





The Dublin boxes were got thro' at a lower rate than any other; the entire duties on the 3 boxes being but \$22.10 (about £4.12.0). I had reason to think this was owing to the precise time & order of their entry; it happened on this wise - the box entered <sup>by us</sup> immediately before yours - a day or two previous - was the Manchester box, not a very large one, yet a handsome & valuable one. The Appraiser was in the mood of giving it a pretty thorough overhauling, and he brought so many pretty things to light that he appraised it at £15. Now this was (relatively) very high; for the Leeds box, quite as valuable, had been appraised at £10.; and the Bristol box - from 364 things, as large, & of corresponding value, was appraised at no more than £15. There was however nothing to be said, and I paid duties on the Manchester box, \$22.10. A day or two after I entered the 3 Dublin boxes, & went to see the Appraiser, & told him we had all felt his appraisement of the Manch. box quite disproportionate, & quite too high; and it would prove a sore drain on our funds, to go on paying duties at that rate. <sup>and begged him to be as moderate, possible, with your boxes.</sup> He expressed some regret that the <sup>previous</sup> appraisal had not been 'satisfactory', seemed very good-natured, and I left him. The next day, when he told me he had called all the three boxes, <sup>from Dublin</sup> but £15<sup>s</sup>. - or £5. each! - you may believe I was pleased, - & so surprised, too, that I must have shown it in my face. However I made the best of it, & paid, as before said, the duty of \$22.10, the same on your 3 boxes as on the 1 Manchester. Much was <sup>unquestionably</sup> owing to the judicious packing. - Our entire duties, this Bazaar, were about \$280; usually they have been \$300. and upwards. ~~But~~ All this C. House matter you will please keep very private - perhaps had better burn this letter. The amount of it is, they had it in their <sup>power</sup>, to rob us (legally) considerably more than they did - & partly, perhaps from good nature, & partly from other causes, spared us, to the extent of at least \$100., according to the ratio of other years. - I didn't feel bound to urge them to receive any more - especially as I hated to pay them a single dollar. -

Our Bazaar was a very encouraging one - especially compared with that of the previous year.

e.g. {	1852-52 -	Total Receipts	3025.00	Expenses	\$400. -	Net, about	\$1900. }	A difference of about \$1400. in favour of this year.
	1852-53 -	" "	4080.00	" "	700. -	" "	8300. }	

This fact you may make any use of you please.

You gave my Johnson to Verplank's letter quite a marked introduction to your readers. It is a telling letter, is it not? I cannot but honour a man, who will come forward so manfully, & <sup>openly</sup> ~~openly~~.

I cannot but repeat my sense of the important services the 'Advocate' is rendering to the cause. Its facts, statistics, arguments - presented so clearly and so convincingly - so thoroughly substantiated, and of such a fearful character - must convince, arouse, & enlighten, - wherever minds can be reached of a manly, candid & dispassionate character. The cause is deeply indebted to yourself, and to Mr. and Miss Estlin, and your co-laborers. Indeed, it is more & more evident, that your station is to be one of the most important battle-fields in this Contest with American Slavery. And the tone of the London Times, of the British Army Gazette, & other subsidized papers, shew that the ground will be contested, wick by wick. - I deem it of great importance that the 'Advocate' should have a good circulation, & be sustained. I truly hope it will. - Our most sagacious friends here - Garrison, Jackson, Philbrick - incline to think the present attitude & course of the Broad St. Committee, & the Reporter, is a reverse, to stiffen the Advocate, and stave off the issues it is fast raising. Not that they impute any hypocrisy to the new Editors, of whom we know nothing personally, and whom the B. St. Committee may be very willing to use for a temporary purpose. They are disposes, we know, -

Our 'Nat. A. S. Standard' will probably undergo a change soon, from which we hope a large addition to its support & means of usefulness. Oliver Johnson, now Ed. of the Free Press, is to see to be associated with Mr. Gay, as joint Editors; - the Office at New York is to be improved - if possible, enlarged - and a new impetus given, if possible, to all our operations. At least, negotiations are now going on to these ends, - and are in a hopeful train. - We are going to try to hold over the Annual Meeting of the American Society in Brooklyn, <sup>near New York,</sup> <sup>(for meetings in N. Y. are best)</sup> this year. B. is separated from N. Y. only by the East River, over which ferry boats are continually passing, at a fare of one cent or a half-penny - and is, for all practical purposes, a part of New York. W. L. G. is opposed to it, and predicts another mob. His foresight <sup>and instinct</sup> has been pretty clear on all anti-slavery matters. - We hope there will be no serious disturbances. Perhaps we can get no place, - in which case, we shall go to Syracuse, the City of Salt, and the City of Fugitive-Slave-Rescues.

A queer Country man of yours has made 2 calls, this past week, at an A. S. office - he wished to see W. L. G., but has not yet succeeded. His name is 'Rev. Wm. Scott Downey, B. D.' Author of certain "Powers". He shows letters to himself, having the Queen's Seal, Prince Albert's Seal, Lord Derby's &c. &c. - letters which he asks to borrow those persons. He says he was a Baptist-Missionary in Jamaica with Knibb, Phillips, & others, in the time of the Apprenticeship. - He is now very deaf, and his voice (in consequence I suppose) is cracked & shrill, & not under his control. I cannot think him insane, by any means; but climate, or disease, appear to have affected his mind. He talks well (to us, at least) about Slavery, but he preaches for pro-slavery people, & don't appear to understand the inconsistency, &c. He has the brim of his hat tied up in a very whimsical and wearisome clerical band around his neck, - not usual here. He preached last Sunday in one of our 'coloured' Churches. Did you ever hear of him? The Queen's letter was sent to him at Cork - contents unknown.

I am, Dear Mr. Webb, Truly & respectfully Yours, Saml. May.