

Feb 7 6, 1865

Henry D Thoreau

Dear Sir - If you do not
deem to know my address, (which you had
better not know if you have any prospect of
being summoned to Washington) please hand
the enclose knot to F. B. S. who, per-
haps, may wish to see me to consult as to
our future course. I have been regularly
summoned, but have resolutely refused to
obey the summons; & am in the country, not
to have quit until I shall complete the
forth coming volume. I directed your letter
to be sent to you for correction; which - I am
glad - has been done.

Can you furnish me with an life of the
B. of B. J.? I was very conversant of the defects
of the life I copied; but as I recollect very
little about the B., I do not undertake
to describe it from my own recollection. I hate
however, yet obtain the testimony of the
eye witnesses, as I have all their names,
(the "Orderly Book" that you allude to) &
will either see or write to every man
who was present, as soon as I can
get their addresses, or leave Mess.

for K. Feunty. I shall probably visit the
ground in the Spring.

For the Private Life I have chided
a number of very interesting letters from
Kansas men, - just such plain, matter
of fact statements as you are greedy for,
& which, better than any historical estimates
of John Brown's character or career, exhibit
to the intelligent reader the merit &
life of the old warrior.

The very numerous faults of language
(there have been very few of facts) & the im-
perfect estimates of character which
inspire of Book ^{weigh} me - & full
heart the heart - to be ^{take} more time in
spicing another original volume. As
for my forthcoming Book, as it is an edited
volume only, I have nothing to fear in
that life.

I have not even yet attempted
to arrange my numerous newspaper
materials, & do not see that I shall
be able to commence it for some
weeks ^{to come} ~~yet~~. This is my apology or
reason ^{rather} for neglecting (in appear-
ance) my promise with reference to
Thoreau's local Book.
I find that the abstracts that

have made in my Book with for your
Lecture are in exactly regular. Do
you desire that they shall be altered?
If so, please return the volume sent
you properly marked; & I will return
you as many Vols as you desire with
the latest corrections. The 33?

Manuscript has been printed & contains
many corrections not in the Edition
sent you. The prospect is that it will
reach over 50000 at least. I think it
will do good among the masses; that is all
I tried to do - for the educated have teachers
enough; & over them I do not expect
to have influence.

Respect me to Mrs Thorne
& thank her, in my own name & in behalf of
my Wife, also for her kind invitation; which
we shall, as soon as possible, accept.

Very truly yours
Jas Respalter