

From the *Boston Chronotype*.  
FREDERICK DOUGLASS.

This talented fugitive, now known throughout the civilized world, has been a terrible thorn in the side of slavery, for, wherever he has gone, he has shown the falsehood of the plea, that the negroes are an inferior race—not really men. But the slaveholders have at last gained an advantage over him. He has been guilty of the indiscretion and weakness of permitting himself to be bought. It was done with his connivance, if not his consent. His old master has pocketed \$750 for him, and sent on his *free papers!*

We abominate such a transaction. It shows the detestable rottenness of free christendom on the subject of slavery. If a man had escaped from the bondage of some free-booting Libyan Pacha, safe and sound, would enlightened Christians have sent the rascal \$750 and free papers? Would they have ransomed with money a man who had ransomed himself by his manhood? It was cause enough of indignation when the weak-minded ransomed Latimer, he being on the 'free' soil of Massachusetts. But in this case of Douglass, there was less excuse. Douglass, while here, may have been in danger, but we think not in much fear. He is a courageous man, and would have been glad of an attempt at recapture, as another arrow in his quiver against the abominable 'institution' from which he had escaped. But in England, he was not in danger. We suspect the secret of the transaction must have been this. Mr. Douglass, to make out a strong case against this country, stated his danger of recapture here fully up to the truth; and his fear, a little above it. This excited the personal sympathy of the English abolitionists, and they set on foot a subscription to relieve Mr. Douglass of all such anxiety. Having made so much of his peril and apprehensions, Mr. Douglass had not the moral courage to say to them, 'I have played too much on this string; save your money, for it had better be in Symmes's Hole than in my old master's pocket.'

When a self-emancipated man has come soliciting money to ransom his wife and children still in bondage, we have had a hard struggle of doubt, whether it was right to give him assistance or not, but a feeling of humanity for the individual victims to be ransomed has overcome the sense of the wrong thus done to the mass of the enslaved. In this case of Douglass, we do not feel a shadow of doubt. Seven hundred and fifty dollars have been sacrificed to promote slavery—in clear recognition either of the right of the slaveholders, or the weakness, moral and physical, of the friends of liberty—their inability to give security to those already free. May rust consume our pen, and rheumatism forever stiffen our right hand, before we confess any such thing. We feel mortified and full of shame that a man like Douglass should have cheapened himself to \$750 before the slaveholders. With thunder-tones he should have forbidden his friends thus to disgrace him.

☞ We neither assent to the logic nor like the spirit of these remarks of the editor of the *Chronotype*. In view of all the circumstances of the case, we are glad that Frederick Douglass is now legally free, and may return to the bosom of his family, without the terrible liability of being legally apprehended as a fugitive slave, and carried back to torture and chains.—*ED. LIB.*