

Pupert

March 25. 1839

Dear beloved Sister, Mary from Maria

In attempt to tell you how your
 letter rejoiced my heart would be a vain one. as I perused
 its contents, I laughed, I wept, & tried to bless God for what was
 his great goodness toward you. Oh my dear sister shall it not
 be our constant enquiry "What shall I render to my God
 for all his gifts to me?" Will we not daily & hourly con-
 secrate ourselves to the service of so blessed a master, soldier
 & Lord? That we might be as distinguished for holiness
 of heart, & life, as we have been and still are by the contin-
 ual mercies of God. I am often constrained to think if there
 ever was a family bound by the goodness and mercy of God to
 present Him a holier a living sacrifice, holier acceptable unto
 God, that that family is ours. How richly has he fulfilled
 this promise to us - "I will be a Father to the fatherless!"

Surely we have experienced his unmerited care, his
 guidance & direction, & I do think we may with confidence say,
 "What time I am afraid I will trust in thee."

Truly God is good to Israel, he does love
 Zion. He would convince his dear children of his love
 to them, his willingness to help them, - to come & take
 up his abode in their hearts, to rule in & reign over
 them - to subdue sin in them. Was it not for this very
 reason, that the immaculate Son of God left the precincts
 of glory?

Oh that we might yield ourselves to him
 without reserve - our earthly all, our every sin to be
 destroyed. Will we not adopt the language of a poet,

The dearest idol I have known
 Whate'er that idol be,
 Will we to hear it from thy throne
 And worship only thee;

Mary
 Mary

Mr. Allen says he would as soon give the paper to a man of straw as
 expect that he will ever see the thing more than a man of straw
 expected of a man of straw. Mary says she is for a
 she is for a man of straw.

May God ever give my dear Sister grace thus to glorify him with her spirit and body which are his. May she be rooted & grounded in love, "ever abounding in the work of the Lord," firm, & unshaken, against the wiles of the devouring adversary, unmoved by the spurs or flatteries of a deceitful world, and steadfast in resisting the flesh. May your heart be established & unblemishable in holiness before God, even our Father.

"And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit, & soul & body be preserved blameless, unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."

It was this day, is it a reality, that there is such rich grace treasured up in the living Word, & that we may be partakers of it? Bless the Lord O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy Name! It is even so! We may come to this fountain of living water, and drink, and drink, and drink again.

and "faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it."

How does this increase our obligations to him, not unto ourselves, but unto him who hath redeemed us by his blood.

I have had the privilege of sitting by the side of dear Mrs. Greener, the missionary. O you may well think it was an interesting season to me: it was indeed so. I could almost wish you to have enjoyed it with me.

As I heard her recount her labour, among those benighted creatures of God's - the obstacles she had to encounter, the Christian grace which needed to be in constant exercise - I could but exclaim who is sufficient for these things! Yet at the same time my heart burned with a new, with desire to be in their midst, and to be used as an instrument, in dissem-

the light of the glorious gospel of peace.

But of the responsibility which rests upon the Christian missionary? Pray much for me, dear Sister, for without Jesus I can do nothing. Blessed I am permitted to lean upon his arm I shall be crushed under its powerful weight. "Yet with Christ strengthening I can do all things."

His is consolation; here I think is my only hope.

All I need, or all that I want is to trust him more.

I want to live, momently looking to him for grace to help me. Then I could triumph over the flesh, do something for the advancement of this blessed cause, and honour my Lord & master. - -

I do thank you, and I would thank God for again putting it in your heart so cheerfully to yield me up to him.

It is what I expected. My expectations however were far more than answered, I had not thought that the Lord was preparing your heart for so rich a blessing.

Oh how good has the Lord been to you & yours, & that dear people too - And shall we not always find it thus? Is not God always better than our fears? Surely we may trust him: & must love him, & live for him.

The time is near at hand when I expect to bid adieu my beloved home. But I am enabled still to rejoice that Jesus gives me this opportunity of manifesting my love to him. It is a privilege, my dear Sister, and particularly to have our feet directed to so interesting a field; you will see from Mr. Tomlinson's journal in the March Herald that it is truly white, ready for the harvest. Again let me say pray much for me, & the dear band of his & sister's who go with me. Oh may God give us grace to be a faithful band. -

I received from Mr. Johnson last week, that expects that we shall sail the last of May or first of June. I shall probably

have home the first of may— you will please write to
me again very soon, as our dear mother and sister cheerfully
belinquish their claim— and will not your dear husband
write to me— my dear either you will fulfil your engage-
ment— and dear James & Louisa may I not hope for a line from
you too? I love you all much, and O let us all glorify God

Maria Parker
Rafale
March 1839

St Louis Pa
Pomeroy

Mrs. Mary H. Smith

Paris - Ky
March 26

now that we may together enjoy him forever—
Is Elizabeth Alton still living? if so remember me to
her with much love, also to all enquiring friends—
Give many kisses to that dear babe— how I should
love to see him— adieu dear sister.
Yours with much love
Maria.