

October 11, 1978
Elihu Burritt to the Editor of Scribner's Magazine

New Britain, Conn.
Oct 11/78 [1878]

To the Editor of Scribner's Magazine.

Dear Sir,

For several years I have had a desire to be admitted into "the goodly fellowship" of your contributors, but have doubted my ability to produce anything to rank with their literary talent or to reach the level of that intellectual force and genius which you require in papers published in your Magazine. For although I have written a good deal for the last thirty years and made many books, I have hardly ventured into the field of popular literature proper. But some time ago I wrote a paper which several of my friends have thought contained passages which might interest the readers of such a magazine as yours. I, therefore, venture to send it to you, hoping that you might find leisure to look through it and see if they have any good reason for their favorable judgment. I do not feel any confidence in my own as to what is suitable in subject and style to a magazine of such high reputation as you have made the one you conduct.

If you should find the paper unsuitable and inadmissible, I shall be much obliged if you will let it come back to me by post, for I should much regret to lose it.

Yours very respectfully,

Elihu Burritt.