

66 To THEOPHILUS LINDSEY, 14 March 1790

MS: Dr. Williams's Library, MS. 12.12, f. 135

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Birm 14 March 1790

Dear friend

I took it for granted that Mr Russell¹ had sent you a considerable number of my Familiar Letters No 1,² and as you took no notice of them, I concluded that you did not approve of the manner in which they were written. I am therefore exceedingly rejoiced that you like them so well, and as I propose to continue them some time, I hope to give you more pleasure of the same kind. Both my antagonists are about to reply, but you will not suppose that I am under much apprehension about it. It is said that the Bp of London³ thanked Mr Burn⁴ for his services to the good cause.

I am surprized that Mr Johnson⁵ has not received the 100, or more, of the Familiar Letter No 1 that were not here long enough ago. I shall therefore send with this a large parcell for yourself, to distribute as you please, and to deliver the remainder to him.

I also send, as I know it will please you, the letter of thanks from my late class, written, and I dare say composed, by Mr Chambers[.]⁶ It inclosed a draught for 50 guineas and tho I was far indeed from wishing, or expecting anything, I cannot well return it. In my new class, which never attended a course before, I have already 46, and shall no doubt have more.

I have three more familiar letters transcribed for the 3^d N^o, on toleration and church establishments, but I purposely delay them.⁷

In haste yours & M^{rs} Lindsey's

most affectionately

J Priestley

¹ William Russell (1740-1818), see 5 Jul 1786.

² Priestley, *Familiar Letters, addressed to the Inhabitants of Birmingham. Part I* (Birmingham, 1790).

³ Beilby Porteus (1731-1809), Bishop of London (1787-1809) [ODNB].

⁴ Edward Burn (1762-1837), see 11 Mar 1790.

⁵ Joseph Johnson (1738-1809), see 18 Jan 1770.

⁶ ? William Cecil Chambers of Birmingham (1768?-1817?), listed as a member of the Unitarian Society for promoting Christian Knowledge and the Practice of Virtue, 1791. See *Unitarian Society* (London, 1791?).

⁷ See 11 Mar 1790.