

that all this time I had not my wits perfectly about me &
but what with much walking & constant exertion & being
very unwell I suppose my whole nervous system was greatly
deranged. The moment Deborah arrived I gave up all I used.
It was on Tuesday 12th that I wrote to you, & tho' I was very mi-
serable when I wrote, I thought it best to say to say nothing about
it. The next morning came Tom Lavel to tell me that Mrs Ford
was dead, had requested that either Wendell or Mr May should speak
at her funeral & that Mr Ford wished me to see about it. Poor Mrs F.
suffered a great deal at the last, but preserved her firmness & calmness.
I had not intended to go at but so conjured I went on with Lavel to
the office & it was arranged that Mr May & I should go down on
Thursday as far as Quincy, and there a wagon should be waiting to
take us over to Old Spain. I felt that I owed this to poor dear Mrs
Ford. I believe I wrote you that I went to see her before I left Wed-
nesday & we took a tender leave of each other. Thursday was the day of
funeral at Faneuil Hall for Mr May & myself to be gone, but I believe
inconvenient both for Mr both to go. It was a very immense funeral.
It a superior duty for us both to go. It was a very immense funeral.
Out of compliment to her father & mother who are pious & strict Meth-
odists, a Mr Smith from Bank River made the prayer. A prayer
communicated) had selected our song (beginning "Why should our tents
in brown fall; when God reveals his face"; Mr May then made a
long & most excellent address for which he declared the whole
concourse. Very many of the church must have been present
but I suppose they bore it as well as they could. Both Albert &
his children behaved beautifully. They were dressed in sleep
mourning, & the whole house had the same nice, cared for
look that Mrs Ford herself used to give it. Many of the friends
were down from the Landing. Aunt M. came with the Richards,
and Henry packed. Mr May & I drank tea, as usual at the
Lavel. When I reached Poplar St at night, I found that L. & C. had
arrived to take up their abode in town. They had packed
several boxes at the Hall. The people present were Mrs Loring
Anna & Riddy, Mrs May the younger, & Deborah, L. & C. These
carried their dinner & staid at the Hall all day. The next
day it was pouring of rain, but we all went up. The same
people with the addition of Edmund who came & helped very
well. Here our first trouble began. Mr May fought every
step about the marking. He struggled to give away every
thing & would privately catch up a thing & mark it for some
man's use. We resisted & struggled & Mrs Loring did very
well, but it is hard to fight over every article. The Glasgow

things were very beautiful, by themselves valued at £.169.-1-10
There was not as many as some years, but very handsome
Edinburgh also very handsome. Death did very well indeed.
There was little or no truth. Leeds was very beautiful. Pleasid Hon
sion said. Beautiful little cases. Every bright coloured thing, Mrs
May resolved should be given away, & as there was good for
showing herself to death, we hated to fight her. A most beauti
ful deep apron black satin with dark blue pattern most curiously
let in to the front part & worth £6. Mrs M. continued to want
£2. Deborah met with it, & all in a hurry attended it to £4. Mrs
Russel carried it home to her sister Maria who snatched at it
as the greatest bargain she ever saw, Mrs R. remonstrating herself
that she had not put it up to £6 herself. This is a specimen
The Duran things were not much. There were beautiful
shawls from Rivalry & £28 ^{worth} from E. Pease. Sarah Cozer sent
pretty things & so did the Guildites, tho' not so many as before.
At night we went home wearied enough the walking was
dreary. That night I ~~was~~ ~~was~~ ~~was~~ ~~was~~ ~~was~~ ~~was~~ ~~was~~ ~~was~~ ~~was~~
~~was~~ ~~was~~ ~~was~~ ~~was~~ ~~was~~ ~~was~~ ~~was~~ ~~was~~ ~~was~~ ~~was~~
I thought I had done enough ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~
~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~
blind fold? ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~
a head ache & ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~
that evening Deborah & I
had been invited to go with Mr Chandler & Kenneth
to hear Anna Bishop. We went in my place & they
had a good time. All day Sunday & Monday I was as careful
of myself as of so much cracked china. But I could not eat
at all. Any thing but tea & criske brought on the sickness &
dizziness. Meantime all the country friends had done wonders
in the way of green. Plenty was brought. Farmer Jen King, Stone
ham & Reading came joyously up to the work. The hollering
was done in town all four & no dog could work harder.
A deer hog was too of Salem did every thing. Taylor was very
good & Levy arrived. Tuesday noon, the hall was nearly ready.
In a much greater state of forwardness than any previous year.
I took a carriage & went home. The Ark box which arrived
in a later steamer and the Bridgewater box which came
via N.Y. were in the Refreshment room being marked.
Merchandise Mrs G. Russel & A. Irving were then marking.
All our folks was of course doing a million of things in the
house. I sat down & tried to help but it was dead fire cold there,

I felt I would not stand it that I had best go back and see
the Glasgow Table. I felt so ill & we seemed to have banded there
after trying what I could, I had to abandon these things to the
fate. Mrs Russell & I drove to do just a sight but Mrs Sum
seized the long reins & went thundering down the hill. It was no
use to say any thing to her, for of good set purpose she was content
to have her way, & we all felt desirous with Sam saying down
as it were his life not to fight. Well the ladies were all
arranged & every thing looked beautifully. Mrs Smith came in
full of life & mischief. The Cousins arrived. Nancy Sampson. Nancy
brought a basket of her own making. No N. B. people were
in any capacity save poor Franklin who was up for one day. Nancy
and Maria & Sarah staid at Mrs Parks's. I only sent Nancy there
for fruit but as Mrs P. asked for more I sent the other. Well the
fair morning dawned. I had been very poorly all night.
Nevertheless I rose & dressed & rode to the Hall but had
hardly got there when I was taken so poorly (the same old
con-plaint) & was so cold & sick at the stomach that I was
not stay a minute longer. I delivered up the little basket
George Russell & Mrs May & got into the fruit carriage
that could be procured & rode home. I went to bed & was
not up again that day. Thursday, I was better, but as to
heart exertion, or even taking any thing appeared to hurt me
I staid at home the two next days - Saturday, missing
I ventured over & sold & worked all day & stood it pretty
well. Sunday, of course I rested. Monday, I went again
& worked hard all day; was poorly again at night & had
to stay at home all day Tuesday. The last 4 days I was
able to stand to it for the riding hood, albeit the making
of the Bristol box which was not got out of the
Custom House till the last part of the Fair next -
upset me again. I did nothing at all about clearing
up. Deborah has had the whole brunt of that I sold
she has had the brunt of a great deal. Almost all
the ordering & over-looking which I was absent so much
that I could hardly get the hang of M. L. E. Mrs
Living, Biddy, Lucretia & Susan, May, Taylor & J. o. b. were
at work at the Hall all day Sunday & all but Mrs D. &
& Biddy have been there to day. And all is cleared up &
settled. It is probable I think that the expenses will be less
than they were last year. The advertising will be only \$40.
& I dare say the duties will be rather less. Now I will explain
as well as I can, the most prominent reasons why we lost

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...a week, no ten days & then coolly come & put out an elegant
...the house & say she believed she would change it & put the cape
...Christine? Bradford come & worked & behaved like a lady.
The South wants were there less than & even good little Sarah
on preparing herself at one of the best tables, said she did not
think there was as any thing there that any body would wish
to buy. The German ladies behaved sweetly. Not a soul in distress.
wished help them & they got up the table all themselves. Mrs Weyman
the table came & did nicely & a Miss Chase of Worcester behaved well.
brought a nice table & behaved very well too.
22 boxes of nice cake & 30 minnie pies. There
bake & the girls did well. I write my I admire
good & had a nice picnic. She (Mrs B) was there too, & I don't know
that they gave away things, & I don't know but they did. But I
know the things were amazing.
to' there is enough for a good Worcester Fair which
the prospect to be in hand. Much fewer people were in, so perhaps
the things were fairly sold & the money made on them, as usual.
those articles were taken at the door. Lots of the food
wasn't sold. Here Lucia takes the pen, my hand so lame I can
hardly hold it. There was the most friendly feelings shown by all
people & I will enumerate some of the nice people that came.
In the first place Mary Robbins got her friends completely under the
first day of the fair. Brown came Mrs Annie and her daughter and
bought for themselves and the Springs well on to the work. Aunt
Margaret bought it and at last stole away from her family and
came to the ball herself. she wished Maria to know particularly
that she had been. The last day of the fair my astonishment was great
to see a fat gentleman come in whom I thought to be Dr Robbins.
Mary from the refreshment room and told her my suspicions.
she thought I might be mistaken, for she had begged him to come to
the ball every morning but he had always declined, but there was no
doubt of him. There he was at the book table and Emma dealing
with him he brought the Swain of New Bedford with him. Mary
took out of her pocket. he made every Weston of us all pass
before him. He Dr was very sweet and tender, I had never heard
him speak before. he behaved well spoke affectionately of Maria,
though I suppose her absence made it easy for him to come, and
bought the work. Mrs Torrey of Summer St and her children came and
did well and behaved well. Mrs Borland, Mrs J. K. Mills, Mrs
Rollins, & Mrs Under.

he did not have to say apprehension nearly as handsome a book table as we had last year, but nobody seemed to find it out. Maria's caution china saved us from disgrace it was a feature and sold well and was the means of selling the other things. our hearts were very much down when we came to see how few curious and pretty things we had, but we kept dark, said nothing about it, put a good face on it, and actually made more by nearly a hundred dollars than we did last year. we marked our own things that is Emma and I, put on our own prices, and got the money, but being obliged to do this we could not of course help very much in marking the things for the other tables. Richard Webb's paper was exquisite, and sold beautifully, he sent portfolios, blotting books, drawing books, little memorandum books, paper cardcases, and a great many of them, and they all sold. We made over \$800. The Lovings have done every thing for us, and been very kind appeared to have the deepest compassion for us, and have tried to save us in every way they could. Anna has given to Emma for a New Year's gift a very pretty ^{piece} of turquoise and pearls. She has given me a beautiful ring & large pink topaz set round with pearls. tell this to diary, Henry Mind Handy. The richest things kept happening all the time of the fair, that I suppose you will never know unless you get it from Emma. Among many other incidents the thing that amused me the most, and ^{made} me fit to roll on the floor, was Miss Tuft's raffle of a bedquilt which strange to say was drawn, by, who do you think? Mrs De Gregg! During the fair a dreadful thing happened. George B Emerson's son shot himself, it is said, that he has been in a melancholy way for some time, he ~~blew~~ his brains out in his own chamber. Jan 2. we had speaking the last 6 nights, but it was all as gross as it could be, save the first evening when W L G & Wm Bowditch spoke. Wendell was so sick with an influenza to speak that he managed to be out part of the time. He had an disagreeable thing about it. May & I had selected as there was within a death of speakers to ask J. F. Clarke. He did & Clarke accepted. In the mean time the Female Emancipation Soc. got up a free love party, trying to mix themselves up with that set of people, & Clarke spoke there. After that I did not wish him to speak for us, & gave May some advice whereby by the introduction of other speakers, he might avoid him. I would have managed May well enough, but his wife who seems to be a personal friend of Clarke's was so resolute, & close at Mary's ear working him up that I could do nothing without very much hurting Mary's feelings who had most laid down his life for the fair, & having a head on wish with her. I saw at once that I was a fool to

have asked him at all, but after he was asked I feared an
outbreak would be given, as down his feelings would have been
& some other so I let it go on, being very true I did not want
one that if he chose to take the responsibility I was not sure
Mr. Clark exchanged words with some of us. After Mr. H. & Channing
had spoken he made a poor two or three little speeches. I told them
if he wished to present Clark with a Medal by some means, but I
thought I did not wish to myself, but he could. They said that I
had never heard of the Ball or their capers. I told them I did not
suppose he had, but my mind revolted from having any thing
to say to a man who had just been speaking of it. I told them
I should say he did know about New Org. However, nobody knew
any thing of our struggle for to be in public feeling that I dare say
nobody thought of the disgrace of the occasion. Parker could not speak
for some reason or other. F. C. Wright and Pillsbury spoke & Abby Kelle
& Lucy Stone. - I too give your services consideration. I do not see that
with Emma gone we could hold a fair without a lot of our lives
I long too to stop it to be up with the foes, & friends too. But would
it not be well to propose to Glasgow or even to hold the
next year's Fair there & we to send them things. I cannot see
not take the lead again, & I should be frightened to death were I
struggling alone. I have written principally about my own affairs
but I wish you had seen the night paper by the way that cost
the family. Deborah twitching all over & Lucia crying in her
& Emma lying awake! most wonderful of all. It is not
I do not like that Madam Mary for she has labored all a day
& does like a fair tired as she is, may come forward & offer to be
it. If so, why she may & I will give what help I can, & will
part of help that other folks give, but I have a feeling that with
to little help & sense as there is on hand, it would be better to
with there was more help on the ground before we had another
I have even written widely & express your mind. It would
necessary by the May Convention to have our list of names
revolved upon Maria might sound Jane Wigham, as there
the person that first suggested having one. But of 38 of our Com
next year I will be in Europe. 12 will be living in the country
with no town houses. 11 live in Boston, 3 of whom have no houses, and
Miss Kelley, Miss Ingham, Mrs. Kell, Mrs. Garrison & Mrs. Phillips and of course
she nothing - that leaves Mrs. May, Maria Sargents and Mrs. Palmer
(who was Harriet Jackson, who was married during the Fair at
N.Y. at J. Hopper's house, Palmer being his grandson) & the only people
who really have a house in with a car or any thing. I wish to
then that Catherine & Henrietta have done more for us than we
can ask or even think. They have stood by us in our needs & in
& done & struggled that we should have every thing easy, have
kept a fire in our chamber, been willing to sit up for us & have
all the little fuss & union remembrance of a Fair. As we can see
their kind rep & equanimity. But I really feel surprised at
Catherine's time of life that there should be such a close juxtaposition
in the house. Whatever path over all these things, & see what hard work
in the house. Whenever I hope warmer was arrived at N.Y. or see the Europa is

the new work of Susan
I suppose we want one more
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