



Harriet writes to Amy Post about the progress of her manuscript and Lydia Maria Child's support. "Mrs C is like your self a whole souled Woman—we soon found the way to each others heart."

Oct 8th [1860]

My dear Friend

I might begin this letter with a long preface—filled with apologies for my long silence—but for the present I shall dispense with it all—by simply telling you the truth— in the first place I am truly ashamed of it—and but too glad to write you again when I returned home from Europe, I said that I would not mention my M S. to my friends again until I had done something with it— little dreaming of the time that might elapse— but as time wore \*on\* difficulties seemed to thicken—and I became discouraged. I felt that I had cut myself of from my friends and I had no right to ask their Sympathy— my numerous undertakings must be left until we meet— my M.S. was read at Phillips and Sampson they agreed to take it if I could get Mrs Stowe or Mr Willis to write a preface for it— the former I had the second clinch from & the latter I would not ask— and before anything was done this Establishment failed. so I gave up the effort until this Autumn I sent it to Thayer—and Eldredge \*of Boston\*— they were willing to publish it if I could obtain a preface from Mrs Child. they had no Objection to the one I had—but that it must be by some one known to the public—to effect the sale of the Book. I had never seen Mrs Child past experience made me tremble at the thought of approaching another Sattillite of so great magnitude. for I have learned that the courage of old age is not eaqual to youths but I tried to fan the flickering spark that was left and resolved to make my last effort through W C Nells ready kindness I meet Mrs Child—at the A.S. [Anti-Slavery] Office Mrs C is like your self a whole souled Woman— we soon found the way to each others heart I will send you some of her letters which which will better describe her than my poor pen— I gave her my M S. to read you introduction I told her of the feeling that had existed between us—that your advice and word of encouragement—had been my strongest promter inthe writing of the Book she recognised Mrs Post and kept the introduction to have published in the standard with a criticism of the [**at top of separate sheet**] \*5\* Book I wanted to have it brought in as a letter but she Mrs Child said it would do more good in the Standard and It will be in the Liberator a

letter that I had for the Book written by a friend from home to substantiate facts, Mrs C will send to the Anglo African Mr Wendel Phillips has agreed to take one thousand copies. I take four hundred at the wholesale price—to dispose of myself—the Book will be out 1st November I have ten per cent—I hope my dear Friend that you will like my arrangements It was the only alternative I long to see you I went to the City with the hope of meeting you the first Convention after my return home and was so disappointed—I must beg a line of you although I know that I do not deserve it tell me about yourself and family lots of love to all my friends I shall try very hard to get to Rochester this winter and I have a hope of seeing my Brother this winter—Louisa is still in Boston I am going to the city this week to see how much Antislavery I can find there I will write you again after my return remember me most kindly to my dear old friend Mr Post and believe me the same always

[*along right margin*] \*H J\*

[*upside down along top margin*] \*will you please send me G W Clarks address\*

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***Citation:***

Autograph letter, signed; Isaac and Amy Post Family Papers, University of Rochester Library.