Allen declines to write, as
paper would not convey
a statement that would be
satisfactory to both sides.
I think he has no prej-
udice against the merits
judiciously of all parties.
He has many clean principles
heard & I think his final
is right to quietly & line
up the Cause.

If you Com^e prefer his
going to Phila I presume
he could go. You may
want his advice as to
how you can best utilize
the what you have on the
sp^r. I write this to thee
in confidence.

Mine affy
Francis

2/10. 1871.

My dear friend
M. C. Lapine.

I have a long confidential letter from A. Lay about your work in Jerm^y, written to me at my request. He is not willing that it should go beyond my hands.

I would only say that I would advise you to wind up your present arrangement as soon as possible. The sooner the better.

~~[illegible]~~

Allen says that Jerm^e friends offered to pay his expenses to Phila to see you Com^e & explain the case that they you may fully understand the matter. Many of them wrote freely as they

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