

Boston, Jan. 1, 1845

Dear Spooner,

I duly received your of the 26th _____; "a nice great long one," as an old woman used to say of the sermon of my friend Pearce[?]. Christmas came and went, as I feared it might, without my going or coming any whither [?]. But that _____ of yours is awfully [?] out of the way. I wanted to be there through the twelve days of Christmas, & longer; but could not so manage, in that, any more than in most other cases of my far-reaching desires, to get what I wanted. But I have not given up the visit. And were not you, and the doctor, and the doctor's cleaver wife, somewhat benevolent, I would endeavor to console you all, for any postponement of it, by willing [?] you now much more than all others, I am myself the loser thereby. But as for Mrs. Langrant[?], I have no hope of taking her thither [?], with me. She is too much engaged, I suspect. Though I have called under[?] the Arch[?] several times, I have not seen her since writing you last. She is in the land of broader [?] writings, I believe. In truth, I wish you had her all to yourself; the highest proof I can give you of the utter[?] unsoundness [?] of all of all the selfish philosophies. Had I known certain things, since hinted [?] to me by a mutual friend of ours, or had even bethought myself seriously, I would not, on a certain occasion, have entered so fully into the _____ of our laws of divorce.

I have delivered your papers [?] to _____ & his wife. He does know Barlow. I also remember to have met him, at Lynn at that time, I thought there was an affectation of transcendentalism about him. Perhaps it was only an effect of _____ eating[?], or which H. tells me he was then [?] in the practice. But I wonder how a man, in whom there is so much of the liberal, can be sustained, as a minister, up in that region.

I have seen nothing of the Emancipator for weeks. Leavitt [?], I was told a while since, was in Northampton. I have seen him but once since his recovery, or _____ rather, for he looked miserable then. In your remarks about "_____ and names[?]," I of course concur. But most of Leavitt's [?] subscribers, we must not forget, feel a deeper concern in the _____ things, than humanity. To but convince them, that humanity has been fairly _____ on the point of a scriptural implication even, and they'll let [?] it one there, _____ their conviction that God sharpened the point. What shall poor Leavitt do with such Heathen?

"The Constitutionalist"? O! I don't feel within me the strength to make rush[?] an attempt, not even with Whittiers mighty cooperation. And I do not see, with great changes, that the present

is the time to make converts to our cause. I even fancy there may come a better. No faith at all _____ in the utility of changing the name of the Liberty Party. What has the Whig Party gained by so frequently changing its name? Always, despite of its "new name," have not the people seen it to be "that same _____"? So would it be with the Liberty name [?], under the misnomer[?] of Constitutionalists, I apprehend. Still the people would see the movement to be one of "sympathy for the niggers[?]." I would rather, I had almost ran[?] most[?] prejudice full in the face, by calling ourselves the Nigger Party; somewhat as the Democrats caught up, & dignified by self-appropriation the nickname of Saco-Nacos[?]. There is, after all, sense in the old _____, "a rose," etc. ---- Nevertheless, I wish our papers would make more then harm made, as get quite nothing--- of this Constitutional side of the _____ question. They know not _____ for themselves, the contents of your book, as they ought to have _____, those _____...

Your notions about voting strike me as most fantastic, as wholly impracticable. I am sorry to be obliged to tell [?] people, that vast notions are held by him who wrote "the Unconstitutionality of Slavery." Nor[?] myself in politics, I can wait [?] to be possible to _____ only one idea at a time _____, & it only of the whims of sacrificing or _____, other _____, of _____ consequence.

The _____ _____ the Texas in, that not a _____ of your book _____ have been real by any

[Rest is too light to make out...]