



Philadelphia Mail 16 1841  
Tuesday 1 P.M.

Dear Mother & Family

Your very welcome letter of 14<sup>th</sup> inst. came to hand this morning. I thank you much for it. Its contents - especially what you say about the capturing of Africans - are deeply interesting to my wife, my daughter & myself. I long to see the Boston Reporter to which you refer, & particularly the letter of Keble, which you compare to Legrain's speech.

I have greatly desired that the Africans might, in the event of their liberation, remain in this country a year or two longer - to learn more of our language & more of us - to prepare themselves for greater benefit to their countrymen. But if their stay here would be for their moral corruption rather than their moral improvement, then hurry them away. Why however, can they not be kept under much the same good influences they have been under while in this country?

How I should love to attend such a meeting, as you propose having in the Tabernacle - with Eliza Quincy Adams for the doctor of the Africans for a part of the audience! The moral - the civilizing - influence of such a meeting could not fail to be great.

I am glad to hear you speak so well of Mrs. Keble

I feel. There not had so much opportunity to  
judge Mr. Stowe. But as long as I have known  
Dr. Estlin, I have regarded him as a man of tal-  
ents & of Christian integrity. I am very glad to hear  
that he will go to Binney. He is a true hearted ab-  
olitionist - but his connection with one of our  
national party political parties has been  
a clog to his abolition.

You speak of the probable discontinuance of  
the Am. & For. Antislavery Reporter. It was only yester-  
day, that I wrote Dr. Scoville how highly I had  
valued the Reporter - and that too after  
thinking of its commencement, that it would  
be nearly or quite useless to our cause.

I have always been very glad - instead of re-  
gaining a membership last Spring, you had not content  
of yourselves with a simple Committee. I dislike  
the machinery of our Antislavery Societies. Pruders,  
Garrison & the Odd Society would not have been so full  
of fight - we want a little Committee, as they are  
we want an improving & rival Society.

I hope if the Liberator become the organ of  
the Remonding, that - an under share of its columns  
will not be taken up with the advocacy of the  
policy of Independent Antislavery Demonstrations.  
Indispensable as I think that policy will be to

effective counterbalancing political action, my reliance  
on <sup>strict</sup> moral influence is inexpediably questionable. I fear  
you do not value, as highly as you ought, the feeling  
of independent communications. As a general thing,  
what are those worth to one cause who reject  
it? Many, I am well aware, who reject it, are  
amongst the best friends of our cause - but the great-  
majority cling to profane political parties.

We are happy to hear of the resignation & overall  
state of mind of your Eliza. May this trial be  
conducive to your whole family.

My health has improved surprisingly for  
the last few days. Yesterday I walked out - we  
hope to be able to visit our father home next  
time next week. If we make any stay  
at home (perhaps we shall not), I shall be  
dear to see you.

Your friend & father  
Benjamin

Lewis Tappan Esq.



Genl Smith

Photo March 16/41

Shows the Africans

I should stay here a

year or two

Reporter  
Third Party.

cc



*[Handwritten signature in red ink]*

Miss Appan 57.

City of New York

Highland Park.

