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Anti-Slavery Office,
New York, 20 Dec., 1861

Dear Garrison,

Phillips had a grand
hearing last night. The Cooper
Institute was never more
densely packed - indeed could
not have been. The efforts of
the Herald to create a riot
were an utter failure, the
Chief of Police, with a large
force, being present, ready for
any emergency. The Chief sat
on the very front of the platform,
and his men occupied prom-
inent places all over the house.

Of the speech I need say nothing
to you, except that it held the
vast throng in wrapt at-
tention, interrupted only by
voliferous cheers at its
most radical points. Hundreds
of men came who never heard
the speaker before, and we are
sure the effect was most
happy.

The announcement that
Tilton would speak next
Thursday evening on "The Latest
Questions of the War" was re-
ceived with applause, and we
are sure of a good house for
him, but ~~after~~ the statement, that,

if encouraged by the people, we in-
tended to call you here, to give
your views of the War, was
received with a perfect
storm of applause. Tilton and
I have formed an association
to secure your services, &
I write now to ask you
to let us announce you
for Thursday evening, Jan. 2,
or Tuesday evening, Jan. 7, as
we may think best. We will
guarantee you \$50, and if
the receipts warrant it, as we
trust they will, you shall
have more. We feel sure
that we can give you

a full house, and it is our
deep conviction that the time
for you to speak in New York
has come. We want you to
speak on the War, treating the
subject carefully and de-
liberately from your stand-
point, and dealing wisely
yet faithfully with the Gov-
ernment. You will disappoint
multitudes if you don't
consent to come. Pray let
us have your yes, without
fail, in time to announce it
in next Standard and at Wil-
ton's lecture.

In haste, yours,
W. Johnson

C. J. W. H. Dec. 20, 1861.