

William Lloyd Garrison, one of the most famous of the abolitionists, was born in Newburyport, Mass., of New Brunswick parentage. In Baltimore and Washington he came in contact with slavery and wrote so vehemently against it that he was tried, imprisoned and amerced in a fine of \$1,000. In 1831 he issued the first number of "The Liberator," in which, for five and thirty years, he continued to plead the cause of the slave. He adopted as his motto "My country is the world, my countrymen are all mankind," and stoutly affirmed "I will not equivocate, I will not excuse, I will not retreat a single inch, and I will be heard." These prophetic words are engraved upon his monument in the city of Boston, through whose streets he was dragged by a mob and committed to prison to save his life. When he visited England Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton was amazed to find him a white man, having taken it for granted that no one could plead so eloquently against slavery unless he had himself been a slave. He procured the aid of George Thompson, the eloquent English abolitionist, who earnestly pleaded the cause of the oppressed in the chief cities of the northern States and Canada.¹

A noble band of women became leaders in the anti-slavery reform at a time when public opinion forbade public speaking to their sex. Mrs. Chapman, Mrs. Child, Lucretia Mott, Abby Kelley and others bravely bore this reproach and addressed public audiences when stones and brickbats crashed through the windows. For admitting free coloured girls to her school at Canterbury, Conn., Miss Prudence Crandall, a Quaker lady, was treated with contumely and malice. She was boycotted, to use the phrase of a later day, even by the doctor who refused to visit the sick in her school, and lived as in a besieged garrison. She was thrown into a prison cell from which a murderer had just been taken for execution. Her school was fired and well nigh wrecked and was finally closed by violence.

Wendell Phillips, a man of the bluest blood of Boston, a member of its Brahmin caste, son of the first mayor of that city, espoused the cause of the hated abolitionists. He shared their persecutions and witnessed their triumphs. Channing, Quincey and other heroes of reform soon joined the ranks.

Intense opposition was offered the new propaganda, anti-abolitionist riots took place in several northern cities. In New York the house of Mr. Louis Tappan was sacked and the furniture burned. In Philadelphia the anti-slavery hall was burned as was also an asylum for coloured children. The Hon. J. C. Burney, solicitor of Alabama,

¹ After thirty-five years' ceaseless effort the work to which "The Liberator" was devoted was accomplished, and Garrison, an invited guest, saw the flag of the emancipated Union raised upon the battlements of Fort Sumter.