

Boston June 17 - 1860

Gerrit Smith, Esq.

Dear Sir,

Since writing you on the 12th inst, it occurs to me that Mr Phelps, in his letter of Feby 19th to the Committee concedes the principle I contend for. He says, "Although the publishing of my name to that document was an unwarrantable liberty, for I never signed it, or authorized any one to sign it for me, yet, as I did not contradict it at the time, I can hardly set up this plea now."

It also occurs to me that was - much as Mr Phelps must be sued seperatly from the others, he can be used as a witness in the suits against them, if he should be needed.

If you adopt the plan of bringing four or five subsequent suits against the whole committee, except, Phelps, would recommend laying the damages at \$310,000 which will be \$10,000 to each man. Of course I should not expect to recover this amount in each and every one of the suits. But if we should recover it in one, we could afford to let them off easily on the others. As it si uncertain which one of the suits would be tried first, it would be proper to lay the damages at the full about in all.

Yours truly

L. Spooner

Please send a copy of this to Mr Sedgwick, if you think it of sufficient importance.