

Rev. John Butler to Secretary

Prompton N^o Chatham

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

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

Dec 28 1818

Dear Sir

123

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 Bentham's 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.