



Semin Japan Exp

New Haven 11 March 1841

Dear Sir

Help the Lord, for his right hand hath gotten him the victory. The oppressor is confounded, & the oppressed delivered.

Our African friends received the tidings of their deliverance with great joy. Yet their joy was not that tumultuous outbreak of feeling, ~~with~~ which the first decision of the lower court produced. It was a more christianlike & dignified gladness, chastened & modified no doubt by the remembrance of their former disappointed hopes after being assured of the decision of the circuit court.

To the enquiry whether they wished to remain in America or return to Africa? they replied, ask Cinquez. Cinquez says - "I think" "cant tell now, I think" "We talk together & think, then I tell". So that they will hold a council among themselves & decide.

I think it very probable that many of them would prefer to remain in America. They say "America country, good country - America people good people, set us free".

It becomes a serious question, what shall be done with them? Entire strangers to the art of gaining a livelihood in a civilized country, liable to the

designs of wicked men, they need great care & vigilant
attention. Mr Penuletos I understand is determined
to secure the girls, & has laid an anchor to the
windward to get them bound out to him by the
select men of the town. & others will very probably
-deem to secure some of these men, & there is some danger
that they may be enticed into the hands of men, who
will care little for them except to make money out of
them.

Some prompt measures will I think be necessary,
as Mr Penuletos will turn them all adrift the
first moment the order for their discharge arrives, &
his pay ceases. Unless he is assured of a continuance
of his pay from the committee for their keeping while
plans for their future disposal are making.

Please write me as soon as possible,
& let me know what is expected. Bro Hill carries
this as we think that his presence is no longer
needed here & he longs to flee out of Jordan.

The noble stand you have taken in behalf
of these oppressed men, deserves the acknowledgements
of all the friends of human liberty; while the
successful issue of the arduous conflict with wicked
men in high places, must afford the most
gratifying reflections to your own mind. But
to Him who heard the cry of the oppressed, & the
prayer of his people, the praise belongs.

Truly Yours

A. M. Mendenhall

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Nov 19 1847