

Brooklyn, July 28, 1856.

Dear brother Henry:

30 We somewhat expected sister Catharine and little Anna, yesterday, in the stage. Helen and myself took a trip to Hillingly, in order to do a little "shopping," and on the way met the stage, but saw not those in it whose presence we desired to meet. But, to our surprise and pleasure, on our return, we should we find at the dinner-table but dear George, and wife, and child, and our worthy friend Ray Potter! Right heartily did we greet each other, and a happy time we have had together. Poor dear little Anna looks like a wax-doll, and is, as you know, in extremely delicate health; but, as soon as her "teeth-cutting" is completed, she will probably thrive better.

How ardently do I desire to see you, my dear H., once more restored to health. George tells me that you are gradually improving, and my heart is glad. Be not discouraged - keep your mind cheerful, and your body will be benefited accordingly. Endeavor to amuse and occupy yourself as much as possible, and thus make time move lightly.

I know it is easier to give than to follow advice; and when we are in health, we find no difficulty in urging those who are sick to be filled with patience, resignation, and hope. Still, it is possible to meet every vicissitude of life with firmness and determination - and happy is he who can do it.

If you continue to improve in health, how should you like to make a trip to the British West-Indies, or to Hayti, in the month of October, and so remain absent during the winter? I should delight in having you visit Hayti particularly, because I am sure, that, on my account, you would be received with great kindness by the people. I could give you letters to President Proux, General Ligonac, Secretary of State, and others, who would give you every facility to acquire information, and treat you with all desirable hospitality. The climate is one of the finest in the world, and the scenery among the mountains, for grandeur and beauty, unsurpassed. It matters not that you cannot speak the French language - interpreters are always at hand - and, besides, there are thousands of American colored residents, whom you will find scattered all over the island. We will talk this matter over when you come up with bro. May on Wednesday next. In the mean time, you can think it over in your mind. You can probably be sent out under the auspices of the American Anti-Slavery Society. It will be well to have a companion with you. Such a jaunt would undoubtedly be highly beneficial to your health, and also be productive of good to our blessed cause.

My health is now tolerably good, though not vigorous. The visit to Mr. bridge, made by sister Mary and myself last week, was as pleasant and interesting as heart could desire. O, how many warm and true-hearted friends are raised up to sustain us when we are in "a course of well-doing!" God is faithful to his promises, and he governs all things wondrously. The nearer we get to him, the more happiness is ours, for time and eternity. May we love and serve him more and more faithfully.

Remember me with a brother's affection to bro. Anthony and Charlotte - and believe me that you occupy much of my thoughts, and that I desire to embrace you under the family roof.

Your sympathizing, loving brother,  
Wm. Lloyd Garrison.

Mr. Henry C. Benson,  
Providence,  
R. I.

