

25 To THEOPHILUS LINDSEY, 6 May 1787

MS: Dr. Williams's Library, MS. 12.12, f. 54-55

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ADDRESS: The Rev^d M^r Lindsey Essex Street London

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Birm. 6 May. 1787.

Dear Friend

I hope you received the packet I sent you by Mr Johnson,¹ inclosing a Letter to you. I have just received a letter from Mr Hinton of Oxford,² in which he says the Undergraduate's Letter³ is much extolled, which is the very thing I wished to hear, as it gives a greater propriety to ~~the~~ //an// answer.⁴ I would not have you hurry yourself at all, but I think you should be ready in about a month. It should not, I still think, be printed here, because, as it is anonymous, it will then be laid to my door. I wish also you would be rather sparing in your compliments, lest it should be said, on discovery, that we play into one another's hands.

When I paid M^{rs} Lindsey for the eight subscriptions to Mr Matys Sermons⁵ I forgot to take the receipts, to give to the persons who gave me the money.

Mr Hinton had disposed of all the pamphlets I had given him, and I have now sent him a large parcel more, and among them my Disquisitions.⁶ I gave him before my History of Early Opinions⁷ to lend to the more learned. Suppose you send him some of your works, especially your Examination of Mr Robinson's Plea.⁸ I wish there were an Unitarian Chapel at Oxford, where your liturgy might be used. I hope to hear from you soon and am yours & M^{rs} Lindsey's most affectionately

J Priestley

P.S. I had not a sufficient No of my General View of Arguments⁹ to send Mr Hinton I wish you would desire Mr Johnson to send him a dozen copies. His direction is in the Corn Market Oxford.

¹ Joseph Johnson (1738-1809), see 18 Jan 1770.

² Henry Hinton (1749-1816), ironmonger and antiquary, took over his late master's shop in the Cornmarket in 1777 [ODNB] [Universal Directory of Britain: City of Oxford in 1794] [*Gent. Mag.*, LXXXVI (1816), 381].

³ George Horne, *A Letter to the Reverend Doctor Priestley. By an Undergraduate* (Oxford, 1787).

⁴ See Lindsey, *Vindiciæ Preistleianæ: an Address to the Students of Oxford and Cambridge; occasioned by a Letter to Dr. Priestley from a Person calling himself an Undergraduate, but publicly and uncontradictedly ascribed to Dr. Horne, Dean of Canterbury, and President of Magdalen College, Oxford* (London, 1788).

⁵ Paul Henry Maty (1744-1787). *Maty's Sermons preached in the British Ambassador's Chapel, at Paris, in the Years 1774, 1775, 1776. By the Late Rev. Paul Henry Maty* was published in 1788.

⁶ Priestley, *Disquisitions relating to Matter and Spirit. To which is added the History of the Philosophical Doctrine concerning the Origin of the Soul, and the Nature of Matter; with its Influence on Christianity, especially with respect to the Doctrine of the Pre-Existence of Christ* (London, 1777), second edn. Birmingham, 1782.

⁷ Priestley, *An History of Early Opinions concerning Jesus Christ, compiled from Original Writers; proving that the Christian Church was at first Unitarian*, 4 vols. (Birmingham, 1786).

⁸ Lindsey, *An Examination of Mr. Robinson of Cambridge's Plea for the Divinity of our Lord Jesus Christ. By a Late Member of the University* (London, 1785).

⁹ Priestley, *A General View of the Arguments for the Unity of God; and against the Divinity and Pre-Existence of Christ, from Reason, from the Scriptures, and from History*, 2 vols. (Birmingham, 1783).

25 To THEOPHILUS LINDSEY, 6 May 1787

I did not till yesterday find out your [kindness] to my son. Your generosity has no bounds, and really makes me ashamed.

I ~~to~~ beg my particular respects to D^r Blackburne¹⁰

Mr Hinton says D^r Horne's book¹¹ is in the press, and that great things are expected from it.

¹⁰ Francis Blackburne (1705-1787), see 18 Dec 1769.

¹¹ Possibly Horne's *Discourses on Several Subjects and Occasions* (Oxford, 1787), third edn.