

MS: Dr. Williams's Library, MS. 12.12, f. 167-168

PRINTED: Rutt, I, ii, pp. 87-88¹

ADDRESS: The Rev^d Mr Lindsey Essex Street London

[Oct 13. 1790]

Dear friend

I meant to have written to you in the course of the last week, but I was desirous of sending at the same time more of the printed sheets of my work² than I found I could get ready for the purpose. I now send a few, including the Defence of D^r Price,³ which I wish you to shew him. I have informed him that it is in your hands.

Nearly one half of the sheets I send will be new matter, written since the MS was in your hands; but I hope it will not displease you much, and I hope you will not object to trifles. A great part of what remains is also new. On the whole, I cannot do it better, tho some parts may not be to your liking. However, I hope to send you all the remainder the latter end of this week, and nothing shall be published that you greatly disapprove.

I am much concerned at the progress of the unreasonable enmity of the D's⁴ against their brother. We have all our trials of one kind or another, but this must be a severe one indeed to you. I shall be glad to see M^{rs} Lindsey's letter on the subject, I am sure it was a very proper one.

My difficulties with respect to my sons are far from being over. I am inclined to think that the best thing that I can do for William⁵ will be to send him to America with Charles Vaughan.⁶ His temper, I fear, and high spirit, will hardly suit trade. He is at present with Mr Russell,⁷ and an occasion has occurred, on which they have upbraided him too strongly with his obligations in taking him, when they own that what he did was of no sort of consequence. – Mr Ealton⁸ has a prospect for Joseph,⁹ which, if it succeed, will establish him very well.

We have some hopes given us that an application from our congregation to Mr Jardine¹⁰ of Bath may not be unsuccessful, and we [shall[?]] certainly attend to it.

I send a few copies of my edition of Collins.¹¹ As few were printed, I must not make many presents.

I like the plan of the Christian Miscellany,¹² but much doubt its success; every thing of a similar kind at all liberal having failed.

¹ Rutt's edition prints only the first and the final two paragraphs.

² Priestley, *Letters to the Right Honourable Edmund Burke, occasioned by his Reflections on the French Revolution in France, &c.* (Birmingham, 1791).

³ Probably a reference to Letter V, 'Of the Revolution Society in England, and Mr. Burke's Reflexions on Dr. Price', 43-48.

⁴ ? Disney's.

⁵ William Priestley (b. 1771), see 22 Jul 1789.

⁶ Charles Vaughan (1759-1839), younger brother of William Vaughan (1752-1850) and Benjamin Vaughan (1751-1835).

⁷ William Russell (1740-1818), see 5 Jul 1786.

⁸ unidentified.

⁹ Joseph Priestley jnr. (1768-1863), see 12 Oct 1789.

¹⁰ David Jardine (1766-1797), minister at the Unitarian Chapel, Bath.

¹¹ Anthony Collins, *A Philosophical Inquiry concerning Human Liberty. By Anthony Collins, Esq. Republished with a Preface, by Joseph Priestley* (London, 1790).

84 To THEOPHILUS LINDSEY, 13 October 1790

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

Birm. Oc^t 13. 1790.¹³

P.S. Several of us have looked through Mr. Burke's work,¹⁴ and we cannot find the passage in which he charges the Dissenters with the riots in 1780.

¹² *The Christian Miscellany; or, Religious and Moral Magazine. From January to August inclusive* (London, 1792).

¹³ The MS has been pasted in such a way that the postscript is no longer legible. The following text is from Rutt's edition [Rutt, I, ii 88].

¹⁴ ? Edmund Burke, *Reflections on the Revolution in France, and on the Proceedings in Certain Societies in London relative to that Event* (London, 1790).