

Also from lack of interest in anything so far removed from their
course of action, we wish they ^{disputed} could be kept out of view of the great ends
which all have in view made more prominent than the contro-
versies concerning the means of effecting them. I have read "Kings
& wrongs in Boston" over & over again till I quite understood the bearing
of your different societies & the trials you underwent in the separation
of those who had been fellow-labourers, when the conflict became too strong
& the sacrifice too great for their courage; & we see that the same things
are taking place now as then, & the same discouragements of failing
you in the midst of many more cheering signs of progress. But while
our ~~individual~~ sympathy is with you, & our individual opinion
respecting the duties of your clergy & their people very similar to
your own, we are very anxious not to disgust the generality of
friends here who give the subject but a cursory view, or who
have received their partial information from other sources
by presenting to them those divisions & disputes amongst you
to which would stand a chance of prejudicing them against
the whole enterprise. I hope my Father's little pamphlet will be so
expressed as to convince you that he does not compromise you in
principles, tho' he speaks gently, & with the modesty becoming
one so far removed from the theatre of action, of all the actors & their
modes of operation. Had I more time & space I would allude to some
of the particular sources of trial you have encountered & obstacles
you have surmounted to show you how lively an interest ^{we feel} & how
much acquaintance we have with the chequered but glorious cause
you are pursuing. But this will suffice; & believe me I never questioned
your sense of the sacredness of your work, or felt other than deep reverence
& love for ~~them~~ ^{all} engaged in it, while lamenting the opprobrious epithets
wester used by some of your number to those who differ from them.
I need not add, I trust that I have been writing thus unreservedly to
you personally; & that my hasty lines may meet no other eyes, ^{at least}
those of your immediate friends. It would be very interesting to me to
see the happy union of great disparities for the promotion of this cause. It
is a thing I sigh after here, & after long to be when I should enjoy such a privilege,
but I am checked by remembering that freedom can be but nominal &
prosperous in a nation where slavery exists; & that we have no corresponding
cult. or concerted action. But in some of the philanthropic movements of the

day we can discern with here the dawnings of a more comprehensive & better
 spirit, which we hail with grateful joy. Your argument respecting the nature
 & imperfections of your opponents is one which I cordially accept to, & the triumph
 in your defence. The Abolitionists are the party ^{to whom} we should look
 for the most elevated standard of virtue, & conscientious adherence to it
 in your country; & by degrees the work will polish the rough edges which
 they apply to it. I omitted to tell you in my former letter, that an Aunt (Aunt
 [an Aunt of Mr. Reynolds to whom you refer] had just completed & sent
 a very pretty sofa cover for the box, but she died before it was sent ^{to America}, & her friend
 not liking to part with her last work, recalled it, sending a contribution for
 the freight equivalent to its value. Thank you for promising to write again. But

Feb 18 46
 The Estlin.
 Mary Estlin
 D. B. Estlin
 Mrs. Chapman
 Sumner St. West
 Boston U.S.

MAR 3

I do not like to impose upon time so fully occupied as yours & this miscellaneous
 letter does not at all call for a reply. Any information however, that you will
 it desirable to give me, shall be turned to the best account in my power. As a matter
 of curiosity you should be pleased to know what my Aunt's basket of little flowers
 did for, & she will then judge whether it is wise to attempt something of the sort
 again. She begs to add her kindest remembrances to ours, for the threes with our letters
 & sentiments in this subject. We are now preparing a juvenile scrap book, we
 wish we could learn some less expensive mode of transmitting the things to you, at
 least if they increase in bulk in proportion to the previous times. Poor little Eliza Bates
 is delighted at her name appearing in the notice. We did not think she would be living
 to hear of the Fair, but she is still lying in the same position that she has for nearly
 two years suffering dreadfully from abscesses & would do well. The boys project with lying
 down, but she will do better. We would do well to exchange places with the little slave who might be taken

Ms. A. 9. 2. 22. 16