

Petersboro

Dec 23 1860

Lysander Spooner Esq.

My dear Sir

I am thankful & glad that you write me. You have disquieted my conscience & it cannot regain its composure until I shall have endeavored to do something for poor _____ & for the millions whose case is to no small extent bound up in his case.

I did not get your letter until last night. Today is Sunday. I not mean to leave early in the morning for Canada for either Toronto or Montreal.

It seems that the dissenting Judge ____ his Opinion simply on the insufficiency of the evidence of the killing! I see not higher ground!

How _____ for a Canadian Court to recognize Slavery as a law. And a Law too in Canada! For the recognition must have had _____ the whole extent. How else could the Decision have been what it was?

I go not to take part in the the trial. I know not when that will be nor do I know what t I would be permitted to interpose in it - not do I know that I would have none[?] enough for it. My names[?] have been weak since my _____ _____ _____ & distrustful of my powers. I go to _____ with the _____.

I take with me enough copies of your "Unconstitutionality of Slavery".

I will write you soon.

Your friend

Gerrit Smith