

Boston, Dec. 26, 1861.

Dear Johnson:

Yours is just received. I will consider myself pledged to be with you at the time specified in your letter; and you may announce my subject as suggested by you - "The Abolitionists, and their Relations to the War." I shall probably deem it safest to be in New York the night before the delivery of my lecture.

I am wishing a flattering attendance at the Cooper Institute, this evening, for our friend Tilton; but I do not see how you can gather such audiences as you have had, with tickets at 25 cents.

E. H. Heywood acquitted himself most creditably, on Tuesday evening, in his lecture on "Common Sense" before the Fraternity. As it was Christmas eve, only about two-thirds of the usual number were present.

You will see in the Liberator, this week, the speech of Mr. Phillips, delivered at New York, as revised and corrected by himself. And such revision, correction, alteration, and addition you never saw, in the way of emendation! More than two columns of the Tribune's report were in type before P. came into our office; and the manipulation there required was a caution to all reporters and type-setters! I proposed to P. to send his altered "slips" to Barnum as a remarkable curiosity, and Winchell suggested having them photographed! But P. desired to make <sup>his speech</sup> ~~it~~ as complete and full as he could, and I am glad you are to receive it without being put to any trouble about it. Doubtless, you will be requested to make some new alterations; for he is constantly criticising what he has spoken, and pays no regard to literal accuracy. This speech will be eagerly read, as it touches ably upon many interesting points.

Gerrit Smith at Peterboro', and  
Charles Sumner at Washington, both  
write to me in discouraging tones as to  
the prospects before us. The Administra-  
tion has neither pluck nor definite pur-  
pose. What tremendous events will hinge  
upon an actual war with England!

Please give my kindest remem-  
brances to Mary-Anne, Mrs. Savin, and  
others of the pleasant household.

Yours, in all weathers,  
Wm. Lloyd Garrison.

Oliver Johnson.

