

same family, and his narrations are little less than gross misrepresentations.

The cruelties which are charged upon Mr. Covey, Gore, and others, are equally false; for every man acquainted with these gentlemen will say that they are incapable of such offences against humanity.

You may confidently hold up this 'Narrative' as the latest and perhaps the most unpardonable effort of Abolitionism. If 'truth is mighty and must prevail,' I have no doubt that this attempt like many others will prove ineffectual.

Yours truly,  
L. DODSON.

If you are not carried away by prejudice, I think the evidence I have adduced from these gentlemen's letters should be sufficient to convince you that 'the stern facts recorded by Mr. Douglass' are very stern falsehoods. I care not how great a man you make of him—if he is 'one of God's best gifts to the world'—yet with all his greatness, he is a liar. And surely you will never again attempt to palm his narrative upon the public for truth.

I do not wish to be understood as advocating slavery, for I am convinced that it is a great evil—but not sinful under ordinary circumstances. Neither do I attempt to vindicate the religious character of the slaveholders of the South; for it is evident that there are bad men among them, as well as in every other community. But tell me, is the Southerner to be deprecated because he owns a slave, more than the Northern Abolitionist, who, in defiance of all law and honor, steals a slave from his lawful owner, and will then manufacture an incredible story without the least shadow of truth, to defame the character of slaveholders? If such is your opinion, you have studied some code of morality that I have never seen.

If you wish to persuade the Southerners to abolish slavery, you must talk to them in a more sensible manner; you must not fabricate such horrid tales of murder, man-stealing, &c., as you have done heretofore. And perhaps when you shall be cured of this evil spirit, then the slaveholders will have some confidence in your abilities to advise. But be assured that all the venom that you can disgorge will never add one laurel to your brow, but on the contrary, will engender jealousy and hatred, and make the condition of the slave much worse.

Yours, very respectfully,  
A. C. C. THOMPSON.

We publish with the utmost willingness the above letter and certificates, not only because it is fair play to let the slaveholders, as well as other evil doers, be heard in their own defence, but also because we want no better confirmation of the general credibility and truth of Douglass's narrative than such certificates afford.

If any of our readers have never read the Narrative, we wish they would do so. It purports to be a plain statement of facts and circumstances which occurred to the writer, or within his immediate knowledge—giving names and incidents, and a part of the time, dates, with minute particularity. Scenes of common and ordinary interest exemplifying many of the peculiar characteristics of the slave system as it prevails in Maryland, are detailed, and others of great cruelty, and inhumanity are narrated. Of a great part of this cruelty, Douglass was the victim, and of many other instances he was the witness. There is a peculiarity of detail, and other internal evidence of veracity, which, we repeat, will require something more than Mr. Thompson's opinion that the story is false, or the certificates of the good character of Mr. Auld which he has published, to overthrow. In all the above certificates, formidable as they may seem, there is but one distinct fact stated by Douglass contradicted. Douglass says, page 57:

'I had lived with him (Auld) nine months, during which time he had given me a number of severe whippings, all to no good purpose.'

This Mr. Auld in his certificate denies. He says he never struck him in his life, 'nor caused any person else to do it.' It must be borne in mind, that Mr. Auld is the accused person, and is testifying in his own behalf—so it is a question of credibility. Douglass says he was whipped and ill-feted by Auld. Auld denies it—pleads not guilty, as accused people generally do. All the other certificates, and the things stated in them, amount to this, and this only—that the certifiers have too good an opinion of Mr. Auld, Mr. Gore, and Mr. Covey, to believe they would do the inhuman and abominable things Douglass says they did.

Mr. Thompson must be very green, or else he must suppose others very green, if he thinks that such wordy opinions of accomplices in wickedness will satisfy the candid public mind of this nation, which has commenced a searching scrutiny into the secret and hidden, as well as manifest abominations of the infernal system of slavery, that Mr. Douglass's statements are 'stern falsehoods.'

We hope Mr. Thompson will not rest here, but will proceed with his investigations into the truth or falsity of Douglass's statements, and give the public the evidences of lying which he shall discover—not the opinions of one man as to what another would do, who should be as deep in the mud as the witness himself might be in the mire, but good legal testimony, such as courts would receive in a civilized country—as to facts, some of the specific occurrences with which the Narrative abounds. Come, Mr. Thompson, an honest, manly effort to overthrow by disproving the events which he states took place, would do you good. And when you have done that, we will give you another batch of facts to work at. We will furnish you with a book entitled 'American Slavery as it is, or the Testimony of 1000 Witnesses,' published in 1839. Perhaps our friends C. D. Cleveland or Thomas Earle, of Philadelphia, can furnish you with the book now, if you choose. Come, go at that book, and not spend your time upon such small game as poor Frederick Douglass, the 'recrout generally.' These 1000 witnesses are not abolitionists generally, but Southern men and women, statesmen, governors, congressmen, bad men and good men, from high places and low places and sacred places, ministers, deacons, and bishops—and their testimony challenges scrutiny. The vouchers are mostly on file. The work has been extensively circulated for the last six years, as well at the South as the North, and no man has yet undertaken to invalidate the horrid charges it prefers against the system. If Mr. Thompson will once peruse that work with candor and attention, he will find a larger business than defending the religion of the South against the slanders of a 'ranting negro.' He will find also that we have some reasons to know, that high professions of religion, and exalted piety towards God, are, in the ethics of the slave code, deemed consistent with monstrous inhumanity to man.

From the Albany Patriot.

#### NARRATIVE OF FREDERICK DOUGLASS.

In the Patriot of Dec. 31, we published an article from the Delaware Republican, signed 'A. C. C. Thompson,' in which the truthfulness of Douglass's narrative is denied—to which we subjoined a remark or two of our own, and also some extracts of letters recently received in this country from Ireland, showing the opinion formed there in relation to the character of Douglass, and his abilities as a man—the latter having been impugned and denied by Mr. Thompson, no less than his veracity.

We have received from Mr. Thompson the following letter, enclosing a slip cut from some newspaper, containing the four certificates which we insert at his request. The certificates are evidently cut out of the body of some article, the whole of which he seems unwilling we should see. Why did he not send us the paper?

WILMINGTON, (Del.) Jan. 12, 1846.

To the Proprietor of the Albany Patriot:

DEAR SIR:—In your paper of Dec. 31, I notice that you have copied my communication to the Delaware Republican, upon which you make some very worthy comments. You say:

'Mr. Thompson will have to produce some better testimony than his own opinion of the general religious character of slaveholders, before he can disturb the stern facts recorded by Frederick Douglass.'

Herein you grossly misrepresent me, as you do every thing connected with slavery. It would not answer your purposes to publish plain truth upon all occasions, as it would not coincide with your perverted opinions.

What I intended by my communication in the Delaware Republican, was only to prove the assertions in the narrative of Frederick Douglass to be false, which I knew to be so. But as you do not consider the evidence of one respectable white man as creditable as the assertions of a ranting negro, I will produce other testimony than my own, from gentlemen of respectable standing, to show you that the assertions of this negro Douglass are nothing more than gross misrepresentations. Now for the testimony.

Extracts from the letter of Mr. Auld, the master of Frederick Douglass.

'He states that I used to flog and starve him; but I can put my hand upon my Bible, and with a clear conscience swear that I never struck him in my life, nor caused any person else to do it. I never allowed one of my slaves: but the tale would not have answered their (the Abolitionists,) purposes, unless the slave had been starved, or nearly whipped to death.'

Can it be believed that Mr. Gore should deliberately shoot one of Col. Lloyd's slaves, and still be retained in his employ? Col. Lloyd was not the man to suffer such an imposition, and I know the whole story to be false.

I placed him in Baltimore to learn a trade, and told him that if he would behave himself and learn his trade well, when he was 25 years old I would emancipate him; and he promised me faithfully that he would do it. He does not say one word about this in his Narrative, as it would not have answered to have mentioned so much truth.'

Extract from the letter of Dr. A. C. Thompson.

CAMBRIDGE, Dorchester Co., Md.

'I always knew Thomas Auld to be a worthy and pious man, but he was never a class leader nor an exhorter.'

Letter from Dr. James Dawson.

ST. MICHAELS, Talbot Co., Md.

DEAR SIR:—I have seen and read a Narrative of the life of negro Frederick Douglass, purporting to have been written by himself; (doubtful) in which the character of Mr. Thomas Auld is most foully aspersed. I lived in the family of Mr. Auld at the time when this cruel and inhuman conduct is said to have taken place; and so far as my knowledge of himself and an acquaintance with his domestic affairs goes, (which was thorough) I can unhesitatingly pronounce it a base and villainous fabrication. I could say much more in confirmation of the falsity of the charges, but deem it unnecessary.

Yours, &c.

JAMES DAWSON.

A. C. C. THOMPSON, Wilmington.

Letter from Mr. Thomas Graham.

ST. MICHAELS, Talbot Co., Md.

MR. A. C. C. THOMPSON:

DEAR SIR:—During Mr. Auld's entire residence in St. Michaels, he was my immediate neighbor, and the intercourse between our families gave me an opportunity of knowing the situation and condition of his servants. The statements of Frederick Douglass respecting Mr. Auld's treatment to them, is, in every word, most basely false. They were well fed and well clothed; never allowed in food, but had as much as they could eat.

Mr. Auld's indulgence to his servants is well known throughout this neighborhood; and I have no hesitation in saying that I know beyond the possibility of a doubt that the whole statement relating to this gentleman is most ungrateful and false. And from my acquaintance with other individuals accused, and from their unimpeachable Christian character, I believe the entire narrative of accusations to be a manufactured compound of falsehoods.

I lived within 30 feet of Mr. Auld's residence for several years, and during that time his conduct to his servants was more like an indulgent father than a master. He has invariably emancipated his slaves when they arrived at the age of 25 years, and their services to him were almost voluntary.

THOMAS GRAHAM.

Letter from L. Dodson.

ST. MICHAELS, Talbot Co., Md.

MR. THOMPSON:

DEAR SIR:—If it will be of any service to you, in your attempt to expose the base falsehoods contained in the 'Narrative of Frederick Douglass,' I will say that so far as his narrations refer to Mr. Auld's treatment toward his servants, they are most palpably untrue. For nine years I was connected with Mr. Auld's family; the greater part of the time boarding with him; and I speak from personal knowledge, when I say that Fred. and all his servants were treated well. Indeed, I never knew him to strike, much less abuse them.

I knew Fred. well; we were boys together, in the