

New York, 12 April, 1861.

Dear Garrison,

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I enclose a letter, this  
moment received, from Mr.  
D. Conway, from which you  
will see that he can't come  
to the New York Anniversary,  
but would like an op-  
portunity to speak in  
Boston, at the N. E. Conven-  
tion. Pray give the matter  
your attention, & if the good  
cause can be <sup>thus</sup> promoted,  
comply with his wish.

Our papers contain  
extracts from W. P.'s speech at

New Bedford, which, somewhat  
surprise me; ~~though~~ <sup>perhaps</sup> when  
I see the whole speech, they  
may make a different im-  
pression. I am sure he's  
mistaken, if he supposes the  
demonstrations at Fort Sumter  
are a part of Seward's plan  
to bring about compro-  
mise. I believe, on the con-  
trary, that Seward's peculiar  
policy has been deliberately  
set aside by the President  
and Cabinet, and that he  
(Seward) has been constrained  
and overruled. And it does

seem to me a thousand times better,  
or rather not a thousandth part  
so bad, to fight the rebels,  
and thus show some measure  
of pluck, than to go on as  
the Administration was ap-  
parently going before this  
demonstration was made.

Nor does it seem to me that  
the feelings likely to be excited  
by the beginning of a war will  
tend toward compromise;  
on the contrary, I think the  
effect will be to make a  
reconstruction impossible.

But my judgment may  
be different when I get a clearer  
view of events.

Your reply to the Bugle  
is a clincher. It does seem to me  
that that paper evinces a sin-  
gular lack of common sense.

Yours, cordially,

J. Johnson.