

95 To THEOPHILUS LINDSEY, 10<sup>?</sup> January 1791

MS: Dr. Williams's Library, MS. 12.12, f. 189-190

PRINTED: Rutt, I, ii, p. 99<sup>1</sup>

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

[Sup<sup>d</sup> 1791. before 10 Jan]

Dear friend

Wishing to send you a few copies of the third edition of my Letters to Mr Burke,<sup>2</sup> I take the opportunity of sending other things, especially Mr Thompson's book, a ~~parcel~~ //box// for Mr Brown,<sup>3</sup> and several letters. Along with them I also send that from Dr Disney,<sup>4</sup> and shall be glad to //see// Mrs Lindsey's second to him. I most sincerely wish, that matters may be so far accommodated as that you may have some tolerable intercourse, so that no difference may appear to the world. Peace is worth a great deal. The anxiety of mind that I have on account of Joseph<sup>5</sup> makes me almost ill, and incapacitates me for any exertion. As he must learn some other business, and that cannot be done without both time and money, I have written to Mr Wilkinson<sup>6</sup> to know what he is willing to allow him, and then I may perhaps get him some place in Manchester, where some friends are making inquiry for me. Had he had any knowledge of that business, they tell me they could have got him a very promising connexion: but that without either that or money, nothing can be done. I am sorry to trouble you so much with this business, but it affects me very nearly, and I cannot conceal from you and Mrs Lindsey whatever I feel. Mr Wilkinson has given the direction of his work at Bradly to Mr Finch,<sup>7</sup> so that Joseph cannot have any thing to do there long —<sup>8</sup>

I believe your intelligence has led me into a mistake respecting the National Assembly. I am assured that the present members cannot sit in the next; but my information came too late for the 3<sup>d</sup> edition.

Having done with this business, I am now taking up the translation, to which I shall [stic]k till my journey to London. By th[e] way, desire Mr Johnson<sup>9</sup> to send me wha[t] Dr Geddes<sup>10</sup> has published.

We are quite at a stand<sup>11</sup> for a college and do not know which way to look, I have written again to Mr Belsham<sup>11</sup> about it. With the best respects of all the family<sup>12</sup>

yours & M<sup>rs</sup> Lindsey's

most affectionately

J Priestley

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<sup>1</sup> The letter is dated just 1791 in Rutt's edition.

<sup>2</sup> Priestley, *Letters to the Right Honourable Edmund Burke, occasioned by his Reflections on the Revolution in France, &c.* (Birmingham, 1791), third edn.

<sup>3</sup> ? John Brown, see 22 Jul 1790.

<sup>4</sup> John Disney (1746-1816), see 11 Jun 1787.

<sup>5</sup> Joseph Priestley jnr. (1768-1863), see 12 Oct 1789.

<sup>6</sup> John Wilkinson (1728-1808), see 17 May 1786.

<sup>7</sup> William Finch, see 11 Jun 1787.

<sup>8</sup> Excepting part of the first sentence, this paragraph is omitted from Rutt's edition.

<sup>9</sup> Joseph Johnson (1738-1809), see 18 Jan 1770.

<sup>10</sup> Alexander Geddes (1737-1802), see 9 Sept 1787.

<sup>11</sup> Thomas Belsham (1750-1829), see 3 Apr 1789.

<sup>12</sup> This paragraph is omitted from Rutt's edition.