

128 East Twelfth St.,

June 14, 1869.

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My Dear Garrison,

I am sorry your article did not come this morning, for I would have got ^{it} in, for a wonder, late as it would have been. As a general rule I can't print an article on the first page, received on Monday; but once in a while I can.

You ask about the yearly meeting. I am glad to say it was excellent. Less time than usual was ~~was~~ wasted by bores. Mr. Potter did good service, and so also did Mr. Clute, of Vineland, and Mr. Broad of Wilmington. Lucy Stone presented the woman question magnificently, carrying all

hearts, and her husband did
about as well. Bayard Taylor,
for the first time, took part in the
meeting. He asked an opportunity to
deliver a set address, giving his
views on Reform, and the request
was very readily granted. I think
he has had small appreciation
of our movement heretofore; but he
has been away from home much
of the time, and has not understood
us. His address was a virtual defence
of himself upon points wherein he
differs from ^{many of} his neighbors. It was
unexceptionable in its tone and
spirit, and hence awakened no
antagonism, though some of his views
were privately criticised. The one
thing plain to me was that he
had never understood and does not
now understand the Reformers, and
having felt the interest in their move-

ments needful to a careful study of them. Some of his criticisms were undoubtedly just, as applied to not a few zealous but not over discreet persons; and on the whole, in view of the breadth of our platform, it was well for us to listen to views different in some respects from our own. Those most intimate with Bayard (the Dashiingtons & others) think he is an honest, well-meaning, and thoroughly honorable man, and that he is likely in future to take a better position than heretofore in respect to reform. On the question of total abstinence and prohibition he stands where Gov. Andrew stood. Dr. Stebbins talked so like a madman on the subject (his lips stained with tobacco), that Bayard's views seemed less wrong ^{for} the contrast.

Mrs. Johnson starts this evening
from Philadelphia for Iowa, in com-
pany with Dr. Mendenhall.
It is my expectation to meet her
in Ohio, on her return, some time
in the late summer.

I would gladly be in Boston
this week for a day at least, but
I cannot leave home.

I send you the Jan's
latest picture of myself, and
would like your opinion of it.

I presume Fanny will be
at home before you get this. She
left here Saturday evening for Provi-
dence in the same boat with
Mrs. Savin.

With love for Helen and the
rest of your household,

Yours, ever and always,

Wm. Johnson.

Jan 14, 1869