

Hobart Town 25/1 Mo. 1843

My dear friends

John Lawson & Thos. Willington.

I enclose you herewith Copies of two Epistles that have been forwarded by Josiah Forster on behalf of the Meeting for Sufferings. I would suggest it might be well to read them at the conclusion of one ^{of} your Meetings for worship; & if practicable when all who meet with you are present. Our dear Brethren having been introduced into such near fellow-feeling & sympathy with us under our peculiar circumstances, I trust we may humbly ~~regard~~ receive as an evidence of the merciful regard of our Heavenly Father, who continues to "care for us."

Jos. B. Mather has shewn me J. Lawson's letter on the subject of engaging a Room in Launceston wherein to hold Meetings for public worship. Such a step, I apprehend, should only be proceeded in with the concurrence of the Monthly Meeting, to which the matter can be referred at our next. Yet should any Friend be prevented by distance or other unavoidable circumstances, from assembling with his Brethren

think

I ~~thought~~ well to sit down in his own family
or house, not excluding any neighbours or others
who inclined to join with him in the solemn exercise
of waiting upon & worshipping Almighty God,

I conceive such Friend or Friends would be fully
at liberty to do ^{it would be his duty,} ~~as they see fit~~ ^{concerns} ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ matters of such importance
~~wherein we may be called upon to bear a sort of public~~

~~testimony to the excellency of silent waiting upon~~
~~the Most High,~~ ^{more publicly} ~~our testimony by the way of~~ ^{it becomes us to move with a holy} ~~the Most High,~~ ^{it becomes us to move with a holy}
fear, & yet filial confidence, looking with a single
eye to the Divine glory, & the discharge of our indi-
vidual duty - then will our steppings be owned of
the Most High, & we ^{may happily} shall be preserved from
bringing dishonor upon the Cause of Truth.

My dear friends, I have learned with deep
concern that ~~some~~ ^{an untravelling} ~~misunderstanding~~ has arisen
between you, & I have longed for you - ~~you erred~~
that if the Enemy (who is ever on the watch to sow
discord among brethren) has effected a breach, ~~that~~
it may be speedily & effectually healed. How would
the enemies of the Truth, & of religion, ^{scorn} ~~generally~~,
triumph, were they to witness two ^{persons} ~~at~~ variance who
had once been so closely united in profession &
practice ~~as~~ you have been. If Satan has in any
degree succeeded by his devices in estranging you,

Christian affection & regard for one another, I
entreat you let the breach proceed no further.
but rather, under the humbling consideration of your
own weakness, & liability to be drawn aside, cast
yourselves ~~renewedly~~ & unreservedly upon your
Advocate & Mediator with the Father Jesus Christ
the Righteous, who not only ever liveth to make
intercession for us, but is also touched with the
feeling of our infirmities. ^{Know with how to succour those who are tempted.} If we turn unto the
Lord with full purpose of heart, He will heal
~~even~~ our backslidings & love us freely according to
his gracious promise. And when melted to contrition
under the renewed sense of his love, then shall
we be made willing to retrace, as far as possible
our outgoings - ~~if seen in the light of Truth to~~
~~be called for at our hands, even to confess our~~
faults to those we may have wronged or injured
thereby, ^{& make such other reparation as may feel our prompt} thus will the root of bitterness be eradicated
& the enemy be foiled. ~~But if we should~~ ^{such evil root} should have
gained a place in your hearts, beware, my
"Brethren that it be not suffered to grow - or in
the language of Scripture - "to spring up - whereby
many may be defiled."

My love, in which my wife unites, to your wives &
children - also to Mr. Watts (whom I hope is making advances
in his Christian course) & to Geo. J. Gates when you see
him, as well as D. Hayes.

My love awaits all who love the Lord Jesus,
especially your wives - to whom my love would
also be affly remembered. I remain yr friend & brother
E. W. W.