

Rev. John Butler to Secretary

Prompton N^o Chatham

8 Ans^d Dec^r 30/18 & B will come on Friday.

Com. ~~arriving~~ Jan. 11/19

Dec 28 1818

Dear Sir

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beg leave to detail the
 circumstances which have taken place concerning us
 since I left you. I arrived safe at Chatham on
 Thursday evening at 8 O^{cl} I slept at Chatham that
 night; and Friday morning as soon as the fog would
 permit, I set off for Sheerness, I immediately got my
 parcels on shore and went to Mr Bentons Office to
 inquire after the Baring; I found she was laying
 below the ^{5 miles distant} ~~Nore Light~~; I felt a great anxiety to get
 on board that night, I therefore procured a small
 boat as soon as possible as it was getting very dark
 being very foggy. As I passed along the deep, ^{and could scarcely see any} ~~my~~
 thoughts began to ruminate, we thought I never saw
 such a Christmas Day before; and when I thought that
 as on that day, Christ Jesus was born into the world
 to save us miserable sinners from everlasting destruction
 to make us the children of God, and exalt us to everlasting
 life; I burst into tears, and if ever I felt the precious
 of the promises of God in a peculiar manner, it was
 at that moment. I reached the Baring between 8 & 9
 and had the happiness to find all our beloved brethren
 as well as could be expected, poor Todd excepted, he was
 and is at this time very ill, every means is used
 for his recovery; and we continually pray to God for him.

On Saturday morning we weighed anchor, and set sail
 for Chatham, we reached the Glory, a ship prepared to
 receive the convicts on Saturday ^{afternoon 2 o'clock} ~~morning~~, lying 2 miles below
 below Chatham. Mr Kemp and myself went immediately
 in search of lodgings; after several hours diligent inquiry
 both in Chatham and Brompton; we at last obtained
 lodgings in Brompton, at the house of Mrs Chenoweth's
 Nephew's Mansion House: about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile from the ship.
 We were landed on shore on Sunday morning; and
 at 8 o'clock we had a boat along side the ship to take
 us and our baggage on shore. we were up early to
 get things prepared; the sailors were at work all
 night; and in the morning as soon as daylight
 the convicts began to be removed into the Glory, the
 soldiers their Captain and other officers also were
 moving at the same time. Such a scene of confusion
 now taken place as you can hardly conceive, Baggage & Beds
 and Hammocks, were throwing about the deck in all
 directions, and every one was obliged to look sharp after
 his own, our party lost nothing except a large Knife
 which belonged to me, I ~~had~~ sooner laid it out of my
 hand than some one taken it. We sent Mr Butler
 Mr Kemp & Tooi a shore in boat by themselves, and we
 followed them in two other boats with our baggage as
 soon as possible; we then got two carts ^{conveyed} to our
 lodgings; we completed the whole about noon.
 The expense attending this business was about £2.8 0.
 Mr Kemp Master Butler ^{& Mr Wald} Peter attended Divine Service
 in the afternoon Mr Kemp & myself in the evening.
~~Lodgings~~
 We have four Bedrooms and a Parlor in which we

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at and drunk, and, ^{we have} the use of Kitchen for cooking,
the servant in the house assists in cooking, cleaning &c.
For these accommodations we have agreed to give ^{£10} ~~£12~~ ^{per week}
and this is considered very cheap: there were some gentlemen
coming after these lodgings, but, ^{we} happened to have the first
chance, and as we were agreeing for them, they knocked
at the door; but it was then too late —

We go to market for all our things and endeavour
to act as economical as possible, and we hope and
trust you will be perfectly satisfied with all our
proceedings. We found it necessary to procure
Medical assistance for poor Toot as soon as
possible, we made inquiry and found out a Mr
Gilbert of Brompton, who is reckoned a very fine
man; he has been twice to see him, and sent him
medicine, I asked him to day to tell me plainly
what he thought concerning him, and if he was
likely to recover. He replied, sir, he is very dangerously
ill, and every mark of ^{rapid} consumption, but I will do
what I can for him. He has ordered him a fire
in his Room night and day: I am happy to say, that
^{his} apartment is as comfortable as any one can wish.
His Diet is Arrowroot, Tapioca, New Milk, Light Biscuits
& a little Fish, now and then, we baked him some
pudding, and made broth ^{of} it, but he is to have no more
at present. Our dear friend Mr Hall pays every
possible attention to him; we all love and pray
for him; and every one of us feel pleasure in doing

what we can for him. Mr Gilbert is of ^{Opinion} ^{Boston}
 that change of Climate is the only thing that will
 him to health. Isaac is pretty well, but he has a bad
 cold. My little daughter of Mr Hall has cold, but not severe,
 Mr By myself, Mr & Mrs Kemp & Samuel Butler are pretty well.
 Dr Sir, we ^{are} feel it ^{all} mercy that our heavenly Father hath
 directed us to stay were we enjoy every Religious freedom,
 we have our regular Family prayers & reading the Scriptures
 Morning & Evening; we humbly trust our Lord is in the
 midst of ^{our} little assembly, when we pour out our souls
 before him, he enables us to rejoice amidst all our
 sorrows, and we hope he is thus uniting us together
 more and more in the bond of Christian love.
 I can now turn to poor Tom. It gives me great
 pleasure to say that altho his ^{word} ^{man} ^{decease},
 the Lord is renewing his soul day by day. I asked
 him yesterday if he was afraid to die, he calmly
 replied no. I ask'd him who is your Christ, and
 what he came into the world for, he replied to
 save sinners, and if I die he will save me a poor
 sinner. Brother Hall also says he has no doubt
 but he will be eternally blessed, if ^{it} please God to
 call him ^{away}. We pray that Mr Bokersteth will come
 and see us, and comfort our hearts, and direct
 us how to proceed. Please to ^{give} our love to Mr & Mrs Justice
 Mr Barrat & all other friends both in and out
 of the C. M. H. Dr Sir we all join in love to ^{you} and your
 family, Mr & Mrs Bokersteth and ~~and~~
 I ever remain your faithfully, Bro Butler