

MS: Dr. Williams's Library, MS. 12.12, f. 230-231

PRINTED: Rutt, I, ii, pp. 229-230

ADDRESS: The Rev^d Mr Lindsey Essex Street

[Ap 7. 1794]

Dear friend

We were rather unexpectedly summoned by the Captain to be with him here at 2 in the afternoon yesterday, and ~~to~~ here we met him and all the company, expecting to sail that evening. However, we are now actually about to take a boat, and go to the ship, which lies at the Hope, about six miles below this place. We spent an agreeable evening all things considered, Mr Russell¹ and Mr Vaughan² being of the party. The morning is fine, but the wind still west. When we get to the Downs, it is to be determined whether we go North, round Scotland, or thru the channel. The Pegou sails at the same time, and we hope to keep company.

Poor Sally³ is most affected, as Mr Finch⁴ seems more determined than ever not to follow us; but she hopes that circumstances may arise that will change his resolution. However, that resolution will be governed by a will wiser than his, or ours, and this is my greatest consolation, especially in parting with you and M^{rs} Lindsey.

Trusting to Mr Jones,⁵ who said he would take my Thermometer to Gravesend himself, I shall be obliged to go without it. I wish, however, you would see him, and desire him to send it in Mr Johnson's⁶ package, if it will bear that conveyance, or else give it to Mr Vaughan, who will send it by some passenger to New York or Philadelphia.

Please to desire Mr Johnson to send Copies of my Farewell Sermon⁷ to ~~to~~ both the Mr Wilkinsons,⁸ and to any other persons that you think I may have overlooked. Take also any number you please of any of my publications, and dispose of them as you think proper.

I shall write again from Deal, where the Pilot leaves us.

Yours & M^{rs} Lindsey's

most affectionately

J Priestley

Gravesend Apr 7 1794.

P.S. Give Mr Russell copies of the two Sermons and the Volume.⁹

¹ William Russell (1740-1818), see 5 Jul 1786.

² William Vaughan (1752-1850), see 27 Jul 1787.

³ Sarah Priestley (1763-1803), 5 Jul 1786.

⁴ William Finch, see 11 Jun 1787.

⁵ David Jones (1765-1816), lecturer in experimental science at New College, Hackney and Priestley's successor at the New Meeting House, Birmingham [ODNB].

⁶ Joseph Johnson (1738-1809), see 18 Jan 1770.

⁷ Joseph Priestley, *The Use of Christianity, especially in Difficult Times; a Sermon, delivered at the Gravel Pit Meeting in Hackney, March 30, 1794. Being the Author's Farewell Discourse to his Congregation* (London, 1794).

⁸ John Wilkinson (1728-1808), see 17 May 1786; William Wilkinson (1744-1808), see 27 Jul 1787.

⁹ ? Priestley, *Two Sermons viz. I. The Present State of Europe compared with Antient Prophecies; preached on the Fast-Day in 1794; with a Preface, containing the Reasons for the Author's leaving England. II. The*

