

85 To THEOPHILUS LINDSEY, 15? October 1790

MS: Dr. Williams's Library, MS. 12.12, f. 169-170

PRINTED: Rutt, I, ii, p. 89<sup>1</sup>

ADDRESS: The Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr Lindsey Essex Street London

ENDORSEMENT: The main object of Burke's<sup>2</sup> books is not so much to oppose D<sup>r</sup> Price,<sup>3</sup> as to run down and sink the Dissenters.

[1790

Supposed Oct. between (13&17) Say 15]

Dear friend

Notwithstanding your approbation of what you have already seen of my Letters to Mr Burke,<sup>4</sup> I am not without apprehension on shewing you the remainder. However, if any thing be very objectionable, I shall certainly cancell it. The passage alluding to Mr Pitt<sup>5</sup> is printed as corrected by yourself, or Mr Heywood.<sup>6</sup> But if you expect I should ever get favour with him, or his friends, you are certainly mistaken. Bp Watson<sup>7</sup> told me he would never forgive, nor am I solicitous about it. The Preface will shew me no great party man by my allusion to the coalition. If I have failed in this business it has not been owing to want of attention, but of powers or judgment. I shall be impatient to have your answer as I shall hardly send any to London till then, except one copy to B Vaughan,<sup>8</sup> who particularly requested it, and which I shall dispatch tomorrow<sup>9</sup> – I must give a considerable number of this work, and do you, as usual supply my defects, for which purpose I shall send you a separate parcell.

Mr Wilkinson<sup>10</sup> has not been in London, so that it must have been some other person that M<sup>rs</sup> Lindsey saw.

My son W<sup>m</sup><sup>11</sup> is about to be articed for 3 years with Mr Russell,<sup>12</sup> and, (as he likes the idea,) with a view to his settling in America, in their connection. Nothing is yet done for Joseph.<sup>13</sup>

I shall be glad to hear how Mr Hollis<sup>14</sup> has disposed of his affairs. He cannot have overlooked John Halles[?].<sup>15</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The letter in Rutt's edition is undated.

<sup>2</sup> Edmund Burke (1729-1797), see 22 Mar 1790.

<sup>3</sup> Richard Price (1723-1791), see 18 Dec 1769.

<sup>4</sup> Priestley, *Letters to the Right Honourable Edmund Burke, occasioned by his Reflections on the Revolution in France &c.* (Birmingham, 1790).

<sup>5</sup> William Pitt (1759-1806), see 14 Jul 1787. Probably cancelled [Rutt].

<sup>6</sup> Samuel Heywood (1753-1828), see 21 Oct 1789.

<sup>7</sup> Richard Watson (1737-1816), bishop of Llandaff, see 13 May 1790.

<sup>8</sup> Benjamin Vaughan (1751-1835), see 14 May 1789.

<sup>9</sup> The previous two sentences are omitted from Rutt's edition, which begins a separate paragraph with 'I must give' [Rutt, I, ii, 89].

<sup>10</sup> ? William Wilkinson (1744-1808), see 27 Jul 1787.

<sup>11</sup> William Priestley (b. 1771), see 22 Jul 1789.

<sup>12</sup> William Russell (1740-1818), see 5 Jul 1786.

<sup>13</sup> Joseph Priestley jnr. (1768-1863), see 12 Oct 1789.

<sup>14</sup> ? Timothy Hollis, a London merchant, relation of Thomas Hollis (1720-1774), who died in 1790 [*Gent. Mag.*, LX (1790), 1152].

<sup>15</sup> unidentified. The previous three paragraphs are omitted from Rutt's edition.

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Yours & M<sup>rs</sup> Lindsey's  
most affectionately  
J Priestley

P.S. This day Mr Jardine<sup>16</sup> is to be proposed to the congregation to be invited to succeed Mr Blyth.<sup>17</sup> I am sorry to hear of Mr Wakefield<sup>18</sup> leaving the College.

Mr Russell will be in London this week to consult J Hunter<sup>19</sup> about his hearing, which is now almost gone.<sup>20</sup>

I wish the present heavy snow do not impede our intercourse by letters.

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<sup>16</sup> David Jardine (1766-1797), see 13 Oct 1790.

<sup>17</sup> Samuel Blyth (1718/19-1796), see 29 Mar 1790.

<sup>18</sup> Gilbert Wakefield (1756-1801), see 4 May 1789. Wakefield left his position as classics tutor at New College, Hackney in June 1791 [Gilbert Wakefield, *Memoirs of the Life of Gilbert Wakefield* (London, 1792), 377].

<sup>19</sup> ? John Hunter (1754-1809), physician [ODNB].

<sup>20</sup> This sentence is omitted from Rutt's edition.