

P. P. Hope to hear in your next from the Advertisement has
succeeded I wish to know what medicine you took other
you had the yellow jaundice. Mrs Adams had it in her

Martha Mott
July 9 - 1809 -

Messrs. Bradford & Smith
Timber Merchants
London

M^{rs} Mott

15
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16

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1809

nearby two months & cannot get rid of it -
Oh my Dear, whether inside to me soon
by return of Post if you can - your con^{tin}uance
how anxious I am to hear from you
I send you over affectionate
Wishes

consider

M^{rs}

M^{rs}



Leves July 9. th 1809

My Dear Brother,

For more than six weeks I have been anxiously expecting to hear from you; but in vain, no letter has arrived; fearing something I said in my last offended you, or that you were ill, I could delay writing no longer — if I have incurred your Displeasure, indeed my Brother it is unknowingly, and as soon as I am made acquainted with the fault, shall certainly do my utmost, endeavor to repair it — You seem rather dissatisfied with what I ~~said~~ mentioned concerning the "Obedience of the Wife," you suppose I have not thought sufficiently about it — but who is to decide whether St. Paul intended by the words "Wives submit yourselves unto your own Husbands as unto the Lord," Universal obedience, or that we are to obey them in all things except when by so doing we disobey our Maker?

I think neither you nor I can, and if ^{we} do, a third Person probably would be of a different opinion, and which to say which is right? — I never think I ought to spend much thought

about subjects that are not essential — If I recollect right you once said that I ought not to consider the literal ^{mean}ing of detached sentences taken from the Scriptures, but the sense that the whole tenor of them convey — I do not know if the above are exactly the same words you made use of, but that is what I understood by them — in that sentence, "Pray without ceasing," I certainly cannot suppose St. Paul intended it to be taken in the literal sense, as were we to do that ~~we~~ we should have no time for other duties — yet a verse or two below he says "Abstain from all appearance of evil," I think that ought to be considered in the simple or literal meaning —

The Unitarians talk of ^(I mean Trinitarians) our calling in the aid of Mystery because we cannot explain the Trinity; but St. Paul himself calls it a Mystery; besides, is there not as much Mystery to us even in the Religion of Nature? can we poor short sighted mortals at all comprehend in what manner our Souls are united to our bodies? and I believe you can no more explain that to me, than I can the Trinity to you — and is it not as reasonable to believe a Mystery in Religion, as it is in Nature — The Scriptures declare there are three Persons in the Godhead, and those three are one — because you we cannot comprehend how it is and it is above the reason

Man, are we to disbelieve it. I think it would not be more
absurd to say I ^{will} would not believe there is any Deity for
I cannot find how he exists - tho' perhaps you'll say it is
contrary to Reason not to believe in the Deity; & so you say it
is to believe in the Trinity. I ~~do not~~ think it is not contrary
to, but, as I said before, above Reason - however I find every
thing that is really necessary to be known for our eternal
welfare, is so plain, the most uninformed may under-
stand them - You think, my Dear Brother, I do not study
enough; what do you consider as the most useful Know-
ledge? I think next to Religion is Nature, as it tends ^{to}
the ideas of the Creator - Piety and Humility,
of which I ~~have~~ am in great need - Self-knowledge.

best means of promoting them - therefore I often read
the Treatise you gave me on that subject - I shall always
have occasion to be thankful to you for that valuable book.

I have lately met with a work entitled, "Caelebs in
Search of a Wife," I have been reading it to Mrs Adams
it is a most instructive book, I trust I shall reap benefit
from the Perusal of it - Uncle John called on me about 3
weeks since & told me he wished me to go to Cranbrook a little before
mid^{ans}. & that I should meet you there - I hope I shall go
but am afraid he will not get Aunt George's leave for me
I entreat you Dear Julius to send me a speedy reply
I shall be all anxiety till I hear from you

Letter, Martha to Julius, 9 July 1809. Lewes to Chatfield Timber Merchants, London.

Page 1.

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Page 2.

About subjects that are not essential (??). If I recollect right you once said that I ought not to consider the literal meaning of detached sentences taken from the Scriptures, but the sense that the whole tenor of them convey. I do not know if the above are exactly the same words you made use of, but that is what I understood by them in that Sentence. Pray with out ceasing" I certainly cannot suppose St Paul intended it to be taken in the literal sense, as were we to do that we should have no time for other duties yet a verse or two below he says "Abstain from all appearance of evil", I think that ought to be considered in the simple or literal meaning – The Unitarians talk to our (I mean Unitarians calling in the aid of Mystery because we cannot explain the Trinity; besides, is there not as much Mystery to us even in the Religion of nature can we poor short-sighted mortals at all comprehend in what manner ones souls are united tour bodies? I believe you can no more explain that to me that (sic) I can the Trinity to you – and is it not as reasonable to believe a mystery I religion as it is in nature. The Scriptures declare these are ??? lessons in the Goodhead and those three are one – because we cannot comprehend how it is and it is above the reason.

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Back of envelope.

PS. I hope to hear from your next how the advertisement has succeeded – I wish to know medicine you took when you had Yellow Jaundice. Mrs Adams has had it ?? nearly two months and cannot get rid of it.

Pray my Dear Brother write to me soon by return of post if you can – you don't know how anxious I am to hear from you.

From your ever affectionate,

Martha