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My dear Mrs. Allen
 A thousand thanks for
 your hundred of notes
 for all your kind
 expressions in your letter in
 your letter all of which
 from your deep and long
 heart a friend both of
 so many years standing
 which in times of
 absence has even changed

is much to submit
 not to go step into
 my heart & spring the
 accept my moment
 acknowledgments for that
 offer which I assure
 you I as warmly
return - I regret often
 that your health &
 my own business
 are preventing or
hindering, but I do hope

as you do / without
presuming to submit
 in the goodness of God
 that our union is the
 more than impossible but
 again in this World -
 & of it is impossible
 that we are not
 as far as known
 when I beg you to
 accept my grateful
thanks for all your
kind services to

now I think I may
say for the last 50
years I have had the
you I am probably
will for me just
now - but great &
rest as I grow old
I find more time
every day
Yours truly
April
27/12