

London Sept. 18th 1823

My dear Sister, It has given us much pleasure to peruse the former part of your Journal & from other letters to hear of your safe arrival & in some measure comfortable settlement in U. D. L. Praise God for all his mercies. He has brought you through out of the fire & the water, & is equally the same beneficent being now he can was.

Though you are in a distant part of the world from us, yet we are often present in spirit & may merge our devotions with yours; worshipping the same God, trusting in the merits of the same Saviour, & seeking the renewing & sanctifying influences of the same Holy Spirit.

I sent you a copy of the Memoirs of our Father & also of his Letters. You will be edified by them. They will bring old times to you remembrance when we sat together round our family hearth entertained either by the perusal of some book, or by innocent chit-chat. They will yet more forcibly bring to you to recollection

on father's great labours & extension usefulness.
labours & usefulness not equalled in modern
times. - O tempora! O mores!

As for myself I am likely to become ^{increasingly} ~~increasing~~
in this great metropolis; having obtained lately
the apt^h Lectureship of St Johns ^{Southwark} after a short
unsuccessful contest. I daily feel my insufficiency
for the high & holy calling I have taken upon me.
And the more responsible I view the office to be,
the more insufficient I think myself for it.
But my dependence is on Him who has said 'My
Grace is sufficient for thee.' And, I think, I have a right
to apply this promise to myself, being a believer
in Jes. At, & an earnest seeker after salvation.
How thankful ~~shall we be~~ we have such an
Almighty Saviour & the promise of his all-sufficient grace.
How certain ~~we shall be~~ ^{we are} ~~on~~ ⁱⁿ ~~the~~ ^{our} ~~trust~~ ^{faith} if we had to
depend in whole or in part on our own works.
Blessed words, 'It is finished!' - all the bygone
shadows of the cross - the prophecies fulfilled,
man's redemption accomplished! I feel daily
more & more necessity of simply living by

faith alone or let. testing all works as "filthy
rags." Good works prove the reality of our faith,
but we must ^{not} estimate any thing we do as good.
We are unprofitable servants at best.

~~At~~ All things go on in London just as
things can be expected to go on in this mutable world.
Death makes its ravages, & occasionally cuts down
those whom we know & love; misfortune, sickness,
or some of the various evils of life, are continually
visiting others; but we feel thankful to our merciful
preserver, we yet remain witnesses of his love &
faithfulness. God has wonderfully blessed us &
we feel confident he will yet continue to bless us.
At the same time it would be folly to deny we have
had our trials, crosses & disappointments. But
out of them all we have been delivered.

By your sending frequent & full accounts of your
progress at V.D.L. you will oblige us, & give us to
feel an increased interest in your prosperity. I can
assure you that as many friends in London who
can as well as we, rejoice when you rejoice & weep when
you weep; friend them in the triumph of the word.

You feel the means of grace a great help
& comfort; & you really trust in God, for the living God.

You can like David sit down by the waters of Babylons
 & weep day & night for the sanctuary, the presence of God in it.
 You have however an oratory within your breast where
 you can mentally retire. you draw near to God freq^t in
 the sec^t. retirement^s for meditⁿ & prayer; & enjoy sweet com^m
 with him your soul loveth —

Samuel Benson —

Sept 16th 1823

Mrs Mather
 Hobart Town
 Van diemens Land
 New South Wales

and by this you shall have the enjoyment of him.
 & that for ever. Then your soul will no more pant
 to appear in his outward courts, being admitted
 into the most holy place — I have only to add that I am
 with love to Mr. M & afft^s rem^s to the childⁿ — yr afft^s Bro^r.
 Samuel Benson