

Yaphank, L. I.,  
July 10, 1887.

My Dear Friend,

Yes, I do indeed regard Prof. Johnston's letter as in itself a compensation for my labor in writing the review of Thayer. It is worth much to our cause to have opened the eyes of such a man to truths which so many would fain obliterate from the pages of history.

Eli Thayer is manifestly <sup>and from</sup> a fool of Solomon's type, <sup>whom</sup> though "brayed with a pebble in a mortar, yet will not his foolishness depart from him."

Houghton, Mifflin & Co. have done well to bounce him; but he will get a publisher, and we may expect a fresh tide of abuse from his pen. It is of little consequence what he may say or do.

I send you your personal three letters: one from Hon. E. P. Walton, former member of Congress, and son of the man with whom I served my apprenticeship. He is but little younger than myself, as you might infer from his trembling hand. He was never a Garrisonian, but a Whig until driven into Republicanism. He remembers

Eli and evidently appreciates  
him at his true value.

Another is from James  
Hutchinson of West Ham-  
dolph, Vt., at once a Gari-  
sonian and a Republican.  
I think it probable you have  
been his guest.

Another is from Jacob  
Heaton of Salem, O., the  
confidential friend of Salmon  
P. Chase, <sup>and</sup> who used to listen  
to Abby Kelly ~~and~~ Foster's severe  
criticisms of his party, and  
then make a substantial  
contribution to help her in  
her work of agitation. He  
is now 80 years old, and his  
spelling is a little faulty, but  
is one of the noblest of men.

These letters you may  
return at your convenience

Yours, always,

Oliver Johnson.