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Clapton Sep^{br} 7. 1793

Dear friend

I am //glad// to hear, by your letter received yesterday, that you and M^{rs} Lindsey are well, and enjoy your excursion so much; but I am more particularly pleased to find that you are now moving towards London, which to me seems empty without you. Yesterday, however, Mr Belsham¹ returned; so that I am better off than I have been. I cannot say that I have any distant recollection of Mr Logan.² However, please to give my respects to him. I must esteem every body that ~~receives~~ receives you. I have not failed to send a copy of my book to the Duke,³ and I think I directed Johnson⁴ to send one to Mr Shore.⁵ However, I will examine the list of presents when I next go to town, and see that his name be not omitted. Either with him, or with the Duke, you will be sure to see it. I consulted with D^r Blackburne⁶ about sending you a copy, but he could not hit upon any plan that was feasible. I was well acquainted with Mr Dodson's⁷ sentiments on the subject, and I do not suppose that it will be possible now to change them, as he seems to have given a good deal of attention to the subject. At Leeds you will probably find our old acquaintance D^r Dawson.⁸ Mrs Dawson⁹ has just called, and says that he is there. He seems carefully to keep out of my way, and he will ~~not~~ not, I should suppose, be very fond of coming in yours. How strangely interest, and other motives, warp men; but without these ~~things~~ things which ~~try~~ try men, it would not be known what we were.

We have just heard from the voyagers, who in the late stormy weather, the wind being against them, have been off Portsmouth, and we suppose they are there still as the wind continues in the same point. They were all very well and in good spirits. – We have just heard from them again, and they were on Wednesday last under weigh, and near the needles, all remarkably well.

I have received a ring on account of Mr Lee's funeral,¹⁰ and intend to write to the widow.¹¹

I have advice that the money to be paid on account of the riots will be delivered to the sufferers this week – Mr Walker¹² of Manchester is in town and about to publish a

¹ Thomas Belsham (1750-1829), see 3 Apr 1789.

² ? Robert Logan (1730?-1813), minister at Ayton, Cleveland, Yorkshire (1760-1813). The Charles Surman index notes that Logan was 'Unitarian in later years' [CSICM 1034].

³ The Duke of Grafton, George Henry Fitzroy (1760-1844), see 7 Feb 1789.

⁴ Joseph Johnson (1738-1809), see 18 Jan 1770.

⁵ Samuel Shore (1738-1828), see 26 Aug 1787.

⁶ William Blackburne, son of Francis Blackburne (1705-1787), see 4 May 1789.

⁷ Michael Dodson (1732-1799), see 27 Nov 1789.

⁸ Benjamin Dawson (1729-1814), see May 1772.

⁹ Mary Dawson [*née* Halsey] (1722/3-1803) [ODNB].

¹⁰ John Lee (1733-93), see May 1770. Lee had died on 5 August 1793, see *Gent. Mag.*, LXVIII (1793), 772-773.

¹¹ Mary Lee (1734-1812), see 4 May 1789.

¹² Thomas Walker (1749-1817), see 5 Aug 1793.

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pamphlet respecting the charges against him¹³ – The stocks fall, and the war is more and more unpopular. My wife who is more bent on going to America than myself joins in remembrances to you. J Priestley

¹³ See 'A Review of some of the Political Events which have occurred in Manchester during the last Five Years, being a Sequel to the Trial of Thomas Walker and Others for a Conspiracy to overthrow the Constitution and Government of this Country, and to aid and assist the French, being the King's Enemies. By Thomas Walker', *Lond. Chron.*, LXXVII (1795), 36.