

Thomas Kendall to Josiah Pratt

Earl Spencer, near Portsmouth

22 April 1813

Rev^d & Dear Sir,

We arrived here yesterday after a very pleasant passage. My family has hitherto experienced nothing of the Sea illness except M^{rs} Kendall & three of the children slightly, and I have the pleasure to say, that we are all happy & well.

When I last saw M^r Wilberforce he expressed a wish to see me before I left Town. Be pleased the first time you see him, to present to him my grateful acknowledgments & tell him I am very sorry for my neglect, which was chiefly owing to M^{rs} Kendalls reluctance to part with me after she came on board the Earl Spencer. Any commands which he may have to M^r Marsden, if he will convey them by you I will however with pleasure deliver for him, should it please Divine Providence to conduct me in safety to New South Wales. [f]

Perhaps you can now send me the Missionary Register for April, The Xⁿ Guardian, and such other periodical publications as you may think proper you can direct them to be left with M^{rs} Grey.

When you see the Rev^d M^r Johnson will you have the goodness to acquaint him that I often see M^r Yates whom he recommended to my notice. He experiences great indulgence from Captain Mitchell – he appears to be sensible of the error he committed against his late Masters & I employ him to distribute tracts amongst such convicts in the prison as appear to be disposed to read them. Some of the Convicts have Bibles of their own, they gratefully received my most revered Friend's Prayers upon Adversity. I can see as I pass the

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gratings one of the unhappy men who was engaged in the disturbances at Nottingham reading his Bible continually.

The Captain is a distant Man, and it [f] would undoubtedly strengthen my influence with him, with regard to any little plans which I might think it prudent to adopt in favor of the eternal interests of the People on Board, could you procure a Letter to him from any weighty friend who is connected with the East India Company –

I owe a balance of 6^s6^d to Mr Taylor, Salesman in Marylebone lane, and a trifle to Mr Da[vis?] Surgeon, Edgware road, will you be kind enough to request & Mr Woodd to send Mr Gibbon to discharge them & put the amount to my account –

Be pleased to recommend me & my family to the kind remembrance of our religious friends when they approach the Throne of Grace. Here, in the midst of a thoughtless people & being bereft of the enjoyment of public Ordinances we have indeed constant need of watchfulness & prayer. We have no clergyman on board_ I am [f] surprised that Mr Vale did not take his passage as his birth would have been at liberty if he had applied to Captⁿ Young – Pray write to me & am Rev^d

& Dear Sir Dutifully & faithfully yours

Tho Kendall

P.S. We expect to be here until 13 May when the East India fleet will sail. Mr^s K joins in duty &c