Office of the Lib. Society
Washington
April 26, 1858

Dear Sir,

Your favor of the 13th January was duly and thankfully received, and was duly & thankfully reviewed.

Was it possible at this late stage to state the reasons why it has been apparently so long neglected? The apparent delay is, your letter arrived just about the time of our annual meeting.

With the affairs of which my own attention was partially occupied, as usual, was referred to a committee, whose duty it is, to consider all applications for aid. This committee are aware that we have already an agent in Maine, declined reporting on the subject until a few days ago, the letter remained unopened in their hands.

Through your friendly proposition has not been met in the way you
suggested, yet often tinctured, may result from your communications. I agree to learn that your thoughts are directed to the interesting objects of political considerations, connected with the disestablishment of the Established church. I am confident I have, that they will lose none of their force by reflecting upon them. I feel I cannot but hope, that not only, yourself, but many other young gentlemen at Annapolis, will solemnly inquire what can most effectually be done towards advancing the cause of our Institution. I stand prepared to accomplish it. Of twenty four young men of talent & energy could be found, who would make them worthy acquainted with the merits of this cause, I denote one or two years to its promotion, each occupying a simple State.
The whole Union would experience a revolution in its favour, & the resources of the Federal Government be applied to the crash it forward to a glorious consummation. For arguements in the south, perhaps another step are to be proposed, but cannot
be done furnish thinking for the
Northern & Middle States.

which me to make a single
suggestion. Nothing is more
important to us at this moment,
than to secure a disposition among
the clergy & churches of every sect
to take up collections for us, on
or about the Fourth of July, next.

May cannot. The young gentleman
at Annapolis do much to aid this
great object, throughout New England.

So now the favour, my dear sir,
to write me frequently, & believe
me, with affection, your most perfect respect,
R. & J.


Mr. Amos A. Phelps
Andover
Massachusetts