

York 4 mo. 18. 1865.

My dear Dr?

A. M. Cotton

By the last mo's mail
I sent thee "Fire-side Hymns," a
little vol. compiled by our fr.
Martha Braithwaite, whose hus-
band, / Swan Braithwaite, is just
liberated by his mo. & y. my! for
religious service in America.
They have a large family, & Martha
is also a minister. She is a daughter
of the late Jos^t. Abby Gilbert & came
forth in the ministry at a very
early age. - I thought you would
like to know something of the com-
piler of the book. I hope its contents
may sometimes refresh & comfort
more than thyself. I find, now
that my powers of application
are weakened by age, the reading
of short devotional pieces parti-
cularly refreshing, especially
those which set forth, in simple
terms, the love & mercy of our

cannot see our friends, it is
very pleasant to see their
shadows. I should like also to
have B^r Story, and any of your
children, for I still feel more
than a common interest in
them. — My own health con-
tinues, much as for many months
past with perhaps a shade of
improvement; at least, the at-
tacks of pain are less frequent,
& less severe, and now rarely
occur at night. I have cause
to give thanks for this degree of
relief & also that I have been
thus afflicted. It has been a
means in the Divine hand,
of bringing me into a closer
communion with my Sa-
viour, and an enlarged en-
joyment of his love and pre-
serving care. — In the feeling
of the uniting influence of
his love, I bid thee & thy dear
husband & the dear — Farewell!

Ja^s. Backhouse

Heavenly Father & Redeemer
and our own utter unworthi-
ness & helplessness & yet the fulness
of the salvation provided for
us to be accepted in faith and
kept to, under the communion
of the Holy Spirit. I have not to
complain of want of comfort, for
I walk in the comfort of the Holy
Ghost, feeling & meditating on the
love of Christ, & committing all
my care to my Heavenly Father
in him, as a helpless child, re-
posing on the bosom of a most
kind & affectionate parent.

I believe we gain nothing by
dwelling on our own weak-
ness & poverty as regards anything
of our own, further than in-
bringing it to our loving High
Priest, who is touched with the
feeling of our infirmities, him-
self having condescended to be
"tempted in all points like as
we are," for our sakes. That we,
knowing this, should remem-
ber that "he is able to succour
all them that are tempted," and

should therefore be encouraged
in all our necessity to 'come bold-
ly to the Throne of Grace to obtain
mercy & find grace to help in
time of need!"

Thy letters draw forth my
sympathy, & I send this proof of
it, much desiring, that both
thou & thy dear husband & D^r Story
may keep firm hold of the grace
in Christ of which you have
not only been made partakers
but have been enabled to testify.
And I should rejoice to hear that
each of your dear children have
firm hold of the share of this most
precious gift offered also to them
in the love of Christ, that they
also may know in their own ex-
perience, this comfort above all
other comforts, and without which
all other comforts want the chief
ingredient to make them per-
fect. Tell them so, with my love.
And now as I no more expect to
see thy face in the flesh, I should
like to have thy carte if one
have been taken. When we