

MS: Royal Society, MS 654, f. 29

ENDORSEMENT: Dr Priestley. Feb. 5. 1789 Ans^d. Feb. 12 – 1789 To send about Fr [text illegible] when it comes out Rec^d. 200 Elwall – 50 D^s for Mr Hutton.

Dear friend

I thank you for your care of my Commissions. Mosheim¹ I find is only the Latin of the first part of his [-?-], which we have in England, and therefore desire you would give my compliments to Mr White,² and tell him that it is not the book I wanted. I shall be obliged to him if he will take it again. I think he will hardly refuse. If not, it is only 4 [-?-]. Throw away. All the others will be useful to me.

I send 50 Copies of Elwall's trial³ for Mr Hutton,⁴ and your 200.

I have a long letter from the Duke of Grafton⁵ which I shall send //you// as soon as I have answered it. You will like it much. It relates to the life of Mr Marolles,⁶ with which he has been much impressed. I cannot think that I did wrong in publishing the two ~~2~~ lives together. They are a pair that should not be separated; and the expence of the whole is not much, tho one part be neglected, as superfluous.

The Lectures⁷ will be a late publication. Perhaps a posthumous one. In so many distinct articles as a work of this kind must consist of, no two men can be supposed to think alike. Be assured I shall be as careful as I can.

You are not satisfied with my Note, concerning the [-?-] of a Resurrection It is a subject on which I have thought much, and my hypothesis appears to me the only one that can account for the remarkable fact of the general belief of a resurrection among the Jews, in our Saviours time. That it should not be mentioned in the Old Testament is, no doubt, a great difficulty, but not so great, in my opinion, as that of the great body of the Jews having learned that doctrine from some other source, (which they would never acknowledge) or from some prophet subsequent to Malachi (when they allow that there was none) or that it was revealed between the time of Moses and Malachi, and not recorded. There is no choice but of these three difficulties, and my hypothesis, of the communication having been made to our first parents, and tho known to the Jews at all times, not particularly mentioned or alluded to in their writings. I think, however, it is mentioned in Daniel, and perhaps alluded to in the Psalms.

I shall be glad to hear your account of D^r Campbell's⁸ work.

I am yours & M^{rs} Lindsey's

most affectionately

J Priestley

¹ Johann Lorenz von Mosheim, (1694-1755), German ecclesiastical historian and divine [ODCC].

² ? Benjamin White (1725?-1794), bookseller [ODNB].

³ Priestley, *The Triumph of Truth; being an Account of the Trial of Mr. E. Elwall, for Heresy and Blasphemy, at Stafford Assizes, before Judge Denton* (Leeds, 1771).

⁴ Joseph Hutton, see 29 Jun 1788.

⁵ Augustus Henry FitzRoy, third duke of Grafton (1735-1811) [ODNB].

⁶ Priestley ed., M. (Isaac) Jaquelot, *An History of the Sufferings of Mr. Lewis de Marolles, and Mr. Isaac Le Fevre, upon the Revocation of the Edict of Nantz* (Birmingham, 1788).

⁷ ? Priestley, *Discourses relating to the Evidences of Revealed Religion*, 3 vols. (London, 1794-99).

⁸ George Campbell (1719-1796), Church of Scotland minister and college head [ODNB]. Possibly a reference to Campbell's *The Four Gospels, translated from the Greek, with Preliminary Dissertations, and Notes Critical and Explanatory*, 2 vols. (London, 1789).

38 To THEOPHILUS LINDSEY, 5 February 1789

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P. S. I thank you for your news Get me a Copy of the Hints⁹ if you can

⁹ Augustus Henry FitzRoy, *Hints submitted to the Serious Attention of the Clergy, Nobility and Gentry* (London, 1788), second edn. 1789.