

Dear Sir,

I recd your letter of the
last evening, but for some unaccountable
reason - unless it be that I have been so
hope neglected to answer it until now. I might
not tell you how much surprised I was to hear
that you are still recording laws you must be
very careful, very careful indeed, for they will not
for your own. I suppose this injunction will come
too late to be of any service unless it be some
secret. - but in presenting any of your putting
in practice for some time to come your numerous
schemes for doing something. Please drop them
all - for atleast a month or two. I shall most
sympathetically note your going to England for
the present. You must not think me even mean
if I put for a good long while. You must not even
go to work. You must be prepared for the ex-
pected labor. You must not take the very best
out of your precious self and incur just a little
fatigue or exertion as possible. Now remember my
commands are strict and not to be late. You have
no discretion and if they are not obeyed to the
letter I shall send you a summons to appear

before the august General Court Martial of
the 7th Div. of the Army to ascertain
charges and specifications preferred against
you by a jury constituted according to
the regulations or at least performing
of that duty. I know you would
receive no money but would be presented to
at least some of the law to give your
opinion. I was in on a general letter I should
not have needed your letter to know that
you had been sick, & your letter showed it as
a plain good work could. What a journey it would
be to the court you know just at the time when my
presence would be most grateful to you. It seems
that I cannot however, and very hard it seems
committing to go if you are out of town we heard
last night that it is a terrible war and that
our force were falling back. The Gordon of
fire is growing smaller, the smoke is thick-
ing at the outlet of the Confederacy and it will not
be long before the region north (regions of south)
will get hold upon it.

With regard to that trunk, as you are
not going to Cleveland at once, you had perhaps
better get another. You may wish as well have
that as not. Rosette has no claim on it and
would not that she had. It is not such an one
as you will want however it is a good

packing trunk, but you will want a different
article, a good ladies trunk. It is an article
which will redound to of me, and among all
the provisions now for ever. You can and you
will find further send to Cleveland by some
one who will get a good article. I think you will
about \$15.00 or \$20.00 worth, enough for your purpose.
I know it seems a large price to pay for a trunk
but it will be cheaper in the end than one of less
price, it had better be bought with care and
marked. If you chance to know of any person who
is going to Cleveland you can send by him, or you
can send father a note and he will attend to it
for you. He may be going there again before long
and can do it himself. Remember if you are ever
in a hurry for it. You can wait some at once, but
that it is a good one. I should like to get one for
you when at home if I had had the chance.
I have not any fears of getting of your
own expense. You know my ideas of
young are that nothing is expensive, but that
in any manner, and that the true
and the true criterion of value is the amount
of positive enjoyment, real pleasure which
our object confers upon its possessor. Meas-
ured by this criterion, I do not know how
could manage to constitute your
pensive luxury to the world.

of husbands whom I am very far from
thinking that you have. I am
that you should suffer more than
suffered. I guess you wished me to do that
at least. I will remember that you best
seem to be so seriously afflicted, when
a time of affliction as brought of the Bath. On the
contrary I thought you rather enjoyed it. I know
I did. I think it would be a luxury to you
now. I can understand your state of feeling
you are in a state of delicious business and
with the most delicate perception of pleasure or
pain. How I would love to come and trouble
you now. To stand with your chamber
and place myself beside you. I wonder what you
would do if you should wake up and find
your husband beside you. I can assure it
would make you so nervous that you could
not sleep any more tonight. However, tonight
I might fold you to my breast.
to my lonely bed and my instant
and all good night

Frederick Douglass

