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Title: Letter from William Lloyd Garrison to Andrew Paton

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Boston, April 10, 1863.

Dear friend Andrew Patow:

I am almost tempted to take a trip across the Atlantic, if for no other reason than to see you and Catharine face to face; for my friendship for you both is of the strongest character; and, though it is nearly seventeen years since I was in Glasgow, the recollections of "auld lang syne," clustering around that visit, are of the most delightful character — excepting the desperate cold on my way from London via Edinburgh, which it took some time to shake off. Believe me, my heart beats in unison with yours, and I never think of you and your dear sister without the most pleasurable pulsations. Whether we shall ever be permitted to see each other again on earth is problematical; but how I wish you could see your way clear to make a visit to this country at no distant day!

Enclosed, I send the cartes de visite of myself and all my children, believing it will be gratifying to you to possess our family group. That of my dear wife shall be added hereafter, her stock being exhausted just at this moment. If you can reciprocate by sending me yours, I shall be delighted.

I avail myself of the kindness of my friend, the bearer of this, M^r Conroy, to send this family collection. Mr. Conroy is on an anti-slavery mission to England, and cannot fail at this time to make something of a sensation when the particulars of his remarkable case are known. He is a native Virginian, the son of a large slaveholder whose slaves he has safely conveyed to a free State since the rebellion broke out, (the father adhering to the cause of the Southern Confederacy,) and related to some of the most prominent families in the Ancient Dominion. His abolitionism is of the strongest quality,

and his zeal and enthusiasm, as well as his moral intrepidity, of the true heroic stamp. No such witness against slavery and the rebellion has yet appeared in England. Commissioner Mason has often been at his father's house, and he would like nothing better than to meet him before a British audience; but, of course, Mason will take good care never to take any such appeal to the people. Mr. Conway is a man of genius, a racy writer, and an interesting public speaker. I hope he may have a chance to be heard in Glasgow, and I have no doubt it will give you pleasure to do what you can to get up a meeting for him.

I have been much interested and pleased to read your articles in the Glasgow papers, exposing the nature and object of the Southern uprising against the American government. Your antagonist may possibly be a well-meaning man, but, if so, he is greatly obscured in vision and perverted in judgment.

The multitudinous meetings that have been held in England, within the last three or four months, in favor of President Lincoln and his Emancipation Proclamation, and in strong condemnation of the Southern slaveholding banditti, have been of a most cheering and gratifying character; but the course pursued by the British government, in conniving at the building and furnishing of so many formidable iron clads for Confederate service, and to destroy American commerce, is causing a great deal of bitter and angry feeling, and, if persisted in, will inevitably ^{lead} to a war between the two countries. Heaven save us from such a terrible visitation!

I hope Mr. Conway's tour will prove a mission of international peace and good will. But, whether in peace or in war, I shall ever remain

Your attached and admiring friend,
Andrew Paton, Esq. Wm. Lloyd Garrison.