SHAMEFUL VIOLATION OF THE RIGHTS OF MAN.

FREDERICK DOUGLASS, the American Negro, and GIDEON WELLES, the American Citizen.

To the Editors of the New York Mercury.

SIR: — The New York Mercury of the 23d inst. contains an account of the unfortunate case of my friend, Mr. Frederick Douglass, with such errors and omissions that I feel constrained to correct them, in order that the public may have a correct view of the facts. Mr. Douglass, I am informed, was arrested in July last, at the instance of Mr. D. B. Douglass, for the purpose of preventing him from leaving the State. He was not charged with being a slave, but with being a free man, and had no knowledge of his arrest. Mr. Douglass was accused of having purchased a negro, named Tom, from Mr. D. B. Douglass, for the purpose of returning him to his master, Mr. A. R. Douglass. Mr. Douglass, I am informed, had no knowledge of this transaction, and had no intention of returning Tom to his master. He was arrested, and was sentenced to six months' imprisonment. He was subsequently released, and has since been a free man. Mr. Douglass is a very valuable citizen, and has done much good work in the cause of freedom. I am, therefore, exceedingly grieved to hear that he has been arrested and imprisoned. I shall be happy to learn the result of his case, and to learn what measures I can take to secure his release. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

[Signature]

FREDERICK DOUGLASS.

To the Editors of the New York Mercury.

SIR: — I have the honor to state that Mr. D. B. Douglass, a gentleman of high character, has informed me that he has no intention of returning the negro, named Tom, to his master, Mr. A. R. Douglass. Mr. D. B. Douglass has made a full and satisfactory explanation of the circumstances of the case, and I believe that Mr. Douglass will be satisfied. I am, therefore, satisfied that Mr. Douglass is in no way responsible for the arrest of Mr. Douglass. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

[Signature]

FREDERICK DOUGLASS.

New York, March 2, 1849.

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[Signature]

FREDERICK DOUGLASS.