

January 3rd, 1793

# Letter from John Newton to John Campbell, January 3, 1793

John Newton

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London fourth Jan 3 93

Mr J Campbell

Grays Inn

St Martins Lane



Dear Sir,

I have at last, after some trouble  
& expence (since my to the wharf threentimes,) received the Ebenezer  
I have with the pay the £ 1. <sup>6</sup>/<sub>12</sub> to Mr. Scott, according to  
your orders when I see him

You have given me a proof that printing is cheap  
er in Scotland than with us. But my old connection with Mr  
Johnson is of such long standing, & he has behaved so much  
to my satisfaction, that I could not ~~wish~~ change my  
method, without his full concurrence. Indeed it is at pres-  
ent out of the question, as I have nothing to print. But there  
will probably be another Cardiphonia Volume or two after  
my dismission if not before it

You told me you had been once or twice  
with Lord G. G. It is rumored since you left us, that  
you have connections with him in the printing way. If this  
is a false report, I shall be glad of your authority to contra-  
dict it. If it be true, it would be a bar every way however  
I might otherwise wish to engage with you

I begin to be thankful, if the Lord is pleased  
to make any thing that I can write useful to you. The blessing  
is all from him, but he can employ what instruments he pleases  
& make us helpful to each other. I would join with you in  
praying that you were no more hurt, by your falls, & in  
praying that the affliction may be both sweetned & sanctified  
to you



I have no skill in the subject of Scotch Patronages  
I suppose they are what is called Legal, or they can't not take  
place. But some things decreed might in Law, then will be  
which are not quite consistent with equity. I believe we have  
as few in our Nation, as in any. I wish to be more thankful  
for the peace & liberty we do enjoy. The crooked things I would  
leave to him, who only can make them straight. You seem generally  
to think this evil is accounted for good, by stirring up the people  
& spreading the Gospel. If this be preached in simplicity, & be-  
ground by a much ~~unoffensive~~ inoffensive behaviour in those who  
propose it - It does not much signify, whether they meet in  
a Church, a Chapel or a Barn.

The times are gloomy. But the Lord's will  
To him I would refer every thing in Public or in Private life  
There is Discontent in some hearts, & in some places. But I  
ought to be discontented with myself, that I am not filled with  
wonder & praise that things are so much better with us, than  
we deserve.

If I was to add another Article to our Liberty, it  
might run thus

From Poison & Politics, Good Lord deliver us  
I think a Political Spirit is as hurtful to the Life of God in the  
Soul, as Poison is to the Bodily frame.

I cannot ~~but~~ wish that Patronages were suppressed  
on our side of the Tweed. I think ~~it~~ few Gospel Ministers  
would be chosen in England by the people. I think the Elections,  
would generally resemble Contested Elections for a Member of  
Parliament.

I am sorry that I forgot your order for 6 sets of the Mejor  
also but I will speak for them, as soon as I can. A new Edition of Amicorum  
& of M. A. - a Expensiveness, be both in the press, & would have been published  
before many but that the printers are full of political business, & the winter  
of what are called the Holidays, & which will to many an inconspicuous  
Idle days, & Sunday days, has been some hindrance.

I must write briefly, busy as much as I am. With Miss  
Callister thanks for your kind remembrance, & my sincere prayers for your  
welfare.

I remain affectionately yours  
John Newton

3 Jan'y. 93.