

December 12 1898

Dear Mr. Dunbar:-

I much regret that the hoarseness has taken a turn for the worse and I am ordered by the doctor to "stay in the house". My feelings plainly indicate that the order is a wise one and I therefore obey. I fully expected to have the pleasure of hearing you this evening but prudence forbids - I do hope you will be led to study the social question for you can be a great helper in the work of reform if you once get started. We are at a fever in the work corresponding to the time so

60 years ago when the anti-slavery
agitators were denouncing African
Slavery - the analogy between
that reform and the present
social reform is almost perfect.
We need and must have a
new Emancipation proclamation.
Emancipation from the slavery of our
competition system that makes men
regard each other as enemies instead
of brothers and brings out the very
worst in us instead of the best
as would be the case if we lived
as brothers instead of competitors. I
yet hope to hear you sing ~~the~~ for the
bismarckent and four trockler millions black
& white as Lauree and Whittier sang for
the black slaves 50 years ago. Wishing for you the
largest possible field of usefulness ^{for this work} I am very faithfully your friend
J. H. [Signature]