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and peculiarities. But he did so well &
was critical to think that when Miss Ke
began her account, she saw the
arrived him in his own person "the
great cloud of witnesses" spoken of. Then
came the report that during some all have
him free in our power by the fear &
belief that Halleck would arrest him again
& take him before his lord who is a commis
sioner & hurry him off at once. A rumor
bill to this effect was got out & people
exhorted to stand by. More troops were
moved from here & there. The rumor
is that the Government spent \$4000 for
the man which was refused, Virginia
telegraphing to Halleck to sell him if
he dared. Telegraphs flying like hail
between here & Washington the whole
day, paying to look on. There was
never such a time in Boston before.
All round Court Square all business
stopped, and crowds of men & women
even when all seemed quiet, showing
there all day. Strangers stopped & asked
people in the street how matters were
going, bulletins of what was going
on in the C. H. paper round every
few minutes & the Newsboys cried
the extras three every few hours the
papers got me all the time. We were
at the N. E. Convention was in session
& so was the Free Soil Convention. I
did not care to go to the Fair, for
I thought they had better adjourn
but we went to be at Court Square

and perhaps because it is a pity to
have unadvised absurd talk. In the
Abolitionists to be discussing non-con-
sistent & tedious topics at such a
time was not profitable. However, I believe
they suffered over any special difficulties.
& had evening Wendell managed to
go in for a few minutes & made
what I am told was a very lively
speech. He reported nothing of it to me
but that when he mentioned Hall's
name, he said he wished he had a glass
of water to rinse his mouth & as he
passed him by Stephen Foster. Deborah
& I went into the F. S. Convention which
in the morning & heard John P. Hale
make as good a speech as he could
without any positive disapproval. The
Muni Hall was full to you may know
a divine may have large the audience
was. It lasted more than three hours
or as many. At night Worcester went
via Dale River, Deborah going down with
him to F. S. & then meeting back to the
children. I spent all night &
wrote part of this. Thursday the 1st of June
the slave came had no journeyed over
night to Friday morning to give Mr
& my time to make up his mind &
write out his report. The Post came one
much displeased as we would judge too
& will send you the paper & you shall
see. The N. E. Convention held its sessions
at the Melodeon on the day before. Completely
full & many people who were unwilling

the under binding; that Porter was very
indignant & excited - The Committee
in full Court. Took a solemn calling
a meeting of ministers to see what their
duty was. I believe the Beecher's & Prof
Shove were at it, & but they & Hatty
have abode where. Nap Chali did pretty
much. Probably Hatty is finishing his
"Lunny Memoirs." It would have looked
better if she had shown her face to the
people in Boston in the evening, but
night, Wendell made a very fine speech.
He has done it for himself. He is having
greatness thrust upon him, & the time will
come for aught I know for him to be
Gov of Mass. He deserves it far more than
most could have done better. and
now of an writing at this present Friday
morning & a look in Wendell's parlour
not knowing what is to be. I shall go
down at 9 to Andrews' office at the corner
of Washington & State St. I do not dare to
be in the street. I cannot think
that when so wide a door is open before
the commission, he will not walk out
of it, but he may not. The troops are
ordered out with ball cartridges &
there has never been such a display of
military force to keep the peace since
the Revolution. All the friends as a yes
ever they have believed well. Of course
there is the usual amount of floating
for folly, men coming down to do
great things, after having made their

vells, &c. but there has been great &
intense civil feeling; I congratulate
Deborah that we never should be
true to the here and the brother say
what they would have done had they
been here for they have all been
here. Coming right at the end of
the Melbourne bill, the claim is just
considered a special insult to both
the Mayor, & the Governor here but
been like wet rags. The Mayor shall
have forbade the C. C. to be used as
a slave pen. It was brought up in the
House of Aldermen to turn them out.
There are 6 Aldermen, the vote stood
3 to 3. The Mayor casting the vote decided to
keep them in. Walking with Jenny Green
we met the Mayor. He misheard her
say something I said stopped her. He told
me he believed he had met her already. I
said no, explained about my sister, who
regretted for Mrs Green stopping her. I
explained the mistake, but said as it
had occurred I would bear my testimony
about the C. C. He said we must judge
him carefully, he was very peacefully set
tled &c. The truth is he is a wavering
man. A Party Padding, Wendell calls her.
But I must leave off. You may imagine
what agitation I am in. If the man is
sent back there may be great difficulty.
I cannot think he will be.

in N. W. W.

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Tuesday 30 I came in town again at
half past 10. A letter from Adeline Bailey
before I went, told me of her engagement
to a Baptist Professor at Brown Universi-
ty, but I was in too great haste to read
the letter. I found the city in a very diffe-
rent state; much more full of excite-
ment. Every body standing at their
shop doors & door knocking on St. groups
of people talking on the side walk. I
went & stood a little while with Mr.
Theodore Parker & Miss Stevens & R.
Coburn, sister in law, a Miss Lane. The
latter stood on the side walk opposite the
Court House the whole time of the trial
going regularly forenoon & afternoon.
The police keep a path through the
crowd & so they have to stand a part of
the time on the curb stone. I have seen
every day two or three times a day &
stood with them a little, but as to my
standing there all the time as they do
I might as well try to rescue Burns
single handed. The men in the ships are
very ugly, but I coolly ask permission
to sit there a little & some of them
snap out "as long as you please ma'am"
During Tuesday (all the elements of
disorder seemed to increase, many
country people. You will expat. yourself
in no better way than by saying
that all hell seemed broke loose. This

was just discouraging. The prayers put
up Sunday seem to have been answered
for whereas there did not appear to be a
gleam of evidence for the man, help
most unexpectedly turned up. The
claimant & his witness, now that Brown
ran away the 24th of March. 5 or 6
witnesses were found to prove that
they had seen him in Boston a month
previous. These rumors which were of
trouble to the man, made people come
in it afforded a most capital opportu-
nity for doing to prove and he never
Wendell could not come home to take
any more. He just got up for a mo-
ment but that was all. I ran in & out
at Parker's. Saw Mr Davis, Hannah
Thomas. She reported her visit to me
& said she had fallen back on her
indignity. I must tell you what a time
they had at Wendell. On Saturday night
just as I was putting in my basket
to go home, Wendell came in & told Ann
she was going to be mobbed that night
by the townsmen. I offered to stay in
with at once, but Wendell & Ann both
declined & to him he did not believe
a word of it. But at night, there was
great rumors & panic among some
friends. There was great tapping &
repeating, & groups of men came &
looked at the door & people were before
the house. Wendell was out & Ann
was at 9 lying in the bed when word

was text up that Theodore Parker went
see her immediately. On a bright
was burning in Ann's room & Phoebe was
down with that to light him up. It was
extinguished in the hurry, & so Theodore
entered her room in almost entire dark-
ness. She on the bed. Theodore expressed
some surprise at not finding her awake
to sit up. & then told her she must go
at once to his house as hers might be
sacked in 10 minutes. Wendell was away
Ann was somewhat frightened, but in
a few minutes rallied & refused to leave
she would wait Wendell's return in a
little time more Miss Pleasance was in
the room. "I had not seen her for 18 years"
said Ann & was rather startled when I
heard her voice say in "Ann dear, you
must go." But Wendell returned & of
course refused all such stuff. Phoebe was
almost scared to death. She was sent to
Mrs Gwynn's. Ann then insisted on Phoebe
going there too. Phoebe cried & resisted
& did not want to go. I saw the whole
fight at Uncle's side but an heroic
young man living in Essex St. led her off
Wendell's father's picture & a few other
valuables under his arm. In the mean
time the friends came to the scene of a kind
Sun. May, Saml J. May, J. Jackson, Kemp
& several men they did not know. There
was about in the parlour, at the table & Francis
Pickens sat by Ann's bed who had put
in a clean gown & cap & lain down for
the night. About 1 or 2. Ann got up &
put Phoebe to bed in Phoebe's chamber.

convinced up with Throes & I. Thomas
ste. having he really felt just as if he
was in a boat a sea-bout. In the
early part of the alarm, Miss Stevens
had run a foot & alone I saw the door
bells of Dr. Blyden, Dr. Reynolds, & Tom
Phillips & told them the news. I don't know
as the Blydens did any thing. Dr. Reynolds
came up, but saw only Mary the chamber
maid, & finding friends there were off
instantly he had no desire to see the Abs.
Tom Phillips was to the Mayor. The Mayor
told him he knew the house was in danger
& the Police were watching it, & a sufficient
force to protect it would go at a minutes
warning. But there was no occasion
was probably the workings of Peter Dinkler
& his men in the men killed was one of
his trunkmen, that got up the breeze.
Well ^{Wednesday} night Deborah picked the box
& I will say more of this in another place
Wednesday morning we came in town, the
war & Deborah & I. the war was not
working very favorable us to evidence
to people without conflicting, had sworn
to their knowledge of Burns in the ear
part of March. & as I have said the
Virginians were plainly be escaped on
the 24th. When they first appeared, but
well heard Helletts, who has been the hear
& part of the business, say to some in a
whisper, "Here comes a witness that Puck
has got to perjure himself," but as it was
on, they looked ~~at~~ ^{black} enough. Wendell said
he went like with himself while they were
examining the witnesses for when the first
one, a black man, has his little infirmary
turn

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Wednesday May 31. I wrote the first
sheet several days ago, but I will
take up where I left off, as H. C. L.
says. I am writing in the parlour
at 26 Essex St. & it is 9 in the
evening. The result of the attack on
the C. H. was that the door was broken
in with clubs & axes, shots were
fired all round, one man was killed
a scamp who had volunteered in
the service. His fall alarmed both
parties & before they could rally at the
door, the police force was mustered
in more strength, & some military
were brought. It is a melancholy fact
that had the whole meeting been
there, Burns would have been rescued
albeit Newey thinks, & some circumstances
enable him to judge with tolerable ac-
curacy, that several people would have
been killed on both sides. Merely
unconscious of all this Wendell & Phil
& I went to Essex St. At the door
the men left us & went down to Court
Square. We all sat up to 11 in much
anxiety, Ann T. remarking when she
heard of the gist of the meeting that
the attack had not been made. When
Wendell came home he reported that
all seemed pretty quiet & it was not
till the next morning that it was known
just what had happened. I slept in
one of Ann's upper chambers. I had a
very nervous & disturbed night, but should

it a million times better than dinner
who will remember many of my
trials to me believe. Saturday was a
very strong day. Wendell went off early
instead had not time to eat his breakfast.
He was behaving more beautifully &
heroically than tongue can tell, perfectly
calm & firm & bright, working with
his whole heart & soul & mind & strength
not very hopeful, but doing what he
knew. Mary Ransom called. She was
may be sure agitated enough, but she
walked down to Court Square with me
the crowd was not as large as I had
hoped. We saw some men & saw
Mr Garrison & Jennie Greene here with
us. We all sat down & talked about
with confidence. Mary R. maintained
hers pretty well; mine was terrible poor.
Ann Terry had never had any. Mrs Green
was of water a traditional kind,
but she kept saying in a rather aggre-
gating manner how thankful she was
that Garrison was a non-resistant. Besides that
was hardly able to come home at all.
He swallowed a most hurried dinner. Then
appeared to be no evidence in favor,
nothing to do with, but Ellis & Dana were
behaving very gallantly. I walked over to
Court Square again in the afternoon.
The crowd much increased. Wendell lay
in arranging about the forms of
prizes to be sent to the churches. Some

home at 7, much work was done: I sat down &
worked on the fellow cases, thro' all the
evening. I forgot to say that Wm. who
had I advised at Weymouth the fall since
I was from N. Y. being filled with the
spirit of "whom the fight" came in
with at 10. He called at Wendell's, Henry
& he went out together at 12, part
2. Henry has remained there ever since
as there was no need to say nothing
about forks. Wm. is pretty well, not
more. I think this time of the year is
decidedly worse for him than any other.
He has a good deal of pain, but has a
good appetite & sleeps well. Sunday 18th
remained in my & sewed all day, regard
ing the fellow cases as works of necessity &
mercy. Susan Cowing staid with us. I
sent notes to the effect to the Schunks,
right in our neighbor hood. This takes
with the Baptist at Inkville. "Anthony
Burns now imprisoned in Boston C. H.
on the charge of being a fugitive slave
asks the prayers of this congregation,
that now in this his hour of calamity,
penitence & suffering, God would graciously
interfere for his deliverance." I enclose
this with a note signed by my
self to authenticate the matter. At the
Baptist it was read & the man prayed
very warm. Mr. Davenport the Unit.
minister who is a very winning man
read it & made a noble winning prayer.
The Gov. of Bridge-water who was praying
I men preaching &

for Mr Perkins, did not get the note
till in the last evening. He had
allowed to the care in the long paper
but when the singing was done he was
& said he had received a note that she
had reached him earlier but it was
not too late now, so he read it & then
made a special prayer. It was so good
that the orthodox folks say to us, it will
have suited you. This was all I could
do, but the day was passed in terrible
his sense, particularly when we saw
written in that the man had been
taken from the C. H. & rescued on his
to Charles town to the Navy yard. James
Stiles held a tipping session, but the
notes were rather misty. The next
morning, Monday, 2^d, at 10 Warren &
I started for work. There was much more
quiet up round the C. H. The rumor was
rumorizing that the merchants would
buy him, & that quelled the people. I
will see in the papers the beginning &
ending of the whole negotiation. Wm
or ~~or~~ was behaving very amiable, as
far as giving time & all that went. We
had free entry as the slave's agents, but as
no man is admitted except as the com-
plicit of the U. S. engaged for the occasion
allow, or by Marshall Freeman. This man who
Devens's place & is a much more resolute
man. Sam Sewall, Althrop, & such men are
not allowed to enter, tho' members of the bar
the very judges yet access to the court with
the greatest difficulty. Troops have been sent
for to Newport Prisoner to. Went out there
night, & saw all the evening on the public court

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Emek Street May 30. 1854

WESTON
MSS.

Dear Fooks, We this evening will probably have heard of the great fire at Wolf's Crags which must account for all deficiencies and all omissions, the fugitive slave case. The papers will give you all the outside particulars, I shall do best to detail my personal experience merely. Last Thursday, the 26 I came to town for a few hours on some money business. I went to Ann Phillips's room as I came into the room, "you have heard the news" I said no. She began to cry & said "another slave case" & proceeded to detail the facts. She had just written a note summoning J. & me in to town. I staid with her till 4 when I had to leave. But we felt very hopeless of the matter. The case seemed very plain, & the poor man himself was terribly fearful. Had not A. Dana & Wendell got on to the ground just as they did, the guilt accidentally he would have been carried off with no stir. I went out to Weymouth & my news spread gloom & desolation. The next morning tho' I was terribly busy I staid for J. W. I found poor Ann pale & suffering. A rescue had been agreed on. The Vigilance Committee were in session all the time, Wendell & Parker the chief men. When should the rescue be. It was finally settled that the next morning, when the man was delivered up, & there seemed no evidence in his favor, a great crowd should be assembled

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in Court Square & the rush should be
made. The cars as against a night
attack on the Court House were, just
the difficulty of forcing a strong stone
building full of armed men, & the fear
that the fugitive might at the first
attack be hurried into a passage & not
be hurried into a passage & not
not be found during the short space
of time that the abolitionists should have
possession. A meeting on Faneuil Hall had
been decided on & the Hall obtained with
out the usual formalities as you will see
per papers. All day I sat at Ann Phillips's
& sewed, dear lady, on your pillow cases.
You shall have them sprinkled with holy
water as soon as they arrive, for I made
them or part of them, during the sun's eclipse
& "while every hour some tidings brought
of conflict at sea may." Obedt Gavnaunt
was smoking glass & watching the sun,
Ann wringing her hands & getting up &
lying down. Wendell at the Vigilance Com
meetings at the Tremont Temple, coming
in occasionally for a few minutes, were
went Higginson & a number of men had
come from Worcester. I should say that
in the morning when I first arrived in
town, I had gone in the omnibus to the
office. It was broken, all being gone to
the Vigilance Com. Meeting, but as the
carrier came to take away papers, I went
in & a dozen men came & went all
the time I was there. My trial was very
great, for tho' my own resistance was

terribly in abeyance, I did not dare to
stir the people up as I would gladly do
knowing as I did that certain times
fretted a desperate time. J. B. Smith
came. He said to me "If any one will
guarantee my wife & child \$10,000, I will
be the man to settle the marshal if I find
myself in Kessler next minute. I pledged you
to say, "I will stop for that, I will pledge you
the 10,000." but I had not quite the nerve
or perhaps the assurance. We were released
but I wish you had seen how he looked. I
would not go upon Kessler. I had seen
him a note the day before to go to the
Virginia Con. Meeting, but now I did not
wish to see him. I determined I would
not influence him by a look any way.
At night Phoebe Gannett & I went with
Wendell & Parker to Fenwick Hall. We
had been petted I should stay at Ann's
all night, so you know what the stuff
of weather was. When we reached Fenwick
Hall it was nearly full. Soon it was
cramped. About 300 women, but in
general a men's meeting. I have seen
the dearest feeling. Except that
not one, there can never be any meet-
ing to give better promise. George Russell
premiered with great dignity. By the
way when I first came in in the morning
Mr. J. showed me a note Wendell had
sent you Mr. Russell to this effect:
Dear Sir, Is there no way of avoiding
this terrible disgrace? I send you
\$100 & beg you if more is wanted

To call on me for all I have a can
command." Bin of Walpole, Swift a
young Freeholder, Wensell & Purke for
the two first, spouted & well, the two
others Wensell's experience with great force
& eloquence the whole meeting espoused
it when plainly settled that they were
all to be at the C. H. the next day
perform the rescue & all intelligently
cheered & responded to the plan. No dog
moved his tongue. But, as Wensell spoke
on the enthusiasm increased, & the air
shouted "to night, to night." Nobody but
Wensell & Purke especially the first
could have restrained, & as it proved
it was a pity that they did. They then
wished to go up to the Revenue House & mob
Luttrell, but that Wensell prevented. At last
a man struggled into the foot of the hall
& cried out: "A band of resisters are breaking
the door of the Court House." At this the
meeting broke up as once, about 200 had
to Court square. The rest were home yet
thinking that it might not be true.
Now there was the pity. This small band
was led by Sluggin & Martin Russell (a
man who headed the Syracuse rescue). This
had agreed in the afternoon to wait till
the next day, yet seeing the great
enthusiasm meeting, they set off without
communalism. With the men on the
platform. Indeed Sluggin had not been
in the house all the evening but on the
outside. I fancy the resisters did set off
on their own hook & Sluggin followed
them. Had the whole meeting seen to
the man would have been rescued &

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