

Leicester, Mass
Dec^r. 12, 1862.

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Dear Miss Mountfort;

I hope you will not think it a presumption in me to write to you about an Antislavery Meeting in Portland.. But the fact is, I do not know a single man in Portland to whom I can now write on the subject. Good old Nathan Winslow is gone, Frothingham is an absentee, Newell Foster has withdrawn (I am told) from any active part or interest in the Cause; - & who is there? - Our good friend Andrew T. Fass - never more useful, strong, & effective than now, and adapting himself to the times & emergencies with excellent sense, gratifying our most thorough & earnest friends wherever he goes - is now in the vicinity of Portland, & purposes to spend the rest of Dec^r in Maine. Can he have a meeting in Portland on Sunday, 21st? - evening only, or afternoon & eveg? or any plan most convenient & appropriate to the place? Are there any to help you in getting up such a meeting? any man, or men, I mean, For, tho' I by no means question woman's ability to ^{make} all the preparations & arrangements for such a meeting, & to do it as well as any man, & better than most men, - & best of all should I think to question yours, who have stood by the dear old Cause so firmly & truthfully & patiently, so long - yet it is a new

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Date: Dec. 12, 1862
Description: Letter to Elizabeth Mountfort from Samuel May, Jr. regarding the Anti-slavery movement in the Portland area.

thing for me to call upon ladies to do such work, and I do it with some reluctance. But here necessity seems laid upon me; and I think you won't misunderstand me.

Please consult with the 'faithful and honorable women' - Mrs. Dennett & others - and whatever seems right & good to you, for the Cause's sake, that be pleased to do.

Mr. F. on his way Eastward will pass thro' Portland, and I will direct him to report to Mrs. Dennett or yourself, to learn what may be expected of him.

With respects to Mrs. Dennett

I am,

Very truly, Yours

Sam'l May Jr.

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