

if the old year might
be complaining about
the prospect of be-
ing supplanted
by a young one
that: the world
is as wild &
meneful. Probab-
ly you do not
have such im-
pleasant winds
in Oregon.

Shall hope to
continue to hear
from you often
Affectionately
Margaret

Dear Uncle.

Union Falls, N. H. Dec. 31.
Forest Grove, Oregon.

Don't let it seem
as if I am
colder -

Yours of 12th, was most un-
expectedly recd. by me, on the 28th; but
I assure you, I was none the less relieved
because unlooked for. I had been
thinking that I should avail myself
of your invitation to "write whenever
you can". I wish you a "happy new year"
if I did not receive anything from
you this week.

Please accept my sincere
thanks for this kind letter, &
for your renewed ~~promise~~ ^{promise} of tender &
loving care of me, if I can accept
your offer. I can not, for a moment
doubt, that you made the offer in good

faith; & that you would secretly
keep your promise. I have written
you before, of situation of my
affairs &c. &c. Shall want with
more than common interest—the
indications of Providence in this
case: but would not pry into
the future, which I know is in
the safe-keeping, of One, who is infi-
nitely too wise to err. I trust that
we may be guided in the right way.

Your account of what you are
doing, is very interesting to me.

It seems, to me, that you have
a sufficiently large field of useful
ness; & may be the means of as
great ~~usefulness~~ ^{good} as if you were
settled over a large congregation.

What calling can be so exalted
as that of preaching Christ to the
perishing? May the great Head of the
Church, (without whose blessing, Paul's
planting & Apollos' watering are ⁱⁿ vain)

crown your labors! But if you do not
see such fruits of your work, as you would
wish, should you be discouraged? If you
will allow me, I will quote a little from
Chrysostom's "Looking Unto Jesus" which though
it may be familiar to you, I cannot
refrain from writing. "Unto Jesus" and not
to what we are doing for him. If we
are too much taken up with our works
we may forget our Master—we may
have our hands full and our heart
empty; but if we are constantly
looking unto Jesus we cannot
forget our work; if our heart is filled
with his love, our hands will also
be active in his service. "Unto Jesus"
and not to the apparent success of our
efforts. Apparent success is not al-
ways the measure of real success;
and besides, God has not enjoined
success upon us, but only labor; he
will ask an account of our labor, but
not of our success; why then should

we be too much concerned about it? We must sow the seed; God will gather the fruit; if not to-day it will be to-morrow; if not for ~~us~~, it will be for others. But - I must hasten.

You can not certainly admire the appearance of my letters. There is so little day-light now a-days that I seldom write by day-light.

What I have written to you, I have done entirely after dark; not even looking them over, by day-light.

So I think, that, when you bring my "deeds of darkness" to light they must appear in very strange contrast with your own well-written & very real appearing epistles.

I wish for you, during the coming year, just as much happiness and prosperity as will be for your highest good, We have been having very moderate weather most of the time of late more like spring than "Christ-mas tide" but is now growing