

March 1858.

Bazaar to be charged to
social circles. F. Douglass
Weymouth, March 8th
1858

How glad am I, my dear Mary, to
hear from you directly once again - while
it is with some remorse that I feel my own
gladness for writing is the worst thing possible for
a strong mind in a feeble frame. Some writing
is easy enough: - charming twaddle
in a literary magazine, or notes of invita-
tion, or friendly journals for family reading.
But such writing as you have been called to
do - an act of sense of judgement, state-
ment, argument, - is the severest possi-
ble tax on the nervous system: & I am
so thankful that the good effect of rest from
it, proves to you your remedy. When I
felt it wear upon my own iron nerves
& strong organization, to write much, & to one
point, I changed works, & went to Europe.
"Consequence is" (as the excellent Sam. Miller
is made by Dickens to observe) I'm alive yet.
I've got my year's work before me, need
to supply that deficit which may be
caused in the Treasury, by the cessation
of the Fair. Still I am mainly of the
mind that no more will be lost to us
than is now lost by the necessary ex-

penise & the unavoidable waste.
Now, the ^{the gain} ^{by} "good" saleable contribu-
tions, that have once been cast in
the funds' hands on your side the water
hardly ought to be sacrificed (in a sense)
to pay the expenses on what does
not sell. The instrumentality is no longer
new;— like & old broom, it ought to be
replaced, & I have invented an instrument
to replace it,—"The 2^d Annual Anti
Slavery Subscription - Festival," to join so
nearly on to the old Bazaar pipe,
that the change will only be percep-
tible for the better. We are such beings
of Routine, (even the most Harum-Scar-
um natures—pardon the word,) that
we don't find out so soon as we ought
when change is needed. I now think,
instructed by observations that I could
~~not~~ make while the Bazaar obscured
my vision, that it would have been
well to have stopped it three years ago.
But I do not feel to blame for not
doing what I could not then see so clearly
as I do now. I am coming into
Correspondence with our County towns,
rapidly. I find what they need, to ex-

ate a "revival" & to awakens new ac-
tion, is just the removal of the Bugbear
& a means in its place which shall
call them in to the work, in the
(se) shape of a social influence. I
don't know whether you know it?
(America being a place in theory so
democratic, & in reality so equal
as to social station, that I may
never have thought to mention it)
but one of our advantages is, that
if there be ^{here} properly any such things
as social rank & respectability,
"Pa-hank & Pka-sham" as poor
Lonsley said, as opposed to "La-hag, Pa-
hag & Po-ob-tail", - the Boston
abolitionists are that thing.
Some by wealth, ^{as America counts riches,} some by various
antecedents, - some by high intellect
not gifts - all by ^{the} more than ordi-
ary moral worth which is the cause
of them being the abolitionists. (You
see I speak freely, & just like a stran-
ger, looking on to see what is best to
do - not at all in an egotistical spirit
in their behalf.) Now we have never

thought enough of this real advantage
to make the use of it. We can now
do. I was in fact, reminded of it
by a conversation I had with the
Proprietor of a Free Soil paper here,
who, touched by seeing women ser-
ving pretty severe gins, like Servant,
during the Fair (which we have always
gloried in doing -) said - "do you know
Madam, how we young men feel
about this? - I should if I might,
like to tell you." I made him as well
come as the flowers in May, to tell, &
he went on to say that he could find
a hundred young men at our
Service, but for the idea they have
that we were great Ladies, whom
they must not venture to approach.
"What!" said I, - "after all we have
proclaimed of morality & integrity for
so many years, all who will, to
come with us?" "Still I have seen the
Some could not come." True, I replied,
But you did not know all necessa-
ry to know, to ^{the} understanding of their
Case. A hypocrite, trying to use us for
his own purposes, cannot come. We
took him out of countenance, with the