



New Haven 30th March 1841

Dear Sir

Antonio is among the missing, supposed to have gone to New York in the boat yesterday, & of course, Fappan is the author of the mischief. The Marshall is in trouble about it, & thinks that he will be held liable for the "property." He has called upon me for information as he was told that I was with Antonio at the boat. It was not so. I was at the boat some 15 or 20 minutes before he started on some business but saw nothing of him.

I told the Marshall that I had advised Antonio to clear out under the impression that I recd from Mr Baldwin that the only claim on Antonio was for his owner in Havana & that the Marshall was not liable. Mr Wilcox thinks otherwise & will take this letter to New York in the morning & will see you if Antonio is under your protection to request a claim him as legally under his custody. Of course I cannot take it upon me to advise you what to do, only to make known the circumstances. You know from my former communications what are my views

in regard to interference with law, that I
do not countenance any such interference, altho
in respect to the rights of master over a slave
I do not recognize any such right I would assist
the slave to gain his freedom.

On these two points we have agreed.
You have always avowed the same determination
to do no illegal act even for the benefit of the
oppressed.

Very Truly Yours
J. P. Townsend

Dr. Townsend

March 30/41

about Antislavery