

Mrs. Mather,
Mr. Mather's,
Hobart Town
Van Diemens Land.

London, August 1st, - 1824.

My very dear Sister,

Though absent from you, yet I cannot forget you, and, as a proof of it, I embrace the present opportunity of writing you a few lines by Drury, who I understand has made up her mind to leave England.

These lines I hope you will receive, and may I not hope that they will find you in the enjoyment of better health of body & of spiritual health also.

Your last letter grieves me much. O! my dear Sister, what a variety of sufferings have you passed through. Is it not that you may be crucified to all below, & seek only "that rest where pure enjoyment reigns"?

I assure you, I feel every hour of my life that this is not my rest. The Lord has permitted this portion of suffering, & will not remove you hence, till all remains of sin be thoroughly purged away. The mercy of the Lord, my dear Sister, is boundless. Our gratitude can never equal the blessings, that every moment, crown our unprofitable lives. O! what a vapour is every

earthly enjoyment. These poor remains of pain
& sorrow will soon be laid in the silent grave.
I long to shake off this corruptible, to put on
immortality, & to dwell amidst the beams of the
sun of Righteousness. But we must be
willing to await our appointed time. I
hope, my dear Sister, amidst all your
sufferings, you will endeavour to repel every
murmuring thought, & look through the dark
cloud into Jesus, who will stand by you,
to succour, help, & comfort you.

He has promised to be with
his people in the fire, & in the water. Yes,
& he will remain, with you, in the fire
" Till like burnished gold you shine
Meet thro' consecrated pain
To see the face divine "

O! put your trust under the shadow of his wing.
Dwell on his never failing promises! O! what
an invaluable treasure is the word of God -

" My Saviour in distress is past
Will not now his servant leave
But bring me through at last - "

We have often heard our dearest
father give out these lines, when he has
visited us in our afflictions. I cannot
help feeling exquisitely, when I think of past
times, when we used to be altogether! And
now we are separated, one here, and another
there, we must now follow those who have
gone before. We have had an excellent
example in our dearest parents. I trust
we shall meet them, at the right hand of

God, when parting will be no more.

You will expect me to give you some intelligence respecting all our family. My dearest Husband & I continue to go on in our old way. Though Mercy, my health has been better since my last lying-in. My dear little Isabella will be a year old on the 3^d of this month. She is a fine child, but very delicate.

Sister Sarah was here a few days ago. We often talk about you, & O!, how we wish to see you.

Samuel still continues afternoon lectures at St. Johns Horselydown. Sarah lives within that neighbourhood. Brother John & his family were pretty well when we heard from them last. Joseph is pretty well, but Lucy is poorly, & has been so for some time. Their children are well. There is no change in any of our family that I know of. Adam & Mary are well, & appear to be doing well.

I am very sorry you ever left. However, I hope you will do well. Let nothing cause you to forsake the God of your Father. I dare say you feel a great want of society. I am glad you with Mrs. Mansfield. I understand she is a very young woman. Am sorry Mary has turned you must be very unpleasantly off without a servant, but I suppose you make the children useful. How does the baby go on. Pray attend to yourself, for the sake of your dear children. Give my best love to them. I am afraid they have entirely forgotten their Cunts & Uncles.

Give our kind love to Mr Mather.
I hope he will be on his guard with
respect to Howe & not place too much
confidence in him.

My dear Mr. Whytall desires me to
say that, if you have not sent the wood, he
wishes it not to be sent, as the expenses attending
it will be so great, that it will not answer—

We are surprised you have not got
the Memoirs of our dear Father, as they have
been sent some time ago. The Sermons are
partly out, & are likely to sell. The climate
does not appear to agree better with you,
than England, but I trust you are now
much better.

Perhaps you remember Mrs. Kelly,
our next door neighbour. She has just died,
in a decline, & left 3 children.

I must now, my dear Sister, bid
you adieu. May God bless you & support
you under all your trials. There are many
who make enquiries respecting you, & who long
to be remembered to you, both Mrs Hopwood,
Mrs. Emmet, & many others. Mr. Richard Smith
has married Mr. Clark's youngest daughter.

Father's will is still in an unsettled
state.

My dear Husband desires his kind love
to you both & the children. He will write you
by the next conveyance. We have met with
severe losses, & are much straightened, shall
be glad of your money, as soon as you can
let us have it.

I remain, my dearest Sister,
your affectionate Sister,
Isabella Whytall.