

161

Anti Slavery Office,

Nov. 17, 1854.

Dear Garrison:

I am having all manner of vexation in arranging the order of the appearance of our lecturers—nearly all insisting on coming late, and several naming one day as the only one when they could come. I am hoping that Giddings will consent to give the second lecture, (Tuesday, Dec. 5), but there is danger that he will refuse, and, if he does, there is not one on our list that I can call upon ~~save~~ ^{except} yourself. I would much prefer that you should come

later in the season, but, in the
circumstances, I must ask you
to hold yourself in readiness to
come at that time if all my
efforts to get Giddings shall fail.
I have already assigned the third
place (Dec. 12th) to Antoinette Brown,
and the fourth (Dec. 19th) to Brown.
I could ask Brown to come on the
5th, but the Committee think it
would be disastrous to put him
in such close proximity to Sumner,
and that so near the opening.

We don't ask you this year
to write a speech. Indeed, for one,
I should prefer ~~that~~ to have you
speak extempore. I remember a

Very impressive speech of yours at
Franklin Hall, Phila., in 1852, in
which you ~~showed~~ showed that the pe-
cuniary welfare of the country depended
not upon maintaining slavery, but upon
emancipation—that God, in requiring
the yokes to be immediately broken,
had provided for the material
prosperity of the people, &c. Perhaps
you can recal the train of thought,
or, taking this hint, strike into a fresh
track. Or, it would be well for
you to define and justify the doctrine
of Disunion. You need not be afraid
to give us "strong meat."

Yours, hastily,

O. Johnson.

