enough for them to perform.

How does Brodbum and that class of abolitionists appear to feel now that the "old Gen." is elected?  
Will they be alienated from us, or will they unite once more & cooperate in good faith?

I am preparing an answer to Birney's scurrilous article in the ~~Standard~~ Review. I intend to review in many  
things that will not be very pleasing to His Honor the Judge or to his worshipful admirers of Sturges & Clark.  
If I do not succeed in raising as much money as I intended I mean to divide a new organization  
trifle.

I met Stanton and his wife Stanton was as much as a man & I was in the house with him for more than a week  
before we touched upon the division. The subject turned upon the Emancipator, & we talked upon the division for about 4 hours &  
I was never so fully convinced of the iniquity of the proceedings of that Am. Conv. as by his conversation. I found that  
Garrison was the rock of offence with Stanton, as well as Phelps. Garrison's Garrison, Garrison and the Alpha & Omega of his argu-  
ment. His wife is quite a fair little woman. Though a member of an orthodox church, she is inclined to Unitarianism.

I shall send a few papers to the Standard & some to your care for Garrison.  
As you did not say any thing with respect to Henry's health, I take it for granted it is improving. You neither made  
any mention of Anne, or Caroline. To Henry & Ann & Caroline & Deborah & to the whole anti-slavery household of Boston &  
its vicinity, please convey my affectionate regards & believe me, truly your friend in the cause of Man's redemption,  
But my health is so great that I am not permitted to forward a more respectable looking sheet, but fear it that you cannot read it.