

The Independent,

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January 9, 1863.

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My dear Mr. Garrison,

Is it too late  
to congratulate You  
over the Proclamation?  
The President's act,  
faulty as it is, &  
long delayed, redeems  
the failing fortunes  
of his Administration.



No man in America,  
from the beginning  
of the Republic till  
now, ever had so grand  
an opportunity for  
usefulness to his  
fellow-creatures as  
Abraham Lincoln:

and, in part, he had  
seized the occasion,  
I repeat, of course,



that the Act was  
not universal. But  
Providence means to  
supplement it de facto,  
by adding the omitted  
states in due time.

It was singular  
that the issue of the  
Edict should have  
been coincident with  
the brilliant victory  
in one of the omitted



States.

My hope is, now that  
the President has fully  
committed himself to  
the policy of Emancipation,  
he will do his best to  
make it succeed, & that,  
to this end, we shall  
see changes in officers,  
where changes are needed.

My love to all the  
households, & a Happy New Year.  
Every one,  
Wm. Lloyd Garrison