

To Abraham Davy.

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Hobart Town. 29/8 Mo. 1837.

My dear friend  
Abraham Davy.

Having just heard that the  
Susannah sails for Sydney this afternoon, I feel  
desirous of penning a few lines, if it be but to assure  
thee that thou art not forgotten by the writer, nor,  
I believe I may safely say, by others who are residents  
& sojourners in this land; especially by my dear Com-  
panion, J. Backhouse. We have heard of the impor-  
tant step thou hast taken in regard to business: and  
sincerely do I desire that it may prove to be of the class  
of movements that "are ordered by the Lord." I have  
little doubt that it has been thy concern to seek for  
right direction in so momentous an affair; and in  
that case thou wilt be enabled to commit the event  
unto Him who can over-rule all things for good,  
& render even secular concerns conducive to the advan-  
ment of his dependent ones in their spiritual course.

I do not doubt the cares, perplexities & trials peculiar  
to such an engagement as that in which thou art em-  
barked, will at times be keenly felt, & perhaps be

ready to excite a feeling almost of dismay. But, "cast thy burden on the Lord, & he will sustain thee." Be assured, "He careth for thee," & will not suffer thee to be moved, so long as thy chief dependence is on him, & thy principal concern, & aim, is, to walk acceptably before Him in all things.

If in thy introduction to a new & complicated sphere of movement thou hast had to feel some things burdensome to thee, from which thou yet feelst it difficult to escape, be not too much cast down. Let it convince <sup>thee</sup> yet more fully of thy absolute need of Divine help & counsel; be proportionately earnest in seeking for this essential aid; but let it not discourage thee from casting all thy care upon God, believing that he careth for thee in this, as well as in every other matter connected with thy best welfare. Bear thy burdens patiently, as a part of the cross of Christ, until it please the Lord to make way for thy deliverance from them. From the midst of many perplexities, & concerns that involve even uneasiness to thy conscience, & which may have been permitted for thy further humiliation, He is able to extricate thee, & "bring forth thy righteousness as the light, & thy judgment as the noon-day." Therefore put thy trust in the unfailing Arm of help: "they that <sup>trust</sup>

trust in the Lord shall never be confounded." I have but a very imperfect & inadequate knowledge of thy present pursuits, but am ready to conclude they are sufficiently proving to thy faith, & to thy strength; and under this feeling I can sympathise with thee; while the feeble aspiration ascends to the God & Father of all comfort, as well as Source of availing help, for thy preservation, & that no weapon of an unwearied Adversary may prevail against thee!

I have little to say in regard to thy last communication, except that I ~~would~~ receive it in the love which I would hope dictated it. Such counsel, to one who can receive it, & who, as in the present case, I trust, desires to be enabled to regard it as even needful caution, and warning, cannot do harm. While I think it very important not to treat of such matters, weighty & serious as they are in their nature, on light or superficial grounds; I would encourage thee to be faithful in any & every quarter where it may be called for at thy hands. The passage that forms the burden of thy communication — ("Set your affections on things above, &c.") has often of late deeply impressed my mind; & while I have had to comment upon it, even publicly, in reference to others, I have felt its special application to myself. With regard

to thy doubts, however, respecting the propriety of making the subject of my friendship with S. B. M. public, the expression of them is too late to be acted upon. And considering our frequent association, under circumstances that must excite conjecture that such a friendship, or attachment, exists; after having maturely weighed the matter, I cannot conceive any possible objection to the admission of the honest truth. No one has a right to reflect upon us, or on the Cause, for being ~~willing~~ willing to give up each other, & all, for Christ's sake!

My dear Companion (J. B.) is writing & will probably mention many subjects of interest in his letter to J. Tawell. An excellent site for a Meeting House has just been secured for Friends, <sup>for £350.</sup> a few doors higher up Murray St. than where we now meet. It contains about three eighths of an acre, & has a respectable looking weather-board house upon it, wh<sup>ch</sup> A. C. F. & W. C. rented some time ago. A tenant could be obtained who w<sup>d</sup> give £45 per ann. for it; but two rooms will have to be thrown together as a temporary Meeting Place, & the remaind<sup>r</sup> may bring £25 or £30. Meanwhile, it will be a great improvement upon the present Meeting Room; & Friends can build a Meeting House when it suits them behind the dwelling house, & where there is ample space. — About last M<sup>o</sup>. Meet<sup>g</sup>.

Meeting J. B. Mather & G. F. Story were confirmed (i.e. the Minute was confirmed recording them) as approved Ministers; A. M. Cotton & S. B. Mather having previously been recorded as such. Our dear friends at Kelvedon were well when we heard from them last week. Dear D. H. Wheeler are in tolerable health. Charles is much improved since his first arrival: - It has been proposed to hold the Annual Meeting in Tenth Month; at wh<sup>ch</sup> it seems now probable they & we may be present.

No definite arrangement for our proceeding onwards has yet taken place: but we have one or two vessels in prospect, in which it is very likely we may secure a passage to Southern & Western Australia, &c.

Do not be too ready to construe the absence or want of a letter into forgetfulness, or lessened interest in thy friends tow<sup>ds</sup> thee, otherwise thou mayst give thyself needless pain; & not mend the matter after all. should it really be so. It is not so I assure thee in the present instance. Give my love to dear J. & M. Tawell, Amelia & The Parson, G. Bennett, the Parkers, P. McMullen, &c. & do not forget our mutual kind friend M. M. Birnie, & also the Captain. Does the one get his morning walks, & the other her daily ride? and does Mary Tawell sometimes become the

companion of the latter in such beneficial exercise? I hope  
she does for her health's sake. — H. Jeannerott has been  
very poorly, but is nicely recovered. I saw her yesterday  
much improved. My love to the Mitchells, to E. Merritt,  
Jos. Merritt &c. also to J. & C. Saunders. We had a good  
Temperance Meeting the other day at which D. Wheeler  
spoke to general satisfaction, & with much effect.  
We are all pleased with the Temp<sup>r</sup> Magazine. It has  
already given a new zest to the cause in many.

I remain, (in haste)

thy affectionate friend

George W. Walker.

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