

September 12th, 1798

# Letter from John Newton to John Campbell, September 12, 1798

John Newton

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Handwritten text, possibly a date or reference, located at the top of the page.

Mr John Campbell

Grave-Market

Edinburgh

Vertical handwritten text on the left margin, possibly a date or reference.

Faint, illegible handwritten text in the lower half of the page, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side.

My dear friend

My friend Mrs. M<sup>rs</sup> Smith is advised to go to Edinburgh. I must refer you to herself for her story at large

Her husband Edward Smith is Captain of a line of battle ship in the West-Indies. But he left his wife & only daughter to cohabit with another woman by whom he has had several Children. Soon after she was thus deserted, the Lord led her to my Church, & I knew her <sup>but</sup> she was the first fruits of my Ministry at St. Marys. From that time <sup>since</sup>, I have known her well, & loved her much. Since the year 88 she has resided at Newcastle, for cheapness - having as I believe, received no support from her Husband for several years. And her Income is very small.

I can only bear testimony to her piety, which I believe I may safely do & to my regard for her which is very sincere. Her qualifications for active life I have had no opportunity of knowing. But her daughter Miss Smith is a respectable young Woman I have heard a good character of her both from Newcastle & Hull. I judge from the Testimonial on the other side, that she is well qualified to assist as a Teacher in a School, or to superintend young ladies in a private family. If I was at Edinburgh, I would go round to all my friends, to Mr. Buchanan, Mr. Black, Mr. Hamilton, Mr. & Capt. Aldane, & my own whose kind attention I have experienced, & request their influence & interest & favour in behalf of this widowed Wife & her Child, whom may be called Fatherless, tho' her Father is still living. At Edinburgh they will be strangers in a strange land, but Mr. Smith <sup>knows</sup> the Lord has many gracious people, & that I have more than a few kind friends there. But as I cannot do this in person, I depute the service to you as a point which I have much at heart. And if the Lord is pleased to make you an Instrument of good to them, I verily believe you will thank me for the opportunity.

With Miss Cabells respects I remain,  
Your affectionate & obliged

N<sup>o</sup> 6. 12 Oct. 98. There is a letter of mine to Miss Smith John Newton  
in of Warrington Magazine, I think in 94, or 95.

My dear Mother

*[Faint, mostly illegible handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]*

Sir

This is to certify that Miss Abigail Smith was boarded six years with my worthy Preceptor the late Mrs Greenwell, during which time she behaved herself in a manner that gain'd her the love & friendship of the whole Family; I think her a well-inform'd sensible young Person, and one who is very capable of assisting in a School, as being well acquaint with every useful branch of Education.

I am Sir with respect  
your humble Servant

Ann Helton

Durham Oct 2 1798