

(58)

Auburn 9th mo. 1842

My Dear Martha mine written last first day week 2

arrived at Waterloo - but was so busily engaged there that I found no time to write to you from that place - it was very uncomfortable till after returning from a tedious & unpleasant tour down the Seneca Co. turning up the tough pro slavery follow ground which I found in that County - and contending with the ungodly proslavery ministers & churchs - and wading from place to place thro. mud & water - burdened with the cold atmosphere both physical & moral - to receive a kind word from true friends from you or Hawley was truly gratifying & refreshing to my drooping spirits - We had on 6th day a choice time in Waterloo - John A Collins Frederick Douglass Abby St. Laura Bayle a choice woman - Jacob Farris Samuel Blakesley - James C Fuller & myself a strong team & we pulled all together a strong pull. We aften then - yesterday 7th day I left with James C Fuller for Skaneateles where I had a bumper meeting last evening & this afternoon James sent me to this place when I have just come in from a meeting which I addressed in the first Presb. Church - had a very instructive conversation concerning the many other meetings in Seneca at the same time. when the people generally prefer going to particular iniquity even in their solemn meetings. I shall hold several meetings here I think - This the Clintaeks family & Abby. And much love to you - They & Griffith & Cooper of Williamston there you ought to have come with me - And I join with them most heartily - Am sorry to read of thy illness & injury trust that the next time I hear from you - you will have recovered - and rejoice to hear so good news from Catharine & Mr Mack - in our conversations of late we have had some interesting discussions respecting the use of slave labor produce. And in being driven to self defense, when accused of inconsistency in so doing - Some important principles have come to my mind - 1. I take the ground that every man has a right to the avails of his labor - and to be free of the bonds of this labor would be oppression & wrong - equally so to one as to another aside from the Chattel principle. Then to use the produce of unrighteous toil for our own use & behalf is wrong. Then I plead that I do not use them for my own benefit. If I did I should be a partaker with the oppressor & the guilt - That if I use the slave labor produce for the benefit of the Slave to break down his prison walls is right & a duty - & if neglect to do so I'm guilty of the sin of omission. And if I use the avails of any slaves of oppression except for the special benefit of the oppressed I sin - This leads us to the law of love & using all we have for the benefit of our fellow men - Again several individuals came into J. C. Fullers to day to see me about the community - man talk. I was led to take their simple positions - Self evident truths - 1. All mankind are equal brothers & all have a right to live. 2. All have a right & a duty to procure a livelihood for him or herself - Then it is a duty for all to have a right to that much of this earths surface as is fit & proper for him to cultivate for a livelihood - This will lead to a division of property - for no one wants more than enough for his own bodily wants to supply - nor wants he wish for more, for it would be superfluous - as all would have enough for themselves, as thus all speculation & trade would be cut off. Except & changes. &c. - Then positions are I think self evident - Then we have no right to any more than is necessary for our own every day plain subsistence - and when one is lacking in judgment & another is too great the one deficient the benefit of his own - All are to be brothers & sisters - & brothers who live for one another to make each other happy on thus making them always happy & glorifying God & an earth promoting peace & good will to men -

All would then be one family - and yet their individuality not be swallowed up - they would have thin little patches of earth to cultivate to supply them with necessities & their little huts to dwell in. A unity and yet a distinct interest.

I do not think the Southampton Soc. is founded rightly yet. I do not think its members have got upon the true foundations, upon which they can build up a Society to benefit the world to any very great extent. nor do I think that is the primary object, only secondary - according as it is more or less convenient. I wish you to do the errand which I communicated in my other letter i.e., if they are now determined to enforce me into the community I shall withdraw from the whole concern. I wish you to read to George my views of what constitutes the Industrial Community - he had a hand in its organization and received an appointment as a director which constituted him a member - I have had no agency in that department.

I am glad to hear so good a report from Fowler & Daniel, and hope they will not put you to much trouble to control them - they ought to feel ashamed of themselves to make you put forth all your energies to restrain them. When their love of the right & hatred of the wrong - should govern them - And the garden too - I have often shot off those tomahawks. I should like to get hold off. I wish you to dry as many as you can get - when ripe peel off the skin and slice them once or twice and put them onto platters & put them under a stone - as into the oven after baking - this is the way they are dried. Dry a host of them enough to last until they grow again next season. I should prefer to be with you in that little valley in that old brown house - but here I am, and where I shall be able to get away I cannot tell - tho' I tell the Company that I shall have them after the meeting at Syracuse. 7th & 8th of Oct. is the time we shall be there - With regard to my doing my duty to Charsiphy. It is a continual crop. Constantly battling the professed elements of society and receiving the jeers & sneers of the people & the gowns of the priests & churches - But I prefer to suffer affliction with the people of God for a season than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season. - The whole state of New York is in a terrible fever wherever we go. Ministers gnash their teeth for fear of exposure & the sects roll on flame like the troubled sea. They all will sacrifice every holy or humane principle to sit in power - unless they can make their espousal of a principle available to the upbuilding of their babel their seat in this God - what they worship - they worship their forms & sabbaths - in this branch every one as infidel - who exposes their wickedness. The truth is every epithet which they have heaped upon the heads of abolitionists - they are worthy of a curse be fastened upon them - They are practical infidels - They are Fancy Nights - They make the outside of their plates clean (hardly that so saturated are they with all manner of iniquity - that it fairly does no to their outside) but within they are full of rottenness & hypocrisy - They disbelieve God & blasphemy, declare Kirk to be a slaveholder & to have sold him in the Bible they abrogate the marriage relation - they let loose of most arise & commit in their long prays & holy days & "wherever" meeting in which there is iniquity, and transgressions from judgment & mercy - they cast out & despise the poor & when we take the gospel of the Lord & God in its legitimate works - we are forced to the conclusion that they are hypocrites - wretches in shabby clothing & there is more hope for the publicans & harlots than for them -

I hope you will throw off all pretensions, and take the word of God as your rule of conduct & not be swayed by this or that man's saying - It is the only way I'm confident to swing clear & ful our responsibility to God & to them only - caring not what this or that man says - what this or that sect does - it is the only way to arrive at the truth - live by faith in Christ Jesus.

I expect we shall yet have difficulty with that journal - quarrelsome
but in toto upon which we now sustain a relation. I had a
long talk with Mary Hattaway when in Farmington, on the subject of
holiness or the Sabbath - she is full of bigotry & when we got thro' the
Carter like inquiry if I sustained a relation to the church in
Farmington - I expect I shall be reported - Shall again set it
so & tell that that body needs a purifying & if they communicate
with me I think it will be the means of bringing them to light -
out from the dark fabrick in which they are now slumbering

I shall write to some of them so soon as I get home - and
warn them - I feel no desire it to be no honor to belong to any
such concern - full of war - licentiousness - slavery - with a true desire
for a minister - Martha dear - I think we or I have got to
experience divers trials yet in doing that kind of friends
persuade me & cast me off - God give me grace to face them
in the spirit of Christ to endure & go forward in every good work

I hope thy head is well ere this - why did you not tell me how you
hurt it - Tell me the whole & reveal to me all that is on your mind -
In secretiveness - I saw a Mesmeric operation at Mrs. Mc Clinton's the
other night - Elizabeth & another girl put into a Mesmeric sleep & then communed
each with each other - and their phrenological organs excited - It was a curious
or wonderful operation - I am somewhat shaken in my belief - and am
every day - So that I begin to revere the declaration of Dr. Rogers - that he wants
that with respect every new doctrine - while he would turn aside every old
one that could stand known the publick had espoused it -

Let me hear from you at Syracuse without fail - One word Martha -
receive your letters & commit any bad spelling.

Thine affectionately E. D. Hudson

Forster My dearest

I expected to tell a few very well written lines from you
and the news which your letter conveyed to me. Was glad to hear you had
left to come & seen our friends & returned safely & more than all it
rejoiced me to hear by the way of Mother that you was respected &c - I hope
you will respect yourself & seek always to know what is right - which will
ensure you the respect of all virtuous & intelligent persons - be spotless
and never indulge in obscenity - cause vulgar & profane as any thing
bordering on licentiousness - & whenever you see any thing of the kind
bear your testimony against it handsomely - by with drawing from
such persons & thus letting them see & feel that such society is not
agreeable to you - & thus you will gain respect & be the means of
doing much good - As Paul said to Gaius "I have no greater joy
than to hear that my children walk in the truth". O that your Mothers
& my joy may be full in this respect - "Walk in the truth" - Be careful not to get your
mind poisoned with any error. Fear God & serve him - Remember that he sees
you wherever you are. - And that every person will be judged according to his
works - As I am travelling about the Country I see some beautiful scenery -
as I was going to White the other day - saw some splendid water falls - nothing
so charming over the precipices - also ledges of lime rock full of shells petrified
The Genesee falls at Rochester are very curious - Also some beautiful
landscapes - If I had the power of draughting - I would take them & send them
to you - I hope you will study that art well - it will be very useful and
interesting to you - The farmers are threshing out their wheat - which is
very abundant - also getting in their oats - large fields of which are still out
& some not harvested - also putting in their wheat crofts - which is quite late
in consequence of the rains -

This is an interesting country - the beautiful lakes & well cultivated farms
& thriving villages - all make it interesting. But New England is still more
so to me - its hills & valleys - rocks & hills - are all full of poetry & song - and
help one to adore Him Who made all things - I hope you will give your
prayer to better & best - I set up a quantity of cloth in Waterloo - of Rich Hunt Who
made a donation in cloth, for you & Daniel - Some beautiful broad cloths
for you & Daniel a suit to me too - which I shall bring home for you if you
are good boys. It cost \$4. for you & - Have you ought to try to please Mother
to you & Daniel to love each other as brothers - when we are trying to do
so well by you - Daniel What are you doing? you must tell Father what to
write to me in the next letter - I hope you will love all the boys & not push them or
hurt them - If you can send to Boston and get Henry C Wright's "Kip for a blade" you
will may - I suppose you go to school - learn to write - to draw - & sing & other works
to Daniel and love to obey Mother - don't resist her. Be a good boy - I wish you
to have a brother or mother had some of the plumbs - peaches for which we have here
in the greatest abundance till Henry Anthony - that I send his old friend Anthony
in the other day - who wished to be remembered to him - Do all the good you can &
do no hurt - Am sorry to hear such bad news from Boston & Eliza - When we get
home will go & see them - Give love to Hall & Francis and all - all -
Farewell to you all - Thy father - Ed & Hades are

Take good care of Kate - let her settle up - also take care of the
harmful blankets. Provide a basket or buffalo robe on an even
from him I go to New York to can auction next
Friday - on day shall go to Utica with J C Fuller
to hold a meeting in Court House yard - 2 & 3 days at
Tunisburg & 4th day at Herk Co day next
work at Catskill common north bank of Hudson
Run into an undigested week after work at
Syracuse on a day & 1/2 days of the week.

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Ed
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morning
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