

anticipate - what they term  
"benign results" permit  
to surge at large - but  
whatever the end, how ad-  
-ful the means!

Well - my dear friend I  
took my pen intending to write  
a brief note of introduction  
- to what a length has <sup>it</sup> my  
pen run! I fear to the  
trying of your patience -  
be assured, that a letter from  
you would give great plea-  
-sure to your true & affec-  
-tionate  
friends

J. P. & L. P. Nichol

Give my kindest love to  
Mrs Garrison & each of the  
minors.

to Him who is the Giver  
of all good things - for the  
blessings he has heaped  
upon me! — For the step  
I have taken I have lost  
my membership in the  
Society in which I was born  
but there is so much to re-  
-assure in all sects - so  
much at least I cannot  
write with - that I enjoy  
to be free from the tramm-  
-els of sect altogether.

The general topic here  
is of course - War - War -  
truly it is sad to think of  
the terrible struggle now  
going on - the advocates  
of war, however, seem to

I am sure, you will not  
be un-interested in hearing  
of those with whom I am so  
intimately connected. You  
know or rather have seen  
my dear Cushman - I can  
only say how truly delighted  
I would be that you could  
know him wholly & how e-  
-gerly we should both be  
to have you at our residence  
- Is there ~~not~~ no hope of our  
seeing you he & he on this  
side the Atlantic? I think  
could you live with us a  
while, you w<sup>d</sup> see that were  
I otherwise than happy,  
there must be some gross  
fault in myself. Thanks

4  
refers to the death of an el-  
-derly lady whom he had  
known from childhood.  
All he writes is from the  
heart - not mere words -  
there is a depth of soul &  
a tenderness of sincerity wh.  
w<sup>d</sup> forbid him to perjure  
he did not feel. But I  
can perhaps, using my  
privilege of friendship too  
far, in scribbling thus of  
me when you know  
not - forgive me for in-  
-dulging in eulogy of those  
words near to me - & re-  
-member it is for your eye  
alone - I know you wish  
me happiness & therefore

quite a poetical mind &  
considering he is but little  
turned to study, we think  
he bids fair to excel even -  
to some extent - if he cul-  
-tivates the art. At present  
he is too laborious a student  
to enable him to give much  
time to it. He has in him  
of disposition as well as of  
intellect - one of the finest  
I know; - his gentle,  
affectionate nature is  
shown itself in the two little  
pieces - "Verses" page 51 - & "An  
Memorium" p. 327 - in the  
first he alludes tenderly  
to his own mother, to whom  
he was ardently & devotedly  
attached; - in the last, he

much that will interest  
you - I send it as much for  
the sake of introducing  
my son to you, as from any  
other consideration - the  
book is much by young Cads  
so you must make allow-  
-ance for imperfections -  
John (our son) was Editor  
& he wrote several pieces -  
in order to avoid the too  
frequent repetition of his  
initials he adopted various  
signatures - but he is the  
author of all with the  
letters "J. C." attached,  
whether printed or in ink  
(see the table of contents  
at the beginning) - he has

me in companionship of  
one who is so competent in  
all respects, to instruct & di-  
-rect & so ready to strike with  
me in looking into new sub-  
-jects of enquiry - this with  
tenfold interest that I do  
it. I never hear then, from  
time to time, of what pas-  
-ses in the beautiful world  
around you - what new  
subjects of enquiry - what  
new themes for discussion  
are arising among you.

I shall ask Mr. Smith  
to have the kindness to con-  
-vey to you & W. V. a copy  
of the University Album -  
I know not what it contains

supporting to come from the  
 Spirit Canal - viz - that  
fundamental source, we  
 would have expected some  
 - thing more novel & startling  
 - they seem to contain nothing  
 more than an enlightened  
 mind might suggest.

Still - after the advances  
 made in all directions with  
 - in the last twenty or thirty  
 years - it would argue a  
 most contracted & unhealthy  
 - but state of mind, to re-  
ject any thing that is offered  
 for consideration - merely  
 because it is of its novelty  
 or apparent improbability.  
 And now, my dear friend,  
 that I am blessed with the



held back, from what I  
gather from Miss Watson -  
in consequence of errors  
which have been circulated  
but I have said more than  
enough on this theme - let  
me now thank you for the  
Volume received a short  
time since "Spirit Manifestations" - I have read  
it with interest - & the con-  
clusion to which I am dri-  
ven in common with Miss  
J.P. is that the whole  
thing is so wonderful it is  
impossible fully to believe  
without seeing for oneself  
the things however, struck  
me peculiarly in reading on  
narrating me the various

the term "irreligious" in its  
stead - What if she asked  
any - even those who were  
widest in proclaiming  
W. S. C. an "Infidel" - They  
would yet not dare to say  
he was an "irreligious man"  
Our true friend - Miss Pai-  
ton - has labored hard  
to indistinguish these Ca-  
-dies in the principles of  
true Anti Slavery - Strong,  
therefore, they will not only  
be safe in America but  
return prepared to join  
with the Act Society here,  
without fear or hesitation  
- they have not indeed ever  
left it, but have been la-  
-ther

under the sun - whilst I'm  
honest, I wish you to conceal  
the results to which your in-  
-vestigations had led you  
in common with very many  
of the pious & learned in  
England & elsewhere - who  
holding the doctrine of inspi-  
-ration in general, would  
be loath to apply it to all  
the scriptures in Latin.

I told her also, that the  
term "Inspired" as I'm ap-  
-plied, was become an  
innocuous speculation &  
was ruin to the best of  
people - that its meaning  
was so varied, Englishmen  
& had begun to inspire

them before they leave - dur-  
-ing the short winter  
I had with her the other  
day, I did all I could to  
disabuse her mind of the  
fear of you, which has to  
some extent, been raised  
in her mind, by the "mad  
dog" cry of "infidels" - en-  
-deavouring to show her  
how you had necessarily  
been driven into the dis-  
-cupin of the question of  
herbal inspiration, by the  
clergy continually bring-  
-ing forward texts from the  
Bible, in support of the  
vicious system of inquiry

decisions of meeting you &  
Wendell Phillips & in short  
any, I believe who are la-  
-bouring in the cause. She  
& her daughter have a good  
deal in their power to aid  
the cause in Glasgow & hence  
Miss Paton & I are anxious  
they should pass in to the  
hands of the right class of  
Abolitionists in America &  
as they expect to land at  
Boston, trust, they will  
hear & see sufficient of  
the friends there, to convince  
them against the assaults  
of enemies they may meet  
elsewhere. Hope to call  
& have another chat with

A lady who called on me  
with Miss Paton last week  
- whose name you may pro-  
-bably know - Mrs. Parker  
Smith is likely to accompany  
her daughter & son in law  
on their wedding trip to  
America - She has already  
interested in the A. S. move-  
-ment & has met with some  
engagement in it from your side  
the Atlantic - more partic-  
-ularly with F. Douglass -  
she belongs to a somewhat  
orthodox school & has given  
up the "Liberator" in conse-  
-quence of the various he-  
-resies which are to be found  
in its pages. Yet she is

That you have been labouring  
hard as a valiant soldier  
in the cause of humanity  
we have had full evidence  
in the pages of the "Liberator"  
whose arrival is ever greeted  
at the Observatory with a  
feeling of pleasure. Many  
a time, has it been in my  
thoughts to write & tell you  
with what interest we  
peruse its contents & read  
of the struggle in the noble  
cause of freedom - but  
I have yielded to the spirit  
of procrastination - Will you  
that an express might for  
writing a few lines presents.

To W. L. Garrison.

Observatory  
Glasgow

May 1854

50

My dear Friend

It is long since  
any written communication  
passed between us, but, I  
feel assured, because we  
have ceased to feel an in-  
-terest in each other's welfare  
or that our mutual friend-  
-ship has suffered any  
diminution - but we  
have each had our ob-  
-jects & pursuits to engage  
attention & occupy our time

50