

Roxbury, Jan. 1, 1874.

My dear Wendell:

We all send to you and yours the greetings, felicitations and best wishes of the opening year. May it prove the happiest and most prosperous of any you have yet experienced.

As your mother has made grateful acknowledgment, in a letter to Mrs. McKim, of the very kind and acceptable Christmas tokens of remembrance and regards, ^{coming from the Park,} I need not make a renewal of thanks. The apple butter is exceedingly relishable, and worthy of special recognition for the excellence of its manufacture. It is, besides, what we very seldom get in this quarter.

I have been invited to attend and address a meeting at the Academy of Music in New York, on the 12th of Jan;

in favor of Italian Unity; but shall not be able to comply with the invitation, on account of the state of my health, which is still too infirm to warrant me to participate in any public demonstrations. To the object of the meeting I give a hearty approval.

I was very glad to see in the last number of The Nation, an editorial article adverse to the strange proposal of Pres. Grant for the annexation of San Domingo. Of course, as Grant is to appoint the Commissioners, he will be sure to appoint such as will report in conformity with his wishes; and, therefore, the proposed examination will be little better than a farce. Grant's doggedness and persistency are indicative of something very suspicious as to his motives and real aims. See with what indecent haste,

before the House of Representatives, has acted upon the question of appointing Commissioners, he is getting ready a ship of war to convey them ~~in boats~~ ~~boats~~ to San Domingo, as though it were not a supposable thing that the House would dare to dissent from him on the subject! If Mr. Sumner was somewhat too ferid in his rhetoric, he was at least right on the main issue itself; and is especially to be commended for maintaining his personal self-respect and senatorial independence. I trust The Nation will renew its protest against this land-grabbing scheme in due season.

Enclosed are five dollars to pay for the photographs you sent me as I desired. I hope you ordered a dozen, as I also desired, so that you might reserve half of them to distribute ad lib. If you did, let me know, and

I will send you the balance due.
If otherwise, then, should what is
enclosed more than cover the cost of
the half dozen received, hand the
trifling remainder to Lucy. But the
photograph is so admirable that I
should like to see it multiplied many
times. The negative ought to be
carefully preserved. I have given
one copy to Lucy Thaxter, and ano-
ther to sister Charlotte at Providence.
A third I shall send to R. D. Webb;
a fourth to George Thompson and
a fifth to Elizabeth Pease Nichol.
These will all appreciate it highly.
Give dear George all our
good wishes for the new year, and
his parents' benediction.
Your loving Father