

September 21st, 1801

Letter from John Newton to John Campbell, September 21, 1801

John Newton

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.spu.edu/newton_campbell

Recommended Citation

Newton, John, "Letter from John Newton to John Campbell, September 21, 1801" (1801). *Newton/Campbell Letters*. 33.
https://digitalcommons.spu.edu/newton_campbell/33

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Special Collections at Digital Commons @ SPU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Newton/Campbell Letters by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ SPU.

Sept. 21st 1801 ^{Copied}

Mr. John Campbell
to the care of the Rev^d Mr. Erving

Glasgow



19 Sept^r

My dear Sir,

It is high time to thank you, for your kind consolatory letter of the 30th June. But my eyes fail me so that I cannot write much.

My dear Miss Catlett is laid aside from me at the very time she seems most needful to me. For now I can neither read nor write by candle light; and but little by daylight, I miss her much as my Secretary and Reader. But I miss her still more as my dear delightful, affectionate and attentive companion. Most of all my heart is pained by her sufferings. She is always dying to her own apprehension, and what is worse thinks that the death she hourly expects, will plunge her in to the pit of perdition, for she thinks the Lord has cast her off, as a by-poorite, & will ~~not~~ shew her no mercy. Blessed be his Name, ^{to} am sure this is owing to her Malady - I know no person of whose state and acceptance in the Belov'd, I ~~have~~ am more satisfied. But her distress at present is great - and of course my trial is heavy.

But, I am mercifully supported - not by lively frames, or sensible comforts, I have seldom been favoured with these - but I am enabled by His Grace, to cleave to his Written Word. I believe that this affliction does not spring out of the ground, that the thing is of the Lord, and that He is Wise and Good, & therefore, surely does & will do, all things well. I believe He can, and I trust He will, bring Light out of this dark dispensation, but it is my part to wait His time, way & will

with Submission

My health is good, & my spirits - I eat and sleep as usual, and preach as much, and seemingly with as much acceptance as formerly. Perhaps I am heard more ~~attentively~~ now. For they who know me, take it for granted, that I could not preach at all, as things are, if the Lord Himself was not to uphold me. I hope some are encouraged, by observing his good nep to me; and possibly I may speak with more emphasis to the afflicted from what I feel in myself.

The Lord is Sovereign, I am a sinner. He has the same right to me and mine, as the Potter over the clay. And if He has pardoned our sins, and united us to Himself, all will be well at last. We ought to be willing to be placed in the most painful situation, if it may promote His glory (which should be our highest end) for He suffered much more for us, than He will ever lay upon us - And since He has said My Grace is sufficient for Thee, and my strength shall be perfected in thy weakness, and promised that all shall work together for good in the final issue - I aim to leave her & myself in his hands, and am in some measure enabled to do so. But I find, if the Spirit be willing, the flesh is weak. Self and Unbelief often assail me.

She ~~is~~ has now been seven weeks in Bethlem Hospital. For tho' only the Lord can relieve her, He usually answers prayer in the use of means. There she has the best. I have many alleviations to thank Him for. She is gentle, compliant with all the rules of the place, submits to every thing required without ceasion - is much favoured by those who have the care of her, & is so well pleased with her treatment, that she expresses no desire of coming out. Praise the Lord O my Soul, for these Mercies. She is neither Mopish, nor Frantic, and the Lord has disposed the hearts of Strangers, to be her Friends. She is certainly not worse. But a Malady of this kind, is seldom cured suddenly.

The Lord can restore her, to peace and to me, and if the sea is best upon the whole, He will. But should she die ~~dearly~~ ^{follow her} while I am living, my thoughts would with ^{out} hesitation, to a place among those, who surround the throne of glory, with songs of praise, day and night, day without night, to the Lamb who sits upon it, and who redeemed them to God by his blood.

Time is short - we are travelling on, and shall soon be at home. Then farewell sin and sorrow for ever. Heaven and Eternity will make rich amends, for all the sufferings which his Wise plan, may appoint us to endure, while we are here.

A report has just reached me, that you have accepted a call to Dundee, and are settled there. But as I am ^{not} sure you are yet removed from Glasgow, I shall direct to you there, for as I write by a frank, the letter will find you out. Write as soon as convenient. Give my love to Mr. Baillie, & Mr. Rankin, and to all who love the Lord Jesus in sincerity and who enquire after me. I beg all your prayers. I need them and I prize them.

May the Lord bless you, wherever you are, and make you a blessing to many souls!

I am your affectionate & obliged
John Newton

N. 6. 21 Sept. 1781

My love to Mr. Ewing & his Mother in law, I thank them for thinking of us. May the Lord remember them, & do them much good.