

Boston, January 1, 1847.

My dear Sir,

(Bazaar)

I am sure you will feel desirous - perhaps anxious - to get an early word from the Thirtieth Massachusetts Antislavery Bazaar, and therefore it is that I have set myself down, to do the best I can on a hurried day to give you a few words respecting it. And first let me wish you a Happy New Year, as also your daughter and all my Bristol friends. The new year here commences with unusually mild weather, for the season. December was, for the most part, a pleasant & not a cold month. This very mildness of the weather, ^{acting as a large body of snow & ice which fell early in the month} has kept the streets of Boston in a very bad condition, and for 3 or 4 days made them quite impassable to such ^{ladies} as would walk to Faneuil Hall. The Bazaar opened Dec. 22^d at 10 o'clock, a.m. and the first day's receipts were \$1050., larger than ever before on any day. I should say that, previously, about 2 1/2 days had been spent, by an efficient band of volunteers, in fitting up the Hall, giving it the appearance of a Gothic Interior. The effect of this is beautiful, especially in the evening, as seen by the lighted. The original grant of the Hall was for a week only; but an extension of time was granted by the City Government, so that the Bazaar is still open, but will close to-night. The total receipts, up to last night, were \$4000; some hundreds will be added to that sum, I trust, today. Still there remain on hand very many articles, some of them among the most beautiful & costly; and these will be sent to Fairs, intended to be held at Salem, New Bedford, Lowell, and to the Rural Fair, annually held the 4th of July. The receipts ^{will} considerably exceed those of any former year. Our slaveholding Gov^t, by means of its Revenue Law, picks our pockets of \$300 to \$400., for duties - alas! how that good word is profaned! On the evening of the 21st the Hall was first lighted up, and the articles were then removed from their several boxes, trunks, baskets, &c. and laid upon the tables. I had the very great pleasure of assisting to unpack the vast Bristol box: - a capacious one truly; as Mr. Tollen said ^{of it} (on whose table, 15 or 16 feet long by 4 wide, most of the Bristol articles were placed) "It would make a splendid bazaar of its self."

You can judge how thickly the articles had to lie upon the table, [I have given you very nearly the exact dimensions of it.] Several frames and small stands were placed upon the table, and a stout cord was stretched over head, and on these were suspended shawls, embroidery work, and many other articles best exhibited in that manner. So it was, all over the Hall, which really is not large enough to show to advantage the articles which were sent - no use being made of the Galleries. My mother, who has long been a devoted friend to the cause, had charge of one table, and has been to the Hall every day of the ten days at 9 or 9 1/2 a.m., and not returned home till 10 P.M. The managers of the bazaar take all their meals together in a small room adjoining the hall, themselves furnishing the tables. My wife has been at the Hall more than half the time, assisting Mrs. Follen at her table. My little girl Adeline has also been deeply interested and engaged, and has assisted my mother at her table. Among the articles sent from Bristol, I noticed Miss Carpenter's little sketch of her Drawing Room (~~to~~ I supposed it to be at her house) as it appeared at the Exhibition of the articles you collected there for us. As to thanking or repaying you for your generous, your magnificent donations, I for one feel ashamed (yet why?) to do ~~so~~ ~~repay~~ the former, and I know we cannot the latter.

I am ashamed for the country & for my countrymen, that we cannot carry on this great enterprise without being necessitated to look for aid to you. But I doubt not it is a good Providence that obliges those of different countries to labour together in one work of humanity. - I had the pleasure of purchasing one of Miss Carpenter's drawings, that of Nonnensworth by Rodensack on the Rhine. Miss Anna Carpenter's "Princess Alice" with her epistle by her side was much admired. The little "Microscope Slides", sent by Mr. Augustin Richard (is he a nephew of Dr. Richard?) were purchased by Dr. Bowditch, whose attention I called to them. Considerable numbers of your Tract have been sold at about 16 cents apiece. Let me thank you for the 25 copies sent to me; the cover is a very pretty one, and sets off the tract admirably. I have sent one to Dr. Howe, as you desired, and have distributed (judiciously) some 90 to other. I have not yet sent to Messrs. Kepp and Donaldson, but shall not forget your request. I ~~sent~~ gave one to Rev. G. F. Simmons; one to Rev. Dr. Francis, who has read it, and spoken of it to me in terms of strong commendation, and made some particular inquiries concerning yourself & your family. A daughter of Dr. Francis

assisted at one of the tables of the Bazaar - also, a married daughter of Rev. E. T. Taylor, here a well-known preacher to the Seamen. She, as well as her father, is a Methodist, decidedly attached to her religious views, and as decidedly convinced, unlike her father, of the righteousness of our cause. He has been a bitter opponent, but this year seems to have hung round the Fair as if spell-bound, heard Mr. Garrison speak, and was quite overcome; and yet, while encouraging his daughter & her husband to "stand firm", is not prepared to take the stand himself. A daughter of Mr. Giddings, the fearless Representative from Ohio in Congress, has also been assisting at the Fair. I should tell you that on each evening of the Fair, commencing with Dec. 24th, there have been addresses, from different persons. I was requested to make the opening one; and if you get the "Liberator" of today, you will probably find in it a report of my remarks. -

The water-colour drawings which came from Bristol have been all very beautiful. The articles sent from Edinburgh, Glasgow, Carlisle, Cork & Belfast, ~~and~~ were very elegant & valuable. The Cork ladies manifest a wonderful degree of taste & tact in a variety of articles; a collection of very delicate sea-mosses, each forming a kind of bouquet pressed on a card in a little basket, were greatly admired for their exquisite beauty. ~~Also~~ The value of the articles from abroad was so great that it was thought advisable to get insurances on them during the time they were on hand unsold, and it was done to the amount of \$4000. - A very large & beautiful screen, representing your Queen, worked by a daughter of James Haughton of Dublin was disposed of, by use of lots, for nearly \$100. The Bazaar, during all the days when the weather and the walking were not intolerable, has been very largely attended. ~~See~~ A little doll, ^{named Fanny Tyndal} with a red trunk of clothing, which came I think from Bristol was purchased by Mr. Charles Sumner, whose name is known to you.

I must particularly thank your daughter for the volumes of Chambers' Miscellany, which she sent, & all which were safely received. We value them very much, and not less her kind remembrance. Ade. has written a note of acknowledgements.

I wrote you by Steamship of Dec. 1st, and, again, ~~sent~~ ⁱⁿ a parcel of pamphlets, forwarded by packership of Dec. 5th, which I hope you may have received. Dear Sir, accept this in place of something more worthy your reading, and believe me, with respect & affection, Yours Samuel May.

The first part of the paper is devoted to a general survey of the present state of the economy, and to a consideration of the various causes which have led to the present depression. It is shown that the principal causes are the overproduction of raw materials, the fall in the price of these materials, and the consequent loss of profits to the manufacturers. This loss of profits has led to a reduction in the amount of capital invested in the manufacturing industry, and to a consequent stagnation in the growth of the industry. The paper also discusses the various proposals for remedying the depression, and concludes that the most effective remedy is a reduction in the price of raw materials.

MS. B. 1. 6. v. 2. p. 40

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