

Extract from a letter of Ann W. Weston  
39 Summer Street Boston March 6<sup>th</sup> 1843  
Speaking of Douglas' lecture

"The house was very full, much more so than  
at any former evening, "an array of beauty  
& fashion" — "Douglas did not get in till  
late, as he came up from Lynn in the 7 o'clock  
train, but he did arrive though we were all  
full of fears, & gave a very good lecture, not as  
good as I have heard, but very well. He was more  
in the narrative & familiar vein & kept the  
audience laughing all the time — one  
or two old folks went out, but the audience  
generally were well pleased, he was elegant  
occasionally, but as he was telling his own  
experiences, there was not so much chance for  
flowers of rhetoric as might be. I expected Mrs  
Tyler would be aggravated but she bore it  
very well, said she enjoyed the lecture amazingly  
& was wonderfully amused with the sermon.  
but the most astonishing thing of all was that  
she knew him; remembered to have seen him in  
Baltimore, she said his master was a Mr Merriman  
who had a son at E. M. P. Wells' School at the time,  
that his real name was Edward that he was  
considered a very valuable servant. After the  
lecture Douglas of course came home with Maria,  
Warren stepped up to him quietly & called him  
"Edward" at which he started as though he had  
been shot & took Warren into the back drawing  
room to show where he had got his info



matron. Mrs J. said to Warrin that she would  
keep his information to herself, but Maria  
says it is not material for that Douglas has  
made some arrangement with his master  
though he says nothing about it."

Extract from  
Letter  
March 6<sup>th</sup> 1834