

October 9, 1846
Elihu Burritt to "My good Friend"

[League of Universal Brotherhood logo and pledge at top]

Antislavery Office, [England]

Oct. 9 1846

My good Friend:

I have been very remiss in my duty to my correspondents. I have thought much of you for some time past, and have waited for an opportunity to write you at length of my plans and hopes. I have been absorbed to the whole capacity of my heart and hands in getting the "League of Universal Brotherhood" under way. About 1000 highly respectable persons have enrolled themselves as members, by signing the Pledge, in this country, and I hope an equal number have done so in America. I hope that 5000 in Gt Britain and 5000 in the United States will have joined this covenant of peace before the close of the present year; thus constituting not only an international society for the abolition of war, but also for the abolition of slavery, restrictions on commerce and correspondence. You see that the platform of the League is large enough for all the organizations that need be formed for the elevation of mankind. I am much pleased with your Address to the Minister in the U.S.A. on slavery. I wish you would send a copy to the "Christian Citizen", Worcester, Mass. U.S.A. or to Thomas Drew Jr, my subeditor, with a short note of your own as an introduction. The Citizen has now a greater circulation than any other Antislavery Paper in America. I will write to Drew to have him direct copies of the Citizen containing the address to such ministers as it would be desirable send to. They had better be sent I think in the Citizen, as it would save postage. I hope to visit Newcastle one of these days. I have some measures of importance to lay before the friends of peace and antislavery. I will try to send you a kind of journal if I can of my doings. I enclose a Pledge leaf which I should be glad to receive again filled with signatures headed by your own name. I shall remain here about a week, when I intend to make a town as far as Darlington, perhaps to Newcastle.

Yours hastily,

Elihu Burritt