

(Free pdf) The Letters of William Lloyd Garrison, Volume III: No Union with the Slaveholders: 1841-1849

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William Lloyd Garrison
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William Lloyd Garrison : The Letters of William Lloyd Garrison, Volume III: No Union with the Slaveholders: 1841-1849 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Letters

As early as 1842 Garrison advanced the idea of disunion, arguing that the Constitution was "a covenant with death." Distressed by Calhoun's signing of the annexation treaty for Texas, he prophesied that civil war was inevitable. Though plagued by illness and death in his immediate family throughout the years covered in this volume, Garrison drove himself to win supporters for the radical abolitionist cause. In 1846 he traveled to Great Britain, denouncing the Free Church of Scotland for accepting funds from South Carolina. While in England he lectured often with Frederick Douglass; the two embarked the following year on a grueling lecture tour of the western United States, heretofore the exclusive domain of moderate abolitionists. In 1848, despite the objections of close friends, Garrison held the controversial Anti-Sabbath Convention in Boston. Throughout these years he continued to write extensively for the *Liberator* and involved himself in a variety of liberal causes; in 1849 he publicized and circulated in Massachusetts the earliest petition for women's suffrage.

Walter M. Merrill is responsible for a first-rate job in presenting these central documents for the history of American reform in the 1840s. One of the more interesting developments in Garrison's career in this decade was his conversion to and then impassioned advocacy of the cause of disunionism. (History)From the Back CoverWilliam Lloyd Garrison (1805-1879), outstanding among the dedicated fighters for the abolition of slavery, was also an activist in other movements such as women's and civil rights and religious reform. Never tiring in battle, he was 'irrepressible, uncompromising, and inflammatory.' He antagonized many, including some of his fellow reformers. There were also many who loved and respected him. But he was never overlooked.About the AuthorWalter M. Merrill was Professor of English at Drexel University.