

York 3 mo. 17. 1856

My dear J B Walker

My Sister Eliza, tho' still half blind, has at twice written the accompanying letter; she is considerably improved in health, but not likely to regain her former vigour. She is an example of patient resignation to the will of her Heavenly Father. She is able now & then to read a small portion or even a chapter in the Large Bible Testament or Psalms; but she occupies herself chiefly in coarse knitting; & it five days, walks many times round the garden. She has once, at least, been to

West Point; I once to see  
our aged friend, Mary D. Foster,  
who is in a very feeble state  
but bright in the prospect  
of eternal life; Thankful  
for present mercies & past  
blessings. Referring to our  
meetings, which, till within  
a few months, she was able  
to go monthly to attend, she said  
she thought we might ac-  
knowledge, that we had  
often been favoured to sit  
together in heavenly places  
in Christ's bosom. For this  
acknowledgment I could  
cordially unite. My sister  
Ely. desired me to send thee  
the accompanying tract.  
Age tells us little of my own

But, Alas, but he still gets to meet-  
ings & usefully out among his  
friends. What Alas is very  
bright. It Alas is often poorly.  
John Ford is at home at present,  
& is nicely. he has been at this  
totally. There was a consider-  
able conference of S. S. here  
yesterday to deliberate on what  
they could do for spreading the  
gospel especially among the  
poor & neglected. Many spoke  
of the fields of labour that had  
opened before them, in some  
of the vicinity, gathering them  
together for instruction; some  
were reading, & worship.  
I was only able to attend the  
new meeting, but I learned  
that in the afternoon, the  
same course was pursued;  
The great object being to instruct  
& help them & bring them to Christ

to encourage one another  
to pursue the openings before  
them for this purpose, & to  
look out for openings, & to  
seek qualifications by prayer  
& waiting on the Lord. The  
meeting had special refer-  
ence to the fields in which we  
dwell. Among the company  
were Isaac Sharp & Edwin  
Pumphrey, just returned  
from a missionary journey  
to Labrador. - We had lately  
a very pleasant visit from  
my son-in-law John Brooks,  
just returned from visiting  
the Ind. & others in the South  
States of America, where their  
peace principles had opposed  
them to severe trials, & the anti-  
christian principles of war and  
slavery fully demonstrated  
themselves. My love to you all  
farewell! Yrs. Backhouse