

My Dear Children F. & T. Cotton

In that Love with reaches over Sea & Land
do I most affectionate Salute you & your wishing
you all Spiritual & Bodily health & that you may
have an Advancement or progressing forward in the
Heavenly Journey of Journey Zion ward.

Your two Letters were as Infusing fresh blood
into my Veins, or as marrow to my bones informing us
you had submitted to the ^{visitation} of Divine Love in
the sweet of your own Hearts; our Dear Friend Jos.

John Gurney came & implored a Blessing on us in a
Family Visit near 3 Years since when he was paying a
Family Visit in our Quarter, & that I might never
want a Man to stand for God or plead his maker's cause
to latest Posterity in your Land

Rachel was married in the 5. Moth to Joseph
Russell Chantler at D. H. Meeting the week before
Yearly meeting, they keep a Corn chandler's Shop in
Princes Street Edgeware Road, he also sells Coals
& altho he began with little, I hope a blessing will attend
their honest endeavours to gain a livelihood

Your Sister Mary, Husband & three Children are
in their usual Health, Business falls off as they ^{have} two
shops set up nearly opposite to them. —

Although near 73 I am favoured with my
usual good Health, I can walk on a good errand
above 20 Miles a day & feel comparatively very few of
the infirmities of old Age; I have ^{been} a good deal occupied
in begging among our rich Friends for a Neighbour
Thomas Finlayson who has shaved me 5 or 6 Years
who went to Bed in perfect health, & who in one
hour probably in one minute lost the use of his right
side & his speech; he was consequently ^{remained} as to this
world, being 75 Years old; his Wife though 61 Years of
Age takes in ^{Washing} ~~Washing~~ goes out to wash, I scour the
sooner than he shall go out) into a Warehouse

Your Mother is in better Health than she was
she can walk to Meeting ^{back} & to Cousen Timneys & back
although she has both her Legs bad, one with a very
Violent Scorbutic Humour; & the other has two wounds
for which she has had Surgical advice, the wounds
are much reduced but it is not proper to heal them
or dry them up

Business is ⁱⁿ a manner not worth following now generally speaking particularly Weaving & Dying Some Silks are selling at about only double the price the Weaver used ^{to have} 10 or 20 years ^{ago} for making them

As writing is my Business, for which I am paid from 9 to one Shilling an hour I have but little time & less inclination for Letter writing for obvious reasons

As I cannot see so well as formerly Steel or Metallic Pens are a great accommodation to me as they want no mending; Death is making great inroads in our Society & among many others Josiah Rastling Grocer Hackney Road has been taking off with a very short illness, his Parents are both living; Mr Allen has lost his Wife, a choice Woman, one of the most Benevolent Friends the Poor ever had; Jos. John Gurney has also lost a very amiable Wife, who had just come forth in the Ministry; our Friends & Relations are pretty well & I am in Love to you & Yours
Your affectionate Father, Tho Cotton
He has a Disconsolate & 2 Children 12 Charles Place
Floaton

DX 19/66 (2)

Francis Cotton

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