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Letter from John Newton to John Campbell, January 21, 1793

John Newton

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London twenty first Jan 1733

Mr J Campbell
Glasgow
Edinburgh
Thos Thomson

John Newton



Dear Sir,

I certainly heard the rumour I mention
but I believe it need not make you serious. I believe it did not
spread very widely, & as I have your authority to contradict it
I hope it will soon die away. Many things in the misquoting
deal of of years so surpris'd ^{my} but more men than that it ^{so}
generally lead the good people of Scotland to think so highly
of the man, who to answer his own ends, put himself at the head
of a Religious Party.

I have paid L. 1. 1. 6 to Mr. Selt accor-
ding to your order. I have nothing to do with Mr. A - s Experi-
ence but to recommend it & promote the sale. It was published
by her husband, & I do not know whom he has employed in
the second Edition. I believe it is not yet abroad. The papers
have been almost engross'd of late, by Political pieces. I
spoke to Mr. Johnson about Emoron - but he said, that
the Title page was already printed - and besides he thought
it any preference was given to an Edinburgh Publisher,
it was due to the Booksellers who print a ^{hand} Consideration
for leave to print Newtons 6 volumes, some time since.
I confess I think so too; as I never heard that they gave
^{any} cause for complaint or change. And as I am in joint
concern with Mr. Johnson, & perfectly satisfied with his
management, I wish to interpose no man about my own
books, than those of any other person. I desired him to send
you 6 sets of the Supplicat in Sheets.

I am glad you agree with me, that it is well betwixt for
Ministers & private Christians, to have as little to do with Politics
as

as possible your idea, of a pit in the Path ~~put~~ pleases
me. I am afraid it is a pit that will swallow up the life &
spirit, if not the very form of the Religion of many Professors.
The Lord reigneth, & every issue will be directed by Infinite
wisdom & Goodness, without our interference. And can we wish
them under better management? It is true he usually works
by instruments, but there are some services which cannot
be good enough for his own Children. He can employ such
wretches as compose the bulk of the French Conventions,
as Lecturers & Scavengers. Sennacherib with his blas-
phemies, expended his wily, no lip than Hezekiah by his
prayers. And he could ^{do} no more — He was thrown aside like
an old broom, when the duty work for which he was commisi-
oned was performed. And there will always be Dead suffi-
cient to bury the Dead.

I shall not be sorry to hear that the report of
your being married is realized, whenever the Lord directs you
to the right person. I have reason to speak well of wedded
life. I have told you why I cannot afford to write long
letters. The Lord bless & guide you. Amen

I am Yours sincerely
John Newton

21 Jan'y. 93.