

April 2, 1851
Elihu Burritt to "My Dear Friend"

[Logo at top: Eagle holding a banner proclaiming "Peace, Brotherhood and Progress"]

3 Winchester Buildings

London

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My Dear Friend,

Thanks many and warm for your very interesting letter. It is full of cheer, and glimpses of a happy future in this blessed and beautiful cause. It is indeed most encouraging to contemplate the progress you have made in your Society, and the increasing interest which is manifested in this gentle mission of Peace and harmonious brotherhood. Thanks for your letter to Miss [Plúns?] in her own language. I am almost afraid to write to you, who can write German with such elegance. I am surprised you can do this with such ease and effect, so naturally. I congratulate you on this acquisition and accomplishment. Who knows what may come of it? What hearts beating with benevolent sympathies in the "Fatherland," will be touched to fine issues by the thoughts your pen may awaken? When you were studying German, did you dream of ever turning the language to this account and use? O, it is very nice. I hope Miss Plúns will respond soon, and that soon many loving hearts may be mined out of different parts of Germany to be linked with their like in England and America in this work of Peace and Good will among men. Nous l'esperons.

I am in daily expectation of receiving a copy of the "Journal de Sainte Petersbourg" containing our first Olive Leaf, and announcing the first flight of the Dove over that cold region of despotism. It has not yet come, but my faith is strong that it will before your next meeting. I should dearly like to have your Society take under your tuition that gigantic barbarian. It would be a most satisfactory change; and I believe the sweet charity of the ideas you disseminated there would soften the ice-bergs and melt the snows and frost that have shut out truth hitherto.

I am right glad that you feel assured that, having once gained the attention of the members of your circle, you "can trust to the very nature and spirit of the enterprise for the interest not to flag." I am confident you will find this the case- that the spirit of this beautiful movement will cement and inspire your circle with the communion of sympathies which will make your monthly meetings delightful in anticipation and reality. Nous [tenons?].