

**Proceeding of the Anti-slavery convention of American women, held in Philadelphia.
May 15th, 16th, 17th and 18th, 1838**

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ANTI-SLAVERY CONVENTION OF AMERICAN WOMEN, HELD IN PHILADELPHIA. May 15th, 16th, 17th, and 18th, 1838. PHILADELPHIA: PRINTED BY MERRIHEW AND GUNN, No. 7 Carter's Alley 1838.

MINUTES.

Proceeding of an Anti-Slavery Convention of Women, assembled from various parts of the United States, in Pennsylvania Hall, in the city of Philadelphia, on Tuesday, the 15th of May, 1838.

At 10 o'clock, A. M. the Convention was called to order. On the nomination of a committee, appointed at preliminary meeting, on Monday, May 14th, the following officers were appointed:

MARY S. PARKER, of Boston, *President.*

Vice Presidents. Maria W. Chapman, of Boston, Mass. Catharine M. Sullivan, do. Susan Paul, do. Mary A. W. Johnson, of Providence, R. I. Margaret Prior of the city of New York, Sarah T. Smith, do. Martha W. Storrs, of Utica, N. Y. Lucretia Moot, of Philadelphia, Pa. Mary W. Magill, of Buckingham, Pa. Sarah M. Grimke, of Charleston, S. C.

Secretaries Anne W. Weston, of Boston, Mass. Martha V. Ball, do Juliana A. Tappan, of city of New York, Sarah Lewis, of Philadelphia, Pa.

Treasurer. Sarah M. Douglass, do.

Adjourned to meet in the same place at 4 o'clock, P. M.

4

Tuesday Afternoon, May 15.

The Convention was called to order at 4 o'clock, P. M.

The President then read the nineteenth Psalm, and offered prayer.

On motion, the following persons were appointed a committee to prepare business for the Convention:

New York. Sarah T. Smith, Sarah R. Ingraham, Margaret Dye, Juliana A. Tappan, Martha W. Storrs,
Miriam Hussey, Maine.

Louisa Whipple, New Hampshire.

Massachusetts. Lucy N. Dodge, Miriam B. Johnson, Maria W. Chapman Catharine M. Sullivan,

Rhode Island. Harriet L. Truesdell, Waity A. Spencer,

Pennsylvania. Mary Grew. Sarah M. Douglass, Hetty Burr, Martha Smith,

Angelina E. G. Weld, South Carolina.

On motion the credentials of the delegates were received and read.

Resolved , That this Convention adjourn to meet at 10 o'clock on Wednesday morning, at such place
as shall be procured the Business Committee.

Wednesday Morning, May 16.

The Convention was called to order at 10 o'clock A. M. in the Temperance Hall.

The 94th Psalm was read by the President and prayer offered by Margaret Prior.

On motion, Sarah Pugh, Elizabeth M. Southard, Mary G. Chapman, and Abby Kelly were appointed
a committee 5 to confer with committees from the Pennsylvania State Anti-Slavery Society,
the Required Labor Convention, and the Managers of Pennsylvania Hall, in reference to the
arrangements for meetings during the week.

On motion, Rebecca Pitman, of Rhode Island, and Lucretia Mott, of Pennsylvania, were added to the
Business Committee.

Sarah T. Smith, on behalf of the Business Committee, presented letters from the Female Anti-Slavery
Societies of Salem and Cambridgeport, which were read.

On Motion of Juliana A. Tappan,

Resolved, That whatever may be the sacrifice, and whatever other rights may be yielded or denied, we will maintain practically the right of petition, until the slave shall go free, or our energies, like Lovejoy's, are paralyzed in death.

Resolved, That for every petition by the National Legislature, during their late session, we will endeavor to send *five* the present year; and that we will not cease our efforts until the prayers of every woman within the sphere of our influence shall be heard in the halls of Congress on this subject.

On motion, the business of the Convention was suspended for a short time to give instructions to the committee appointed to make arrangements for the future meetings.

On motion of Mary Spencer,

Resolved, That we regard the right of petition as clear and inalienable, and so far from glamouring a dictatorial spirit, it is the refuge of the most humble and powerless, and *true greatness* would never turn away from such appeals.

Mary Grew offered the following resolution,

Whereas, The principles of Christ are commanded to have no fellowship with the "unfruitful works of darkness;" and, whereas, union in His church is the strongest expression of fellowship between men; therefore,

Resolved, That it is our duty to keep ourselves separate from those churches which receive to their pulpits and their communion tables, those who buy, or sell, or hold as property, the image of the living God.

This resolution was supported by the mover, Lucretia Mott, Abby Kelly, Maria W. Chapman, Anne W. Weston, Sarah T. Smith, and Sarah Lewis; and opposed by Margaret Dye, Margaret Prior, Henrietta Willcox, Martha W. Storrs, and Juliana A. Tappan, and was adopted. *

* Those who voted in the negative on the above resolution, fully concur with their sisters, in the belief that slaveholders and their apologists are guilty before God, and that, with the former, Northern Christian should hold no fellowship; but as it is their full belief that there is still moral power sufficient in the church, if rightly applied, to purify it, they cannot feel it their duty to withdraw until the utter inefficiency of the means used, shall constrain them to believe the church totally corrupt. Martha W. Storrs, Margaret, Prior, Elizabeth M. Southard, Margaret Dye, Charlotte Woolsey.

Adjourned to meet in Pennsylvania Hall, on Thursday morning, May 17th.

Thursday Morning, May 17.

The Convention was called to order, in the Pennsylvania Hall, at 10 o'clock, A.M.

A portion of Scripture was read, and prayer offered by the President.

Lucretia Mott made some impressive remarks respecting the riot of the preceding evening, and exhorted the members of the Convention to be steadfast and solemn in the prosecution of the business for which they were assembled.

On motion of Margaret Dye,

Resolved, That the Anti-Slavery enterprise presents one of the most appropriate fields for the exertion of the influence of woman, and that we pledge ourselves, with divine assistance, never to desert the work, while an American slave groans in bondage.

On motion of Abigail B. Ordway,

Resolved, That every mother is bound by imperative obligations, to instruct her children in the principles abolition, by teaching them the nature and sanctity of human rights, and the claims of the great law of office, as binding alike on every member of the human family.

On motion of Mary Grew,

Resolved, That in view of unparalleled sufferings of the slave, and also in relation to the oppression of the nominally free people of color in the United States, it becomes us, as women and as christians, to invoke the special aid of Almighty God for the speedy deliverance of this people from their oppressions, in that way which will most glorify Himself.

On motion of Henrietta Willcox,

Resolved, That in view of the exigencies of the times, and the loud call for money to aid in the dissemination of truth, this Convention recommend to Female Anti-Slavery Societies to take immediate measures for the formation of cent-a-week societies, on the plan proposed by the Executive Committee of the American Anti-Slavery Society.*

* Persons wishing to obtain cards and tracts, and any information respecting the system, and referred to Nathaniel Southard, 143 Nassau Street, New York.

7

On motion of Margaret Dye,

Resolved, That the system of American slavery is contrary to the laws of God, and the spirit of true religion, and that the church is deeply implicated in this sin, and that it therefore becomes the imperative duty of all her members to petition their ecclesiastical bodies to enter their decided protests against it, and exclude slaveholders from their pulpits and communion tables.

Adjourned to meet in the same place at 4 o'clock, P. M.

Thursday Afternoon, May 17.

The Convention was called to order at 4 o'clock, P.M. The President read the 6th chapter of 2d Cor., and Sarah M. Grimké offered prayer.

Sarah T. Smith, on behalf of the Business Committee, presented an address to Anti-Slavery Societies, which was read and adopted.

On motion of Thankful Southwick,

Resolved, That it is the duty of all those who call themselves abolitionists to make the *most vigorous efforts* to procure for the use of their families the products of *free labor*, so that their hands may be clean, in this particular, when inquisition is made for blood.

Esther Moore made some remarks upon the importance of carrying into effect the resolutions that had been passed.

Adjourned to meet in Temperance Hall on Friday morning at 9 o'clock.

Friday Morning, May 18.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment at Temperance hall, but found the doors closed by order of the managers. * A member of the Convention offered the use of a school-room, where the meeting was called to order at 10 o'clock, A. M.

* The Pennsylvania Hall having been burned by a mob, on Thursday evening, and much excitement still prevailing, the managers of Temperance Hall, fearing for the safety of their building, refused to open the doors.

The President read the 4th chapter of 2d Cor., and prayer was offered by Juliana A. Tappan, and Mary E. Smith.

8

On motion of Lucretia Mott, Angelina E. G. Weld was appointed Vice-President.

On motion of Sarah R. Ingraham,

Resolved, That in view of the manifestation of public sentiment, as recently exhibited in the outbreakings of a lawless mob, resulting in insult and abuse towards all abolitionists, and personal injury to some of our colored friends, the case of the latter be earnestly commended to God, and prayer be offered that He will redress their wrongs, and protect them from the dangers to which they may be in future exposed.

Sarah T. Smith, in behalf of the Business Committee, presented an address to the free colored people of the United States, and an address to the Senators and Representatives of the free States in Congress, which were read and adopted.

Abby Kelly offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Whereas, A vast portion of the wealth of the North has accrued, and is still accruing, from the slave system, either directly in the holding of slaves, by Northern citizens, or indirectly by our social and commercial intercourse with slaveholding communities; therefore,

Resolved, That we are very deeply implicated in the sin of using our brother's service without wages, and of holding in our hands the gains of oppression; consequently it is our duty to bring forth fruits meet for repentance, by laboring devotedly in the service of the spoiled, and by contributing with unsparing liberality to the treasury of the slave.

On motion of Sarah M. Grimké,

Resolved, That prejudice against color is the very spirit of slavery, sinful in those who indulge it, and is the fire which is consuming the happiness and energies of the free people of color.

That it is, therefore, the duty of abolitionists to identify themselves with these oppressed Americans, by sitting with them in places of worship, by appearing with them in our streets, by giving them our

countenance in steam-boats and stages, by visiting them at their homes and encouraging them to visit us, receiving them as we do our white fellow citizens.*

* Not unanimous—a number voted in the negative, believing that a resolution couched in such phraseology, might, by being misapprehended, injure the abolition cause.

On motion of Sarah M. Grimké,

Resolved, That those of our Southern brethren and sisters who feel and mourn over the guilt of slavery, while circumstances impose on them the necessity of remaining witnesses of its evils and its horrors, are entitled to our sympathy and prayers, and that we encourage them to walk with weeping and supplication before God, that His judgments may be averted from our beloved country.

9

On motion, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolve, That in this Convention, met together to consider the solemn subject of American slavery, it is cause of grateful acknowledgement that sectarian feeling has been so far laid aside as to enable us to meet together as Christians, and we recommend to all similar bodies to keep in mind, that sects are no part of the glorious gospel of Christ, but that love to our fellow men is the test of religion. "Whoso dwelleth in love, dwelleth in God, and God in him."

The following resolution was offered by Sarah M. Grimké and adopted:

Resolved, That we hail with joy the triumphant success of immediate emancipation in the islands of Antigua and Bermuda, which has been most forcibly set forth in the journal of Kimball and Thome. We recommend this work to the perusal of Americans, as calculated to remove every objection to the fundamental principles of abolitionism, and to strengthen every one who is laboring for the slave's redemption.

On motion of Angelina E.G. Weld,

Resolved, That did we need other stimulus than the example of Him who came to preach deliverance to the captive, we possess it in the disinterested and untiring efforts of our sisters across the Atlantic, in this sacred cause, and in the success that has crowned them.

Resolved, That the voice of joy and freedom as it rings up from the British West Indies, resounds through our land, is a triumphant proof of the safety of immediate emancipation; and, while it

inspires us with confidence, should so attune our spirits to gentleness and love, that the most obdurate may be moved by our entreaties, and the most captious find nothing to blame.

Catherine M. Sullivan offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Believing the principles of the Anti-Slavery cause to be identical with those on which the whole gospel rests, and that the constant and vigorous propagation of them will equally advance the kingdom of Christ, in the hearts and outward lives of men; therefore,

Resolved, That we increase our efforts for the spiritual and temporal salvation of the slave, knowing that such labors will involve the salvation of the master, the good of our own souls, the general promotion of peace, moral reform, temperance; the circulation of the Scriptures, the education of youth, and the exaltation of our country to so high a standard of morals and religion, that its example shall go forth unto all the earth and recommend the gospel to every creature.

Juliana A. Tappan offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Inasmuch as all human efforts in this cause must prove utterly ineffectual, unless attended by the special blessing of God; therefore,

Resolved, That this Convention recommend fasting, humiliation and prayer, that a cloud of supplication may thus ascend in unison that the captive may be speedily delivered, and all the objects contemplated by our efforts may be achieved by the interposition of that "arm that moves the world."

On motion of Sarah M. Grimké,

Resolved, That we regard the insult and scorn, manifest on our leaving the Hall on the 16th instant, as identical with the spirit of slavery at the South, and the spirit exhibited by the Reform Convention, who have recommended that the people of Pennsylvania should wrest from the free people of color the right of suffrage.

On motion of Angelina E.G. Weld,

Resolved, That we have heard, with grief and shame, of the burning of Pennsylvania Hall, last evening, but rejoice in fulness of hope that God will overrule evil for good, by causing the flames which consumed that beautiful Hall, dedicated to virtue, liberty, and independence, to light up the fires of freedom on every hill-top and in every valley in the state of Pennsylvania, and our country at large.

On motion of Sarah T. Smith,

Resolved, That when this Convention adjourn, it adjourn to meet in this city in May, 1839.

On nomination of the Business Committee, Mary Grew, Susan Haydock, Sarah Pugh, and Anna M. Hopper, were appointed a Committee on Publications.

On motion,

Resolved, That the Addresses that have been adopted by this Convention, its Proceedings, &c., be published under the direction of the Committee on Publications.

On motion,

Resolved, That the delegates from different states be now called upon, in order to pledge sums on behalf of their respective societies, to defray the expenses of the Convention.

11

The following pledges were then made:

SOCIETIES.

Portland, Maine, \$ 10 00

Concord, N. H., 10 00

Boston, Massachusetts, 25 00

Salem, " 5 00

Lynn, " 15 00

Danvers, " 5 00

Concord, " 11 00

Andover, " 5 00

Weymouth, " 10 00

Leicester, " 3 00
Uxbridge, " 5 00
Haverhill, " 5 00
Amesbury, " 5 00
Smithfield, R. I., 5 00
Providence, R. I., 15 00
Pawtucket, R. I., 5 00
New York City, New York, 25 00
New York Fem. Wes., " 7 50
New York Union, " 5 00
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 25 00
Phila. Fem. Wes., " 5 00
Phila. N. Liberties, " 5 00
Phila. Leavitt, " 5 00
Phila. Penn Township, " 5 00
Clarkson, Chester co., " 10 00
Kennett, " 10 00
Kimberton, " 5 00
Uwchlan, " 5 00
Montgomery co., " 5 00

Frankford, " 5 00

Buckingham, " 10 00

Delaware co., " 5 00

West Chester. " 5 00

Total, \$281 50

INDIVIDUALS.

Abby Kelly, for Milbury, Mass., \$ 3 00

Esther Carpenter, West Chester co., N. Y., 5 00

Ellen Smith, Franklin co., Pa., 2 00

Sarah T. Smith, for N. Jersey, 5 00

Rachel Bassett, for Delaware, 2 00

Abby Kelly, for Norwalk, Ohio, 3 00

Eliza Philbrick, for Cincinnati, Ohio, 5 00

S. M. Grimke and A. E.G. Weld, for S. Carolina, 10 00

Sarah R. Ingraham, for St. Louis, Missouri, 2 00

Mary Huddleson, 1 00

Eliza Yarnall, Phila., Pa., 2 00

Jane Bousted, " 1 00

Thankful Southwick, for Danvers Society, 5 00

Total, \$ 46 00

From Societies, 281 50

327 50

On motion,

Resolved, That this Convention tender their thanks to those friends in Philadelphia, whose kind hospitalities have been extended to them, on this deeply interesting occasion.

A part of the 37th psalm was then read, and prayer offered by Lucretia Mott, Margaret Dye, and the President; and at 4½ o'clock, P. M., the Convention adjourned to meet in Philadelphia, in May, 1839.

MARY S. PARKER, *President*.

Secretaries. Anne W. Weston, Martha V. Ball, Juliana A. Tappan, Sarah Lewis,

12

LIST OF DELEGATES TO THE CONVENTION.

MAINE. Ruth Hussey, *Portland*,

NEW HAMPSHIRE. Louisa Whipple, *Concord*.

RHODE ISLAND. Mary A. W. Johnson, *Providence*. Mary E. Smith, do. Rebecca C. Pitman, do. Mary W. Flagg, do. Harriet L. Truesdell, do. Waity A. Spencer, do.

MASSACHUSETTS. Catharine M. Sullivan, *Boston*. Susan Paul, do. Mary G. Chapman, do. Mary S. Parker, do. Lydia L. Fuller, do. Eliza Philbrick, do. Anna R. Philbrick, do. Abby Southwick, do. Sarah H. Southwick, do. Lucy Chester, do. Martha V. Ball, do. Abigail B. Ordway, do. Anne Warren Weston, do. Thankful Southwick, do. Maria W. Chapman, *Weymouth*. Mary Spencer, *Salem*. Lucy N. Dodge, do. Eliza J. Kenny, do. Laura H. Lovell, *Fall River*. Abby Kelly, *Lynn*. Miriam B. Johnson, do. Eleanor Johnson, do. Hannah Alley, do. Abigail L. Breed, do. Elizabeth L. B. Stickney, *Newburyport*. Hannah L. Stickney, do. Sarah Winslow, *Danvers*. Emily A. Winslow, do. Mary M. Brooks, *Concord*. Caroline D. Brooks, do. Agnes Smith, *Andover*. Sarah G. Little, *Marshfield*. Marcia Phillips, do.

NEW YORK. Sarah R. Ingraham, *New York City*. Mira Hill, do. Rebecca E. Bell, do. Abby H. Gibbons, do. Rebecca B. Spring, do. Sarah T. Smith, do. Henrietta Willcox, do. Irena Treadwell, *New York City*.

Juliana A. Tappan, do. Susan A. Tappan, do. Ursula M. Penniman, do. Mary Dimond, do. Elizabeth M. Southard, do. Margaret Prior, do. Charlotte Woolsey, do. Margaret Dye, do. Lucy Anne Williams, do. Dorcas W. Bell, do. Catharine Martin, do. Martha W. Storrs, *Utica*. Emily C. Shumway, *Palmyra*.

PENNSYLVANIA. Lucretia Mott, *Philadelphia*. Esther Moore, do. Sidney Ann Lewis, do. Sarah Pugh, do. Lydia White, do. Elizabeth K. Dorsey, do. Mary Grew, do. Sarah Lewis, do. Mary Needles, do. Sarah M. Douglas, do. Harriet D. Purvis, do. Hannah Wharton, do. Mary Townsend, do. Jane Bousted, do. Huldah Justice, do. Lydia Gillingham, do. Hetty Reckless, do. Susan Grew, do. Grace Douglas, do. Hetty Burr, do. Elizabeth Bunting, do. Rebecca Hawkins, do. Hannah P. Ellis, do. Mary P. Egan, do. Rachel M. Pierce, do. Tacy W. Blakey, do. Elizabeth Henley, do. Ann J. Smith, do. Mary Ann Foulke, do. Elizabeth F. Ellis, do. E. J. Gillingham, do. Anna Pryor, do. Martha Bunting, do. Ruth Harding, do. Hannah Purnell, do. Maria Bundy, do. Elizabeth Colly, do. Mary Nelson, do. 13 Esther Ann Fassill, *Philadelphia*. Elizabeth Krip, do. Ann E. Sellers, *Delaware County*. Naomi Rhoads, Anna Poole, do. Euphrosyne Sellers, do. Louisa Sontag, do. Mary Ann Rhoads, do. Sarah W. Rhoads, do. Ann Sellers, do. Alice Sellers, do. Jane Sellers, do. Abigail S. Garrett, do. Mary Sellers, do. Jane Moore, do. Mary C. Sellers, do. Rachel Watson, *Middletown, Bucks Co* Elizabeth Paist, do. Mary Huddleson, do. Achsah Janney, *Lower Makefield*. Ann Buckman, do. Sarah Beans, do. Francenia Janney, do. Letitia Janney, do. Martha Smith, *Buckingham*. Mary Johnson, do. Jane Smith, do. Mary W. Magill, do. Hannah Loyd, do. Ann J. Paxson, do. Elizabeth H. Betts, do. Tacy, Parry, do. Mercy Ely, do. Harriet P. Johnson, do. Elizabeth Ely, do. Mary Beans, do. E. Whitelock, *Frankford, Phila, Co*. Elizabeth Pickering, do. A. L. Gillingham, do. Naomi Murphy, do. Mary P. Newbold, do. Susan Roberts, do. Harriet B. Gazzam, *Pittsburg*. Beulah Moore, *Chester County*. Beulah Preston, do. Rachel B. Moore, do. Sarah Williams, do. Alice E. Hambleton, do. Ann Preston, do. Ann Moore, do. Mary T. Jackson, do. Deborah Cortes, do. Jane Moore, do. Esther Fulton, *Chester County*. Sarah Hambleton, do. Rest E. Lamborn, do. Ruth Hambleton, do. Hannah Cox, *Kennet, Chester, Co*. Mabel Pyle, do. Dinah Mendenhall, do. Sarah Huey, do. Eliza Phillips, do. Sarah T. Harvey, do. Rachel P. Lamborn, do. Mary Harian, do. Susan H. Burnett, do. Mary Pugh, do. Sarah Ann Pole, do. Lydia M. Fussill, do. Hannah M. Darlington, do. Hannah Haymor, do. Phebe M. Way, do. Mary Phillips, do. Lucretia Fleming, *West Chester*. Phebe Darlington, do. Hannah Covington, do. Henrietta Simmons, do. Gertrude Kimber, *Kimberton*. Esther Hawley, do. Mary Ann Lewis, do. Grace Ann Lewis, do. Abigail Kimber, do. Lydia M. Fussell, do. Sarah Trimble, *Uwchlan*. Ann E. MacKinley, do. Mary H. Vickers, do. Anna T. Gordon, do. Anna Fulton, *East Fallowfield*. Mary Lukens, jr., do. Susan Fulton, do. Mary Ann Peirce, do. Esther Fulton, do. Sarah Naylor, do. Sarah Hagerty, *Colerain, Lanc. Co*. Lydia Rakestraw, do. Elizabeth Kent, do. Catherine R. Rinewalt, *Schuylkill*. Sarah H. Coates, do. Hannah Adamson, do. Hannah Rinewalt, do. Rachel H. Jones, *Montgomery Co*. Hannah Corson, do. Hannah Adamson, do. Caroline Jones, do. Elizabeth M. Jacobs, do. Mary Ann H. Thomas, do.

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS.

Amelia A. Bowen, *Woodstock, Conn.*

Harriet A. Burleigh, *Stonington, Conn.*

Maria M. Newhall, *Lynn, Mass.*

C. Blackford, *N. York city, N. Y.*

Mercy Smith, do.

Sarah E. Peirce, do.

Susanna A. Tappan, do.

Elizabeth S. Lane, do.

Esther Laing, do.

Esther Carpenter, *West Chester.*

Mary S. Thorn, *New Jersey.*

Mary C. Pennock, *Philadelphia, Pa.*

Mary Earle, do.

Olive Bacon, do.

Hannah W. Ellis, do.

Teressa J. Kimber, do.

Susan Haydock, do.

Anna M. Hopper, do.

Catherine G. Shore, do.

Sarah C. Faweett, do.

Anna C. Eckstein, do.

Jane Smith, do.

Deborah P. Shaw, do.

Ann W. Longstreth, do.

Elizabeth J. Neall, do.

Mira Orum, do.

Margaretta Randolph, do.

Rebecca J. Sellers, do.

Sarah Pennock, do.

Elizabeth Bingham, do.

Sarah McCrummell, do.

Mary Shaw, do.

Sarah Shaw, do.

Rebecca Shaw, do.

Beulah Lower, do.

Sarah Pepper, do.

Sarah Pearson, do.

Susan W. Shaw, do.

Esther Lower, *Philadelphia*.

Agnes Cook, do.

Ellen Quinby, do.

Mary Ann Jackson, do.

Frances M. Avery, do.

Elizabeth T. Garrigues, do.

Mary R. Jackson, do.

Mary S. Clement, do.

Anna M. Townsend, do.

Susan F. Porter, do.

Sarah B. Melville, do.

Rachel Clendenen, do.

Rachel Beans, do.

Ann B. Percival, do.

Miriam C. Worrell, do.

Rebecca S. Brooks, do.

Keturah Hammer, do.

Martha R. Ellis, *Chester County*.

Martha Stackhouse, do.

Rachel Ann Lamborn, do.

Phebe Hadley, do.

Sarah Ely, do.

Sarah Purvis, do.

Sarah B. Melvin, do.

Elinor Smith, do.

Ann s. Whitson, do.

Sarah S. Bucks, do.

Leah Fell, do.

Margaretta Jacobs, do.

Sarah S. Paul, do.

Abby Bowman, do.

Ann Evans, do.

Sarah A. Speakman, do.

Esther Hayes, do.

Rachel Bassett, do.

Sarah M. Grimke, *Charleston, S. C.*

Angelina E. G. Weld, do.

Total, 75

15

APPENDIX.

To the Anti-Slavery Convention of American Women:—

Dear Sisters:— With the deepest emotions of gratitude to our Almighty Father, we congratulate you upon your assemblage, for the second time, as a Convention. While we rejoice in the wisdom and love that we trust will overshadow you in your deliberations, we cannot but contemplate with awe the sublime results that may emanate from your councils.

Arduous and responsible labor is before you:—the iron shackle that drags heavily along the plains of the South, and the golden fetter hugged by so many of our sex, are alike to be broken!

And this allegiance to *Truth* and unfaltering trust to its power of guidance, is to yourselves an *emancipation act*: from the servile degradation of ages, you arise in the moral accountability and dignity of womanhood, and at the feet of Jesus, imbued with the uncompromising spirit of his teachings, declare the truths that have made you free! Thus strong in the freedom of his giving, true to the faith of his sustaining, the applause or contumely of the world is hushed by the overpowering presence of the “still small voice.” Earthly ambition vanishes, before the glorious smile of an approving God; and worldly policy dares not seek an entrance where it is met at every corner by the “flaming sword” of truth.

Our whole souls are with you at this eventful time, and we would fain all join the delegation that leaves us to be with you at this glorious era—to move in concert upon these first waves of a mighty revolution that is to sweep away the strong foundations of prejudice and custom. We feel an assurance that the same unflinching stand of principle, the like unshaken determination of action, which characterized your measures a year since, will mark your decisions at the present time. May the Father of light and love in your midst; then, indeed, all will be well.

On behalf of the Providence Female Anti-Slavery Society.

Eliza J. Davis, *Cor. Secretary.*

To the Anti-Slavery Convention of American Women:—

Dear Sisters:— We congratulate you on your meeting together again, and would express to you our deep thankfulness to Him who has permitted you thus to assemble from the North and from the South, from the East and from the West. We assure you, dear sisters, we feel at the present time more than ever impressed with feelings of gratitude. We are conscious that the guidance of Him who has declared himself to be the “friend of the friendless and the faint,” has been over you, from the unparalleled success that has crowned all your efforts in the cause of the oppressed.

We would that we could all be with you—but though we may not sit in your councils, nor listen to the words of encouragement as they fall from your lips, yet our hearts shall be with you, and in our small measure we will be “constant in prayer” that you may be guided by wisdom from on high—that your passions may be under the control of reason, and that in the midst of your assemblies you may feel the presence of one whose mission on earth was, “liberty to the captive.”

We have remembered that emancipation is not confined to the release of the millions in our Southern States who breathe the breath of wretchedness and despair; nor is it limited to the thousands in the West Indies who are suffering oppression from their brethren's hands—but from the Arctic to the Antarctic—from the Atlantic to the Pacific—wherever the clank of the chain is heard, wherever the sigh of the prisoner floats on the air—there does our cause extend, there must our philanthropy penetrate—and who shall say that we are not laboring for the happiness of millions yet to be!

For the encouragement of those new converts who may chance to be with you, we would say that the more we have been engaged in this glorious work, the more we have felt our hearts inclined to the relief of the “poor and the needy” and our ears opened to the “cry of those that have no helper”—and we have been brought to feel more keenly the awful amount of guilt and crime with which our earth is filled.

Surely woman must *now* arise, in all her dignity and kindness, to stay the sword of the angel that is near to avenge the red and the black man's wrongs!

May the Lord be with you and bless you—may you be strengthened to plan a nobler work than ever fell to woman's lot to describe!

Let your watch word be *liberty* and *love*, and your banner pure and spotless virtue. May you live to see the approach of that day when man shall no more raise his hand against his brother, when the lion and the lamb shall lie down together, and there shall be none to dig about the walls of Jerusalem. “Then shall your light break forth as the morning and your health shall spring forth speedily—and your righteousness shall go before you—and the glory of the Lord shall be your rereward.”

On behalf of the Salem (Ms.) Female Anti-Slavery Society.

Your faithful coadjutors in Freedom's cause.

Mary Spencer, *Cor. Secretary*.

Extracts from a Letter from the Cambridgeport Female Anti-Slavery Society.

To the Anti-Slavery Convention of American Women:—

* * * * *—At an Anti—Slavery meeting a clergyman, who had travelled South, said he was forbidden, when there, to preach to slaves: a slaveholder said to him, it is not safe for the slaves to be enlightened, he could not permit them to hear the sermon upon the mount, and said that the precept, “Whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, do ye even so unto them,” would open their eyes to their situation, “Therefore I forbid you to preach to them.” This clergyman observed that they could not be taught the Lord's prayer without witnessing its denial all around them. What an avowal is this of the bondage of both master and slave! The sermon upon the mount would create insurrection! Truly the divine 17 aspirations commencing, “Our Father who art in heaven,” (*that* Father who hath made of one blood all nations of the earth, and commanded all to love as brethren,) are virtually denied.

We should be unjust to our feelings, did we not take this opportunity to tender our grateful tribute of respect and love to those friends of humanity, Misses Sarah M. and Angelina E. Grimké, for their noble exertions in our vicinity the past year; we think many a Felix has trembled, and many a jailor, himself in bonds, has cried out, “What shall I do to be saved?”

There are those, and the number is neither few nor small, who think that slavery is a political affair, and women have no concern in it; but deluded or callous must be that heart which acknowledges that woman inflicts an injury, but should be powerless in redressing it. “We have not so learned Christ!” We think that to woman is committed the precious trust of rearing our lawgivers; as she is pure and elevated, so may she infuse her spirit into the laws of country; and heaven grant that politics may not be another name for corruption. When statesman and philanthropist, philanthropist and statesman, are identical terms, then may we hope that “righteousness will flow down our streets, and prosperity be within our walls.” May the women of this country so purge their hearts of all ambitious views, of all selfish aims, as to be fit and honored instruments for doing the Lord's work; and to be able to say, “Not unto us, O Lord, but to thy name be glory.” May we so learn Christ that, in the spirit of his might, we may “bind up the broken-hearted, proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness.” To the ladies of the Anti-Slavery Convention we say, may God guide your counsels, and may you do all to his glory.

On behalf of the Society, L. Willard, *Cor. Secretary.*

To the Anti-Slavery Convention of American Women:—

Respected and dearly beloved Sisters: —As existing circumstances prevent the attendance of delegates from our Society, we take this method of expressing the deep interest we feel in the holy cause that has called together. Our numbers are few and our efforts comparatively feeble, yet we have been induced to cast in our mite, hoping it may prove like the widow's of old.

Our Society was organized in the summer of 1835, and consists at present of about two hundred members, who, we trust, endeavor to “remember those that are in bounds as bound with them.”

As we feel a great reluctance to partake of the products of slavery, it is with no small interest we have read a call for a convention for the consideration of that subject, and pledge ourselves heartily to unite our exertions to promote the use of free goods.

On behalf of the Peru Female Anti-Slavery Society, Ruth H. Keese, *Secretary*

18

Fitchburg, May 7, 1838.

To the Anti-Slavery Convention of American Women:

Dear Friends: —At the last meeting of the Female Anti-Slavery Society in this place, it was thought desirable that you should receive some expression of our remembrance of you, and our feelings with regard to your Convention. Although the limited state of our funds renders it impossible for any of our number to join you, yet in thought we shall be with you, and the prayers of your sisters of this Society will ascend to Him who hears and answers prayer, that you may have a joyful meeting, that the result of it may be the enlargement and purifying of your own minds, the elevation of the female character, and the general advancement of the cause of equal rights.

The tongue of calumny is indeed busy—but go on, dear sisters, in your labor of love. The time is coming when the benefits resulting from this friendly interchange of thought and feeling will be justly appreciated. They are so even now by many, very many; but when the last fetter shall have been broken, and the oppressed are free, then by your colored sister they will be fully realized, and in her gratitude you will find an ample reward for all the trials you now have to encounter.

In every other department of philanthropy we are told in flattering terms of female influence, and woman is represented as a ministering angel relieving the distressed and comforting the afflicted; but the Anti-Slavery cause, in which it would seem very feeling of humanity would impel us to be

active— *this* we are told does not come within our “appropriate sphere of labor,” and we must be inactive. But shall it be? Shall we stand calmly by and see the outrages daily committed on our defenseless sisters, pining in hopeless misery? “When woman's heart is bleeding, shall woman's voice be hushed?” Oh no, it cannot, *must* not be. Be firm of heart, then, dear sisters—let your faith be strong—your courage and zeal increased, and you will receive the richest of heaven's blessings, and be instrumental in speeding onward that happy day, so ardently desired by every true friend of freedom, when the arm of oppression shall be broken, and the outraged slave rise to the dignity and station of a man.

It may be interesting to you to know something respecting the state of our Society. At your last Convention, it consisted of thirty members; we now have one hundred. You will perceive by this, that our course has been onward, and we rejoice that it is so, yet when we see around us so many who say, “we are abolitionists—but”—,we are grieved that they will not act for the heart-broken slave, and “remember those that are in bonds, as bound with them.” Were it not for that unfortunate little monosyllable “but,” there are many ladies in this village, who, by their wealth, talents, and influence, could do much to keep the abolition car in motion.

Our members are not from the wealthier class, and we depend on our own exertions for means to assist in carrying forward this glorious enterprise. Consequently our assistance must be feeble. It is indeed the “widow's mite”—yet is given cheerfully, and we doubt not that, by Him who sees all things, it is viewed with as much approbation as are the contributions of those who give of their abundance.

We have a small library which is doing its work silently, but surely, we hope, in the hearts of many.* *

On behalf of the Fitchburg Female Anti-Slavery Society,

Harriet A. Kimball, *Corresponding Secretary*.