

Mrs. Mather,
Hobart Town,
Tandiemans Land.

London, Augth 18, - 1826.

My very dear Sister,

It always affords us great pleasure to hear from you or of you. We were much gratified by the account which Mr. Sherwin gave us, of you & your situation, & we rejoiced to hear of your prosperity, but, at the same time, it was a source of very painful feeling, that you are still the subject of so much weakness & affliction. Long & tedious have been the sufferings wherewith you have been exercised, but, hitherto the Lord has supported & comforted you, so that the spirit has not entirely failed before him, nor the flesh which he has made. This is a mercy: what is human life? but a scene of trial & suffering. We all have our share, we have sinned.

Therefore, as the penalty thereof, we must suffer. But how thankful should we be that, through the merits atonement & intercession of Christ, we need not suffer eternally, but, thro' faith in his blood & right concepts, may enjoy eternal rest.

Oho! my dear Sister, tho' so far separated in this world, yet, I trust, we shall all meet in the haven of rest, having weathered out every storm. Delightful thought! How shall we then look back with wonder & astonishment on all we have passed thro' in

this state of trial. We shall then see why many things, which are now to us very mysterious, were permitted. In the meantime, let us possess our souls in patience, & quietly acquiesce in the will of God, confiding in the never failing love and faithfulness of Him, who cannot err, & is too good to prove unkind.

O! trust in him. He will be your shield & defence, Rely on him, He will be your God, as he was our Father God, even to death.

You have been informed of the death of our dear Sister Whytall, on the 26th of Dec^r. 1825. She entered into rest. All her suffering is now over, & she is reaping the reward of her patient faith & love. May we follow her in devotedness to God, & unwearied attention in doing his will.

We have Leah^a the oldest with us, The baby Sarah Ann is with her Father & thrives nicely. Mr. W. is about to be married again to a Miss Brayshaw of Hull. She appears to be very suitable, & will I trust take care of the dear children.

Bro^r John & family are tolerable. Mrs. B. expects every day to be confined. He intends writing soon. Josⁿ & family are well. Mary-ann was much pleased with the shell which Sarah sent & intends sending her some music pieces.

Sam^e has written several times & wishes to have a long letter. Sends his love to all. He is about to take some pupils,

I had sent some cards, that, if you should
hear of any, you may recommend him.
We have a pleasant and

comfortable house, & are pleased with
many comforts. Our health is but
indifferent, we are not strong, but I
needed not complain, as all affections
are but light compared with what many
suffer. I feel I am in the land, with
difficult all well. However, whether my
life be long, or short, no matter, if it
be but spent in obedience to His will.

I herewith send you a
paper, which I beg you to accept as
an earnest token of my love.
I assure you are all
plain in my thoughts & of several like to
take a look at you, well, the time may
come, we know not what may be the
future.

Excuse haste, as my time is
gone, & I have many engagements, & I was
not aware of Mr. Westcott's going.
I hope Sarah is the best girl
& very attentive to you. Give my love
to them all, & especially to Mr. M. &
believe me, your
affectionate sister,
Sarah Benson.