

New Bedford Jan 5th 1840

Sunday evening

Dear Aunt-Chary,

Give much
leave to him
at all at -
own words
How is Ken?
now - write
soon
most affec-
your
D. W.

I acknowledge my transgressions, & feel my iniquity in respect to not writing to you so much, that I was almost ashamed to open your last letter. I ~~know~~ ^{know} that I did not deserve it, but I have felt so miser-ably ever since my return from Boston that I have had no heart for any thing, then too those fair articles that I brought with me to sell, rested on my mind like a dead weight I had not a minutes comfort till they were sold, thinking perhaps that Maria was suf-fering for the money, & depending upon me for it. I tried in the house with the face as he I just before new year though I felt that I must do or die, so rushed out to peddle my goods from house to house, that is to say I took them to those houses where I thought they would be likely to sell. The model of the Parthenon I sold to Sammy Rodman, who asked me to keep the \$1.00 to the Parthenon too, as per-haps I might sell it to somebody else. The idea of having the trouble of selling the thing twice was perfectly horrible to me - I got \$25.00 for Maria, dont you think I did very well. Every thing went off remarkably well at the fair, all the fashionables of the town were there all the "muggers" (dont let this letter get into the chass etc) I was only there the first day when I ~~was~~ ^{was} stood some time helping them

arrange, I suppose I took cold, for that night
I had the worst attack of fever which I ever had
in my life. It lasted from 9 o'clock at night, till
4 or 5 in the morning. New Years day I left my
room, for though the pain was abated it left
me feeling bad enough. By night I was con-
siderably recovered & Dr. Collins, calling quite
restored me. He had come to raise money
& you may think how much I enjoyed seeing
him, Anna not being in town he brought me
no letters. It is a great trial to me I assure
you when she is not in Boston - All the others
are broken needs - Collins has been very successful
in raising money, counting the fair, he will
get I should think nearly \$600. The sum raised
at the fair was \$214. which to quote Mary Parker
we consider a very good sum. They sold
nearly all their articles, besides some on
commission the last evening - their own being
all gone. Andrew Robeson gave as usual ^{to Collins} \$100 -
The story goes here that Andrew can't give
less than a hundred to the cause whenever he
is asked. At the present time, at least - a
few weeks since he was giving 30 per cent -
for money - Do you remember Mrs Brooks
embroidered table at the fair - well, young Jo
Richetson made me a present of it - William
Coffin gave me the prettiest little shell handled
pen-knife you ever saw, with my name on
it. & Mary Eddy gave me one of those pocket-
books, you saw them did you not on the
N. B. table - that is the amount of my presents -

I tremble for the annuity. No Congdon goes to
Boston in the morning & I shall hear ^{by} him
at night - I am very impatient - to hear from Lynn
& Salem - As Dr Channing says, I am doubtful &
I am fearful. At any rate they must raise some
-thing. Our soc. held its annual meeting Saturday
afternoon, we had quite a good one and are
going to take 50 money boxes, to say nothing of
2000 almshouses - You can't think how delighted
I was to hear such news from the Boston fair - I
am very curious to know what they will do now.
Lawline estimated that they had \$90 left to pay
the pledge of \$1000 - & that too allowing their own
estimate of \$700. The handbox with my bonnet came
safe, & I liked it very much - My new sash
is done, looks beautifully & is much admired.
Have you got a new one - Tell me when you
write again - You all seem to be in great fear
of the small pox at Weymouth, but what would
you think if you were living as I am in the
very midst of it - A vile place called Dog
Corner, very near us is the head quarters of
the contagion - Dr Reed told me to-day that
there was infection enough there to poison the
town for twenty years to come. It has been so ever
since I came from Boston & to-day I was re-vacci-
-nated. I can't say that I have felt the least
uneasiness about ~~the~~ it, & had a good mind
not to be done, but I thought it best to be on
the safe side - Has Dr Richards really got it -
No Dr here has taken it -

Broadburn gave two lectures here
which were called very good - all the great
men out to hear him - Abolition is in most
excellent odour here, unless if a man does
but say the abolitionists are a poor set, he is
called at once the greatest persecutor living - I
liked Broadburn much better as a lecturer than
I had expected - he is certainly very deaf - &
how he will manage in the house exceeds
my wit. Shall you send him your petitions
again - I have by no means given up coming to

to Boston to the annual meeting - I may come & I
may not. I will let you know as soon as I determine
I long to be in Boston the 3rd when the Boston
Female signalises itself - Will Dr. Farnsworth be
present. Anne wrote me that he said he would
some time ago - Tell Lucia to write & I entreat
you to keep on - I am much obliged for your
writing so fully about Aunt Priscilla - M^r is a
great to know exactly how she is. I have expect

70

Miss Mary Weston

Weymouth

cross



Ms. A. 9. 2. 13. 5

every letter to her that she was in Boston - M^r
is such a comfort to be doing something & when
I think that I never got in the least better in my
sickness till after seeing Dr. Warren, it encourages
me to hope the same for her - Let me have
a letter from you very soon do - Did you read
Alanson Et. Clair's letter in the ed, it was a bone
it not - Tell Lucia to write me a whole letter
immediately - any thing is acceptable - Give
much love to Aunt Priscilla & Phoebe - it seems
very long since I have seen you all, but it is only
two months - I have been more homesick in that time