

Dublin Wednesday June 17th 1791.

My Dear Mother

I am so well convinced that

it will add to your pleasure to hear of my safe arrival on this side that I gladly embrace the first opportunity to communicate it.

We arrived this day after a pleasant journey.

My dear Mother

The pain of leaving my friends was not a little increased by the consideration of the Indisposition in which I left you; I most anxiously hope to receive accounts of your continuing to ~~remain~~ amend & I flatter myself with the pleasing expectation of meeting you again in a few weeks in perfect health.

I have only time to add that I am with most affectionate regards to my Father, the girls & Jonathan - My Dear Mother -

Your most affectionate & dutiful son
D. Bell



10

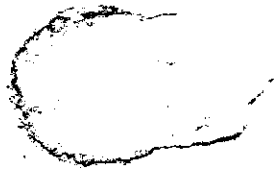
Ms. 4

Ms. Miller

Champion Hill

W. H. Mason

London



Daniel Bell

Cothhouse Cro: ^{to the} 1744

My Dear friend I hope by this time thou art
 got well home with the fruit of true peace in thy bosom
 a return sufficient for thy labours of love in the Gospel which
 were considerable to the comfort & satisfaction of many, as
 I am sure of my self in particular. I thought it a reasonable
 visit & a time of renewing our old acquaintance & receiving
 opportunity as also of refreshing our spirits one more
 I was very glad I met with thee at Newcastle to take our
 sodam leave of each other for its some question with us
 whether we shall meet again till we meet in y^e Church
 triumphant where the weary tossed & afflicted travellers rest
 from their labours, & shall rejoice in peace for ever
 which happy end I do at times hope for to my great comfort
 & content this hope has helped me over many mountains and
 still with respect it as an anchor to stay & fix my mind upon
 but oh my friend I have some very low & lonesome time
 yea deep sufferings trials & temptations, bordering near
 upon despair whether I shall not quite sink below
 hope which maketh not ashamed but is attended with the
 leadings abroad of divine love upon the soul, its atim
 probation with me. even now I have walked as in the
 value of the shadow of death for several days with
 spirit plunged & laden yet not quite faithless but that
 the same power which has often helped me will
 gain afford me a resurrection into life, that I shall one
 day or other come up with some memorial of his gracious
 calling & of his wonders in the deeps. I shall bear witness
 of freedom & plainness as a brother & experienced fellow
 traveler tho thou may be got far before in the way of
 perfection yet cannot be a stranger to the path & as such
 knows how to sympathize with I lend a hand to those who
 are in our way. I pray for thy family well & pray when its
 the mark. I hope that God thy family well & pray when its
 an open time with thee that thy soul is favoured with free peep
 remember me & also when last freedom return me alim
 seeing what freedom thou think necessary on any account
 I am with true affection & great regard thy sincere friend
 Lydia Lancaster

Op I have love to thy children -
 relations are all pretty well & they wish
 to see thee but no

Rev. Jan 30 of the 6th mo. 18

My Dear Friend

Please return it to my friend
at his house, 117th St. N. W.
London sent to me, Mr. G. & Co.

When you write please to inform me if you had heard anything of Mrs. Dismond since I saw her. His report here that she was lately at Plymouth and is coming this way, I have not time to add much at present. My very kind love attends her. My good Father & Mother w^{ill}. The little friends & my daughter, Sam. Dismond w^{ill}. The great Ministry & others.

Thy very affectionate and
much obliged Friend

Thine Affectionate
Friend

Dec. 4. 18. I had much pleasure. Thy very acceptable letter w^{as} the second, I've often since we parted remembered w^{ith} great satisfaction the opportunity that w^{as} to be had by thy agreeable company & conversation together w^{as}. Thy kind care of me on all occasions has made a great impression of gratitude on my mind & I'm sure w^{as} the more where I've & will be remembered remain to be so, for I think I may truly say w^{as} I've received many fav^{ors} from my Fr^{end} in general yet sincerely trust w^{as} so much sincerity & honest friendship as I was treated w^{as}. by thy good Father & Mother. It was very pleasant to me to meet w^{as}. at the house of Bro. at Leithway but their stay there was short, the meetings we had there were large & very solemn attended w^{as} by a good degree of divine power and ended w^{as} likewise to general satisfaction, my Company & strength from thence accompanied by Bro. & Miss, sister & several other Fr^{ends} to the Yearly Meeting at Exeter where we had a pretty deal of the Methodist's Company w^{as} secured appeared in the meeting w^{as}. It occurred some concern to some of our Fr^{ends} at other recent pretty easy about it. We got here last night & Sunday w^{ill} to subscribe "first opportunity of writing to thee to inform thee how we fared & to return my grateful acknowledgments for the many fav^{ors} rec^{ed}. I believe my stay here will be but a few days in w^{as} it will be small hope to be forward w^{as} a letter from thee, Mary Keating & her Companion are expected here to night, also the two Irish Fr^{ends} & they both of two more, how it may prove I know not but have little doubt of our joyful meetings may be done Decem^{ber} 18. in order shall be paid of our Com^{pany} ready to answer.

For

Francis Owen at Tho. Zachary's Furner
in Cannon Street near London Stone

of London

Shantong 1858

My dear friend

My Aunt had writing of her news but have
 been so poorly since that time that she cannot write
 or produce to write except necessity requires it, my husband
 tells in our language, English have also been much out of order
 and his children still continue poorly so that my time is wholly
 wholly engaged. I had feared in the course of my journey both my
 health and energy beyond what I had been expected, but now
 now to be requisite for the care of poverty & suffering in a spiritual
 sense at least it is to me and has been for some years (not
 as it has been told) that far to that of struggle through, and
 what may yet be heard of news not but I see little for me to expect
 but a passing of Providence in their place, having seen for the
 last that Providence has not only given me liberty but freedom
 and I know my mind to a different situation, but how things
 may yet turn out we are not yet certain nor fully determined.
 I hope my daughter found benefit from being at Sunbridge
 of which she would be glad to hear, and of the continuance of my
 health and strength, I was glad to hear that the winter was
 favorable to get well to Johnham & how her journey better
 than she expected. I doubt not but her company will be
 very acceptable both to the young women in general in
 these parts having been much so to want her company.
 My husband joins in desire to see the young daughter with
 my truly affectionate friend
 Yours, W. Johnson

Durham 12: 1: mo: 1758.

Dear Friend

I rec'd both thy kind Letters & wanted not gratitude & Inclination to have wrote to thee in return but the Depth of Affliction I've been permitted to fall into has discouraged me from writing fearing it ^{would} rather afflict & grieve my best Friends than be of any satisfaction as any Acc: I could truly give of myself was very moving; but as the Presing & Well Being of all is in the Hand of the Allwise Disposer, I see no other way for me than a Total Resignation of Body, Soul & Spirit to his Will, well knowne from former as well as pres: Experience there is not another Arm that can deliver out of such Deep Distress nor cause Faith and Hope in his Salvation to Spring up in the Mind for what indeed is our Hope but the Appearance or manifestation of the Blessed Redeemer in us and when he's pleas'd to withdraw his holy Presence, the Foundation of our Trust seems to be removed, and the Accuser well knowing that's his time to take advantage spares no Distress he's permitted to inflict on us, this I do see has been my sorrowfull Situation for near 6 months last past; but in the midst of all my sufferings I have this small relief that if I know my own heart my Attachment to Truth & Friends is as great or greater than ever and Hope will continue to be so whilst I have a Presing here whether it may please the Almighty to advise for my Deliverance I desire to be with the utmost Submission I can possibly get to and endeavour to follow him to the best of my Ability thro' the Deapest Proving, esteeming it the alone way to move Divine Compassion if there be yet mercy in Heav'n for me and leaving that to his Bounty He's worthy to be Prsd to and served for the good he has done us in times past, Thus like holy Job I become as w: the striking Hand is upon to Bless the great Name rather than murmer at the Crost of his Dispensation, humbly Confess we are not worthy of the favours he's yet pleas'd to continue to us - Tho' to be sure were we permitted to Choose it is better & less Afflictions to be Deprived of the nearest Visible Injoyment than the most valuable and desirable Blessing of his holy Spirit w^{ch} alone is able to satisfy the Soul that has Tasted of his Goodness.

My Husband rec'd a kind Letter from thy Son Bell requesting to be inform'd how I did w^{ch} further induced me to write, I hope I may say with truth and gratitude I think my Strength a little recruited as to the Body and it rather helps the Mind for pres: after a patient waiting frame but when I may be permitted to attain the desire of my Soul (viz) the Return of divine favour

is only known to the giver of all good. My kind friend's Dear: I have had some of my friends in this Affliction, in one of our late says for Pres: I had made her a visit by speaking of my state she expressed a desire toward endeavour to get to preaching, so she please to tell him who is often at my house I shall write a few lines of it to be my Study so to do and the like good persons together in our strength as you found my friend's much more than a more quiet writing home in preaching than at a time (1)

Dear Sir,

is only known to the giver of all good. Mr. King, friend Bro. Boulay has favored me with several letters in this affliction, in one of which he says Bro. Bell had made for a right speaking of my state. He expressed a desire I would endeavour to get to meetings, which please to tell him. I do as often as my weak habit will allow believing it to be my duty so to do, and the likelihood means together invited brought as I've found my mind sometimes bro. into a more quiet waiting frame in preaching than at other times it administers some little encouragement to persevere to the end.

My dear Husband has been favoured with health beyond what could be expected in the course of my illness. Now he has kept House more than usual to bear me Company as much as he could, one great support to him thro' the whole has been he has ever been pleased with a full hope of my being restored to my former Health. I'm great cause to esteem it a peculiar Providence both on my own & my Children's Acco. to be favoured with such a Husband, he joins with me in the warmest thanks of dear love to thee, My Bro. & Son's Daughter, also to thy Nephew J. & his Wife your pleases to hear their Children are got so well over the small Pox; I shall take it as a favor to hear from thee w. free also from thy Bro. Bell, and a sense of thy sincere Friendship shown to me at all times Jan 21 1750.

Thy affectionate, & wishing Friend

James Jackson

which has been the case
I've been so restricted
that I've been like a
Friend, except in a
many times induced
Restriction that way
happily removed, as
Liberty, which is every
thine my dear Friend
Correspondence I've
as my dear & dear
= deuce I had the job
near thine! Softer
and my spirit long
with you! but alas,
of Obstructions, in
to say Oh! that I
Thee with Alacrity
but when I attempt
and Incumbrances a
most Vigorous Effort
and inhabit the
Refreshing Dew of
to fall down upon me

Blessed be his Name who forgets not his Little Ones in the most
wretched State, he has hitherto sustained as with a Boock by the way
I have faithfully depended upon him, and in Patient Suffering
led their Cause and the Keeping of their Souls to him; to these
fulness has never failed, but he has been witness'd as the
Rock indeed, in a weary Land! may we thus know him, my
friend, however situate and where ever our Lot be cast, that we
experimentally to say Oh! our Portion, the desirable
hesitance. Many Exigencies have past since I wrote to my Friends
I here enumerate, two of late have tended to set me more at Liberty
my eldest Sons have been favour'd to get well through the Small Pox since
my little Henshaw & he can now almost go alone, so that I shal look
at a Time of Prospects from such necessary Outward Engagem^{ts} as
I would but I may once more be permitted to see the Faces of my Friends
th, the prospect of which affords me at times a secret and pleasing
because sundry of them are to me as Epistles written in the
be forgotten nor by Absence Obliterated; I salute thee my dear
wings of endeared love (in which my Husband joins) to thee thy Son
to with our near Friend Sophia Hume, and with earnest request
to thee soon, I am with the utmost Sincerity

Thy very affectionate Friend

Francis Lodwick

Durham

My dear Friend

Thou hast just cease to
 in not sooner answering thy last
 such has been the case with me
 I've been so restricted in my self
 that I've been like One Bhoried
 Friends, except in a near friend
 many times induced me to alter
 Restriction that way remained, w
 happily removed, and my heart
 Liberty, wch is very acceptable to
 thee my dear friend and request
 Correspondance I've been favour
 as my dear & worthy friend to
 since I had the satisfaction to
 near mine! I often think of y
 and

but Blessed be his Name who forgets not
 Impoverish't State, he has hitherto sustain
 all that have faithfully depended upon
 committed their Cause and the Keeping of
 his Faithfulness has never fail'd, but he is
 of a mighty Rock indeed, in a weary Land
 dear friend, however situate and where ever
 we have experimntaly to say that
 of our Inheritance. Many Exigens has
 we can't here enumerate, two of late have be
 my two youngest Sons have been favour'd to get we
 I've weand my little Henshaw, he can now also
 forward for a Time of Prosprite from such nee
 then who knows but I may once more be permit
 in the South, the prospect of wch affords me a
 relation, because sundry of them are to me
 it cannot be forgotten nor by Absence Oblite
 in the Renewings of endeared love (in wch my
 and Laughter with our near Friend Sophia Rem
 to hear from thee soon, I am with the utmost

F

Durham 30th 1th mo.

1762

Dear Friend

Thou hast just cause to think I've been very remiss
in not sooner answering thy last acceptable Letter; but
such has been the case with me that for some time past
I've been so restricted in my self (with respect to writing)
that I've been like One Buried in Oblivion to my absent
Friends, except in a near Remembrance of them, which has
many times induced me to attempt to write but still the
Restriction that way remain'd, untill now, that I find it
happily removed, and my Heart again enlarg'd, set at
Liberty, which is very acceptable to me, and I therein salute
thee my dear Friend and request a renewal of that desirable
Correspondance I've been favour'd with from thee as well
as my dear & worthy Friend Sophia Hume whose Pres-
-ence I had the satisfaction to hear has been for some time
near thine! I often think of you with secret satisfaction
and my Spirit longs at times and seasons to be present
with you! but alas, this frail Body meets with Variety
of Obstructions, in so much that I'm many times ready
to say Oh! that I had the Wings of a Dove that I might
Fly with Alacrivity when the Voice of my Beloved Calls
but when I attempt it Oh! grief of Heart to say, the Weights
and Incumbrances of this frail State too often obstruct my
most Vigorous Efforts, and force me to dwell as in Mesoch
and inhabit the Tents of Cedar; and were it not for the
Refreshing Dew of Hermons Hill at times graciously
to fall down upon me, my Soul must have ~~been~~

My dear

I was sorry to hear of thy Daughters repeated Loss, but Submission in all Cases to the divine Will is in my judgment the surest road to Happiness both here and hereafter.

My Husband has been favoured with an Opportunity of giving up Business to a young Man who has taken the Shop & our Stock of Goods & Shop Furniture, so that we are now in a Situation of waiting Hope every way for the Moving & Direction of the Heavenly hand.

My Husband is gone to Stockton to see his Sisters one of em having been ill some time but I expect him Home to night or to morrow, my self & Children are thro' Mercy & mercies well I'm pleas'd to hear the Acco: of thy Cousin Wragg, but concern'd at that of our Dr: Mr: Weston a few days since my Husband & I made a Visit to Robt: Wardell & his Wife who had been both very poorly but were something better we think Cousin Robt: in a very declining State and fear we shall not be favoured with him long, he has been a serviceable Member of this Quor, Meeting & the Lots of him wd be regretted & doubtless if we sh: loose his Wife's Company who is indeed a Valuable worthy Friend & a sound, Good Minister.

I was thankful to hear of Tho: Whitehead's being able to get to Meeting, and also that Mr: Bell is favoured with help to get forward; God indeed is the Lord in an especial manner to them that fear him and are honestly engaged to run the Ways of his Commandment.

I shall hope to hear from thee of soon as thou canst conveniently favour me with a Letter, mean while dear Love attends thee thy Son & Daughter, together with thy Nephew D. and his W.

My worthy Dr: David Barclay & his Wife, Tho: Whitehead & his, Mr: Weston & my dear dear dear Name, to be brief my Love flows freely & in a narrow way to Dr: in general of my Acquaintance in and about London & I pray God to give you many favourable Opportunities together during the Course of yr: ensuing Yearly Meeting of which I shall be glad to hear & shall conclude in a comfortable degree of my Heavenly Fathers Love

Thy affectionate & nearly United Friend

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My dear
will
I hope this find thee and thy Son and Daughter in usual Health with I should
be glad to be favored with an acct. of from thee a soon as suits thy Inclination.
I expect my Husband will get home tomorrow if no accident prevent him.
Accept dear Friend the Salutation of my Unfeigned Love to thee and thine,
and believe me at all times

Thy truly affectionate Friend
Margaret Toddston

P.S.
When thou seest Mr. Barclays Family
Please to remember my dear Love to them
I intended writing to my Fr. P.B. this post
but find my Self too poorly

Durham 5th 6th mo. 1759.

My dear Friend

I was truly glad of thy last Acceptable Letter, as indeed I always am to hear from thee yet can readily excuse thy being sometimes longer than usual in favouring me with a Letter, as I know by experience I am not always disposed to write even to my dearest & most Beloved Friends, who nevertheless are at the same time near to my life & precious in my Remembrance as in an especially manner are many of my Fr^{ds} in and Abt^t London whose Faces I could be glad to see w^{ch} Divine Providence fully Opens my Way and furnishes with Strength sufficient for such an Engagement till w^{ch} time I believe it safest to wait in the expectation of the Pure Spring wherein is healing & virtue witness'd in Our heavenly Fathers seasons to flow freely both to Our selves and Others. I gratefully acknowledge thy kind Invitation, & w^{ch} I find it my place to visit my Fr^{ds} in the South shall gladly embrace an Opportunity of staying a while with my dear Friend whose Friendship I've Valued much ever since our first Acquaintance and so far from Diminishing that I'm sensible it grows daily and will do so whilst we continue on the true Foundation, on w^{ch} I've not the least room to doubt it was firmly Built, & has ever been most manifested in times of Affliction, and no Word for the Spirit of Universal Love & Compassion leads those who are under its Influence not only to rejoice with them that do rejoice but also to sympathize with Mourners in mourning with them, as I'm satisfied thou and many of my kind Fr^{ds} have repeatedly done with me w^{ch} indeed lives in my remembrance with Awful Gratitude to the Father of Spirits who causes his Children to be Baptiz'd into One Body, & gives them to drink of the One Spirit in w^{ch} their Unity consists These like their holy Head have meat to eat the Word of Gods not of, & like the Primitive Believers are a People of one Heart &

I was truly glad of thy last Acceptable Letter, as indeed I always am to hear from thee yet can readily excuse thy being sometimes longer than usual in favouring me with a Letter, as I know by experience I am not always disposed to write even to my dearest & most Beloved Friends, who nevertheless are at the same time near to my life & precious in my Remembrance as in an especially manner are many of my Fr^{ds} in and Abt^t London whose Faces I could be glad to see w^{ch} Divine Providence fully Opens my Way and furnishes with Strength sufficient for such an Engagement till w^{ch} time I believe it safest to wait in the expectation of the Pure Spring wherein is healing & virtue witness'd in Our heavenly Fathers seasons to flow freely both to Our selves and Others. I gratefully acknowledge thy kind Invitation, & w^{ch} I find it my place to visit my Fr^{ds} in the South shall gladly embrace an Opportunity of staying a while with my dear Friend whose Friendship I've Valued much ever since our first Acquaintance and so far from Diminishing that I'm sensible it grows daily and will do so whilst we continue on the true Foundation, on w^{ch} I've not the least room to doubt it was firmly Built, & has ever been most manifested in times of Affliction, and no Word for the Spirit of Universal Love & Compassion leads those who are under its Influence not only to rejoice with them that do rejoice but also to sympathize with Mourners in mourning with them, as I'm satisfied thou and many of my kind Fr^{ds} have repeatedly done with me w^{ch} indeed lives in my remembrance with Awful Gratitude to the Father of Spirits who causes his Children to be Baptiz'd into One Body, & gives them to drink of the One Spirit in w^{ch} their Unity consists These like their holy Head have meat to eat the Word of Gods not of, & like the Primitive Believers are a People of one Heart &

Durham 10th 11th moth 1758.

My dear Friend

Soon after the rec^t of Thy affectionate & truly acceptable Letter it was so much my Intention to write to Thee that I apprehended I had done so, till not hearing from Thee of so long a space made me begin to fear some hindring thing or other had put me by my first intention, and for several weeks last past I've been attendell with so great a Cold that I have scarce been able to write a letter, and my Head is still much affected with a swiming & weight over my Eyes w^{ch} makes writing rather painful but being uncertain whether Thou or I wrote last, I could not be easy to omit it any longer, least (if I was the Debtor) my dear Friend sh^d apprehend I could be Ungratefull or Unmindfull of One so nearly United in the Bond of true Friendship w^{ch} I much desire may subsist between us during Life. Thy Letter was very Encouraging & Comfortable to me, & I request the continuance of Thy friendly Correspondence as frequently as freedom of Opportunity will permit; I often remember Thee with several Others of my dear Friends indy about London, in an endeared manner, wherein my Spirit seems to be pres^t with you & makes me almost regret the great Distance of my present outward Abode; I also remark'd with a sympathetic regard the Acc^t of Your Situation at Tottenham since the removal of Mr. Bro^r Bell, Strippings of this kind are very Proving, and unpleasant to Nature; but our Heavenly Father knows best what tends most to our spiritual profit and Progress; permitting sometimes his best Beloved Children to Eat the Bread of Adversity and Drink the Water of affliction, that They may be Disciplined, and made conformable to His Will & know both to be Abased and to Abound as He sees meet, in Whom are All the Treasures of Wisdom and Knowledge, and consequently All our Fresh Springs must proceed from Him, who is the Fountain of Living Mercies, the God and Father of all true and lasting Consolation, in whose Presence there is Life, but when that is Vail'd we seem surrounded with Devils Leath and Darkness! A night Season indeed to the true Watchmen & Women in our Zion, but Pleased be that Power who after these painful Night Seasons, brings Tidings of the Day.

The much desired and long for coming of his Light and Life in the East, and my firm Belief is that in spite of all the Persecutions and Persecutions which will befall the various Dispensations of his Providence in the latter of these times, that their

My dear Friend

Soon after the rec^t of it was so much my Intention done so, till not hearing from fear some hindring thing or other for several weeks last past. I have scarce been able to write with a surmising & weight over but being uncertain whether or any longer, least if I was the Ungratefull or Unmindfull of Friendship w^{ch} I much desire. Thy letter was very Encouraging -ence of thy friendly Correspondence permit; I often remember being about London, in an endeav^r to be pres^t with you & makes me present outward Abode; I alt^h thy Acc^t of your Situation at shippings of this kind are we our Heavenly Father knows be and Progress; permitting some Breas of adversity and strict Disciplined, and made conform and to abound as He sees meet and Knowledge, and consequent Him, who is the Fountain of life and lasting Consolation, if it is Vail'd we seem surrounded Season indeed to the true War^r that Power who after these pain

We much desire and long for coming of his light and life in the heart, and my firm belief is that Infinite Wisdom will have a People and Ministry ready in, and honorably acquainted with the various Dispensations of his Providence in the Lives of their own Experience. That their Dear towards him may not proceed from the Receipt of Men, but the Speaks of the Working of the mighty Power in the Heart of his Children, who are their not only by Reason but also by the better Sense of Adaption and Grace, yet to Abain and be Preserv'd in the Retention of 'is the End, is above all, the One thing needfull, and most desirable Portion on Time and on Eternity. My Husband joins in the Adulation of dear you to thee thy long Thoughts, also to thy Parents Daniel & his Wife; I am well dear Friend I am very Affectionately

Thy nearly united Friends

Samuel Doolittle

Durham 8th 5th mo: 1760.

My dear Friend

I've been much longer than I intended in answer-
ing thy very acceptable Letter, not that I've been un-
mindfull of my dear friend who is daily in my Remembrance in a
near manner but I cannot write at all times even to my
best Friends my mind being sometimes under Restrictions
in that respect; and have also since thy last been pretty closely
and very agreeably Engaged with the Company of Valuable Friends
the first was Catharine Payton who staid a few days at our House
much to our Satisfaction as did also our Worthy Friend Joseph
White whose Visit will I hope be remember'd with Gratitude
my Husband bore him Company to several Meetings he having
no Companion & have reason to believe it was satisfactory to both
I'm much Oblig'd to thee for thy Care & advice respecting the Complaint
in my Head and Teeth, I had some Valerian in the House & had some
thought of trying it just before I rec'd. thine w^{ch} strengthened my in-
-tention & believe it was of considerable service for I've been
much better since & am in a general way pretty easy except I get
fresh Cold w^{ch} I'm very apt to do in Damp Weather.

I hope thou art sensible how much I value thy Sincerity and the
near Tie of Friendship that has subsisted between us ever since
our first Acquaintance, and w^{ch} I hope will increase by every
repeated Interview as it hitherto has done w^{ch} is sufficient in-
-deem't with me to accept thy kind Invitation when I engage in
a Southern Journey, for I've many things to Communicate to thee
w^{ch} I can't commit to writing.

I have not yet heard from Sophia Flame w^{ch} makes me fear she
still continues very poorly if I knew how to Direct I would write to her
if thou can inform me please to do it in thy next.

My Husband and I purpose sending 2 or 3 of our Children to Boarding Schools pretty
early in the Spring w^{ch} will make me more at liberty to leave Home & visit the
Baths, also in order to purchase some downy garments.

My dear
my Husband and I purpose sending 2 or 3 of our Children to Boarding Schools pretty
early in the Spring which will make me more at Liberty to leave Home & lighten the
Burthen of Family Affairs to my Husband during my absence.

The Rec^t of thy Journey to Norwich & agreeable Situation ^{our} worthy Friends & those
Daughters gives me great Satisfaction as no doubt it did thee to be an Eye-witnes of it
am also much pleas'd to hear dear Kitty & her Husband and Family are well to whom

please to remember mine & my Husband's kind Love.
I make no doubt but it will be very acceptable to thy Son & Daughter and also to thy Cousin
Darius to be favour'd with Offspring to succeed them &c. I know it would give many of their
well-wishing Friends great Pleasure; but in this & all other things Submission to the
Divine Will is best and most safe for us.

I shall hope to be favour'd with hearing from thee as soon as suits thy Convenience
and am with renewed Salutation of Endear'd Love to thee and thine (in which
my Husband joins)

Thy very affectionate & much oblig'd Friend

Francis Doster



For

Francis Bell at her house
in Tottenham near
London



London 29th mo: 1763.

My dear friend

I fully intended writing soon after the rec^t of thy last kind Letter but was prevented settling forward on my journey so soon as I intended My little Son being much out of Order and my Husband that poorly in a bad Cold and our eldest Daughter being not yett arriv'd from Lancaster I could not with Satisfaction leave my Family, but (tho' I sincerely) My Husband and Child are got wholly well again, and we expect Daughter Betty home to night so I fully intend to set out from hence on 2. day next I hope to reach Norwich on 4. day, I purpose staying here about a week and going directly from thence to London; As I don't find my mind engaged to take many Meetings in my way I've concluded for ease and Dispatch to travel in a Post Chaise, and am favour'd with an agreeable Companion with I make no doubt will make my journey much more agreeable than if I had Travell'd alone, I'm greatly oblig'd both to thee and my kind Friend David Barclay for your kind Invitation whet I purpose to accept if I shall be able to get to London and not to change my Lodging either in London or Tottenham if it be convenient & agreeable to my Friends there shall to have me further I gave me great pleasure to have of thy Daughters been oblig'd to be reconcil'd with offering Friday it please you to quiet her as she desires and thank the Lord with and perswade if it be with his Steps will

My Husband joins in very dear Love to thee thy Son and Daughter our kind Friends David Barclay his Worthy Wife & Family whom I often remember very dearly shall hope to be favour'd with a Letter from thee during my stay at Norwich please to meet for me either at John Gurneys or the Widow Marys at whose House I have hitherto lodg'd and purpose doing so now. In hopes of an agreeable Interview with a dear Friend in a little time I conclude

Thy very affectionate Friend

Wm. Pitt Rivers

My dear Friend

Durham 13th 4th mo: 1758.

The kind & truly sympathizing Letter was an Additional mark of thy continued Friendship, for the Day of Adversity makes manifest both our Own Foundation and such as were enter'd into the sacred Bond of Unity & Friendship with in Our more Prosperous days. It certainly evinces a sincere & generous Mind speaks in the Language of the Patient Man. "To him that is Afflicted Pity sh^d be shewn by his Friend" & indeed in this respect I have cause humbly to acknowledge, as Thou justly Observes in thy Letter my Case differs from Job's for I'm favour'd with the continued Regards, tender Sympathy of all my most Nearest, Dear Friends. Neither has Infinite Wisdom yet permitted the Destroyer to Touch my Oppressing or Outward Sub-stance which is indeed a favour-worthy my most humble & gratefull acknowledgements to Him who has all Power in his hand, and not only sets Bounds to every Inferior Power but can Turn the Captivity of his People at his Pleasure and cause even the Deapest provings to work together for Good, if we are but engaged & helpt during these fiery Trials to keep the Word of his Patience - who alone is able to keep us, Oh my d^r fr^d how clearly in this Furnace of Affliction do we see the Extent and Absolute necessity of making the Supreme Power the Object of our Fear, Adoration, and Love, as enjoind by our Pleas'd Lord and Lawgiver, but as himself Observ'd, we find to our inexpressible sorrow that altho' our Will & Mind is Devoted to serve the Law of his Word and if a continual watch be not kept Incident to some times permitted to fall into Temptations, Doubts and Fears and how then does the Destroyer lift up his Head & Goliath like Vaunt over & Defy our seeming Helpless situation, I am no Stranger to his Malice and many Devices, this is the third time he's been permitted to put forth his hand, and wound my best Life in sympathy with which my Outward life has been brought to the brink of the grave or rather in holy Davids words shield'd all the Day long; but I was not willingly dwell altogether on the affecting Relation of my sufferings, but rather like holy Job: Leave my Complaint on my self & Eat of the Divine Mercy and Clemency that I'm not totally Consum'd amidst these fiery Trials, and if in the Immensity of Divine Love I should once more become a Monument of his mercy & a Brand Pluck'd out of the Fire, I hope my Spirit would be wrought into so thorough Conformity to the Divine Will that no Oppositive Will might ever be permitted to prevail in me, but however hard to Nature, it would I humbly hope be my great and Drink to do the Will of my Heavenly Father - This the subtil Enemy is aware of & therefore exerts his Power as far as he's permitted to lengthen as well as strengthen the Captivity. But that Penetrating Eye that saw the Affliction of his People Groaning under the Rod of his hand hath many times beholds in every Age the by

is it not for a sense of consideration of this our Spirits would certainly fail I should
we should become Victims to Our Fears of the Implacable Malice of our Enemy. Preser-
spheres no pains to work our Destruction if would if Divine Mercy did not so mu-
spore, put our souls to silence in the Grave, for tho we desire, endeavour main-
ellmost of our Strength to resist him in all his Temptations, yet we have my self
Power to Overcome him but what's given us from Above, The Lord is the we wish
ne Help and Defence, especially of his Anointed, no wonder then if when but it
pleas'd to withdraw or hide his Face from them they esteem themselves, of I am
men the weakest & most Miserable; for what is a Body without a spirit
able of life or Motion; & when He who is our best Life is withdrawn or
Deprived, we are as Sheep appointed for the slaughter, and have no true relish
enjoyment of the Pleasings of this life.

I do hope a due sense of thy tender regard & have not been unmindful of -
writing thy acceptable Letter especially since I heard of the Death of thy Bro: Bell
I have from time to time been induc'd to defer it & wait to see if I might be
sure with some Amendment that I might have a more satisfactory Acc^t:
we to thee & many others of my sympathizing Friends; I have for 6 or 7 weeks
attended with a great Cold which heighten'd my other Complaints, but last week
recovery happen'd which seems to have in a good degree abated my Fever and
the Estringent quality it occasion'd, so that I've now begun to take the
tho I've several times before attempted to do but durst not pursue it for
it sh^d fix the Violent Pain the Fever occasion'd in the Crown of my Head
thru unrepeatable mercy is in some degree abated as also the excrementitious
but I labour down, and my Constitution seems now to be more flexible I perspire
freely & sleep more which I esteem a very great favour if it may but please
me Compassion to Continue so far to assuage my Sorrows, & preserve in a
ming Patience and Resignation during the time allotted for suffer^g Affliction.

Likely thou have heard of the Death of our worthy Bro: Lydia Lancaster
Survived the Bro: Bell but a short time their Removal is doubtless very
long to the General, but particularly so to those that were most favour'd with
Benefit of their Company & Ministry, but they had attained a good Old Age
well as Experience in the Best things of we've reason to hope are enter'd
that Rest where the Wicked cease from Troubling; How joyfull would it
to the Afflicted souls to be prepar'd for & remov'd into this desirable Rest
it must be thro' many Tribulations that an Entrance must be expected
patiently waited for till the Father's good Pleasure in whose hand are
times of the Seasons both for suffering and entering into Rest from our labours,
were agreeable to my Husband & me to hear of thy Health and Welfare, with thy
& Laughter of our Old Acquaintance Liddy Coley her Family, therefore
- thou wilt continue to favour me with a Letter whenever thou art free
our Husband & Children are thro' Mercy pr^o well, he joins in the salu-
of dear love to thee, thy Son & Daughter, the Nephew Daniel and his Wife &

only fail I have wrote thee a long Letter I wish it may not be tedious, but when I
or Enemy Resolution to set Pen to Paper to some of my near & dear Friends it
did not so much to resemble the satisfaction of conversing with them that when
endeavour Mind is drawn & engaged this way it seems something difficult to
we have my self and keep within due bounds, so truly is that saying of our
is the verified in our Experience Out of the Abundance of the Mouth
if when but its time to draw to a Conclusion, Farewell therefore my dear Friend
cloves, of I am very sincerely
at spirit
own or
- true wish

Thy Affectionate Welwishing Friend
FRANCIS BOTTLER

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My dear friend

I have great need to Apologize for not sooner answering thy acceptable Letter, but my mind of late has been very little disposed for writing, tho' not at all forgetful of my absent Friends who are many times by me in a spiritual sense & with whom I'm favour'd at times with sweet fellowship, but it is in a hidden manner, inasmuch that when I've attempted to communicate it by Letter I've found my self restricted & been Obliged to desist, which has given me some concern, least it should give my Friends a present cause to think me Ungrateful w^{ch} I know my self I am naturally averse to. I was sorry to hear by thy last of our worthy friend Sophia Stone being attend'd with a Confining Scurvy as her Company & Conversation might be of general Advantage to her Acquaintance, but Providence knows best what he has to do and tho' Others are deprived of so desirable a Privilege You are the more favour'd with it with whom she resides, and it has been a sweet satisfaction to me ever since I heard of her being at Tottenham in some measure removed the weight that lay upon me concerning that Place, not but I should be glad at a proper time to make my Friends there a visit. I can't but sympathize with thy Case, I bless your Blood in the Trials they've had to pass thro' but I hope by the Prudent Application they are help'd to make of em they will work together to

loosen our minds from a too great Attachment to Visible enjoyments and indeed it's but fitting it should be so, considering the propensity of human Nature to Center too much in the Things that are seen, it's therefore in Mercy that our Heavenly Father strips us of w^t by engrossing too much of our Attention might keep us at a Distance from Him the True Center and never failing source of durable Felicity to his People. I'm concern'd to hear of thy Daughters frequent cause of Confinement, I've much desired if consistant with the Divine Will she might be favour'd with Offspring but I've sometimes been given to believe there's a Cause w^{ch} if removed things might possibly be otherwise than at present. I've been frequently of late affected with Pain in my Head w^{ch} at times causes a weakness in my Eyes that makes writing rather difficult. My dear Husband's Children are all under your Attendants care

16th Dec. 1762.
Newham. 15. 9. 00.

My dear friend

I have great need to Apologise for not sooner answering thy Acceptable Letter but my Mind of late has been very little disposed for writing, tho' not at all forgetful of my absent Friends who are many times by me in a spiritual sense & with whom I'm favour'd at times with sweet fellowship, but it is in a hidden manner, inasmuch that when I've attempted to communicate it by Letter I've found my self restricted & been oblig'd to desist, which has given me some concern lest it should give my Friends apparent cause to think me Ungrateful w^{ch} I know my self I am naturally averse to. I was sorry to hear by thy last of our worthy Friend Sophia Hume being Aband^d with a Confining Disorder as her Company & Conversation might be of general Advantage to her Acquaintance, but Providence knows best what he has to do and tho' Others are deprived of so desirable a Privilege You are the more favour'd with it with whom she resides, and it has been a secret Satisfaction to me ever since I heard of her being at Tottenham & in some measure removed the weight that lay upon me concerning that Place not but I could be glad at a prop^r time to make my Friends there a visit. I don't but sympathize with thy Cousin's Bladder her Brother in the Strains they're had to pass thro' but I hope by the Prudent Medicines they've help'd to make of em they will soon be free of their Pain.

loosen our Minds from a too great Attachment to Visible enjoyments and indeed it's but fitting it should be so, considering the propensity of human Nature to Center too much in the Things that are seen, it's therefore in Mercy that our Heavenly Father strips us of w^t by engrossing too much of our Attention might keep us at a Distance from Him the True Centre and never failing Source of durable Felicity to his People.

I'm concern'd to hear of thy Daughter's frequent cause of Confinement, I've much desired if consistant with the Divine Will she might be favour'd with Offspring but I've sometimes been given to believe there's a Cause w^{ch} if removed things might possibly be otherwise than at present. I've been frequently of late affected with Pain in my Head w^{ch} at times causes a weakness in my Eyes that makes writing rather difficult my dear Husband's Children are all thro' mercy pretty well, a large share of my very dear Love attends thee my near and well beloved friend together with thy Son & Daughter, in which my Husband joins and I conclude

Thy truly Affectionate Friend

Francis Rothson

P. S.

Please to give my near & dear Love to Sophia Hume & tell her much rejoice in being again favour'd with her

No 1

Mr Bell
at

Mr John Gurney's Inn

H Norwich

London 2nd April 1776

My dear Mother /

Thy own Feelings on the melancholy
Event of the Dissolution of my dear Cousin Catha will
enable thee to judge of those of the Friends she has left
here. — If to a Husband and the removal of the best
of Wives, to a Father that of the best of Children & to a
Friend that of the best of Friends is distressing, what must
not these near relatives have suffered in this dispensation
of Providence; That the ways of the Almighty are just
we can never doubt & that whatever is of him is right
we may rest assured, yet nevertheless we are at a loss
to account for what valuable purpose a person of
such eminent Virtue & so many most excellent
Qualities can have been taken from us, one who
might have lived a bright Example to lead others
in the same paths of Rectitude & Purity, which doubtless
have conducted her to endless Felicity.

I hope that the same power which has been

pleased to deprive them of this most valuable Blessing
will enable her Friends to support with becoming
resignation & fortitude this severe & afflictive Stroke.

I am full of apprehension on account of my
dear Sister Gurney, the effect that a knowledge of
this calamitous Circumstance may have on her in
her present critical Situation may be of the most
material Consequence - What a help must she suffer?

I am very anxious to hear how she goes on

Pray give my dear Love to my Brother
John, tell him I would write to him but as I can
afford him no particular consolation I think it
better to avoid enlarging on a Subject so replete with
the most distressing Circumstances to all our Connections
as he will know my Anxiety on account of Betty I
hope he will relieve it by writing frequently.

We are all well - Give my dear love to Betty
Becky, Jonathan & Caroline & believe me with
Sincere Affection

Thy dutiful Son
J. Bell

Dear & worthy Friend,

Bristol 10^{mo} 7th 1747.

Dear Belle / I salute thee with unfeigned Love, three of 3 just
also three of 15th 6^{mo} past came in course. I was out of Town
when thy former came to Hand... and have been pretty much so
since... the contents of both I have seriously considered
much to my Satisfaction... a Line from Theesell at all Times
be very acceptable

My Family much as usual... I have had a troublesome old
attended with a Hoarsness for some Time past... but I hope is
wearing off...

I suppose thee hast heard of the Removal of our Friends, Don^r
Hill, ... Jos. James and the Widdow Husdy.

We have been favoured with the Company of several Friends
within Three Months past but now no Stranger in Town.

Rich^d. Hipisley of Somersetshire, is lately landed safe from a
visitt to Ireland, where his service was very acceptable to
Friends and much to his satisfaction, He had a very tempestuous
and Hazardous Passage.

I have heard and hope it is true, that a fresh Civilization
has of late appeared amongst many People... and the love of
Truth and Regard to its Life and Power increases... may it
continue and a much further Improvement be experienced is my
sincere Desire... yet I doubt there are too many that have
more Regard to the Forme than the Substance... where that is
the Case its to be feared the Forme will decrease also in those
that are strangers to the Life and Power

Impress'd in the 10^{mo} 7th 1747

also kind of 15th 6^{mo} past came in course. I was out of Town
when thy Letter came to Hand and have been pretty much so
since. The contents of both I have seriously considered
much to my Satisfaction a Line from Thee will at all Times
be very acceptable

My Family much as usual. I have had a troublesome
attended with a Hoarsness for some Time past, but I hope is
wearing off.

I suppose thee hast heard of the Removal of our Friend, Don,
Kil, ... Jos. James and the Widdow Hurdly.

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within Three Months past but now no Stranger in Town.
Rich. Hipley of Somersetshire, is lately landed safe from a
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has of late appeared amongst many People, and the Love of
Truth and Regard to its Life and Power, increases, may it
continue and a much further Improvement be experienced is my
sincere Desire, yet I doubt there are too many, that have
more Regard to the Forme than the Substance, where that is
the Case, its to be feared the Forme will decrease also in those
that are strangers to the Life and Power

I have had some Conversation with my Niece, Miss
Hanbury relating thy Son, but as Affairs now stand, it does
appear with so likely a Prospect as where He now is.

if any thing farther offers, I intend to advise, & communicate
thy Love as desired, although absent in Person, I am near in
that Love, that Distance of Place cannot separate.

My Sons and many others, Joyne me with Love to thyself
& Family. Thy affured Friend, Wm. Pitt (Chambers)

The Journal for the 15th of 6mo

Wandsworth 13th of 8. 1765

Dear Mamma

My Papa who came to see me some
time ago having told me thou was gone to Norwich
for thy Health; I wish with all my heart that this journey
may have the desired effect & that thou mayest receive as
much benefit from it as may be expected, so hear which
will give me the greatest joy. Please therefore my Dear
Mamma to favour me with a few lines informing me of
thy present State of health & that of my Sister. Though
my intention in writing, be not to beg any favour, but
that of hearing of thy Welfare, yet give me leave to add
I should take it very kind if my Dear Mamma
would send me a Norwich Cake as the eating of it
among my Schoolfellows will certainly be attended
with the warmest wishes from us for long life & happiness
to the Dear Person that sent it. I shall be glad also to
hear that all my worthy Relations, & Especially those
you are with, are Partakers of the Blessing of health,

In which with Duty to thyself & to them & love to Sister.
These leaves. Thy most Dutiful & affectionate

Son

Daniel Bell.

P. S. Master & Mistress
Desire there Respects to you.

Mr. John Lindae

at
John Samuels



Durham 10th 6th 1763.

My dear Friend

It's so long since I was favour'd with a letter from thee that I'm not certain which of us is indebted, but begin to be uneasy with the long space of silence that has subsisted, and request to hear from thee soon after the rest of this as is convenient to thee, and please to let me know if thou has heard lately how my kind Friend Miss Barclay is respecting her late Indisposition, I begin to fear she may be worse as I wrote to her some time ago earnestly requesting if she was not able to write herself that some of the Family would be so obliging to favour me with an acc^t how she did, but I have not yet had that satisfaction. The visit I've so long intended to my Friends in the South seems to come more near & weightily on my mind, so that I believe I must give up to undertake it in a little time, Friend Barclays Situation is a motive that will rather expedite my Intention, as I find my mind much drawn and have done for some time to see her; I once tho't I must have gone directly from the yearly meeting in Cheshire but tho't it might in several respects be a more quiet Opportunity after the yearly meeting at London was over; I was much favour'd with Health & Spirits in my late journey, notwithstanding the Weather was very Wet & Windy I was preserv'd from taking Cold, but have not been so well since I got home wet has often been the case with me, when my mind has been much drawn to leave it for a Season, & like Gideon I've wanted to try the fleece Wet and Dry! Oh! my Friends if Providence were not indeed long suffering and forbearing what would have become of some of us I may say for One, my wanting further Confirmation than he saw meet might have cost me the Loss of his Favour; but He knows my Backwardness proceeds not from Obstinacy but Timorousness, otherwise I believe I should not have been so long hinder'd with. I shall hope to be favour'd with a letter from thee in a little time and send dear love to thee thy long & daughter in law my husband joins

Thy affectionate Friend

Frances Lodshon

P.S. Please to give my kind love to my worthy Bro Joseph's Parents Mr. Heald to hear from him
 as also from my old Acquaintance Mr. Dr. Gately Ball to whom I have given leave to see my kind love