

December 26, 1846
Elihu Burritt to Mrs. Howitt

Manchester [England]
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My Dear Mrs Howitt

Your favour has just come to hand, and I thank you heartily for it. I am so entirely "used up," to use an Americanism, in the League movements that I fear I could make but a very casual correspondent or contributor to your new journal. For the next month I shall be deeply absorbed in bringing out an elaborate proposition for an Ocean Penny Postage. But if I can abstract a moment of leisure, after that, from my various engagements, I will try to get off something for your pages. Still I feel hardly warranted to suffer myself to be announced as a regular contributor, as the burden of the movements I am now engaged in grows heavier every day. I wish, therefore, that you would not enrol my name in the corps of your regular contributors, as it would lay me under a species of obligation to your readers which I might not be able to fulfill. I should prefer to disappoint them on the right side by giving them occasionally what they had no right to expect.

Yours faithfully

Elihu Burritt