

[Letter Elihu Burritt to Almira Strickland, October 13, 1850]

Mrs. Almira Strickland

New Britain

Connecticut

To be kindly enclosed and forwarded J.B.S.

[second page in original]

Hamburgh [sic] Germany, Oct 13 1850

My dear sister Almira,

I can hardly realise [sic] that such a long time has elapsed without my writing to you. I have no doubt that you have been anxious about me. The fact is, the last three months have been filled with remarkable labours [sic], with journeyings to and fro over the continent of Europe. But I hope the few family letters that you have had in the Citizen have been in some degree substitutes for letters written with my own hand. You have read before this all about the Frankfurt Congress, and something about our mission of peace to Denmark & Schleswig-Holstein. I am waiting here in Hamburgh [sic], the issue of our efforts. This has been the most remarkable mission that I have ever been engaged in truly, and I have found the promise occupied in my own experience "blessed are the peace makers! [underline in original] Day before yesterday I dined with the Minister of Foreign Affairs in Schleswig-Holstein, at [crossed out word] Kiel, who treated me with the greatest kindness and

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consideration. I hope that this war may be brought to a close through our instrumentality. Would it not be a glorious affair if it should? I hope hereafter to give a letter every week in the Citizen, so it will be like coming home to you again. I was rather worn down and exhausted after the Congress of Frankfort, but this new enterprise has brought me up again, and I was never in better health. I have a nice room here in this noble city, and am making pleasant acquaintances. I am preparing the way for my Olive Leaf [underline in original] operation, and as soon as this job of peacemaking between these two countries is finished, I hope to throw myself into Olive Leaf enterprise with success as well as zeal. I am about astounded at myself that I can make myself so much at home in these strange countries. I expect to remain about 2 months longer on the continent before I return to England. And now you cannot think how much I desire to learn how you are all getting

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on in New Britain, [text cut off]

I left, so much, has been [text cut off in original]

few months. I want to [text cut off in original]

a long letter and tell me [text cut off in original]

of interest among you, [text cut off in original]

more and more dear, [text cut off in original] me [text cut off in original]

incidents of my boyhood—upon the remembrance of old neighbors and friends with great interest. I hope that all the circle of the family, including cousins, nephews & nieces are all well and prospering. Commend my love to Betsey, Mary, and to all the rest of the family. Dear [crossed out word] Louisa you must kiss twice apiece for me. Give my brotherly regards to the Stricklands, Isaac, Noah, & Alfred. [crossed out word] And your Olive Leaf Circle—I hope that you will have many nice meetings these coming winter evenings. Say to them when you meet them, that they are the first gem in my crown of rejoicing—that their sympathy, approbation & cooperation are very precious to me while sojourning in this far off land. When I get through with this embassy [underline in original] to a couple fighting countries, I intend to write to them.

Now adieu,

Affectionately your Elihu