

July 31, 1849

Elihu Burritt and Henry Richards to "Sir"

Hôtel Bedford, Rue de l'Arcade

Juillet 31 1849

Sir,

In forwarding to you the enclosed circular, we venture respectfully and earnestly to call your attention to its contents. A large number of Christian men in England and America, inspired with the profound faith which springs from earnest religious convictions, are about to make an effort to call the attention of the civilized world to the fearful evils of that system of violence and injustice, in regulating the intercourse of nations, which has so long prevailed, even in the countries of Christendom, to the great scandal and detriment of our holy religion. This is a subject on which they might hope for sympathy from men of all classes and opinions. But they look with more than ordinary hope and confidence, to men of kindred sentiments with themselves, who regard the principles of the Gospel as containing the great and paramount authority, to which all human idées and institutions should be subjected, and who do not scruple to place their opposition to war upon the high ground of its utter antagonism to the whole spirit of that divine system of truth which we have received from the Lord Christ. On this ground, therefore, may we presume to hope for your presence at the Congress, or, if not your presence, at least the expression of your sympathy and approval on this memorable occasion.

We have the honour to be

Sir

Yours very respectfully

Henry Richards

Elihu Burritt

P.S.- The accompanying manuscript contains a brief statement of our objects and operations, and should it commend itself to your judgment, we should feel greatly obliged, by its insertion in the Journal of which you are Editor.

[Note: the postscript is written in Henry Richard's hand]