

Ruth Weaver to Governor Henry A. Wise, 20 October 1859

Governor of Va

Myrna 10th Moth 20th 1859
Chenango Co^y N.Y.

In the stillness and depth of night I have arose from my sleepless bed to write to thee (in the fear and dread of the Majesty of Heaven and also in a measure of his love which breaths "peace on earth and good will to men") a warning not to suffer anything done to those late prisoners in a hasty or harsh manner althouh they have committed an high offence against their country and also in the sight of the great Creator and Judge of all the earth. But Oh! let justice and judgment go forth in this spirit seek ^{his} to know ^{his} will, and remember the example of Him our Lord and Saviour when nailed to the cross how He prayed for his murderers, and now friend who art chosen to fill the Chiefest seat in thy States government if thou and thy people will let a measure of this spirit of divine love rule your hearts in proceeding against those poor criminals if you inflict death it will be in a mild and easy way for evnt that is a great responsibility to take that from our fellow men ~~that~~ which we cannot ^{for ever} is impossible again to restore; but O beware ~~of~~ in the heat of excitement of giving away to heathinsh examples of inflicting cruel and terrible deaths upon their prisoners and captives in their power and thus provoke the Majesty of Heaven who hath said "vengeance is mine I will repay with the Lord" for we all shall have to stand beffre the judgment seat of Christ, from a lover of truth & righteousness

Ruth Weaver

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Transcription

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Ruth Weaver

Governor's Office, Letters Received, Henry A. Wise, Record Group 3, Library of Virginia.

Amos A. Laurence to Governor Henry A. Wise, 26 October 1859

Boston. Oct. 26. 59.

Dear Sir

From the Telegr^h Report of the trial of Capt. Brown, it appears to be uncertain whether he will have a trial in the usual form.

Permit me who loves the whole country as much as yourself to urge on you the necessity of securing this. Brown is a Puritan, whose mind has become disordered by hardship & illness. He has the qualities wh. endear him to our people, & his sudden execution would send a thrill of horror through the whole North. From his blood would spring an army of martyrs all eager to die in the cause of human liberty. I am sure that I express the ^{desire} ~~opinion~~ of all conservative men here when I beg you to insist on a fair trial.

His Excell^y
Gov. Wise.

Respectfully & truly
y^r obt^s Amos A. Laurence

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