York 11/14 Mo. 1845

My dear Sir,

G. W. Walker

Since I wrote thee last, two affective events have occurred, of a widely different character, of which I expect thou wilt have been apprised by a Post-Paper, which I sent thee some days ago. I allude to the decease of my Brother, Thomas Backhouse, & the execution of John Tawell. The former of these events took place after a few weeks indisposition of obscure character, just in such a way as one would wish to see in a Christian; the other, under circumstances, which just leave some room to hope the poor culprit might be penitent, but not without much fear. My Brother was one who had the advantage of becoming an established Christian in the days of his youth, and this gave him a stability in his contact with the world, which even worldly-minded men bowed to with respect. His soul has lost greatly, but I cannot mourn on his account, indeed, we poor bound to give thanks for the mercies Should I
to them of the Lord of which we were permitted largely to partake; he has left his family in comfortable circumstances, and has placed his three children under the guardianship of my sister Sarah Backhouse, who has long performed a mother's part to them.

Of me Thos. well perceives by this date that it is long since I began this letter. In the mean time I have attended the yearly Meeting and received tidings from thee, both directly through our mutual friend Geo. Bennington, who was also in London. Through his medium or perhaps that of the friend on the British Friend, thou wilt most likely have been apprised of the favour of tender to us from on High on that memorable occasion; and how the church was strengthened to separate brethren (now Foster, Joseph Foster, John Allen) to go to New England with an Address to those who have separated from our Society, chiefly because of attempts to limit their liberty and attendings meetings for promoting the abolition of slavery. Another valued Elder, Jos. Bowler of Dublin, was encouraged to join them in this labour of love, over which there was such a feeling of the power of the Holy Spirit that I can scarcely touch upon the subject without tears.
The whole meeting was a solid, good, united meeting. Friends went away confirmed in their faith and cemented together in love. Your spirit was read with interest among the selected minutes of the Meeting for Sufferings. There was also a communication from the Friends of Adelaide. Though it was declarative of great weakness, it brought them near to us in feeling, I could not but desire that they might become a branch of your Meetings. It did not however make any remark upon the subject. The Pierce was in town; he is solid and settled, and I hear good reports of his family. Since the last, we have had a good friend at which I will here forebear with us to our comfort. They now reside at Berkhamstead. Our old friend David stood was at the last. There is still something good about him which interests one. He purposes leaving for Port Phillip in a few weeks. When in London, paid a visit to poor Isabella Powell; she has felt much the dreadful conduct of her father-in-law, its consequences to him, but she was too well aware of his character to be greatly surprised. I read £10 of J. Bennington for books, probably those last sent have done some measure authenticated by wants. Have handed £8 to Miss Clayton to purchase some of those. Their names, £2. Have applied to the purchase of York Tracts. I purpose retaining the
remaining three, for Narratives. I am sending thee 12 more of each. Of these cast apply any proceeds to your Farewells, 400, Meeting House or any other object thou mayst think fit. Since losing my kind Brother, business lies a little more before myself both on my own account and on account of this family, but I have a good helper in my...

James, he is at present in Lindsell, and with his aunt Sarah of Lindsell. Many of my letters thus sends her love. She contributes for the use of the children a large parcel of loose numbers of the Family Magazine. With the salutation of continued love remain thy attached friend.

James Backhouse.