# THE LIBERATOR

IS PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY,

AT NO. 25, CORNHILL.

**Oliver Johnson, General Agent:**

To whom all remittances are to be made, and all letters relating to the pecuniary concerns of the paper.

TERMS.—$2.50 per annum, payable in advance; or $3.00 at the expiration of six months.

☞ All letters and communications must be post paid.

☞ ADVERTISEMENTS making one square will be inserted three times for $1.00. Other advertisements at the same rate.

☞ NOTE.—The pecuniary concerns of the Liberator are conducted by the following gentlemen: FRANCIS JACKSON, EDMUND QUINCY, WM. BASSETT.

VOL. IX. OUR COUNTRY IS THE WORLD, OUR COUNTRYMEN ARE ALL MANKIND. NO. 11.

WM. LLOYD GARRISON, EDITOR. BOSTON, FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 1839. ISAAC KNAPP, PRINTER.


## MASS. LEGISLATURE.

REPORT AND RESOLVES ON THE SUBJECT OF THE FOREIGN SLAVE TRADE.

*Commonwealth of Massachusetts.*
FEBRUARY 7, 1839.

The Joint Special Committee to whom were referred the petition of Henry Edwards and others, inhabitants of Boston, and also the memorial of Mark Newman and a large number of other citizens of Newburyport, and also the petition of Andover, praying this Legislature to request of Congress the adoption of measures for the suppression of the traffic in slaves of the foreign kind, and also for the protection of the growing commercial intercourse between the United States and the western coast of Africa, have duly attended to the subjects submitted to them, and respectfully offer the following

REPORT.

Whatever may be the differences of opinion among the great body of the high-minded and intelligent people of this Union, upon the subject of domestic slavery, and the rights and wrongs of those unhappy men upon whom it has given to it, under the existing Constitution of the United States, it is presumed there can be no, but the deep and settled abhorrence of our fellow-citizens, generally, of the atrocious character of the foreign traffic in slaves, so far as to its being the duty of our National Government, as far as it can, and ought to, use its energies, to exercise all constitutional power for its immediate and effectual suppression. Such measures have well calculated to impress the mind of every American citizen with a feeling of pride for the honor and glory of his country, that this subject, as a part of our National Legislative business, whatever, since it first organization, been, for a single moment, insensible to the claims of duty, on the contrary, has always been a leading and prominent subject of consideration in the councils of the nation. A glance at our statutes of severe congressional enactment upon this subject, which commenced with the act of 1794, a very few years only after the organization of the federal government, and which was followed up by no less than six other enactments, increasing always in the severity of their penalties, and extending over a period of more by one year than a solemn act of Congress, the foreign traffic in slaves was denounced as an act of piracy, will serve to demonstrate, in a forcible manner, the utter abhorrence with which this nefarious business has been uniformly regarded by the legislators of the nation. All is a great mistake, indeed, that, notwithstanding the extreme bitterness of party contention, which has at times permeated the country, and so seriously had a sinister influence upon its legislation, in regard to various other subjects and objects, there has not been, even such a degree, the least, the equal views and policy of the nation, with regard to the African slave trade. The several acts of Congress which have been adverted to, commencing with the act of 1794, and ending with that of 1820, denouncing this traffic as piracy, one of the highest offences in a moral, as well as political point of view, in the catalogue of human transgressions, which, it is understood, passed by both Houses of the Legislature, without serious opposition, are very strong and decisive, in corroborating the position, that, in, in the course of the immigration that has been instituted upon the present Congress, there have been discovered, facts of circumstances tending to show the inadequacy of the measures, and new enjoined by the federal government, for the effectual suppression of this abominable traffic, it is their duty, as good citizens, to make the proper suggestions, in the proper quarter, that the most ever efficient remedies and checks may be provided against the great evil in question.

It is a melancholy reflection, that the cupidity and lusting of unprincipled men, of men destitute of all feeling, in cases where their own private interest is concerned, or, at most, regardless of the rights of mankind for the wisest and the sternest legislation, it appears, has been, in a most especial manner, in the case, with regard to the foreign slave trade, which have been alluded to, for the prohibition and suppression of the foreign slave trade. From a variety of well authenticated statements and documents we have had before the Committee, in the course of their investigation, it appears, to a certainty, that, notwithstanding, by the combined efforts that were made a few years ago, by the United States and Great Britain, when a concerted squadron of armed vessels of either nation, were employed to visit occasionally, the African coast of Africa, for the purpose of breaking up the operations of the slavers, a temporary check was given to that horrible traffic, yet, that it soon, very shortly, been renewed, and is, in fact, now carried on, to a very great extent, by American citizens, or, at a greater extent than formerly; and under circumstances of aggravated cruelty and barbarity. From these statements, the Committee, with pleasure, have reason to believe, that, for several years past, the foreign slaves have been, in fact, very few, and, if any, which have been transported and landed in Brazil, for no less than about 5000 per month; and in Cuba in the same period, not exceeding, only a few hundred, the enormous multitude of 114,000 were, or have been landed in that country. It appears, also, that, in the year 1837, the slave trade on the coast of Africa, are regularly sent, annually, to Brazil, Cuba, and at least, 40,000 per annum, in the Island of Cuba, besides a few, to the Islands of Spanish Africa. Many other branches of this traffic, it is specified, but it is not necessary, they have, for the present, to be mentioned. It is, in fact, the most extensive and horrible traffic in human flesh, ever, since it has been declared by the American and British nations as amounting to piracy, has been, in a great measure, carried on by small, or, upper-mouth vessels of small tonnage, which, it is believed, the only, or, at least, the most, information, and are, in very many instances, employed by, and, for, American citizens. These vessels, it appears, are constructed with a view, principally, to the rapidity of sailing, whereby to escape the hand of the law, and, in case of being, in fact, regarded by the beach, comfort, or even lives, of the throng of human beings who are destined to embark in them. The number of the slaves, in proportion to the tonnage of the vessels, were stated before the Committee, it appeared, that multitudes of these poor human beings, are, in fact, like mere merchandise, or, like, by American citizens, within the last few years, were, in fact, in the commodity, the very soul of a character so revolting, disgusting, and, we, we, we

to have understood the provisions of the law, should be acquitted from the disgrace of soliciting the repeal.

The right of petition, made sacred by the Constitution, as the great remedy for the redress of civil wrongs, is violated as much, when the legitimate exercise is abused by the citizen, as when the forbearance is denied by the government. When this right is no longer devoted to the public good, but perverted to frivolous and unworthy purposes, the value of the high privilege is debased, and the instrument, powerful, when rightly used, for the correction of errors, is debased to worthlessness. It is abused most flagrantly, when the names of children are obtained and made to pass for those of persons whose legitimate should have been sought, and wanonly prostituted, when made the medium of ribald jest, licentious principle, or of frivolous trifling. It is scarcely less profaned when inconsiderately used by those who do not know even the subject for which it is employed.

The substance of the petitions and memorials presented, is inscribed upon the records,—if they become the foundation of any change of the laws, they are preserved among the archives of the Commonwealth. He who shall explore the vast masses of documents daily piled on the tables of the legislative departments, would meet accumulations that threaten to rise even above the flags floating over the capitol, while he may wonder that it should ever have been necessary to enact decency by statute. He will be surprised to discover that the mothers, and daughters, and sisters, of a virtuous people should have demanded the repeal of that statute of decency. Let future historians should form an erroneous estimate of the manners and morals of the age, it is desirable to afford them persons styling themselves ladies, an opportunity to reconsider their opinions on matrimonial and constitutional rights, and to remove their names from the rolls on which they are written.

As the Committee believe that it is inexpedient to legislate on the subject referred to them, they recommend that the ladies of Lynn, Dorchester, Brookfield, and Plymouth, have leave to withdraw their several petitions, and that any ladies who have presented a false and fictitious memorial on the subject of color, may be permitted to take the same from the files of this House.

By order of the Committee,
WILLIAM LINCOLN.

## LIST OF PETITIONS

*Presented to the Legislature of Massachusetts at its present session.*

For the abolition of Slavery and the Slave trade in the District of Columbia and the Territories.

James Clapen and 44 others of Foxborough.
Richard Hood and 11 others of Danvers.
Eben Hunt and 12 others of Boston.
Esther S. Buxton and 334 others of Danvers.
Austin K. Miles and 192 other females of Shrewsbury.
Jonas M. Miles and 121 others of Shrewsbury.
Elias Richards and 90 others of Weymouth.
Jasper Bement and 49 others of Boylston.
Geo. T. Davis and 61 others of Greenfield.
Josiah P. Noyes and 122 others of New-York and Newburyport.
John Upton and 35 others of Lynnfield.
Daniel Crite and 133 others of Reading.
S. P. Sanford and 200 females of Dorchester.
Samuel Chase and 192 others of Fall River.
John Pierce and 62 others of Brookline.
Ebenezer Fuller and 90 others of Ashfield.
Martha Barker and 157 other women of Gardner.
Amos Clark and 45 others of Sherburne.
Margaret Pyke and 267 other women of Wrentham.
Abner Belcher and 238 other citizens of Wrentham.
Robert Bartlett and 31 others of Cambridge.
Seth Sprague and 92 others of Duxbury.
Polly Atkins and 81 others of Provincetown.
John Adams and 37 others of Provincetown.
Stillman Pratt and 50 others of Orleans.
H. B. Collen and 62 others of Northfield.
Elizabeth Emery and 180 others of Andover.
Susan Allen and 91 others of Fairhaven.
Jos. B. Boyden and 52 others of Westhampton.
Daniel Griggs and 100 others of South Hadley.
Mary Patrick and 108 others of Greenwich.
Deborah P. Palmer and 86 others of Georgetown.
Jane Thompson and 87 others of Lynn.
Almira B. Andrews and 45 others of N. Sunderland.
Charlotte Metcalf and 223 others of Royalston.
Angeli M. Emmons and 202 others of Enfield.
Rachel S. Bliss and 50 others of Rehoboth.
Mary Fisk and 119 others of Schuyler.
Experience Billings and 112 other females of S. Wilbraham.
Joseph Young and 27 others of Salisbury.
Elias Worthen and 32 other females of Salisbury.
Josiah L. Atkinson and 42 others of Newbury.
Joshua W. Simmons and 200 others of Marshfield.
Patty Blake and 168 others of Westford.
Louisa S. Wetherbee and 63 others of Boxboro.
Sarah N. Moore and 50 other females of Stow.
Jos. W. Cross and 45 others of Boxboro.
Gardner B. Perry and 83 others of Bradford.
Jesse Putnam and 27 other females of Danvers.
Levi Brigham and 25 others of Dunstable.
Sarah C. Rugg and 86 others of Groton.
Seth Drew and 70 others of Salisbury.
Elizabeth Hayward and 165 others of Braintree.
Priscilla Weston and 437 others of Weymouth.
Polly W. Howland and 161 other females of Bridgewater.
Drucilla G. Hussap and 711 others of Lowell.
Sam'l D. Torrey and 182 others of Milbury.
Jemuiah W. Gilmer and 200 others of Lynn.
Malinda B. Storrs and 122 other females of Hebron.
Isaiah Tourtellot and 193 others of Salem.
Rufus Tapley and 29 others of Danvers.
Israel G. Rose and 61 others of Chesterfield.
Fidelia Pulsifer and 78 other females of Deerfield.
Hannah Turner and 253 others of Scituate.
Samuel J. May and 83 others of Scituate.
Joshua Jewett and 78 others of Scituate.
Sarah Haskell and 67 others of Gloucester.
Lucy C. Allen and 120 others of Northborough.
Lowell Sherry and 125 females of N. Brookfield.
Catharine Lovell and 136 others of Medway.
Anna Stoughton and 53 others of Gill.
Samuel Kirkland and 23 others of Norwich.
Joseph Allen and 92 others of Northborough.
Thomas Dodge and 31 others of Truro.
Erastus Andrews and 53 others of Sunderland.
Pliny Moody and 45 others of S. Hadley.
Abel Bliss and 90 others of North Wilbraham.
Tammy E. Dickinson and 132 other females of Amherst.
L. S. Virgin and 107 other females of N. Wilbraham.
Mary S. Durfee and 1267 other females of Fall River.
John E. Bartlett and 18 others of N. Bridgewater.
Caroline D. Richards and 83 others of S. Deerfield.
W. Richards and 41 others of South Reading.
E. Hitchcock and 109 others of Amherst.
John Sanford and 97 others of Amherst.
Lucy B. Lovell and 79 others of Amherst.
David Stiles and 32 others of Middleton.
Nancy Stiles and 34 others of Middleton.
Sam'l Willison and 203 others of Easthampton.
Mary Lamson and 46 others of Berlin.
Zoa Dunton and 128 other females of Milbury.
Benj. Wood and 66 others of Upton.
Ruth Bowker and 71 others of Upton.
Ziba Torrey and 250 others of Abington.
Pelham Willey and 29 others of Wrentham.
Sarah Thompson and 90 others of Newton.
Sherman W. Houghton and 35 others of Bolton.
Lucinda Miller and 99 other females of Milbury.
Charles Virgin and 72 others of Ludlow.
Mary W. Caldwell and 153 others of Haverhill.
Henry Plummer and 203 others of Haverhill.
Mrs. Jane H. Howes and 225 others of Haverhill.
Wm. J. Lawrence and 54 others of Ashburnham.
Priscilla S. Kimball and 178 others of N. Bradford.
Samuel G. Clapp and 231 others of Springfield.
Elizabeth Ward and 90 other females of Boylston.
Clarissa Packard and 152 others of Spencer.
Benjamin Jackman and 29 others of Byfield.
John Storrs and 50 others of Amherst.
John Perkins and 100 others of Essex.
Jacob Loud and 92 others of Weymouth.
Susan Bonsten and 54 others of Essex.
Titus Foster and 139 others of Brimfield.
Lucy Durfee and 132 others of Brimfield.
Joel Steele and 22 others of Brimfield.
Eliza T. Loud and 104 others of Weymouth.
Nancy D. Whaston and 125 others of Dedham.
Edward Lasell and 104 others of Salisbury.
Eunice Marsh and 290 others of Worcester.
Wm. B. Fox and 400 others of Worcester.
David Joy and 27 others of Nantucket.
Olive S. Sanderson and 61 females of Plympton.
Mary P. Putnam and 151 other females of Danvers.
Mary D. White and 49 others of N. Bridgewater.
Jeremiah Beals and 67 others of N. Bridgewater.
Silas Crafts and 48 others of N. Bridgewater.
Lucy Winslow and 96 others of Enfield.
Eunice Clapp and 96 others of Westhampton.
Daniel Griggs and 40 others of Westhampton.
Israel Packard and 23 others of N. Bridgewater.
Abigail Packard and 172 others of Bridgewater.
Moses Swain and 47 others of Southborough.
Alexis Griggs and 78 others of West Milbury.
W. m. G. Bancroft and 23 others of West Milbury.
Mary Niles and 363 others of Abington.
Preserved Smith and 22 others of Warwick.
Moriah Ford and 20 others of Middleboro.
Ava Codding and 78 others of Winchendon.
Mrs. John Carleton and 27 others of Haverhill.

The whole number of petitions presented to the legislature during their present session, upon the subject of slavery in the District of Columbia and the territories, is 141. Of this number, 76 were from males, containing 7547 names;—65 were from females, containing 10,518 names. Total, 19065.

Against the admission of Florida and Texas, and for prohibiting by law the slave traffic between the states, 1 from males and 1 from females, containing 1 any new State whose constitution tolerates Slavery.

Achsah Clark and 73 others of Sandwich.
Hannah D. Wood and 27 others of Middleboro'.
Ava Codding and 78 others of Winchendon.
Esther S. Buxton and 334 others of Danvers.
Jonas B. Miles and 121 others of Shrewsbury.
Elias Richards and 90 others of Weymouth.
Jasper Bement and 45 others of Ashfield.
Hooker Lovell and 62 others of Brookfield.
Josiah P. Noyes and 109 others of New-bury and Newburyport.
John Upton and 35 others of Lynnfield.
Daniel Chute and 135 others of Reading.
S. P. Sanford and 208 females of Dorchester.
Samuel Hall and 27 others of Sherburne.
Abraham Bowen and 200 others of Fall River.
Elizabeth A. Moulton and 99 others of Marlborough.
John Pierce and 62 others of Brookline.
E. M. Burleigh and 49 others of Oxford.
Mrs. J. W. Stevenson and 30 other females of Newbury.
J. W. Sessions and 99 others of Needham.
E. M. Hosmer and 188 others of W. Boylston.
Preserved Smith and 25 others of Warwick.
Amos Clark and 47 others of Sherburne.
Deborah Richards and 1 female of Weymouth.
Betsey Parker and 14 other females of Plympton.
Robert Bartlett and 31 others of Cambridge.
Hannah M. Wood and 186 other females of Upton.
Jacob Caldwell and 69 others of Haverhill.
John Adams and 38 others of Provincetown.
Stillman Pratt and 50 others of Orleans.
Seth Sprague and 92 others of Duxbury.
H. B. Collen and 60 others of Northfield.
Susan Allen and 91 others of Fairhaven.
Joseph B. Boyden and 38 others of Westhampton.
Jairus Lincoln and 47 others of Hingham.
Zephaniah Pease and 186 others of Edgartown.
Edmund Hitchcock and 112 others of Amherst, (collegians.)
Pauline B. Bent and 79 others of Amherst.
Josiah Bent and 169 others of Amherst.
Sally E. Gaylord and 121 others of Amherst.
Samuel Ware and 42 others of South Deerfield.
Joseph N. Jackman and 32 others of Newbury.
Abigail H. Emmons and 202 females of Franklin.
R. C. Sanderson and 127 other women of Ashfield.
David White and 113 others of Heath.
Elizabeth Ragsdale and 316 others of Salisbury.
Joshua W. Simmons and 98 others of Marshfield.
Nathaniel Emmons and 167 others of Franklin.
Henry Gardner and 100 others of Boylston.
Elizabeth Lewis and 166 others of Marshfield.
Timothy Foster and 276 others of Andover.
Kingsley Underwood and 93 others of Enfield.
Joseph W. Criss and 46 others of Boxboro'.
Mary P. Putnam and 135 others of Danvers.
Mary D. White and 49 others of N. Bridgewater.
Jeremiah Beals and 67 others of N. Bridgewater.
John Crafts and 48 others of N. Bridgewater.
Lucy Winslow and 96 others of Enfield.
Eunice Clapp and 96 others of Westhampton.
Daniel Griggs and 40 others of Westhampton.
Israel Packard and 23 others of N. Bridgewater.
Levi Brigham and 25 others of Dunstable.
John Ames and 50 others of Groton.
Julia Parker and 93 others of Kingston.
Seth Field and 85 others of Brookfield.
Samuel D. Torrey and 182 others of Milbury.
Gamaliel W. Oliver and 639 others of Lynn.
Israel G. Rose and 61 others of Chesterfield.
Fidelia Pulsifer and 78 other females of Deerfield.
Samuel J. May and 85 others of Scituate.
Hannah Freeman and 253 others of Scituate.
Eliza Bonsten and 104 women of Lynn.
Alice Conner and 992 others of Lynn.
Thomas Haskell and 37 others of Gloucester.
Simeon Brown and 200 other citizens of Boston.
Lorenzo Crowell and 35 others of Ware.
Jacob Loud and 98 others of Weymouth.
Joseph O. Skinner and 93 others of Holliston.
Lemuel Goit and 204 others of Gloucester.
Joshua Jewett and 27 others of Rowley.
Harriet S. Sanford and 208 others of Boylston.
Thomas Dodge and 40 others of Truro.
Joseph Allen and 92 others of Northborough.
Samuel Ware and 61 others of Norwich.
Erastus Andrews and 33 others of Sunderland.
Pliny Moody and 45 others of South Hadley.
Abel Bliss and 83 others of North Wilbraham.
L. S. Virgin and 113 other females of N. Wilbraham.
Mary O. C. Dwyer and 1267 other females of West Newbury.
Isaac Woodbury and 53 others of Leverett.
Eunice Woodbury and 70 others of Leverett.
Joel Kenney and 64 others of Franklin.
Lucy J. B. Kenney and 38 others of Wrentham.
David Stiles and 32 others of Middleton.
Elisha P. Bartlett and 18 others of Bridgewater.
Samuel Willison and 33 others of Easthampton.
David R. Lamson and 46 others of Berlin.
Edward Bigelow and 66 others of Bradford.
Ebenezer Porter and 272 others of Abington.
Cyrilla B. Dagget and 18 other females of Sandwich.
Edward B. Bigelow and 104 others of Grafton.
Richard Clapp and 99 others of Dorchester.
Ephraim Wilder and 200 others of Dorchester.
Nancy Ripley and 136 others of Plymouth.
Wendell Phillips and 144 others of Boston.
Washington B. Allen and 29 others of Boston.
Otis Thompson and 99 others of Georgetown.
Sherman W. Houghton and 37 others of Bolton.
Lucinda Miller and 99 other females of Milbury.
Mrs. John Carlton and 27 others of Haverhill.
Henry Plummer and 203 others of Haverhill.
Cyrus Pierce and 161 other females of Bridgewater.
Harriet Pierce and 615 other females of Nantucket.
Robert R. Crosby and 43 others of Brewster.
Mrs. Ann Sessions and 29 others of Brewster.
Edward S. Hildreth and 246 others of Springfield.
Wm. J. Lawrence and 105 others of Ashburnham.
Milley Cummings and 423 others of Ashburnham.
Dorothy Gipson and 218 others of Ashburnham.
Augusta Hildreth and 62 others of Chesterfield.
Joseph Southwick and 200 others of Boston.
Gorham P. Tenney and 31 others of Byfield.
Ruth H. Knight and 67 others of Gloucester.
Evelina S. Smith and 134 others of Hingham.
Eliza T. Loud and 216 others of Weymouth.
Rhoda D. Cole and 41 other females of N. Brookfield.
Titus Foster and 139 others of Brimfield.
Bayles Sanford and 39 others of E. Bridgewater.
Joel Steele and 23 others of Brimfield.
John Perkins and 100 others of Essex.
Edward Lasell and 109 others of Williamstown.
Abby Sanford and 97 other females of E. Bridgewater.
David Joy and 27 others of Nantucket.
Sarah H. Earle and 321 others of Worcester.
Wm. B. Fox and 431 others of Worcester.
Ruel C. Cowell and 57 others of Gardner.
Moses Swain and 89 others of Southborough.
Experience Bartlett and 18 other females of West Milbury.
Wm. G. Davidson and 73 others' of West Milbury.

Whole number of petitions above is 139. Of this number 93 are from males, containing 8780 names; and 46 from females, with 8335 names. Total, 17,115 names.

## A SCENE IN PHILADELPHIA.

Abolitionists Scare Democrats.—A party meeting case was determined yesterday morning before Judge Hopkinson, in favor of the freedom of an old black man, with a bed whitened by the frost of some sixty winters, and who had resided in and about the city for twenty-three years, claimed by a Marylander as his slave. The claimant was represented by Mr. Ingraham, for the claimant. The black whose associations were to be forever sundered by the successful prosecution of the claim, leaving his family connections—his freedom of action and liberty of thought abridged, and his person subjected to everlasting servitude—was defended by a dozen Democrats, who save those who heard the happy effort can tell—by David Paul Brown, Esq. It was, indeed, an eloquent effort—an appeal to the heart of the judges, and no man, left free to follow the bent of his feelings, could resist. When the Judge declared the black free, a sensitive man, who had sat with the black set at liberty, the old man wended his way through the dense crowd of black and white, who had gone to the outside of the building, where he sat himself down and wept like a child, without stint or shame. His crowd of friends gave vent to their joy in a shout of cheers which broke out themselves into line, marched down to the residence of their advocate, and again gave expression to their overpowering feelings of delight at the result. It.

We notice this case thus minutely, believing as many of our citizens do, that it was one hatched up in contempt of the abolitionists. We have had no suspicions individuals who spur at nothing, however infamous, that will place a dollar in their purse—that that was the case with the friends of the Abolitionists, or would throw obstacles in the way of any one taking and holding their own property according to law.

*Philadelphia paper.*

Disturbance at Pass Christian.—The inhabitants of Pass Christian have recently been thrown into a state of excitement, in consequence of an order from the agent of Hancock Co. Miss. for the removal of all the free blacks from the Pass. It seems that a white individual was recently insulted by some free coloured men, and all the blacks have been ordered to leave on account of it. The individuals who were concerned in the outrage have made their escape to this city. The gentleman, who gives us this information, says that there are many coloured people at Pass Christian who are slaves, and that they have petitioned for leave to remain long enough to dispose of their effects.—*New Orleans Picayune, Feb. 24.*

It is by no means improbable, that England, as a nation opposed to slavery, will, within a very short time, prohibit the importation of cotton from America unless it is proved, that all the blacks have been ordered to leave on account of it. The individuals who were concerned in the outrage have made their escape to this city. The gentleman, who gives us this information, says that there are many coloured people at Pass Christian who are slaves, and that they have petitioned for leave to remain long enough to dispose of their effects.—*New Orleans Picayune, Feb. 24.*

LETTER OF HARRISON GRAY OTIS *to* JOHN WINTHROP, *President, on the Atherton Resolutions and the Texas question.*

JOHN WINTHROP, Esq.

*Dear Sir*:—I received with much satisfaction your letter, with a report to the Legislature of Mr. Adams's speech on the Atherton Resolutions, and your speech explanatory of your dissent from that report. It is certainly flattering to me to know that I live in your recollection, and that the opinions of one so long withdrawn from the notice of the world, and all participation in the affairs of the country, should be cherished, and distrust in your own, formed with the advantage of intellect in full vigor, and defended by arguments of great power, strengthened. You add, that your request under these circumstances would have imposed upon me an obligation of courtesy to form the best opinion I could on the two great subjects. As your report (though upon a new question which you have disposed of by an eloquent and conclusive argument) is wholly on the old subject—the condition of slavery among our Southern brethren, and the relationship between their rights and our duties—which has been familiar to my thoughts for half a century, I was quite prepared to examine its merits, and have no other trouble in replying to your favor, but that which is common to age—a loss where to begin and where to leave off.

Had I been a member of Congress, called to decide upon the Atherton Resolutions, I should have voted for them. At the same time I have no doubt of the constitutional power of the House to adopt them. But I consider it a power, which the Constitution has left, commit and obtain a report upon the petitions regarding slavery in the District of Columbia as unfortunate and inexpedient. It seems to have confounded in popular belief with a denial of the right of petition itself; and thus touch the community in its most irritable nerve, the sacred rights of personal, and apparently an unkind and cavalier mode of cutting short a new inquiry—or an old one reopened under new circumstances—and subjected to discussion an account of the number of petitioners. I had also predicted, three years ago, in a public speech, that the abolition movement would be attempted to be made a party question, and thus subjected to the influence of political intrigue and party politics. These objections I thought would be in the mind of the author of the Report of the Committee, which, being under the control of the majority, would have ended in the same result as trying the petitions on the table, without affording plausible occasion for offence or complaint.

But I am equally free to declare that I been a member of the House of Representatives, I should have been found on your side in opposing the report of your committee, inasmuch as the question there assumed an entirely different form. It is one thing for Congress to refuse to act upon a petition, and another thing for a State Legislature to deny the right of the former to receive and consider petitions. There is nothing in the Atherton Resolutions which negatives the right of petition, and nothing which in fair implication is to be construed into it. The constitutional view is a request offered to a government, supposed to have jurisdiction of the subject, for a redress of some grievance. The right is a right, and of consequence to offer such petition belongs to every peaceable assembly of the people. This right also involves the right to make the government acquainted with the subject matter of the petition—not to have it read *in extenso*, as a matter of course, to the public, but to have it duly considered. Thousands of petitions may relate to the same single object, or to objects palpably out of the province and competency of the government to which they are addressed, in the minds of a majority may be known to be made up. They may be flagrantly indecorous, and numerous and voluminous, and consume the time of a reading uncomfortable time. But if not read, the Legislature addressed is bound at least to hearken to a statement of the subject matter of the petition, and to the character of the grievances sought to be redressed. Otherwise the right of petition would be nugatory—at least nominal, and unavailing to the purpose for which it was intended, a constitution—the voice of men 'crying in the wilderness.'

This right thus explained has, I think, an intrinsic value. It belongs to the whole and every portion of the people—extends to all subjects—is indispensable to an expression of public opinion, and wanting in popular and paternal governments, will, when exercised, command attention and obtain relief, unless the first object of petition, upon mature reflection, be thought superfluous, and the last inexpedient or impracticable. The exercise of the right is in no case unfavorable to the public good, and, as I have shown, be of no value. Still the right remains, and has a value in itself—like a personal privilege, which, though it be one man's pitcher may be broken and his water spilt, while the source remains inexhaustible.

With this explanation of the nature of the right and value of the privilege of petition secured by the constitution, I am prepared to go the whole length of your argument—that petitions for the abolition of slavery ordinarily crown between the right of petition in the people and the right of Congress to regulate their own proceedings, and consequently to dispose of petitions at their will and pleasure. This you have so amply illustrated, that nothing remains to be adduced, but I have more is left for me than to say, 'ditto to Mr. Burke.' I will venture, however, to make one suggestion confirmatory of your conclusion, which I do not think more luminous, (which cannot be done,) but merely because it had occurred to me as decisive of the question from my recollection of the fact.

While the abolitionists insist upon the duty of Congress to do something more than merely hear their petitions or a statement of their contents, they have no standard for measuring or defining its extent. They do not inform us at what stage of proceedings it may be allowable for the Legislature to discontinue its rejecting or postponing a petition. It would seem reasonable that the claims of petitioners to the attention of Congress should be measured by the importance of the subject, and the ordinary proceedings of Congress are upon resolutions offered for the consideration of a member in his place. But it is notorious that

MASSFIELD, March 7, 1839.

DR. GARRISON,—The annual meeting of the Massfield Anti-Slavery Society was held on the 26th of February, and on the 4th inst. the following persons were chosen officers for the ensuing year, viz:

President,—Rev. Edward G. Sears.

Vice Presidents—Dr. Ephraim Leavitt and Joseph Stone.

Secretary—Nathaniel H. Whiting.

Treasurer—Joshua W. Simmons.

Executive Committee—Ariel Ames, Elisha J. Sherman, and James Sprague.

The Society numbers 221 members. The following resolutions were passed unanimously, and ordered to be sended to the Liberator.

Resolved, That the attempt now making, by certain individuals, to declare it a fundamental principle of abolition, that a man is morally bound by the law, in opposition to the true spirit of freedom—is clearly and evidently wrong—and, if generally adopted, will be the complete destruction of the anti-slavery cause.

Resolved, That an anti-slavery society has no power to declare it the duty of its members to go to the law to enforce their own convictions of right, than it has power to declare it their duty to join a church, and that whether it be right or wrong, it may be, and is, injurious and fatal to the abolition of slavery; nor have we any right, that is, we do not believe it to be in accordance with the Bible, to disunite States, and liberate the slaves by means of the bayonet, and by deluging the South in human blood.

Resolved, That the only confession of faith required of members of any man, should be a belief in the moral sinfulness of slavery, and in the duty of immediate emancipation.

Resolved, That the ground taken on this subject by the Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society and the Liberator, is Scriptural and just; and is the only ground upon which any anti-slavery association can flourish, which shall include individuals of more than one set of principles. Such an association forms no test other principle, instead of being an anti-slavery society, would, at best, be but a Temperance society, adopting the true standard of faith in religion and morals.

Resolved, That the Liberator, edited by William Lloyd Garrison, is not a sectarian paper from the true sectarian religious faith, nor has it proved recreant to its principles; but, on the contrary, (in the language of Wilberforce,) it has applied to its principles, for a moment, amid the smoke and dust of the battle, has its path been obscured or dubious. Whenever, and wherever it faltered, it has not been the Liberator; wherever also has for a moment, mistaken the cause of humanity been mistaken for right, it has been the Liberator; whoever else has unsheathed, pointed our pursuing legions to the wrong mark, it has not been the Liberator's fault. And we rejoice that we are not with its editor upon some of the subjects advocated by him, which are not immediately connected with the cause of negro slavery; regard it as a free discussion, we have no wish to curtail the free and full expression of opinion upon these subjects, which some may deem, if they may be argued pro and con in the columns of the same paper, and occupy but a small portion of each number; and we regard the destruction of this paper as a fearful, and a fatal blow to the anti-slavery cause. We therefore enter our solemn protest against any attempt to injure the Liberator, or injure its circulation, as wrongful, unnatural, and unjust, and as subversive of those great principles upon which our cause is based.

The following resolutions were presented and unanimously adopted, with directions that they be published of the Liberator and Massachusetts Abolitionist.

Whereas, the Executive Committee of the American Anti-Slavery Society, have undertaken to annul a contract subsisting between that Society and the Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society, whereby the latter agreed to pay the former the sum of ten thousand dollars in five instalments in the course of one year ending in May next; and whereas, the Executive Committee have been pleased to assume that the Massachusetts Society had not paid the instalments at the time they became due, and that against the earnest remonstrance of the Board of Managers of the Massachusetts Society, whose course they have thus sought to impeach, and who have been strictly fair and honorable; and whereas, we believe the proceeding to be unwise, unjust, oppressive and vexatious of the best interests of the anti-slavery cause; and whereas, the Massachusetts anti-slavery association has hitherto had have been established principally for the purpose of enlightening and reforming public opinion in their respective limits; and whereas, the anti-slavery society may be regarded as a better system of operation for the principles and the principle of strong hold in a particular location, than any foreign society can be; and whereas, we believe, consequently, that the Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society is more competent to manage the anti-slavery enterprise in this State, than a committee which is located at New York; therefore,

Resolved, That we cordially approve the course of the Board of Managers of the Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society, in maintaining against the arbitrary decision of the Executive Committee of the American Society, and we pledge ourselves that we will, to the utmost of our power, sustain them in the position they have taken.

Resolved, That though the primary object of our society must be to enlighten the public and correct public opinion in their respective communities, yet our ultimate object is the entire destruction of slavery throughout the country, we feel bound in our general, as the truth over the land, until every slave shall be made to go free; and thus we believe it the duty of the Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society to adhere to and adopt the American Society as soon as practicable; and we will do what in us lies to procure the accomplishment of this result.

Respectfully yours,

N. H. WHITING, *Sec'y M. A. S. S.*

GROTON ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.

At a meeting of the Groton Anti-Slavery Society, held on the evening, March 11th, 1839, the following preamble and resolutions were considered and passed unanimously. It was advised to request publication in the Liberator, and other anti-slavery papers.

Whereas, a collision has arisen between the Executive Committee of the American Society and the Board of Managers of the Massachusetts Society, threatening to sever the old integrity of the anti-slavery cause—and it is the right and may be the duty of the people to express their opinion on any important matter which may affect their welfare and happiness; therefore

Resolved, That the welfare and efficiency of the anti-slavery enterprise much depends on the existence of organizations, which shall have the control and management of the cause within their respective limits;

Resolved, That we approve of the arrangement made with the American Society in May last, by which the Massachusetts Society undertook to assume the care of the anti-slavery cause in this State.

Resolved, That we view with regret the recent notion of said contract by the Executive Committee of the American Society, and that we consider the conduct of the Board as discourteous, uncalled for, and mischievous in its operation and tendency.

Resolved, That this attempt to trample upon the rights, privileges and authority of Massachusetts, by the Executive Committee of the American Society, is in the spirit of the worst of despotisms, and ought to be resented by the friends of the Mass. Society, and by anti-slavery men throughout the Union.

Resolved, That we approve the sentiments of the Board of Managers of the Liberator of the 1st inst.—and we will co-operate with the Board of the Mass. Society, in all measures necessary for resisting the encroachments of the Executive Committee of the American Society, upon the rights and duties of the Mass. Society.

Resolved, That the establishment of a central power, by individuals, which shall assume the control of the anti-slavery cause in all parts of the country, and weild all its pecuniary resources, appears to us despotic institutions of the old world, not with the countenance and approbation of the republicans of this hemisphere.

LUTHER BOUTELLE, *Secretary.*

LYNN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.

A special meeting of the Lynn Anti-Slavery Society held on the evening of the 24 inst. at which the following resolutions were passed, viz.

Resolved, That we do highly disapprove of the conduct of the Executive Committee of the American Anti-Slavery Society in a very unchristian manner, in thus broken the relation between the State and National Societies.

Resolved, That we cordially approve of the judicious and independent stand taken by the Board of Managers of the Massachusetts A. S. Society, at the last meeting, and we do assure them that, so long as they manifest their firmness and integrity in the cause of our holy cause, they may reckon upon the confidence and support of the abolitionists of Lynn.

Resolved, That we will give our influence in each and every way, as practicable, the arrangement made at the last annual meeting of the American Society, between that and the State Society, and will therefore write for our own correspondence, THE TREASURY OF THE MASSACHUSETTS SOCIETY, and not to any financial agents acting independently of the relation then established between the two societies.

4. Resolved, That to the Board of the State Society justly belongs the control of agents flowing in this State, and that we will not recognize those agents of the American Society sent here without their concurrence.

Voted, That the above resolutions be offered to the Boston Liberator and Massachusetts Abolitionist for publication.

WM. BASSETT, *President.*

WM. B. OLIVER, *Sec'y.*

NEW SOCIETY IN ATTLEBORO.

DR. GARRISON:

The following proceedings were handed me by Mr. Stanley, the Secretary of the society, by which adopted them, with the desire that I would copy and hand them in for publication in the Liberator and Massachusetts Abolitionist;—which had been ordered by a vote of the Society.

A. ST. CLAIR.

At a meeting of the abolitionists from the different societies in Attleboro, to take into consideration the propriety of organizing an Anti-Slavery Society, twenty-four all the abolitionists in town, it was voted, that this meeting deem it expedient to form such a society. A Constitution was then read and adopted: the following gentlemen were chosen officers, and the following resolutions unanimously adopted.

Hon. Lemuel May, *President.*

S. M. Stanley, Moses Wilmarth, *Vice Presidents.*

Saml. Shove, *Secretary.*

H. H. Brown, *Treasurer.*

Resolved, That, in the opinion of this Society, slavery is that system which deprives of injurity ever created and upheld by the laws of any civilized community; and that every person is as much bound to use all means a sanctioned by the Bible, and religion, for its abolition, as he would be for the abolition of idolatry or infanticide, provided these crimes were protected by law, and prevalent, and popular as slavery.

Resolved, That the Pulpit, the Press, the Monthly Concert, the organization and action of Societies, petition, and the ballot box, are the most powerful and effective agencies for this mammon sin; and that every person high or low, rich or poor, public or private, who can conscientiously use them, and possess the right so to do, is in duty bound to use them to the utmost of his ability for this purpose, till every yoke be broken asunder, and the oppressed are set free.

Resolved, That we approve the late doings of the Board of Managers of the County Society, inviting the agents of the American Society to lecture, organize societies, and instruct the people of this County, and upon themselves to see that the work, so long neglected, is done; and that they may depend on our co-operation, so far as we are able, to sustain them, till every town in the county is abolitionized.

S. M. STANLEY, *Secretary of the meeting.*

BRADFORD, Feb. 25th, 1839.

MR. EDITOR:—At a regular meeting of the East Bradford Anti-Slavery Society, the following resolutions were adopted, viz.

Resolved, That we are not of the number, who hold to an inequality of natural rights, graduated by the color of the skin, or the texture of the hair; but repudiate the doctrine as anti-republican and fallacious; still holding with the drafters, signers and adopters of the Declaration of American Independence, that 'all men are created equal,' and, consequently, entitled to the same political rights and privileges which are equally the inalienable, hereditary birthright inheritance of every citizen, whether he wear an ebony or Anglo-Saxon hue.

Resolved, That all laws in Massachusetts bearing unequally upon her colored citizens, loyal subjects of the Commonwealth, or affecting them prejudicially either in their religious, relative, social or political rights, are not only at variance with the spirit of her government, but dishonorable to her character, reasoned she ever has been for her liberal legislation; and that the onward march of free principles demands of those at present possessing the power, the immediate repeal of every such statute, that they no longer pollute her civil code.

Resolved, That we have heard with sorrow of the course pursued by some of the members of our state legislature, in respect to petitions submitted to them, praying for the repeal of such laws; and especially would we express our disapprobation of the position assumed by one of the Representatives from Bradford, (Mr. Greenleaf,) not only in opposing their reference to a proper committee (thus insulting the petitioners,) but in speaking contemptuously of the petitions, and the subject-matter of their petition—thus violating the duties of a representative, and the common courtesies of life.

Voted, That the above resolutions, signed by the Chairman and Secretary, be forwarded to the Liberator and Massachusetts Abolitionist for publication.

MOSES P. ATWOOD, *Sec. pro. tem.*

WM. S. BALCH, *Chairman.*

BRADFORD, March 11, 1839.

At an adjourned meeting of the Bradford Anti-Slavery Society, held at the Academy Hall, Wednesday evening, March 6, the following preamble and resolution were passed:

Whereas certain persons, by their active exertions, have prevented the publication of several resolves that were passed at the last meeting of this Society, relating to the course pursued by Mr. Greenleaf, in regard to a petition that was presented to the Legislature of this State, (of which we are a part,) the Society having voted, that the resolves should be signed by the Chairman and Secretary, and sent to the Essex Gazette and the Liberator for publication; which was accordingly done; but, by the agency and influence of political friends, the publication has been muzzled, and this Society has been prevented from proclaiming to the public, that they are opposed to such illiberal and partial legislators;—therefore,

Resolved, That we highly approve of the doings of the last meeting; and that we feel called upon to express our sentiments on the subject, regret, that any should be found among us so recreant to our cause, and so unfaithful in preferring political partizans and party leaders, to the principles of justice and equity, as to attempt to gag this Society by muzzling the press.'

Voted, That the resolutions be signed by the Chairman and Secretary, and sent to the 'Liberator' for publication.

JAMES MERRILL, *Chairman.*

GORHAM P. TAPPAN, *Sec.*

PROTEST.

William S. Balch and Peter Parker, Jr. requested to have the following protest entered upon the record, against the doings of the meeting.

We object to the vote passed this evening, approving of the doings of the Society on Feb. 25th, particularly in that which directs the publishing of the same; because we think that the Resolves presented by Mr. Greenleaf since the passage of the resolves, in reference to those that the report of his observations, as it appeared in the papers, was not correct, and that if time were allowed, he believed that he should, by making a full and explanation of the case, be able to satisfy the members of the Society; and because we think such opportunity should have been given him before such publication, as we certainly did him and to the Society.

WILLIAM S. BALCH,

PETER PARKER, JR.

BRADFORD, March 6, 1839.

☞ The reason why we delayed inserting the spirited proceedings of the Bradford A. S. Society, was on account of receiving the following letter, which contained a request that we regarded as just and reasonable. We presume, the original fate of Mr. Greenleaf is sealed in Bradford.—*Ed. Lib.*

BRADFORD, March 5th, 1839.

DEAR SIR:—

As the subject of the Resolutions passed by our Anti-Slavery Society, which we forwarded for publishing, concerning the conduct of Mr. Greenleaf, has occasioned considerable excitement in this County, and that further action will be had upon them to-morrow (Wednesday) evening, at a meeting then to be held; as individual members of the Society, we would request you to delay the publishment of those resolutions, till after that time. Mr. Greenleaf asserts that his remarks were not correctly reported in the public journals, and has promised to favor us with a *correct* report of the sentiments expressed on that occasion by himself. Wishing to afford him every opportunity of vindicating himself from the charges alleged against him, we tender this request, which we have chosen rather to by more than half the members present at that meeting.

With respect, we are yours in the cause of liberty and human rights,

WILLIAM S. BALCH,

MOSES P. ATWOOD,

PETER PARKER, JR.

A CALL FOR VIGILANCE.

MR. EDITOR:

At this important moment is the cause, I cannot forbear to address you, and through you, those who are unawares of its exigencies, to arouse themselves into a searching personal examination to the different divisions of this battle for righteousness. Let me call in an especial manner on women. The present is no time for us to reserve their hands from the work. Who are now among the most prominent in the Anti-Slavery conflict? The fourteen hundred women of Lynn and Plymouth, who have done their State and themselves, and the oppressed by an unrighteous law, the justice to petition for its repeal—the Ladies of Boston who suits all the States, for one thing, it is believed, are without some disgraceful stains, based on color. In none of them exists one more unrighteous and absurd than the one which in Massachusetts insults freedom and justice in the name of God and Public Policy, by prescribing agreement in complexion as a condition of legal marriage—by branding with illegitimacy and depriving of their inheritable blood, a portion of the inhabitants—those whom God has joined, tyrannically attempting to sunder. This blot upon our escutcheon, as a free people,—a cause at once and a consequence of slavery—the Abolitionists of the Commonwealth have determined to remove; and cold and ignorant, if not unworthy, must that heart be, which, at this moment, when they are assailed by legislative power, and public opinion, can hesitate to place itself on the side of the women of Lynn, and Plymouth, and Brookfield, and Dorchester, and other places. Their purpose is misapprehended and misrepresented now—but before a year has passed, the all-sustaining vote of MASSACHUSETTS will be an all-sufficient commentary. The *next* Legislature Committee will not reply to their petitions with a foot-born jest—in the mean time, wherever there is an Anti-Slavery Society, let women let it speak out NOW, and prove itself true-hearted by the readiness of its response. Let us all feel the responsibility which devolves upon the advanced guard of humanity. In proportion as MASSACHUSETTS is filled up, will all hearts be drawn onward to the high table-land of righteous legislation—THAT ALL ARE CREATED FREE AND EQUAL.

Yours for the slave and all in bonds with him,

MARIA W. CHAPMAN.

Saturday, March 5th.

CENT-A-WEEK SOCIETIES.

A treasurer in this city recently forwarded $50 to the agent, which had been obtained in a few months by the exertions of a few cent-a-week Anti-Slavery Societies. The Manuals and cards to be used in carrying out this system may be obtained at 25, Cornhill, or 32, Washington st. Boston, or of Mrs. Sarah Earle at Worcester, as also the Plea for the Slave, No. III. designed for distribution among all the contributors. S.

COLOSSAL NOTHINGNESS!

Just before the late Congress adjourned—

Mr. WEBSTER said that there remained in his hands several petitions on the subjects of slavery in the District, from the slaveholders, for which he was duty to present to the Senate. His colleague, also, had received several petitions, and one very numerously and respectably signed, which he could not, he presumed, had been committed to their joint care. In regard to this last, he and his colleague had been requested to move its reference to a select committee of the Senate. But this petition had come to hand at a late hour, that, if such a motion had been made, those who are adverse to the reception of all such petitions, or to their consideration, would have found a ready objection to the motion in the near approach of the day of adjournment.

On the subjects of these petitions, (Mr. WEBSTER remarked,) he had frequently heard members of Congress expressed their opinions. They had, frequently and fully, stated what they thought on the power of Congress over slavery in the District of Columbia. They; as that power stands on the plain provisions of the Constitution, without any limitation, as they have thought, either expressed or implied. They have thought, indeed, that Congress could not, constitutionally, have accepted any cession of territory from the States, for the seat of Government, subject to any prohibition, or tacit or implied limitation, of that exclusive jurisdiction, which it is declared Congress shall exercise over such District.

They had stated their opinions, also, on the unquestionable right of petition, and the duty of the people to them to be the true course, both of duty and policy, for Congress to pursue in regard to such petitions.

On all these points, he had nothing to add, and nothing to retract. No one, who desired to know their sentiments, could fail to learn them from their votes or their speeches. Some members, he had, on petitions, they had seen nothing, and heard nothing, to change; and in presenting these petitions, therefore, they referred to what they had declared on so many previous occasions.

We know, unhesitatingly, that we have a higher respect for Mr. Calhoun and Mr. Clay, than we can be ashamed of, for the sentiments wicked course they have pursued on the subject of slavery, than we have for Messrs. Webster and Davis. We groan in spirit to witness such self-complacency, heartlessness, and neglect of duty, by the boasted 'Defender of the Constitution.' But we have no room for comment.

MEETING IN MARLBORO' CHAPEL. The anti-slavery meeting which was held in this noble edifice, on Monday evening last, was probably the largest ever witnessed in this place. Notwithstanding Mr. Birney, Mr. Phillips, and Mr. Stanton, were the speakers, and they spoke in 'thoughts that breathe, and words that burn.' The several Reports which we have placed on our first page, were reviewed with merited severity. Our own wrongs, as connected with the slave trade, were contained in the resolutions offered by us to the meeting, and which were adopted unanimously. The author of the Report on the Marriage Law relative to the marriage of complexions, at the hands of Mr. Phillips, ever inflicted by man on man.

We trust the ball will be kept in, motion by our abolition brethren throughout the Commonwealth.

MR. COLVER'S DISCOURSE. The Discourse of Mr. Colver in behalf of the Asylum for Colored Orphans, delivered at the Marlboro' Chapel, on Sunday evening last, was creditable to his head and heart, and was listened to with deep interest by a crowded assembly. His remarks in relation to the murderous spirit of caste were peculiarly pertinent and forcible, and must have carried conviction to every candid mind. The collection amounted to $80 00, a larger sum than has ever been contributed on any former occasion, though much smaller than the wants of the institution require.

TO CORRESPONDENTS. We have, as usual, many communications on file for insertion—among others, (in addition to those already enumerated,) a very interesting letter from James Mott, of Philadelphia, also one from Charles Stuart, of Boston, on the proceedings of the quarterly meeting of the Amesbury and Salisbury Female A. S. Society. We have concluded to postpone the publication of the letter from our esteemed friend Denison, at least for the present.

The Massachusetts Abolitionist—the organ of the Liberal Christians—has appeared. On the first number contains an article called a 'Colonization Trilogue,' in the writing and publication of which there is nothing, if not unchristian, illiberal, unfair, unkind, and candor, than in any thing that we have met with in a newspaper for a long time before. A bad beginning this, for one who pretends to dislike the Liberator's temper.—*Vermont Chronicle.*

LECTURE BY MRS. PRINCE.

A lecture will be delivered on Tuesday Evening, March 19, at the Smith School Room. Subjects, Pneumatics, to be illustrated by a number of Experiments with an electric Apparatus.

To commence at 7 o'clock.

JOHN T. HILTON, Pres.

WM. C. NELL, Secretary.

BOSTON:

FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 1839.

QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE MASSACHUSETTS A. S. SOCIETY.

TO THE ABOLITIONISTS OF MASSACHUSETTS:

The Quarterly meeting of the Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society will be holden at Boston, on TUESDAY, the 26th day of March, instant. The Board of Managers call earnestly on all county and town societies to send delegates to attend, and bring important questions to come before it make a full representation of the whole State necessary. The position assumed by the American Anti-Slavery Society in relation to our own, demands an instant and clear expression of the opinions of the Commonwealth.

The Executive Committee at New York, against our repeated advice and earnest protest, have virtually assumed the management of financial affairs within the State. This power necessarily includes the appointment of agents and the control of publications. It is in fact the exclusive control of the cause. The question, then, which Massachusetts is called to answer, is briefly this,—shall we entrust the whole guidance of our enterprise to a dozen individuals? Monopoly of power is always dangerous, but, when peculiarly so, arrayed as we are against all classes and interests, and where a single misstep entails such disastrous consequences.

Hitherto, if Ohio had gone wrong, her sister States were at hand, holding up the standard and keeping the beacon-fire bright and unchanging, to win her back to duty and union. If Massachusetts, blinded or deceived, had faltered, the weakness or indecision would have spread into over a dozen Slave States. But let the State societies be suspended,—entrust exclusive power to a committee at New York—and one mistake is ruin—and not to one State only, but the whole cause. Let the trumpet there once give an uncertain sound, let one heart waver, the Commission be broken, the march of the whole arrested. With no distrust of the individuals composing the committee, it is the system we deprecate.

We are unwilling to believe that the men and women of the Commonwealth are ready to sanction such a holy enterprise. We have protested in your name against the course of the Parent Society; but in a crisis so peculiar, the free voice of Massachusetts—the whole State—must support that protest, or it avails nothing.

If we are wrong—if you are ready to surrender the responsibility, and place yourselves and the slave in the hands of a few individuals—then it becomes us to ask, of what use is the cumbrous machinery of a whole organization, if our delegates have to be borne to dissolve the Massachusetts Society, and let those who assume the whole power bear also the burden and responsibility of the cause?

The decision of this question is doubly important now in consequence of the approaching anniversary of the Am. Society, for the instruction of which the voice of Massachusetts should be distinctly heard.

FRANCIS JACKSON, President.

W. PHILLIPS, Rec. Sec'y pro tem.

GREAT ANTI-SLAVERY MEETING IN MARLBORO' CHAPEL.

Agreeably to public notice, a meeting of the abolitionists of Boston and vicinity was held in Marlboro' Chapel on Monday evening last, for the purpose of taking some action upon the recent Reports of the Committees of the State Legislature upon the subject of slavery in the District of Columbia—the foreign slave-trade—and the laws of this Commonwealth respecting complexional distinctions among its inhabitants. The spacious building was densely crowded by a highly intelligent and respectable audience—among whom were many members of the Legislature, and a large number of citizens from the neighboring towns.

The meeting was called to order by WENDELL PHILLIPS, and on motion, Francis Jackson was appointed chairman, and Charles P. Bowen Secretary. Addresses were made by James G. Birney, Wendell Phillips, and Henry B. Stanton, which were listened to with close attention and deep interest. Subsequently, the introduction of the following resolutions by Mr. Garrison, who accompanied them by a few brief remarks:

1. Resolved, That the existence of slavery and the slave-trade, with all their thronging horrors, in the District of Columbia, proves that the American people are utterly corrupted by the sin of slavery, and filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; inventors of evil things; without understanding, covenant-breakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmercifull.

2. Resolved, That the Seat of Government of the United States presents a spectacle that is in the highest degree revolting to humanity, and disgraceful to the nation; that its soil is covered with pollution, and stained with innocent blood; and that its capital is THE AUGUST SEPULCHRE OF SLAVERY, and not THE SACRED TEMPLE OF LIBERTY.

3. Resolved, That the humane, the moral, and the religious portion of the inhabitants of this Commonwealth, who have signed petitions, and without a dissentient voice, petitioned the Legislature, at its present session, to assert the right and the duty of Congress immediately to abolish slavery in the District of Columbia, by legislating every law which sanctions that fearful system, have thereby proved, that they have redeemed the tarnished character of Massachusetts, and stood in accordance with the claims of Christianity and the principles of Republicanism.

4. Resolved, That the Report of the Joint Committee, to whom their petitions were referred, (TO NOT A RESPONSE TO THEIR PRAYER—is feeble in its spirit, ambiguous in its phraseology, and tame in expression—trifles with the claims of bleeding humanity, disregards the united and clearly expressed voice of THE PEOPLE, and presents a spectacle, to the eyes of Massachusetts in a great and solemn crisis like the present.

5. Resolved, That the adoption of this Report by the Legislature, without discussion, without interrogation, and with manifest indifference, shows that no reliance is to be placed upon either of the political parties, as such; that the nomination of HENRY CLAY, a slave holder and the advocate of perpetual slavery—and the re-election of MARTIN VAN BUREN, a pliant and servile adherent of the slave power, should be regarded by them as paramount to the cause of human rights and the overthrow of tyranny; and that an alliance of abolitionists with either party would prove fatal to the success of their anti-slavery enterprise.

6. Resolved, That the resolutions above alluded to, in neglecting to report, and the Legislature in declining to adopt, resolutions condemnatory of those which were offered in the U. S. House of Representatives, last December last, by the gentleman from New Hampshire, and sanctioned by that body—virtually denying the right of petition to the people, and of freedom of speech in Congress to their representatives—deserve to receive a stern and indignant rebuke from the freemen of Massachusetts.

7. Resolved, That the Report of the Joint Committee upon the foreign slave-trade affords fresh evidence, in an official form, that that direful traffic, instead of being crippled by the efforts of British philanthropy, British legislation, or British cruisers;—by the colonial establishments of Sierra Leone and Liberia—or by the enactments of the Congress of the United States, declaring it to be piracy—'is, in fact, now carried on to even a greater extent than formerly, and under circumstances of aggravated cruelty and horrors!'

8. Resolved, That the startling fact contained in the Report, that 'this extensive and horrible traffic in human flesh,—*particularly since it has been declared by the American and British nations as amounting to piracy*—has been, in a great measure, carried on by means of sharp, clipper-built vessels of American construction, which, in very many instances, have been employed on account of American citizens,' shows at one glance how deeply this nation is still involved in the guilt of the detestable traffic, and how unconcerned are all penal laws for its suppression, while the slave system is permitted to exist.

9. Resolved, That if, in the language of the Report, it is obvious that, although our national legislators should continue as they have done, to pile iron upon iron, and precept upon precept, in the way of pains and penalties, it would all signify nothing—the vile trade would still go on—the laws would, by means of cunning and stratagem, be evaded—and the horrors of this traffic would be aggravated rather than diminished;—if all naval and colonial attempts to destroy the trade have proved ineffectual, and worse than useless;—then the belief, gravely expressed in the Report, that a single sloop of war and an armed schooner, regularly stationed, during the more salubrious season of each successive year, at some selected points upon the African coast, would so disturb the intercourse between the slave-dealers and the natives, as to bring it almost, if not wholly, to a standstill, and, to entire abandonment of the trade,' is absurd, delusive, preposterous.

10. Resolved, That there is only one way in which the slave-trade can be destroyed—and that is, by abolishing slavery; for commerce, navigation and commercial history decide, that, in order to destroy a particular traffic, THE MARKET must be destroyed—otherwise, the supply, in spite of all prohibitions, will nearly equal the demand! Therefore,

11. Resolved, That all the energies of Christendom should be directed to effect the immediate abolition of slavery throughout the world, and no longer be wasted in vainly endeavoring to destroy a traffic which is nourished and made indispensable by the existence of the slave system; and that, in view of the apologies for that system, or object to its instant annihilation, are, in effect, the friends and patrons of the foreign slave-trade.

12. Resolved, That the allusion in the Report to 'the untiring zeal and efforts of the Colonization Society, and its kindred auxiliary associations,' if intended to be complimentary to that Society, is not merited; and that the description given of the colonies in Liberia, is not warranted by the facts in the case, though it may have been by the late statements made to the Committee by an agent of that Society.

13. Resolved, That the thanks of the friends of emancipation, everywhere, are due to the Hon. S. G. Goodrich, for his faithful and able Report (though inefficiently,) a series of resolutions as an amendment to the Report on the subject of slavery in the District of Columbia, affirming the duty of Congress immediately to abolish slavery in that District, and denouncing the sentiments contained in the late Congress, as 'at once a violation of the inherent and inalienable rights of petition and free discussion, an alarming evidence of a settled design (and one which has already advanced far towards consummation,) to make the Constitution of the United States a shield under which slavery is to be protected and perpetuated.'

14. Resolved, That all those laws which proscribe, degrade or punish men on account of their complexion are not only inhuman and irrational, but contain the germs of all despotism, are insulting to Almighty God, and an impeachment of divine wisdom and goodness.

15. Resolved, That the law of this Commonwealth, which pronounces the marriage of white and colored persons to be null and void, disfranchises their children, and punishes with fine or imprisonment the clergyman who shall unite them in wedlock, is a bold, deliberate, and profligate abolition of the marriage institution, and tramples under foot the sacred injunction, 'What God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.'

16. Resolved, That so long as that law remains in the Statute-Book, and is practically enforced, just so long will it be true that the people of this Commonwealth are virtually guilty of shameful immorality and brutal oppression.

17. Resolved, That whoever, with a clear apprehension of its design and tendency, is opposed to the immediate repeal of that unnatural law, (which foolishly attempts to regulate human affection and love by statute law,) by pains and penalties, (thus, in opposed to the inalienable rights of man, cannot be truly virtuous in heart, disregards the law of God, hates his fellow-man without a cause, and, under favorable circumstances, would be willing to hold another in slavery.

18. Resolved, That the Report of the Committee on the Judiciary, to whom were referred sundry petitions praying for a repeal of this law, is slanderous, contemptuous and profligate in the extreme—and most, if possible, to be deprecated and rebuked.

19. Resolved, That the adoption of this Report by the House of Representatives, illustrates the moral character of its members in no enviable light, and is a grievous outrage upon decency, justice, and religion.

20. Resolved, That the Report of the Senate, should be narrowed down to one of mere matrimony, but involves the whole question of human rights, and of the equality and oneness of mankind; and, therefore, that the erasure of this enactment from the Statute Book would be a concession of dishonor to Legislature, either as to the propriety or impropriety of white and colored persons being united together in wedlock.

21. Resolved, That the intelligent and virtuous women of this Commonwealth, who have petitioned for the abrogation of all laws making a distinction as to the color of the skin, as founded in hatred and injustice, have performed a praiseworthy act, evinced their regard for the sacredness of the marriage institution, and deserve to be honorably remembered by posterity.

22. Resolved, That the manner in which, and the tone in which they are treated in the Report of the Judiciary Committee, cannot possibly injure their virtuous reputation, but will redound to the lasting disgrace of every member of that Committee.

23. Resolved, That the sentiments contained in the Report—to wit, that 'it is to be lamented that the light of chivalry has grown so dim over this ancient Commonwealth, that not one of its brave men has lent his name to aid the prayers of a thousand women'—is to be regarded as the fruit of a false, guesting upon the more active philanthropy of woman, and will not fail to ensure, at the next session of the Legislature, such a demonstration of opinion and feeling on the part of the abolitionists of this State, OF BOTH SEXES, as shall cause the author to blush and tremble.

24. Resolved, That the representative who could rise in his place and say, unblushingly, with reference to a petition signed by many estimable women of Dorchester, that 'he did not believe there was a virtuous woman among them,' should be considered as by his lewd and brutal constituents, and should be hurled from his seat by an insulted community—as should also the representative, who had the daring presumption to move that the petition be not received by the House.

25. Resolved, That great praise is due to Mr. Bradburn, of Nantucket, for the able, dignified, and successful manner in which he defended the motives, and advocated the prayer of the petitioners in the House of Representatives.

26. Resolved, That the abolitionists of this Commonwealth owe it to themselves, to the cause of human rights, and to a pure christianity, to ascertain, in their respective towns, who of the representatives, and how and in what manner, or for what reason they declined voting, on the infamous Report of the Judiciary Committee, respecting the holy institution of marriage; and to govern themselves accordingly, at the ballot-box, at the next election.

27. Resolved, That this meeting recommend to the various anti-slavery societies in Massachusetts, to hold public meetings in relation to the doings of the Legislature, as soon as practicable, and to express their sentiments in a manner becoming freemen, philanthropists and christians; so that the ball of moral and political revolution, which we here start this evening, shall be kept in motion, until the Statute Book of this State ceases to contain enactments, which, if not better men shall occupy the places of those who now *misrepresent* a moral and religious people.

Voted, That the proceedings of this meeting, signed by the Chairman and Secretary, be offered for publication to each anti-slavery and other papers, in this State, friendly to the cause of liberty, as may be willing to give them an insertion.

The resolutions having been unanimously adopted, the immense assembly adjourned *sine die.*

FRANCIS JACKSON, *Chairman.*

CHARLES P. BOWEN, *Sec'y.*

HOSPITALITY. The abolitionists of Boston ought to make liberal arrangements for the accommodation of the delegates to the approaching quarterly meeting. What they can look to is immediately!

TO ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETIES AND THE FRIENDS OF EMANCIPATION IN MASSACHUSETTS.

In consequence of the peculiar state of the anti-slavery cause in this Commonwealth, at the present time, (growing out of the unhappy division which has lately taken place in the abolition ranks,) and by the advice of many friends, in whose judgment we place much confidence—and for the purpose of supplying with a cheap paper, those who feel unable to take the Liberator, as well as anti-slavery societies, which may wish to obtain copies of such a paper, for publication or gratuitous distribution—we shall issue, without delay, a weekly journal, to be called 'THE CRADLE OF LIBERTY,' and *devoted exclusively to the subject of slavery.* It will be printed on a sheet half the size of the Liberator, the matter to be made up of the best anti-slavery articles contained in this paper, and afforded at the low rate of *seventy-five cents* per annum!—or two copies for $1 —payment to be made in advance, in all cases.

We deem the spirit which actuates the present organization of the Massachusetts Society, as the real and highest standard of abolition. We would not see it changed. One reason, therefore, which induces us to issue this little sheet, is the belief that a new organization is intended to be effected, through the instrumentality of a rival publication recently started in this city, and by that spirit of sectarianism which is in its nature ever hostile to the genius of liberty. We shall continue, of course, to advocate the immediate abolition of slavery; and urge upon all the anti-slavery societies, or who view it to be their duty to go to the polls, or who are connected with any church or religious denomination, to wield whatever influence they possess, for the abolition of the oppressed—to shake off all party trammels, and sacrifice all political or sectarian feelings upon the altar of humanity: We shall have but one object—THE SLAVE—and hope, by Heaven's strength, while engaged in its advocacy, to disregard all a sectarian spirit, all party, prejudice, pride, creed, sect, profession, caste, law or custom, that shall stand in the way of its accomplishment.

☞ The approaching quarterly meeting of the State Society will furnish a good opportunity for individuals and A. S. Societies to send in orders for the CRADLE OF LIBERTY.

QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE STATE SOCIETY.

It will be perceived by a notice in another column, that the next quarterly meeting of the Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society is to be held in this city on the 26th inst. In consequence of the unexpected and extraordinary course of the Executive Committee at New York, in attempting to assume the arrangement entered into ten months ago with the State Society, the Board have felt constrained, by a sense of duty, to issue a special call to the Abolitionists of the Commonwealth, urging their attendance upon this meeting, in order that, after mature deliberation, and a full and free discussion of the whole question, they may determine what course should be pursued to preserve the integrity of the cause at so important and interesting a crisis. The course of their duty will be responded to by all who feel any interest in the question It issue, whatever may be their opinions in relation to the action of the Committee or of the Board. Let there be a full and free expression of the sentiments of the abolitionists of the Commonwealth, without any distinction of sect or party, that the Board may know whether their course is condemned or approved by those who have placed them as sentinels on the watch-tower of our holy cause. Meetings should be immediately called, and delegates appointed in the several towns, and all other necessary arrangements made to secure a full representation from all parts of the Commonwealth.

FREE DISCUSSION. We have received from Amos A. Phelps a communication, which would occupy six or seven columns of our paper, reviewing the recent address of the Board of Managers of the Massachusetts A. S. Society, on the subject of the difficulties between said Board and the Executive Committee of the Parent Society. The communication is not so in the form of a protest against the doings of the State Board, designed to relieve its author from responsibility as a member of that body, but is in fact an extended argument against the course of the Board, and in behalf of the doings of the Committee at New York. We decline to publish at far the following reasons:

1. The parties to the controversy are the *Board of Managers of the State Society* and the *Executive Committee of the Parent Society*, which are responsible and able of managing their own cause. We have published the address of the Board, and shall cheerfully publish the reply of the Executive Committee whenever it may be sent to us; but we are under no obligation to open our columns to a discussion of their affairs, particularly, except the parties themselves, who are entitled to equal and exact justice at our hands. The only circumstance which can give bro. Phelps any special claim to a hearing is the fact, that he is a member of the Board; but we know of no instance in which, of all, personal responsibility in the case, by stating that he does not approve the course which the Board has seen fit to take, we see not why we should be required to admit him to our columns as a champion of one of the parties.

2. The current business of bro. Phelps's article, the crowded state of our columns, and an anxious desire to curtail, so far as justice to both parties will allow, a controversy of so unpleasant a character, constitute another reason in favor of our decision. It seems not a little extraordinary that the Board of the Address of the Board has been carefully excluded from the new paper, one of its prominent managers allowed to publish an

## LITERARY.

### BRUTAL AND BLOODY SENTIMENTS.

From the Boston Post.

MR. EDITOR:—I have heard that Governor Everett has sent a message to the Legislature, saying that we have nothing to do with the troubles in Maine. I confess that though I agree with him in subjects, (as far as I have any,) I could no longer keep down my indignation on hearing this, but boiled over in the following verses, which you may print if you will—

Ye Yankees of the Bay State,
With whom no dastards mix!
Shall Everett dare to stifle
The fire of seventy-six?
Up with the towering pine-tree,
As it proudly waves of yore,
Though its gnarled roots be watered
With the dearest of our gore!
Then up with the pine-tree,
The tall New England pine!
We'll fight beneath its shadow,
As it waves above the line!
Where Warren fell for freedom,
His spirit lingers still,
And freemen's heart beat proudly
Round glorious Bunker Hill.
The hireling tyrants the world gladly
That death-stained hill forget—
The red coats shall be redder.
Ere many suns have set.
The pine-tree! the pine-tree!
The tall New England pine!
We'll shrink but from dishonor
As it waves above the line!
The spirit of the pilgrims
Still lives in their sons,
And it shall live forever—
Stern granite-hearted ones!
Our mother-land is rocky,
But we love her rugged face;
Like her, she rears her children
A free and tough-knit race.
Hurrah for the pine-tree!
The tall New-England pine!
It tells us of the pilgrims,
As it waves above the line!
By every hill and valley
Where pilgrim blood hath flowed,
And where their manly spirit
Hath still its old abode—
We will not let the red coats
Set foot within our soil!
We'll teach them Yankee Yankees
Can *resist* as well as toil!
Kneel, kneel round the pine tree!
The tall New-England pine!
Its strong trunk points to heaven,
As it waves above the line!
Then up with the pine-tree!
Its boughs shall wave again,
And quiver with the shootings
Of lion-hearted men!
Or wither darkly—Yankees
Can *resist* as well as toil!
Before the storm of battle,
Its crest shall ne'er be bowed!
Shout, shout for the pine-tree!
It waves o'er us yet!
In the dreadful storm of battle
Its head shall never bow!

* The pine was on the flags at Bunker Hill.

From the Hampshire Gazette.

### OUR COUNTRY.

We boast of freedom—white and black are slaves!
And of religion—God knows we are knaves.
Free! when we have a padlock on our mouth!
Free! when we dare not travel to the south!
Where life and property are insecure;
Where death and insult citizens endure;
Where, if our southern lords ask a thing require,
Post Office contents must be doomed to fire!
And when their mandate by a mob is spoken,
Buildings are wrapt in flames, and presses broken;
And lest the withering curse should be removed,
Dough-faces from the north have traitors proved.
Religious! when the church bids men in chains;
And clergy thus the word of God explain
To gratify their lusts and love of gold,
That souls and bodies may be bought and sold!
Our laws annul the plain command of heaven:
The Sabbath was from flaming Sinai given,
And if our abolitionists dare to add desire,
Their night in light, and Naboth must retire.
The standard of the Cross hath been unfurled
In various parts of our benighted world;
We boast of sending bread to distant shores,
While millions perish at our very doors.
Astounding facts! and yet how little felt!
How few lament for all this sin and guilt!
Instead of rioting in wealth and ease,
A shuddering horror should the nation seize.
As one confounded oft, I weeping stand,
Viewing our guilty, highly favored land;
Not only treable, thinking God is just,
But raise the imploring cry as from the dust:
O thou who hast in awful terror shone,
When Sinai's summit was thy burning throne;
From whence thou didst dispense thy fiery law,
And struck those Israelitish tribes with awe:
O speak unto our nation, one and all,
As near Damascus thou did speak to Saul,
Like Moses, the meanest of thy saints;
Weeping in sackcloth may we all repent.
Ye heralds of the Cross, no longer sleep;
Plead for the oppressed, and for your country weep;
By pouring out to heaven his prayers.
While reading on each crumbling tomb,
The names of those who once were blest
With life, and health, and beauty's bloom,
What solemn feelings crowd my breast!
Ah! little thought they when the day
Poured forth their praises in their ears,
And life was like a pleasant song
How brief were their delightful years!
Beneath this polished marble lies
A youth in vice and folly given—
Whose talents would have made him wise,
Had he but guidance sought from Heaven.
But in the fascinating crowd,
Where crimes the midnight hours consume,
His system to his vices bowed,
Ere youth gave place to manhood's bloom.
Beneath this monumental pile,
Which ages scarce can wear away,
There sleeps the vilest of the vile,
As if his name would ne'er decay!
God was his god, and he oppressed
The widow and the orphan child;
No sympathy was in his breast—
On suffering man he smiled.
Beneath yon mound, which time, stone,
Which men in thoughtless mood pass by,
Sleeps one to honors here unknown,
Who has a fadeless crown on high.
But in the grave, the rich, the poor,
The humble, proud, are equal made;
To endless life this is the door—
Alike the path to endless shade.
Ambition here must have an end—
A rest it on dust's crumbling tomb—
And haughty spirits here must bend,
And hoary age and youthful bloom.

Portland. D. C. C.

## NON-RESISTANCE.

### THE POWERS THAT BE!

The following law is in the Revised Statutes of Massachusetts, Chap. 79:

'All marriages solemnized in this State between a white person and a Negro, Indian or Mulatto, shall be absolutely void, without any decree of divorce or other legal process.'

The marriage institution is an institution of God. No human tribunal can have power to change, modify, or annul it. The circumstances under which it is lawful for human beings to enter the wedded state, and under which it may be dissolved, are specified by the All-Wise Legislator and Founder of this institution. Men can have no right to meddle with it, or to lay on it any restrictions but such as God himself has imposed.

But the 'powers that be'—the Legislature of this professedly christian State—have deliberately assumed the right to abolish the marriage institution, and render it null and void; and have recorded their shame and infamy on the statute-books of the State. This State has impiously assumed to trample the marriage institution in the dust. If two persons meet in different complexion, this State declares it null and void, without any process of divorce. I look not at the fact that human rights are scorned and trampled down; I look not now at the fact that the infamous law is based on prejudice and hatred toward a certain portion of our fellow-beings, on account of their complexion—nor to the countenance and support given by it to American slavery—that system of theft, robbery, and all pollution; but I view this act of the *only* supreme power acknowledged by this State, as a State, in its bearings on the Divine government. It is a deliberate abolition of the marriage institution.

And when our citizens come forward to ask the Legislature to erase that impious law from the statute-books, see the treatment bestowed on them by these self-styled ministers of God! Their brutal language and conduct would better become debauchees and drunkards. See the Report made by a Committee of the Legislature, respecting distinctions of color, and signed WILLIAM LINCOLN. It never, never, specimen of insulting irony, of vulgar abuse, of low and disgusting buffoonery, of gross misrepresentation, and of blasphemous ridicule and contempt of the holiest institution of Heaven, never was penned. Let the name of WILLIAM LINCOLN, of MINOT THAYER, of BENJAMIN GREENLEAF, and all who composed the Committee who made that Report, and who joined in that crusade against the marriage institution, be remembered. Their names will ere long become a hissing and a by-word.

The government of Massachusetts assumes, *practically*, that the marriage institution is a merely civil or political institution, and may be annulled at the pleasure of the Legislature. In this light, the Committee, their insulting and brutal Report, consider it. The Report and the Government practically assume, that the supreme power of the State has a right to abolish the marriage institution altogether, and to compel men and women to herd together in a state of concubinage, like the brute creation. For if they assume power to annul it in one case, they may in all. The Committee assume, that the Legislature have power to separate husbands and wives at discretion. This power to abolish the marriage institution at will, is openly and shamelessly assumed by the Federal government, and by the governments of one half of the States. It is what must be expected of a community of men-stealers. But what shall now be said for Massachusetts! Her legislators annul the marriage institution, and then mock and insult their impiety, by talking about the chastity and purity of the morals of society!! Let the people of Massachusetts know, that their Legislature assume the right to dissolve the relation between husband and wife, by the act—to abolish the marriage institution in part or entirely.

To such a government—a government assuming the right to abolish the marriage institution—to plant its iron heel on the authority and government of God—we are not bound to render any allegiance. Ministers of church and state, unite in decrying the Non-Resistants, because we will not acknowledge allegiance to a government assuming the right to abolish the institutions and government of God. To acknowledge allegiance to the government of Massachusetts, is *treason against God*. Most thankful am I that we have got such a disclaimer in our Constitution. The question to be determined is—who shall rule—over us GOD OR MAN? I hope the Report of William Lincoln, together with the conduct of those ancient-dead legislators, who, in the recent debate in the Legislature, have ridiculed and scorned the marriage institution, and those who are pleading for its purity and sanctity, will be preserved among the archives of the New England Non-Resistance Society.

For the Law and Government of God,

H. C. WRIGHT.

'Out of thine own mouth will I condemn thee.'

It is surprising to witness the inconsistency and disingenuousness of men, who acknowledge the truth of a principle when they have a point to gain by it, and at another time, draw conclusions which unavoidably follow from the application of the same principle, when it comes across some preconceived and darling notion which they are not willing to relinquish. A few days since, I heard a clergyman who holds a prominent place in the Anti-Slavery cause, declaiming against the doctrine of non-resistance, and advocating the *duty of obeying* government, the magistrate, &c. He declared himself to be a peace man, though he did not like such 'stuff' as he found in the Liberator, which, by the way, he considered a pernicious paper, and not fit for his family to read—and carrying out his principle of *unconditional obedience*, he said that the soldier in going to battle, was not to be held accountable, but the SEIZER whose commands he was obeying! Now I present this kind of doctrine as consistent with the views of many who profess to be teachers of christianity, but, it seems to me, it is not consistent with ABOLITION MORALITY, nor with old fashioned Bible morality, which teaches us that we should 'obey God rather than men.' I would ask that gentleman, should this meet his eye, whether he has not joined in our oft-repeated declaration of one of the fundamental truths of abolitionism, that, if any magistrate, sheriff, or other civil officer, shall aid in returning fugitive slaves to bondage he is a RENEGADE in the sight of God—and, if so, how he can reconcile these two positions, and how, by parity of reasoning, he can escape the conclusion, that THE SOLDIER IS A MURDERER IN THE SIGHT OF GOD! It appears to me that he is not only making a further practical application of a lesson which they have learned in the abolition school, and so well learned that it is like a 'nail fastened in a sure place.'

Lynn, 3 mo. 5. A NON-RESISTANT.

☞It gives us uncommon pleasure to copy the following testimonial to the rectitude of non-resistance principles, and of the course pursued by the Liberator, from the National Reformer, a monthly periodical, edited by Messrs. Philips, Lee, and Greenleaf:

### NEW ENGLAND NON-RESISTANCE SOCIETY.

We publish in our columns to-day the declaration of sentiment and constitution of the New England Non-Resistance Society, for the special benefit of our readers. It is a document of rare worth and infinite importance. It is written with ability and care, and combinds great purity of sentiment with a calm and tone of Christian duty. The doctrines it maintains strike a blow against the foundation principles of all existing governments; and if they are established, as we think they were adopted, they are calculated to produce the greatest revolution in the conduct and character of men that the world ever witnessed. The ideas it presents it maintains, appear to us to be irrefutable. That part of them that relates to our moral and Christian duties with regard to civil government, we frankly confess, we are not prepared to adopt. We want more light on this subject. The Liberator has already been precious in our sight, on account of its bold and manly advocacy of just principles; but since it has opened its columns to the discussion of the peace question, it has been more valuable to us than ever. The course pursued by Mr. Garrison has ever been such as to put his enemies to flight, by practically living down the base and wicked calumnies of his enemies. If the ordinary population of this country, to follow his example, by practicing the above-named society, every argument of the pro-slavery apologists about the slaves' curing for themselves, would be at once dashed in pieces, and buried to the four winds of heaven.

### APPEAL

OF THE AMERICAN PEACE SOCIETY TO THE FRIENDS OF PEACE IN THE UNITED STATES.

☞From the peace of Rev. Mr. Le Bosquet, formerly of Stoneham, Ms.

*Brethren and Friends.*—A crisis has come which demands our united efforts for the preservation of peace between ourselves and a nation from whose enmity we have little to fear, and from whose friendship we have hope for, than from any other nation on the globe. In the present state of feeling, we should expect little or no success from any appeal we could make to politicians; and we therefore turn to the intelligent, pious and philanthropic portion of the community, who hold in their hands a moral power sufficient to avert the catastrophe which now threatens us.

We need not stop to enter into detail the steps which have brought us into a crisis so deeply deplorable. The executive of Maine, under cover of expelling trespassers from his soil, has ordered his troops to take military possession of lands in dispute between Great Britain and the United States; the Governor of New Brunswick complains of this act as an encroachment upon the jurisdiction of his sovereign, and says his instructions will oblige him, unless those troops are withdrawn, to repel them by force; and answer hear from Maine an earnest, impatient call for aid in asserting her claim to the disputed territory by the sword, and a cry for blood in the last resort—echoed through the land by a class of politicians and presses that loudly insist on war as the only means of settling the long-protracted dispute concerning our northeastern boundary. The storm has not yet come; but we hear the mutterings of the distant thunder. The dogs of war are still chained, but they are kept in their kennels and are waxing fierce for blood. The cauldron of war-passions is even now beginning to seethe; and, unless the friends of peace shall be able to allay the first burst of popular excitement, it may ere long sweep in a gulph-stream over the country, and drift us into a war fraught with an amount of guilt and misery utterly incalculable.

Such a catastrophe it is now in the power of good men to prevent. In this country, there are twenty-three hundred ministers of the gospel, not less than one million and a half professed disciples of the Prince of peace, and some of the most pious prayers sending their influence into almost every neighborhood in the land, besides millions of virtuous, philanthropic, and benevolent citizens, who, at a proper call, to rally on the side of peace; and, if only one half, or even one quarter of all these would at once, and unanimously firmly against war in any event of this controversy, our rulers would be held back from bloodshed long enough for passion to cool and reason to resume her ascendency, and advise better means than bullets and bayonets for the settlement of such a dispute between civilized men. The friends of peace have no organ, no leaders or organs, know not their own strength; but, if every religious press, every minister, and every Christian, every temperance man, every friend of humanity, should unitedly rally to secure or party, take an open, bold, decided stand against a resort to arms in this case, all the war-clouds now in our horizon would be dissipated.

We call, then, upon all such persons to bear their solemn, unflinching testimony against these war-measures. The low-toned, timid, cautious must regard them as utterly, most glaringly inconsistent with the gospel; and the war-sentiments now echoed and re-echoed through the land must receive a stigma on our character as a Christian people. Not a few political leaders of each party talk on this subject in the most heathenish and savages, than like the representatives of a Christian community; and we beseech not only the followers of Christ, but all sober, reasonable persons around us, to frown upon these bloody sentiments as a disgrace not to be borne in silence. What! are we tacitly to acquiesce in the assertion that the whole country must be deluged with blood, and every field whitened with the bones of our citizens, sooner than submit the spirit in dispute to the slow, uncertain result of reparation or reference! This the spirit, these the doctrines of that gospel which bids us follow peace with all men, and love even our enemies, and turn the other cheek to the smiter, and resist not evil, but overcome it with good, and be patient, kind and long-suffering under the most injurious? Christianity allows the wholesale butcheries of war for the settlement of national boundaries, and conflicting claims of jurisdiction? No; every dollar wasted, would be but a species of robbery; every death, a murder; and every principle of the gospel would require us to resist such a war by all lawful means, and refuse to aid it by our services, our money, or our influence.

How unscriptural, too, would be the policy of such a contest! The whole territory in dispute is worth only a few millions of dollars; but we could not even begin to calculate the amount of money that would cost fifty or a hundred millions, nor carry it on without an equal expenditure every year, and an incidental loss to the national treasury, equal to the whole value of the territory or two thousand millions to cover the probable waste of property by both parties in a protracted contest about the remaining half of our country. Nor would one