

MS: Dr. Williams's Library, MS. 12.12, f. 205-206

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ADDRESS: The Rev^d Mr Lindsey Essex Street London

[(Feb. 28. 91)]

Dear friend

I send with this my Paper for the Royal Society, which I wish you would deliver to D^r Heberden.¹

I like much the introduction to the Plan of the Unitarian Society,² and hope much good from the thing itself.

If any person want evidence of my being a Xⁿ they must for ever want it, and my discourse on the resurrection³ will not satisfy them. If the other discourse should be preached and printed, this will precede it a long time.

I am glad to hear of the proceedings of the deputies in London, we have a Committee of the district on Wednesday next, which I am sorry to find falls out on the same day with another meeting in London, as there may be some interference tho we shall endeavour to avoid it, by doing very little. Mr Walker⁴ is expected tonight. When I see Mr Russell,⁵ which will be tomorrow, I shall read him the part of your letter relating to him.

A brother of Mr Bakewell⁶ of Burton, who is about to marry one of my hearers, tells me he called upon Mr Johnson⁷ for my Appeal,⁸ and other such publications, and was told that he had them not. Now, Mr Johnson knows that a large edition of that, and of the General View of Arguments,⁹ were printed here, and that he may have them if he chuses. If he will not sell these editions, let him print others of his own; but he should have them by him. I wish you would speak to him on the subject.

As you walk by Mr Brown's¹⁰ door, I wish you would desire him to send the Watches by the coach, as I directed him by letter some time ago, and not in Mr Johnson's parcell.

I fancy ~~we~~ //we// shall look no farther than to Mr Broadhurst,¹¹ but we are told that he cannot come till the next vacation which will be a great objection as we want him

¹ William Heberden (1710-1801), see 29 Nov 1789.

² Unitarian Society for promoting Christian Knowledge and the Practice of Virtue, *Unitarian Society* (London, 1791).

³ Priestley, *The Evidence of the Resurrection of Jesus considered, in a Discourse first delivered in the Assembly-Room, at Buxton, on Sunday, September 19, 1790* (Birmingham, 1791).

⁴ George Walker (1734-1807), see 20 Mar 1787.

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

⁶ William Bakewell, see Aug (after 14)1789.

⁷ Joseph Johnson (1738-1809), see 18 Jan 1770.

⁸ Priestley, *An Appeal to the Serious and Candid Professors of Christianity* (London, 1771). Further editions were printed at Birmingham in 1782, 1784 and 1788.

⁹ Priestley, *A General View of the Arguments for the Unity of God; and against the Divinity and Pre-Existence of Christ, from Reason, from the Scriptures, and from History*, 2 vols. (Birmingham, 1783).

¹⁰ John Brown, see 22 Jul 1790.

¹¹ Thomas Broadhurst (1767?-1851), see 23 Feb 1791.

immediately, and we thought that Mr Corrie¹² could have taken his place as Mr Belsham¹³ said, or I understood him to say, some time ago.¹⁴

Mr Russell greatly apprehends a fall of the stocks, in consequence of ~~the~~ appearances of war and Mr Garbett¹⁵ shewed him a letter from L^d Lansdowne,¹⁶ in which he told him he might depend upon //it// that Mr Pitt¹⁷ was determined to risk one. If [this] should be the case, could not Mrs Rayner¹⁸ be induced to transfer the stock she intends for Joseph¹⁹ sooner than my coming to London I leave this to you, and M^{rs} Lindsey, and am

your most affectionately
J Priestley²⁰

Birm. Feb 28. 1791.

¹² unidentified.

¹³ Thomas Belsham (1750-1829), see 3 Apr 1789.

¹⁴ The preceding three paragraphs are omitted from Rutt's edition.

¹⁵ Samuel Garbett (1717-1803), see 26 Feb 1790.

¹⁶ William Petty, second earl of Shelburne and first marquess of Lansdowne (1737-1805), see Jun or Jul 1772.

¹⁷ William Pitt (1759-1806), see 14 May 1789.

¹⁸ Elizabeth Rayner (d. 1800), see 17 May 1786.

¹⁹ Joseph Priestley jnr. (1768-1863), see 12 Oct 1789.

²⁰ This sentence is omitted from Rutt's edition.