

60 To THEOPHILUS LINDSEY, 22 January 1790

MS: Dr. Williams's Library, MS. 12.12, f. 123-124

PRINTED: Rutt, I, ii, pp. 50-51

ADDRESS: The Rev^d Mr Lindsey Essex Street London

POSTMARK: Birmingham, Jan 23 1790

Birm. Jan 22. 1790

Dear friend

There is no end of the trouble I give you. You would receive by the coach 12 more copies of the Defences,¹ with directions for more presents. I must now desire you to add to them Mr Jeffries,² M. S. Palmer Hackney³ and Mr W^m Wilkinson⁴ at Mr More's⁵ address. I must also desire you to get me from Payne's Catalogue⁶ No 8417 Gavin's Master Key to Popery 3 Vols. 4.6.⁷

9525 Oriental Tales 3.0⁸

9423 Botarelli's Diction 12.0 if it be the latest edition⁹

8328 De le Croix 3 Vols 12.0¹⁰

but look at it, and see if it be a good thing. If it be the De la Croix who wrote the history I have of you, it must be a good work.

I have just received the paquet you gave to Johnson,¹¹ for which I am much obliged to you. That from Mr Lofft¹² contained his Remarks on D^r Knowles.¹³ I have almost read the letter to the Bp of Chester.¹⁴ It is very ~~→~~ well done. The body of the clergy seem to be more orthodox than they were in the last reign, and more bigotted. We see what a court and an establishment can do. But tho we fight under great disadvantage, we must not be discouraged. Truth is stronger than all.

¹ Priestley, *Defences of Unitarianism for the Years 1788 & 1789* (Birmingham, 1790).

² Edward Jeffries (1726?-1814) [Rutt, I, i, 215]. Jeffries was the chairman of the committee appointed to conduct the application to Parliament for the repeal of the Test and Corporation Acts.

³ Samuel Palmer (1741-1813), morning preacher at St Thomas's Square, Hackney [ODNB].

⁴ William Wilkinson (1744-1808), see 27 Jul 1787.

⁵ unidentified.

⁶ Thomas Payne and Son, *A Catalogue of Books; including the Libraries of the Right Honourable Charles Wolfran Cornwall, Speaker of the House of Commons; and Samuel Martin, Esq. Deceased, and of several other Valuable Collections lately purchased* (London, 1790).

⁷ Antonio Gavin (fl. 1726), *A Master-Key to Popery. Containing, I. A Discovery of the Most Secret Practices of the Secular and Regular Romish Priests* (London, 1725).

⁸ Anne Claude Philippe, comte de Caylus, *Oriental Tales, collected from an Arabian Manuscript, in the Library of the King of France* (London, 1745).

⁹ Ferdinando Bottarelli, *The New Italian, English and French Pocket-Dictionary. Carefully compiled from the Dictionaries of La Crusca, Dr. S. Johnson, the French Academy, and from other Dictionaries of the Best Authorities. To which is prefixed a New Compendious Italian Grammar* (London, 1777).

¹⁰ De la Croix, *Dictionnaire Historique des Cultes Religieux*, 3 tom. (Paris, 1776).

¹¹ Joseph Johnson (1738-1809), see 18 Jan 1770.

¹² Capel Lofft (1751-1824), see 21 Oct 1789.

¹³ Capel Lofft, *Observations on the First Part of Dr. Knowles's Testimonies from the Writers of the First Four Centuries. In a Letter to a Friend* (London, 1789).

¹⁴ Robert Edward Garnham, *A Letter to the Right Rev. Dr. William Cleaver, Lord Bishop of Chester. On the Subject of Two Sermons addressed by him to the Clergy of his Diocese; comprehending also a Vindication of the Late Bishop Hoadly* (London, 1790).

Please to desire Mr Johnson to take care that the two cancelled leaves in the Defences be disposed of properly. There are also two cancelled leaves in the History,¹⁵ copies of which in sheets I hope he will receive in about two days.

The clergy here has appointed a meeting of all the clergy in the diocese, to oppose the Dissenters application. They will probably do something violent, and expose themselves, but they are very inveterate. When we see in how many cases reason has no effect at all, we cannot wonder at the slow progress of christianity.

All this week I have a bad cold, and most remarkable hoarseness. I shall hardly be able to preach on sunday but to day I feel myself rather better. I continue to have good accounts from Heath, and partly expect my wife and Harry¹⁶ to day, tho I write to desire them to stay longer. Sally¹⁷ is always in tears when her mother talks of leaving her. She recovers pretty well, but her spirits are low.

Yours & M^{rs} Lindsey's most affectionately
J Priestley

¹⁵ Priestley, *A General History of the Christian Church, to the Fall of the Western Empire*, 2 vols. (Birmingham, 1790).

¹⁶ Henry (Harry) Priestley (b. 1777), see 5 July 1786.

¹⁷ Sarah (Sally) Priestley (1763-1803), see 5 July 1786.