

## James N. Gloucester to John Brown

A letter from James N. Gloucester, Brooklyn, New York, to John Brown. Gloucester, the son of a former slave, sends his regrets that he cannot attend a meeting in Philadelphia and hopes Brown finds money and support for his cause to abolish slavery. Also, he writes that black men north and south of the Mason and Dixon line, whatever their wealth and position, are not free. Gloucester asks Brown to read the letter to the assemblage if he thinks it will help. A typed transcription is also included.

Creator: Gloucester, James N.

Date: March 09, 1858

Callnumber: John Brown Coll. #299, Box 1, Folder 1.31

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 225811

Item Identifier: 225811

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Brooklyn March 9 1858

Captain Brown

Estim'd Sir I regret that I cannot at this time be with you and friends convened in Philadelphia but you have my heartiest wish, with all the true friends here, for your success.

I hope Sir, you will find in that City, a large response both in money and men - Depend at your command - to do battle to that ugly foe.

I am more and more convinced, that now the day, and now the hour, and that the proper mode is at last suggested, Practically.

Long Enough have we had this great evil in our Land discussed in all its possible aspects, Long have we applied to it, as we have thought





all those the moral means that  
enlightened men are capable,  
but yet this evil - as a system  
remains the same, they have not  
phased it, as yet, in one material  
Point what then shall we do,  
is the only sensible question -  
to every true Lover - of God and man.  
shall we go on - and still prosecute  
<sup>under</sup> these means - and thus as we have done  
for years signally fail, or shall we  
in the language - of that noble  
Patriot of his Country (Patrick Henry)  
now use those means - that God  
and nature has placed within our  
Power, I hope in to this sentiment ~~in~~  
in Philadelphia - there is but one  
response - for in that city reside  
some, noble men and women



James N. Gloucester to John Brown

whose hearts are always warmed and  
cheered at every rising hope for the  
Slave, but in your measure - anticipates not  
only for the abject Slave - but to those  
Colored men, north and south - who are  
but virtually Slaves - there is in ~~no~~ truth  
no black man, north, or south of mason  
and Dixie line - a freeman - whatever be  
his wealth, Position - or worth to the world  
this is but the result of that hellish  
System, against which, every honest  
man and woman in the Land should  
be combined - I hope in you will be  
able, assisted by those Eminent  
Gentlemen who accompany you - to  
make these things Plain - and to fix  
them hold upon the Philadelphia  
mind, and join with you, in holy  
Energy - and Combat - against the all  
Damnable Joe - Let them see the Little  
Book - you presented to me, and so dissipate  
their Doubts and fears





Please to Put me down  
for (25) more to begin with  
Yours for struggling-universal  
rights J. N. Gloucester

John N. Gloucester

Please to send  
to the friends  
assembled if they  
best





*Gloucester, Jas. N. Letter to Capt. Brown. Copy.*

Brooklyn, March 9th, 1858.

Captain Brown,

Esteemed Sir:

I regret that I cannot at this time be with you and friends convened, in Philadelphia, but you have my heartiest wish, with all the true friends here, for your success.

I hope, sir, you will find in that city, a large response, both in money and men, prepared, at your command, to do battle to that ugly foe.

I am more and more convinced, that now is the day, and now is the hour, and that the proper mode is at last suggested, practically.

Long enough have we had this great evil in our land discussed <sup>S</sup> in all its aspects; long have we applied to it, as we have thought, all the moral means that enlightened men are capable; but yet this evil, as a system, remains the same; they have not phased it, as yet, in one material point.

What then shall we do, is the only sensible question, to every true son of God and man. Shall we go on and still prosecute under these means, and thus, as we have <sup>done</sup> for years, signally fail? or shall we, in the language of that noble patriot of his country, (Patrick Henry,)



2.

now use those means that God and nature has placed within our power? I hope, sir, to this sentiment, in Philadelphia, there is but one response; for in that city reside some noble men and women, whose hearts <sup>always</sup> are warmed and cheered at every rising hope for the slave. But sir, your measure anticipates, not only for the abject slave, but to those colored men north and south, who are but virtually slaves. There is, in truth, no black man, north or south of Mason's and Dixon's line, a freeman, whatever be his wealth, position or worth to the world. This is but the result of that hellish system, against which every honest man and woman in the land should be combined. I hope sir, you will be able, assisted by those eminent gentlemen who accompany you, to make these things plain, and take their hold upon the Philadelphia mind; and join with you in holy energy and combat, against the all damnable foe. Let them see the little book you presented to me, and so dissipate their doubts and fears, Please put me down for ( 25 ) more to begin with.

Yours for struggling, universal rights,

J. N. Gloucester.

( P. S. ) Please to read this to the friends assembled, if thought best.