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65 Irving Place, New York,
April 24, 1877.

My dear old friend,

Allow me to con-
gratulate you, and the country, on
your accession to a seat in the
Cabinet. From what I know per-
sonally of yourself, & by report
of the President, I doubt not that
your relations with him will be
of the most harmonious character.

A few days since, in Phila-
delphia, a friend of mine ques-

tioned me as to my views of the political outlook. I had not the least idea that our conversation would appear in print, until, at its close, the gentleman asked me if I objected to its being reported. He has given it faithfully.

It occurs to me that, as we have so long known each other, you might like to see it; & possibly the President, if he has a few spare minutes. It seems to me that every good citizen, if even his influence

be small, should last it, at this
juncture, in aid of an adminis-
tration so eminently worthy of
support as that of President
Hayes.

The article has been favor-
ably noticed by some of the dailies
of this city.

Faithfully yours
Abbot Hale Owen

The Hon^{ble} Richard H. Johnson.

In case you find a moment to
acknowledge ^{receipt} of this, my address,

for 10 days, will be as above, after
that, Cross by side Lake George, N.Y.