

SOLOMON NORTHUP.

DEAR GARRISON: Allow me to call the attention of the abolitionists of Boston and vicinity to Solomon Northup, now in this city. He is here to relate his twelve years experience in slavery. It is well known that he was kidnapped in 1840—taken from his wife and three children in Saratoga, N. Y.—taken to Washington—there confined and whipped under the very eyes of the national capital—sold to a New Orleans slave-dealer—taken to that city—sold to a planter living on the Red River, near the borders of Texas—taken to his destination, and there whipped and worked twelve years, under the most frightful form of slavery—and at length, by the requisition of the Governor of New York, restored to his family.

His experience, as detailed in the volume entitled 'Solomon Northup, Twelve Years a Slave,' is one of thrilling interest, and has been widely read in New-England. No narrative of man's experience as a slave, a chattel, is more touching, or better calculated to expose the true character and designs of slaveholders. But it is far more potent to see the man, and hear him, in his clear, manly, straight-forward way, speak of slavery as he experienced it, and as he saw it in others. Those who have read his Narrative can scarce fail to desire to see the man, thus kidnapped and tortured in body and soul, for twelve years, and to hear his story from his own lips.

I heard him relate his experience in the Meionzon, on the evening of the 15th, and last evening; in a private social circle. To-morrow evening he is to lecture in the Bethel on Commercial street. But he should have an opportunity to tell his experience in the country towns and villages. I understand that he intends to be at Worcester, at the Non-Resistance Convention. Cannot arrangements be made for him, to relate what he has felt, seen and heard in the land of whips and chains, in the towns and villages of Massachusetts?

His two kidnappers are now in prison, at Ballston, N. Y., awaiting their trial in May, before the Supreme Court of New York. They own to the deed, but plead exemption from guilt and punishment on the ground that the suit was not brought against them within three years—the time fixed by law—after the deed was done. A strange plea of innocence that! Who was to prosecute them? Their victim was being flogged and worked 1200 miles from the scene of their outrage, where to assert that he was a free citizen of New York exposed him to the merciless lash, and where the word and oath of a black man are never received against a white man. Under such circumstances, his kidnappers plead innocence and exemption from punishment, because he did not arrest them within three years after they sold him! Will the people of New York allow that plea?

What is this Union to Solomon Northup? Literally a confederacy of kidnappers. Where is the Church or political party that will refuse to open the way to give this victim of slavery a hearing, and repay him for the suffering this Union has inflicted on him? But there are 4,000,000 of kidnapped men, women and children still under the American lash. Who will help to redeem them, and pay for their sufferings? Who can?

HENRY C. WRIGHT.

Boston, March 20, 1855.