

Amherst 30. 9 mo 70

Dear Sir,

I thank thee sincerely for thy kind invitation. I fear it will not be in my power to be with you at the Y. M. as my health seems hardly equal to the effort at present to go so far.

I unite with thee in thy desires that the meeting may be an occasion of thanksgiving for the blessing of the Divine Presence. I long for harmony & unity in our society. We can only have it by love and that

clarity which is self-
forgetful, low-suffering, and
tender towards the conscience,
and prejudices even of others.
The dear Lord does not
want us to quarrel with
each other, on his account,
and he must look with
perfect serenity & compassion
upon us, when we cherish
unkindness in His name.

I often think of the
dear father, & others of the
old confederacy of freedom, in
this day of its triumph. May
we not think that they
rejoice with us?

My friend
J. M. G. Whittier