

as the feeling of dependance is not pleasing to nature; we shall
each lose considerably by the works, as you will hear, which is
indeed very grievous, as we ^{are} all totally unable to bear the burden,
but I hope it will be better than our fears, & that ultimately we
shall not lose so much, but the present debt must be paid off, as
will be explained to you. We were much concern'd to hear so
distressing an account of your health, but hope this will find you
much better, may the Lord support and comfort you, for when
all human comfort fails, he can & does sustain the soul, that
trusts in him alone: yes my dearest Sister, he will uphold you
by the right hand of his righteousness, he is a sure refuge in
the day of trouble, a little more suffering and trial, and all will
be over, then you shall join the Blood bought throng, let us think
much of that happy period, when time & all its concerns, shall
have pass'd away. Oh let us labour to enter into that rest, may we
be ready, when the Master shall call. That our hearts may be
emptied of all evil, & fill'd with pure love to God and Man. This is
my constant aim & desire, to live in the enjoyment of his favour & love.
I have great reason to be thankful for what I enjoy, but I press forward
that I may know more & more daily, till I am conform'd to his will.
~~Let me have your prayers, tho' absent in body, yet present in spirit~~
let us mingle our praises, and prayers; what encouragement to
to trust in God, how great are his promises, let us hang upon
them, & feed on them day by day; what need have we, under all
the changes of this mortal life, of a lively & vigorous faith to
bear us up, or we must sink, but while our eye of faith is
directed to Jesus, we are borne above the waves of this
troublesome world. This I have experienced under many trials,
I have felt stript of every earthly dependance, & found the Lord
my refuge & support. O may we ever trust & confide fully.

As my Brother will write to you I cannot add more we are glad to hear that your
of your promise to be a comfort to you & their Father, we were much
pleas'd with their letters, but when we write often it gives great pleasure
to hear from you let us know where now you go on in every respect we feel
often anxious about you. Your good wife & children are well & going on
as usual. Myself has been used to Lexington in hopes of doing better, but
it is doubtful. Sarah has a Sarah Ann our sweet children Mrs G has one little
girl. I has but one. She makes a very good mother is very kind to the
dear little girls. Her sister Mrs. I feel much for the children for her sake
now would she have loved them I care'd for them they are both at times
most troubled with their complaints. I trust they will not suffer as the
I must conclude so farewell Give my very kind love to Mr Mother
& all the children. I accept the same from your ever affectionate wife

My dear Mrs Mother,
I should be grieved indeed if letters were
to be sent to you from Norton, without one expression of love
from me as I feel conscious that I do most cordially unite
with my dear husband as well as sister Sarah in every
expression of their love and sympathy towards you & yours,
and in every prayer for your support and comfort under
the manifold afflictions which it has please God to lay upon you
may an abundant entrance into the everlasting Kingdom. Ye be
prepared for you thro' the merits of J. C. I am ever
your affectionate Sister. I. James Benson