

MS: Dr. Williams's Library, MS. 12.12, f. 193-194
ADDRESS: The Rev^d Mr Lindsey Essex Street London
POSTMARK: Birmingham, Jan 18 1791

[Jan 17. 1791]

Dear friend

Your letter, with the Bill inclosed, is come safe to hand.

You will find part of the Conclusion in p 60 &c of the 2^d edition. It was, in my opinion, and that of Mr Russell,¹ the only part to which your former objection did not apply, tho now you recommend the latter part in preference of it. I really approve your former opinion, and therefore shall print the third edition in this respect like the second, tho with many such improvements. I hope it will be printed in tho'[[the?]] course of the week.

I am glad this business is over. For such is the state of my mind at present, that I could not do any thing of the kind. I own my weakness. I believe I am too much affected; but the disappointment is very great, and the difficulty of finding any suitable employment for Joseph² seems to increase continually. His consolation, however, and it is mu[ch][?] is that he has done nothing of which he has any reason to repent. I hope a good providence will appear for him in due time.

I have a letter from D^r Disney³ at Lincoln, which I shall inclose in my next, and another from Mr Thompson of Clapham,⁴ //both// containing some things of which I avail myself in this third edition.

I am glad to hear that Mr Lee⁵ is again entering into public life. I hope he will [[be]] of some use to his country, tho my expectations from him are not what they formerly were. It will [[be]] a convenience to us occasionally to make use of his Covers. – Young Mr Hawkes⁶ recommends Mr Aubery⁷ of Stand near Manchester to our congregation. I never heard of him before, but I think it probable we shall attend to the recommendation. We have sent some queries to Mr Hawkes about him.

My wife and all my sons join in thankful remembrance of your good will to them
all yours & M^{rs} Lindsey's
most affectionately
J Priestley

Birm Jan 17. 1791.

P.S. Desire Mr Johnson⁸ to get extracts properly selected from my Letters to Mr Burke⁹ into the public Papers.

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

² Joseph Priestley jnr. (1768-1824), see 12 Oct 1789.

³ John Disney (1746-1816), see 11 Jun 1787.

⁴ Josiah Thompson (c. 1724-1806), Particular Baptist minister and historian [ODNB].

⁵ John Lee (1733-1793), see Mar 1770.

⁶ William Hawkes jnr. (1759-1820), see Aug (after 14) 1789.

⁷ Richard Aubrey (1760-1836), minister at Stand 1787-1797.

⁸ Joseph Johnson (1738-1809), see 18 Jan 1770.

⁹ Priestley, *Letters to the Right Honourable Edmund Burke, occasioned by his Reflections on the Revolution in France &c.* (Birmingham, 1791).