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My dear Friend: I have just reached home and found your letter. Many thanks for its hearty prediction that I will fail. I do not question it at all. Have never had any other expectation. But God will not fail non liberty because of what is being done — not by me but the the friends of freedom and ~~to~~ justice in the land.

I have not seen the Advance you refer to. Was absent when it came and somehow it was lost. I have sent for it. It is not strange that the Church should be sensitive. It has always been fond of a distributed article and has invariably chosen to construe "Christianity" in one premise as "the philosophy of Christ" in another ^{as} "the theology of Christ" and in another as "the Church of Christ on earth" according to ~~the~~ the desire of the controversialist. ~~How a man may believe the Philosophy of Christ" and not the theology and yet be properly converted~~

Now, as a matter of fact, the Church of Christ on earth may be, and very often is, the Devil's chosen instrument for obstructing the acceptance of Christ's philosophy and preventing the coming of God's Kingdom on earth.

If the Church chooses to denounce me for advocating that justice to all men by all men, ~~and~~ and individual responsibility for collective injustice and evil, which is the essence of Christ's philosophy and the essential prerequisite of the Kingdom of God on earth, I can stand it.

I have no antagonism to the Church as the body of believers in ^{the} Christian doctrine of salvation, but when they exalt salvation and pride above ~~but~~ justice and the application of Christian philosophy to the betterment of human

— the essence and ideal of the divine philosophy of justice and equality of right for all men — should accept as an equal follower and believer the advocate of the ~~same~~ or apostle = gist of "the same of all religions!"

I cannot understand it now, but I have learned the blessed truth that the Church has no monopoly of God's love, God's spirit or God's truth. I have no warfare on "Christianity" meaning thereby Christ's philosophy; nor on "Christianity" meaning thereby Christian theology; but ~~the~~ "Christianity" as ~~the~~ the sole representative of God's ~~love~~ truth, that is the visible Church on earth, I cannot accept as any more infallible than the head of the Romish hierarchy, and should feel myself unworthy to assume the

~~name~~ of Christ, if I should fail
to rebuke either its lethargy, its in=
justice or its denial of equal right
to all God's children.

Feeling thus I can appreciate the
words of a very eminent colored
man recently uttered in my pres=
ence in tones of evident sincerity
and betokening no little agony of
soul: "Heaven forgive me; but white
American Christianity has destroyed
my faith in Christ and my hope
in God. I cannot believe in a re=
ligion which has borne such fruits
as the slavery of yesterday on which
tries to hide and palliate such
oppression ~~as this~~ and injustice as
that of today."
~~It is this day~~ ~~thing that gives strength to~~ ~~larger blessing;~~
He is not alone in this
and if any one expects me to be still
and not declare that "Christianity"

life and the restraint of evil among
men, I shall say so. I love God
and what I deem His truth too well
to lie or be silent ^{in order} to win the
approval of any man or body of
men.

I am sorry they should take the
ground that slavery was an injustice =
want of grace, or regard with ~~too~~
bigoted or affected horror the state-
ment that the Negro's faith is a mira-
cle. I am free to confess that the active
support and approval of slavery by a
great part of the Christian Church in
our country and the cowardly evasion
of the greatest ~~and~~ question of moral
right and wrong ever propounded by
another great ~~and~~ wing of Christian
thought among us, was for many years
the greatest stumbling-block in the
way of any one faith. I could not
understand how a believer in Christ

~~excuse~~ and customs
which it either promotes ~~or excuses~~
such ~~mea~~ on ~~neglects~~ excuses and
neglects such inevitable evils is
not an enemy of justice and a
foe to truth, why then, I am a
fool I shall have to answer
in your own words: "I won't
do it!"

All the same I regret ~~it~~
~~just as one does~~ the necessity
for speaking the truth and won-
der all the more at the ~~un-~~
avermin's faith and my own
"folly". ~~It is none of my~~ I sincerely
wish that I could believe ~~in~~
~~the~~ ~~the~~ that "whatever is is right", and some-
pleasantly look on injustice and wrong
with the ^{of the little girl} consoling reflection, "It is none
of our business, is it God?" ~~anyway~~
aunt