

To Elizth Walker and Mary Dubéye. Newcastle Tyne.

My dear Sisters

Cape Town S. Africa 2/8/1840.

Mary & Elizabeth.

In a very few weeks I expect to leave this country for V. D. Land, where the Providence of God directs that I should settle - so far, at least, as I at present see.

As the precise period of my departure will depend very much on the turning up of a suitable vessel wherein I can obtain a passage thither, & I may have but a very short notice, in order to get ready, I take up my pen now whilst I have a convenient opportunity to address a few lines to you. It has been pleasant to me to receive communications now and then (as postscripts to letters from my friends at Summerhill) penned by Sister Mary Dubéye, and to hear a little from time to time, through our mutual friend R. Priestman, of your welfare. Though it is doubtful when, if ever, I may see you, I shall continue to cherish an interest in your welfare, and shall be glad to hear from yourselves, direct, when you can find time to write to me. My address will in future be, G.W.W. Hobart Town, Van Diemen's Land.

It has been a relief to me to know that a gracious Providence has so far cared for you both that you are in the way of securing, at least, a subsistence and a home in your declining years.

It is not to be despised because it is a humble one. The meanest accommodations, and the most frugal fare are preferable, with the Divine blessing, to the greatest abundance without the latter inestimable gift, which includes all good - every thing that is worth desiring. Having food and raiment let us therefore be content, remembering that 'godliness with contentment is great gain'.

I do hope that it is the united exercise of your hearts to live

in the fear of God, and to secure that peace of mind here and here-
after which can only be attained by the faith that "overcomes the
world," and those corruptions which we inherit from our birth
as children of wrath, and partakers of the fallen nature of our
first parents. The faith that works by love is of Gods begetting
in the heart. He convinces us of sin by the witness of his Spirit,
which visits our hearts, and shews us our fallen state, and our
need of a Saviour, & begets a hungering & thirsting after righteousness
in such as cherish these gracious visitations of the Spirit of God,
& of Christ — who thus knocks at the door of their hearts. Blessed
are they who "hear his voice," and by yielding obedience to the
Divine will, thus "open the door." "He cometh in to these and
supperth with them, and they with him," — whose favour is better
than life. Those who receive the Saviour in the way of his
coming, — in their own hearts, — for there is his appearance mani-
fest in this gospel day, — know the burden of guilt to be remo-
ved from their consciences; they know Christ to be "the Lamb
of God that taketh away the sins of the world." And if, after
having partaken of the peace which this evidence of forgiveness
for past sins affords they are again betrayed into temptation,
which through unwatchfulness may be the case, they are never
at ease until through renewed repentance and faith in Christ
as their Advocate with the Father and propitiation for sin,
they are again restored as true penitents to the favour of their
Heavenly Father, knowing the same Spirit which in their
sinful state was their condemnation, now to become their
"Comforter," "bearing witness with their spirits that they are
his." The faith that involves this kind of experience is
worth "contending for as ^{that} once delivered to the saints," and
partaken of by thousands in the present day, to the praise of
God's

God's grace, who thus makes his people "accepted in the Beloved." They know that it is His power alone which can "work in them to will and to do of his own good pleasure; for, without Christ they can do nothing": they have therefore no confidence in themselves. And whilst assured that His power is sufficient to enable them to fulfil all righteousness, and that He is willing to confer help on those who seek it; and that therefore without the works of righteousness thus brought forth in them, and through them they cannot be saved, yet are they assured that it is not because of these works that they are saved; the merit of these being due to God alone who hath wrought in them thus to will and to do. Hence, the children of God through faith in Christ Jesus are ever humble, subscribing with heart & soul to the truth of the apostle's declaration: "Not by works of righteousness which we have done but by his mercy he saveth us, through the washings of regeneration & the renewings of the Holy Ghost, which he hath shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour." Faith & works thus go hand in hand, the latter being the evidence of the genuineness of the former.

I had no intention of writing the foregoing when I took up the pen, yet shall I be glad if my dear Sisters can say, Amen, to it; desiring for them (as I do) that above all other things they may prize the essential truths of the Gospel of Christ, and know the comfort in themselves of their practical reception & adoption.

Whilst sending to my friends some little matters in the shape of curiosities that I have either picked up myself or had given me in the course of my travels, I have wished to present you, my dear Sisters, with something

that might at least remind you that you were not forgotten. I have thought that the accompanying skin Karosses, or Mantles, prepared by the Bichuanas far in the interior of Africa might be among the most acceptable, and if turned into money perhaps among the most valuable. I send two by my friend James Backhouse for your acceptance; and should you deem their value in money of more use to you, you can dispose of them if you like. In Cape-Town, here, they are worth, I suppose, about two pounds each for the larger sort, and half that sum for the smaller.

I remain

your aff^{te} Brother,

Geo. W. Walker.

P.S. When you see my dear Aunt Macleod I shall be glad to have my kind love given to her and the rest of the family. I intend to write to her soon.
