My dear Kemp,

"Much haste, little speed," so I heard from you to-day, last Friday in not directing me to come instead of your mother to see yesterday in not looking to see that my note to you was returned as well as that to your father. I see it back that you may see that my answer to your last is still the same—only since it was written. You have told me that you did not make a mistake this letting me seem to me important, rather laughable. I am no politician—no statesman. I hope I love my country, so I did the U.S. until W. Johnson in the Convention of '61 told me it was my country. Then I tried to love the Confederacy. I must confess I did not succeed very well. As I am not well pleased with the Yankees, and my church treated me as well as yours has treated you, I might feel differently, I congratulate you heartily on the good prospects before you & expectations. I wish for the good of our country that we Protestants—Methodists & Baptists had the same prospect of doing our country good. Mr. Melanby wrote me that he found the feeling against us so strong in Ohio that he refused to preach for his old friends because of their censure. He thinks the feeling he took did go far in revealing the folly of making that war (Slavery) a test of Christian Communion which was not so bold while it was alive that hope of life. It will show at reconstruction on our part, just now, will, I am sure, do more harm than good. What we want is unity, not mere uniformity. Slight must reign in the laws or we can here begin to revive among ourselves, or succeed in introducing flesh life from abroad. I look with interest to see whether white folks will come to live among as many negroes. We need much at the birth of the structure of a thought, just to keep our folks awake to make them realize the lurking influence of our climate—man white or black will not work unless he is made to work. In order to live vigorously he must struggle for life. So then I am for making everybody run barefoot. Patience with us, must, to secure this population, be stronger if power than it is in the new States. There many rich will anchor in their last splendid, it becomes not, by the rich, those humble can do it. If those who live at great must face others benefitted by their sacrifices. In their struggle will not be profitable. But after all, will Northerners foreigners of the right not come to live amidst these means of slavery for years to come? We must do our best to induce them to come.

I write it too big a hurry yesterday to remember that Father's birthday is that letter to the Poor's...