

London Sep^r 4 - 1822

My very Dear Sister,

Understanding that an acquaintance of Mr Mather's is going to Van-Diemens-Land and judging that a few lines by him would not be unacceptable to you, I readily embrace this opportunity of writing. — From a letter which your brother Adam has received from Mr M —, we are glad to find that you are all living, excepting the dear infant, which the Lord has kindly taken to himself, we are also glad that you my dear Sister have hitherto stood the different changes you would have to pass through. — am sorry that my dear little Joseph has met with an accident but hope that the bone has been properly set and that it will be of no serious injury to him. — We were exceedingly disappointed at the shortness of Mr M's letter, fully expecting a great deal of information. How you went on from day to day, I am rather surprised that Mr M has not kept a journal, so that you might have had a long account to send us, for the future, I hope you will be more particular, & tell us how you go on, in every respect. for our anxiety for you all is very great. —

My Dear Sister Sarah wrote to you some time ago,
I hope you have received the letter, wherein she would tell
you, how very near I have been brought to the borders
of the grave, & have to the astonishment of all my
friends been raised up again, to show forth the pow-
-er of God. my dear infant was still born, - I have been
to Hull, went & returned in the Steam-packet, was there
about Month, with Mrs Walker my dear husbands
Sister. found the change of air very serviceable to
me, my health daily improved. & now thanks to
to my heavenly Father I continue tolerably well. -
Yesterday was a memorable day, I entered on my
35 Year & you will recollect that it was on that
day five ^{years} that I became a Wife, according to the Day
of the Month, - O how many mercies have I to recount
it is true I have been bereaved of my children, the
loss of them, I have keenly felt & my rebellious
heart has at times ~~excess~~ ^{excess}ed to measure, yet when
I consider how graciously the Lord has dealt ^{with} me
during my bodily affliction, I cannot but feel grateful
& a Degree of resignation, being fully assured, that he is
"too wise to err, & too good to prove unkind," we as a fami-
-ly my dearest Sister, have experienced much of his
goodness. & O what ineffable peace succeeds a cheerful
resignation to the will of God, - to be resigned even un-
-der adverse dispensations, is indeed contrary to human
-nature, but though Divine grace this may become our

easy & happy privilege. We can have no settled peace
till self-will is lost in an implicit submission to the
will of God, to whatever he is pleased to dispense -
I trust my dearest Sister you endeavour amidst all
your various afflictions to repose unlimited con-
-fidence in God, you believe him to be what he has
declared himself. Oh let not his immutable pro-
-mises be clouded by impatience - we are called to be
-patient in tribulation. may the Lord bless you & com-
-fort you I have felt extremely on your account you have
-passed through the fire, & through the water of affliction, & re-
-deeming love has been your support, refuge has
-I hope failed you. I continue to pray ardently, ~~that~~ ^{lest} the
consolation, fear not, he will be your guide, & your
-protector. What time you are affraid trust in God he
will "strengthen you, & uphold you, by the right hand
of his righteousness" endeavour to rise superior to your
own sufferings, anticipate the blissful & eternal reward,
which in a short time shall crown you. my Sister,
not my Sister only, by blood, but by a dearer tie by adop-
-tion into the family of God. the ties of blood will soon be
-dissolved, we are linked into an incorruptible chain. we
shall be Sisters forever. this to me is a pleasing thought,
that if we do not meet again, in this world. we have a
-prospect of meeting in a world of spirits. where we
shall part no more. I assure you we feel the separation
most exceedingly. Sister Sarah is with me, & I hope will
continue with me, at least through the winter. Samuel is
in London at present, & will be here a month longer, My Father

Life is in the press, it will I hope be out in about two
Months time - it will I think ^{will} be interesting - I fear
the children will forget us, so remind them of their aunts.
Joseph & his family are pretty well, & John & his
family, when we heard from him last. write to us.

me. my
to my
yesterday

4th Sept. 1822

Isabella Whistall

Mr Mather



Mr Whistall Sarah Samuel & Joseph join with me
in kindest love to you Mr Mather & the children -
excuse haste

and believe me
My dearest Sister

Your affectionate Sister
Isabella Whistall

P.S. We have had the Conference here this year. saw
many of the Preachers who kindly enquired after you