

65 To THEOPHILUS LINDSEY, 12 March 1790

MS: Dr. Williams's Library, MS. 12.12, f. 133-134

PRINTED: Rutt, I, ii, pp. 57-58

ADDRESS: The Rev^d Mr Lindsey Essex Street London

[Mar 12. 1790]

Dear friend

I trouble //you// again with a parcell, containing some copies of my Letters to Mr Burn,¹ &c to be disposed of as you think proper. Please to deliver one with the Familiar Letter² and Letter to the Members of Parliament³ to D^r Heberden,⁴ whose letter ~~???~~ ~~??~~ //about Theodosius &c// I send. I am sorry to give you so much trouble, but I rather wish that some friend would inquire, according to the direction, p. 13 Note. Or it may remain till I come, which I hope will be about five weeks hence, the time as I understand that you wish.

I also trouble you onc[[e]] more to send a letter to Mr Hughes⁵ who has embarrassed himself about some books of mine.⁶

Mr Cooper⁷ is here. I dine with him today at Mr Russell's.⁸ I find by him that a plan is proposed for a kind of Representation of the Dissenters in London. I wish it may give satisfaction, and at the same time have real effect. Mr Walker⁹ is expected too, and then we shall talk over every thing about it. I do not know what to say to it at present.

The High church party have behaved with unexpected moderation here, but not so I hear at Manchester, where they are uncommonly abusive and insolent. The same spirit exists here, but I think some wiser heads restrain it. On the day the news arrived of the event of tuesday's debate they began to ring at all the churches, but soon ceased, and there was no illumination. At Warrick they rung all day, but no mischief was done. The church people in general think that we shall now be quiet, and give them no trouble a long time. When they find the contrary, they will be much chagrined.

I am, in haste,
yours & M^{rs} Lindsey's
most affectionately
J Priestley.

Birm March 12. 1790

¹ Priestley, *Letters to the Rev. Edward Burn* (Birmingham, 1790).

² Priestley, *Familiar letters, addressed to the inhabitants of Birmingham* (Birmingham, 1790). See 11 Mar 1790.

³ ? Priestley, *As I am informed that a printed paper, containing extracts from the preface to one of my late publications, viz. Letters to the Rev. Edward Burn, has been sent by some enemies of the dissenters, probably by some of the clergy of this town, to every Member of Parliament* (Birmingham, 1790).

⁴ William Heberden (1710-1801), see 18 Nov 1789.

⁵ ? Revd Rice Hughes, see 29 Oct 1789.

⁶ This paragraph and the last two sentences of the preceding one are omitted from Rutt's edition.

⁷ Thomas Cooper (1759-1839), political writer [ODNB]. Cooper was vice-president of the Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society and a founder member of the Manchester Constitutional Society.

⁸ William Russell (1740-1818), see 5 Jul 1786.

⁹ George Walker (1734-1807), see 26 Feb 1790.