To Abraham Davy.

Hobart Town, 29th Nov. 1837.

My dear friend,

Abraham Davy.

Having just heard that the Susannah sails for Sydney this afternoon, I feel desires 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 or sojourners in this land, especially by my dear companion, J. Backhouse. We have heard of the important 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, and render even secular concerns conducive to the advancement of his dependent ones in their spiritual course.

I do not doubt the cares, perplexities, and trials, peculiar to such an engagement as that in which thou art embarked, will at times be keenly felt, it 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," I will not suffer thee to be moved, as long as thy chief dependence is on Him, thy principal concern, aims, to walk acceptably before Him in all things.

If in thy introduction to a new and complicated sphere of movement thou hast had to feel some things burdensome to thee, from which thou yet feel it difficult to escape, be not too much cast down. Let it convince not more fully of thy absolute need of Divine help and counsel, but 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 succor thee, to bring forth thy righteousness as the light, thy judgment as the noon-day. Therefore put thy trust in the unfailing Arm of help: thou that was
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. I trust 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 line which I would hope dictated it. Such counsel to one who can receive it, I 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 urge 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 J. P. M. public, the expunction
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 unwilling to give up each other, if all, for
Christ’s sake!

My dear Companion (J. P.) is writing. I will probably
mention many subjects of interest in his letter to J. Tussell.
An excellent site for a Meeting House has just been
secured for Friends, a few doors higher up Murray St.
than where we now meet. It contains about three eights
of an acre, it has a respectable looking weather board
house upon it, and A. E. T. H. L. rented some time ago.
A tenant could be obtained who we give £45 per annum
for it; but two rooms will have to be thrown together
as a temporary Meeting Place, if the remains may bring
£25 or £30. Meanwhile, it will be a great improvement
upon the present Meeting Room; if Friends can build
a Meeting House when it suits them behind the dwelling
house, it where there is ample space. — About last Mo.
meets.
Meeting J.B. Mather & J. P. Story were confirmed (i.e. the Minute was confirmed recording them) as approved Ministers; A. M. Cotton & J. 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 which it seems now probable they too 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 and Western Australia, &c.

Do not he too ready to construe the absence or want of a letter into forgetfulness, or beloved interest in the friend towards them; otherwise they may yet give themselves needlessly pain; I must mend the matter after all; should it really be so. It is not so; I assure them in the present instance.

Give my love to dear J. & M. Fawell, Amelia & J. M. Brown, G. Bennett, the Parkers, P. McMullen, &c. Do not forget our mutual kind friend M. M. Bernie, & also the captain. Does the one get his morning walks, & the other her daily ride, and does Mary Fawell 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 Mr. also to J. F. Saunders. We had a good Temperance Meeting the other day at which D. Wheeler spoke to general satisfaction, I with much effect. We are all pleased with the Temperance Magazine. It has already given a new zest to the cause in many.

I remain, (in haste)

thy affectionate friend

George W. Walker.