

Harper, Dec. 28, 1837

Oliver Holmes Jr. Esq.

My very dear Sir,

You will, doubtless, think that I have taken a great deal of liberty in my mode of addressing you; but believe me, kind Sir, it is from a tender sympathy of mind, and the most profound respect, I retain for you; especially when I remember the friendship you manifested towards me while you were here with us.

On hearing of Mr. Nupurum's having received a letter from you, solicitous to know of your welfare & health, I did not hesitate to make it my business to call and ascertain what you had written. I am sorry to hear that your health at the time of writing (Aug. 27) was so poor, but I am in hopes that, by this time, you have fully recovered.

My principal motive for writing to you at this time (as you are the only friend in America through whom I may have access to the Maryland ~~Board~~ as well as the Missionary Board, by whom I was recently employed) is to make you acquainted with the circumstances relative to my downfall, which you must have heard of ere this, as well as the movements of the Colonists and Missionaries towards me, in order that you may present my case to both Boards, and rebut whatever you may hear contrary to what I here give you a full statement of. As I always had, and still have, the fullest confidence in your friendship, I shall not hesitate plainly to state matters as they have existed, and do still exist.

A few weeks after you left <sup>us</sup> there was a rumour spread throughout the Colony, that I had indulged myself in carnal intercourse with females, natives and Colonists, and even with the girls of the Mission school. It finally got to Dr. Savage's ears, who, of course, pretended to give no credit

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