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Title: Letters from Charles Nisbet to William Young, 1792-93

Date: 1792-1793

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Relarning home from a thort Excurpen on the 4th war I lound your of the 30 th M. with Dorlon & Harvey's Calaboque. I do not Amember to have ever defined you to commission Top. lady's Willry of Calvinopen, nor indeed to much as to have heard of that work, to that you map be under Some Mithate in this Article. I have more then once defined you to order Cameron's New Vertion of the Plalme, published in 1745, but received no answer. I suppose you have mistaken some other Person's Order for mine, or long the Manne of the Books you do not mention the Inice of Dr. Lowth's Transla tion of Ilaiah, nor of Dr. Morne's Exposition of the Galms. I have heard a good Character of both These Works, but never law either of them. I suppose that if you would venture to reprint Dr. Mome's Work hore, il might have a Jendency to excite thole of our Chergy that can read, to thedy a Part of Holy Scripture that is much neglected & ill underflood among us, by Means of Dr. Walts's Prelace & Paraphrage. I know no body hore except Mr. Jake, who buys any Books . How know that we are all to wife here already, that we do not think that we need any Influction. Mr. Paynis lecond Part of the Right of Man is now publishing here, & will do good among the Negroes in Vir. ginia, who begin to read it with approbation, & according to his advice, to add the Practice to the Theory. We are in Panger of leeing a most ridiculous kind of War in the Southern States, be. Inize the white Friends of diberty, & the black Defenden of the Rights of Man. It is furprif. ing that People who hold the Jame Principles, can not agree logether, but I am afraid that the Friences of diverty will not Juffer any one to partake of it except themselves, a Weakness which vulgarly have in common with those Copile who are called Tyrants. I have not seen the second part they have in common with those Copile who are called Tyrants. I have not seen the second part of Mr. Payne's Right of Man, & confequently am not fuse whether it includes the Right of noi. loning & Mabling, but how the very bee Use which the Friends of diberty in France have been & making of these Rights, on the Portin of the Emperor of Thing of Sweden, it forms most probable that they are included, Befider as it is generally allowed that Man has a Right of doing any thing that he pleases, or, in other Words, of acting according to his Conscience, nothing of this Hind can be supposed to be excluded. I did not intend to do you any Injury, in supposting that you might be the Author of Eliphaz Liberalipimus, but am rather better pleased to karn that it was written by Dr. Greene, because an American Minister writing against Indisterentism, & liberaing a Oreacher of liberal Sentiments . under the very Hole of the length , is a fact of a very curious & extraordinary kind, & lil to hazinen in an age in which M. Vollaire and M. Rouffeau have been canonifed for Saints, & the French Malien have become the Sup porters of Liberty in Europe & america, & of Slavery in the West Indies. Amiett for

many Changes & Hrange Events, may not one hope that lome Revolution might be brought about in Javour of the Redeemer's Mingdom? I wish to believe that it may begin in our age, but I have a great Inclination to Defpondency. This very Day, leven year ago, I first let my tool on this Continent, & I can not think that it is any better fince I have been in it, il il is not work in lome Refucts. The Gofact is not more valued, nor better underflood, than it was then, & Morality is Will as home as ever. Mon are as latter fellith, hollow & infinence, as I lound them at my first Landing. It Religious Ordinances as carelely & Jelsom attended. I often alk my fell, What doll thou hore? But I can learnely difeover that I have dine any good, except breeding a few young Men, to preach the Dodine of Puplification by the Righteows net of Christ, & the necepity of Holiness in order to Salvation, in this Infided Country. We live in the Day of Small things, I you fee that I am obliged to have Recourse to small things, before I can perfuade myfelf that I have been doing any Good for these loven years papl. a Spirit of Mainch & Rivel Jums to have taken Poffesion of Mis place talety. The Soldiers here have been Jeweral limes lighting with Negroes, and almost every Day with one another. Sundry People have been wounded, one Bovard, an Inith Reidmaker has this Day almost murdered a Woman who lived with him as his Moule keeper, Geflerday a drunken Raker fallied out with an ax & a Hammer to knock down every Body he could med with. He wounded fundry Perfons , among whom over two Students , & he is now in Gaol. But he will loom get out again, as wit Does here have no Junishmont to dread. dass Week a Woman was convicted of having endeavoured to poilor her own Mo. ther, by londing her a Orefent of half a Cound of Jea, mingled with artenic. The Jea was Supported by lome who came up with the Bearer on the Road, & know that this Wo. man had lived in Enmity with her Mother, I had taken the very Bed how under her. The was condemned by the Court to one Month's Impriforment, & to pay a line of Mirty Pounds, & won this Punishment, it was hoped would be remitted. Such an the bloked Effects of diverality of Sentiment. It acting according to one's Confedence! It can not be doubled that this Woman was a perfor of very liberal Sentiments, nor that the acted in this Matter according to her tenference, as I was informed by an Eyewilness that the appeared in the lovert with all the Screnity of Innounce, of littered to his Indichment & the Olcadings against her, with as much Indifference as it it had been a Picece of com.

mon tenvertation. Mew happy must wit Down be, in a towntry where they have to little to pare. I disover lundry good Books in the Catalogue which you fent me. & with that I were able to nevelede them I think that you , who are a rich Man & in Trade, moght order many of the Purilan Treatifes for Sele or Republication, that you may do some Good in your hime, I am alraid that this Soil of Books will from be very leave in England, as to many of them have been already deflroyed by the Trunk makes & Totacconifts. The New England People used to buy up thate Books formerly, but they have now got more libered Sentiments. I with that the lame may not be the late with many other People in this lovertry. When will you find Leiper to publish Subscription Paper for printing the abridgement of Dr. Pretton's Works? I look it for a genteel Repolat, when you propoled that I thould write a Preface to it. To encou. rage for to buy Books for your Self, I define you to commission for me 11. 25. Baster's dise & Times, by Sylvefler, Id. 6 3. No. 101. Mr. Samuel Hieron's Sermons, little loon, Id. 5 : N. 1031. Dr. Williams by Sylvefler, It of the Confues pures Civilian Could in all alexander's Hillory of Women, new in Boards, 9 ! These amount the heavy Shillings English in all which I that take on the terms you mention . - Our afferently friend the Time of my Vacation , little to my Entertainment. I must now return to my Labour, & not without many Difficulties. We lend out to many Students at our late Commencement, that we are much at a depo for Keenils. Our Imp. les gave a great many Deques by Mandamus, lo whom they chopes but concealed this lircumplance in the Account they gave in the Papers, to throw the whole Infamy of the thing on the Maflas. -One of the Ministers whom they made a Doctor of Divinity, almost Hopen's that in his Sermon, but the Implees by forug in their Concectment. One of our Mapless has repigned, & we are in Doubts whether the Perfor whom the Implees have elected to pupply his Place for the hime will be able to been the Boys in Order. They have likewife ordered an application to the Legisla lun for altering their Charles, no doubt to enlarge their own Powers, & to take a way thok of the Maken. The lup of Slavery is a bilber one, but I must drink it. Right of noi. They never deign to talk with me, of Butinep. How milerable is it to be fulfeel to the meanest of Men! The Infolence of Office is more discountible how than in great Britain. Could you venture to correct Mis in Mr. Dunlay's Paper by a Mole, that the Degree mentioned, ex. cept those conferred on the Stewarts who were diffinited, were conferred by a Mandanius of the Ineffect? But portions it is now too tale. They talk of building a College, to washe the Mency which they get from the State, but they are no more able to do this, than to brite the Federal City, I brouble gen will two Letters for Sectland, which I beg you will forward by the first Ship. You have never informed me whether Mr. Dobsen got any account from New york, of the Box I fent, di. reded to Low Buchan, near two years ago, to the Case of Mr. John Jagan at gree. nuck, who never received it. I am. Dear Sir,

your very humble servant Cha. Nisbel.

Carlisle, June 9th 1792.

Dear Sir,

Returning home from a short Excursion on the 4th inst I found yours of the 30th ult. with Darlton & Harvey's Catalogue. I do not remember to have ever desired you to commission Toplady's History of Calvinism, nor indeed so much as to have heard of that Work, so that you must be under some Mistake in this Article. I have more than once desired you to order Cameron's New Version of the Psalms, published in 1785, but received no Answer. I suppose you have mistaken some other Person's Order for mine, or forgot the Name of the Book. You do not mention the Price of Dr. Lowth's Translation of Isaiah, nor of Dr. Horn's Exposition of the Psalms. I have heard good Character of both these Works, but never saw either of them. I suppose that if you could venture to reprint Dr. Horne's Work here, it might have a Tendency to excite those of our Clergy that can read, to study a Part of Holy Scripture that is much neglected & ill understood among us, by Means of Dr. Watt's Preface & Paraphrase. I know no body here except Mr. Tate, who buys any Books. You know that we are all so wise here already, that we do not think that we need any Instruction. Mr. Payne's second Part of the Rights of Man is now publishing here, & will do good among the Negroes in Virginia, who begin to read it with Approbation, & according to his Advice, to add the Practice to the Theory. We are in Danger of seeing a most ridiculous kind of War in the Southern States, betwixt the white Friends of Liberty, & the black Defenders of the Rights of Man. It is surprising that People who hold the same Principles, can not agree together, but I am afraid that the Friends of Liberty will not suffer any one to partake of it except themselves, a Weakness which they have in common with those People who are 'vulgarly called Tyrants. I have not seen the Second part of Mr. Payne's Rights of Man & consequently am not sure whether it includes the Right of poisoning and stabbing, but from the very free Use which the Friends of Liberty in France have been making of these Rights, on the Person of the Emperor & the King of Sweden, it seems most probable that they are included. Besides as it is generally allowed that Man has a Right of doing any thing that he pleases, or, in other Words, of acting according to his Conscience, nothing of this Kind can be supposed to be excluded. I did not intend to do you any Injury, in supposing that you might be the Author of Eliphaz Liberatissimus, but am rather better pleased to learn that it was written by Dr. Greene, because an American Minister writing against Indifferentism, & silencing a Preacher of liberal Sentiments, under the very Nose of the Congress, is a fact of a very curious & extraordinary kind, & fit to happen in an Age in which M. Voltaire and M. Rousseau have been canonised for Saints, & the French Nation have become the Supporters of Liberty in Europe & America, & of Slavery in the West Indies. Amidst so

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many changes & strange Events, may not one hope that some Revolution might be brought about in favour of the Redeemer's Kingdom? I wish to believe that it may begin in our Age, but I have a great Inclination to Despondency. This very Day, seven Years ago, I first set my foot on this Continent, & I can not think that it is any better since I have been in it, if it is not worse in some Respects. The Gospel is not more valued, nor better understood, than it was then, & Morality is still as rare as ever. Men are as false, selfish, hollow & insincere, as I found them at my first Landing, & Religious Ordinances as carelessly & seldom attended. I often ask my self, What

dost thou here? But I can scarcely discover that I have done any good, except breeding a few young men, to preach the Doctrine of Justification by the Righteousness of Christ, & the Necessity of Holiness in order to Salvation, in this Infidel Country. We live in the Day of small things, & you see I am obliged to have Recourse to small things, before I can persuade myself that I have been doing any Good for these seven Years past. A spirit of Madness & Riot seems to have taken Possession of this place lately. The soldiers here have been several times fighting with Negroes, and almost every Day with one another. Sundry People have been wounded, one Bovard, an Irish Reedmaker has this Day almost murdered a Woman who lived with him as his Housekeeper. Yesterday a drunken Nailer sallied out with an Ax & a Hammer to knock down every Body he could meet with. He wounded sundry Persons, among whom were two Students, & he is now in Gaol. But he will soon get out again, as Evil Doers here have no Punishment to dread. Last Week a Woman ^ at Lancaster was convicted of having endeavoured to poison her own Mother, by sending her a Present of half a Pound of Tea, mingled with Arsenic. The Tea was suspected by some who came up with the Bearer on the Road, & knew that this Woman had lived in Enmity with her Mother, & had taken the very Bed from under her. She was condemned by the Court to one Month's Imprisonment, & to pay a fine of thirty Pounds, & even this Punishment, it was hoped, would be remitted. Such are the blessed Effects of Liberality of Sentiment, & acting according to one's Conscience! It can not be doubted that this Woman was a person of very liberal Sentiments, nor that she acted in this Matter according to her Conscience, as I was informed by an Eyewitness that She appeared in the Court with all the Serenity of Innocence, & listened to her Indictment & the Pleadings against her, with as much Indifference as if it had been a Piece of common

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Conversation. How happy must evil Doers be, in a Country where they have so little to fear! I discover sundry good Books in the Catalogue which you sent me, & wish that I were able to purchase them. I think that you, who are a rich Man & in trade, might order many of the Puritan Treatises for Sale or Republication, that you may do some Good in your time. I am afraid that this Sort of Books will soon be very scarce in England, as so many of them have been already destroyed by the Trunk makers & Tobacconists. The New England People used to buy up those Books formerly but they have now got more liberal Sentiments. I wish that the same may not be the Case with many other People in this Country. When will you find Leisure to publish Subscription Papers for printing the Abridgement of Dr. Preston's Works? I took it for a genteel Refusal, when you proposed that I should write a Preface to it. To encourage you to buy Books for your Self, I desire you to commission for me No. 25. Baxter's Life & Times, by Sylvester, Vol. 6s. No. 101. Mr. Samuel Hieron's Sermons, little torn, Vol. 5s. No. 1031. Dr. William Alexander's History of Women, new in Boards, 9s. 4064 Corpus juris Civilis. These amount to twenty Shillings English in all which I shall take on the terms you mention. Our Assembly spent the Time of my Vacation, little to my Entertainment. I must now return to my Labours, & not without many Difficulties. We sent out so many Students at our late Commencement, that we are much at a Loss for Recruits. Our Trustees gave a great many Degrees by Mandamus, to whom they chose, but concealed this Circumstance in the Account they gave in the Papers, to throw the whole Infamy of the thing on the Masters. One of the Ministers whom they made a Doctor of Divinity, almost stopp'd short in his Sermon, but the Trustees ly snug in their Concealment. One of our Masters has resigned, & we are in Doubts whether the Person whom the Trustees have

elected to supply his Place for the time will be able to keep the Boys in Order. They have likewise ordered an Application to the Legislature for altering their Charter, no doubt to enlarge their own Powers, & to take away those of the Masters. The Cup of Slavery is a bitter one, but I must drink it. They never deign to talk with me of Business. How miserable is it to be subject to the meanest of Men! The Insolence of Office is more discernible here than in Great Britain. Could you venture to cancel this in Mr. Dunlap's Paper by a Note, that the Degrees mentioned, except those conferred on the Students who were dismissed, were conferred by a Mandamus of the Trustees? But perhaps it is now too late. They talk of building a College, to waste the Money which they got from the State, but they are no more able to do this, than to build the Federal City. I trouble you with two Letters for Scotland, which I beg you will forward by the first Ship. You have never informed me whether Mr. Dobson got any Account from New York, of the Box I sent, directed to Lord Buchan, near two Years ago, to the Care of Mr. John Pagan at Greenock, who never received it. I am,

Dear Sir, Your very humble Servant

Chas. Nisbet.

Dear Sir,

I was lavoured with your of Och. 28th by Mr. Willow, & write you this by his Replicas, who is on his Way to Charlestone, South Carolina, to another Uncle whom he has in that City. I am not propried at the Contradictions you mention in the Kews Papers. He had the like in Great Britain, diving the american Mar. France & England are now in a divided State, & every Party reports rather what they with to be bose, than what they know to be fuch. I am glad however that your Brother does not bring thetie of any more Depart. ances in Scotland, than those that have been to much magnified in our News Papers. Many indeed lum to be going diberty mad, & imagine that a popular Government would remove all their Griwanes: but the Inflance of France, & wen of this Country, ought to convince than that there is a great Difference believed Deople's having the making of their own daws. I having them will made & excented, but the Med of their Beat for diterty will not fuller them to contider things with any Degree of Colorely. They complain of high Joses, & very juffly, get they praile thole Ministers most , who did woll to raise them. They complain of comput Elections, & unequal Representation, but they do not compiler that as Reform whatever, except of their own dives a Character of higang Sowice to them, & that those Mombers of the House of Commons who have been most in the Interests of the People were many of them fuch as brught their Jeals, or were felf-closed. They mover think that a greater Rumber of fools or Knaves would vole for as bad Members as a finaller Mumber of People of the lame Character would do, of it they were in america they would be that our very equal Representation is as much complained of as their very unequal one, a that the Reafins why we do not pay high Jaxes here are chiefly thele two, high because we are not able to pay them. & lecondly, that we were able the Government has not Strength to collect them, after they are impoled. They would be that a small Excite laid on Spirits is more than all the authority of our Government can raile, & that this Duly is a partial one

being paid only by a small limber of People in all the States, & has been preferred as a public Muitance by the Grand Juny of Charlestown, The Prochamations have were no larther than Hork , & I do not bear that any Body regards them , or down to affix them publickly in this County & Weftward. My Friend Mr. Jumbull is concerned in a Diffilling at Pillsburgh , but dave not make any Ufe of it, as if on the one hand he thould pay the Duly , no body would buy his Goods , & he sould be certain of naving his Dillitting a los House burnt over his Head, by the fee likisons of allegany & Washington Counties, in spile of all the Power of the tilleen States, and on the other hand, it he thould diffil. and may the Dade, his Goods would be hable to be figed by Order of Government & himself liable in heavy Fines . Such is the Protection that a free Government gives to Property, & to cordially are the People Subject to down made by their own Kepselintahires! I have ten Mays in the Pitts. burgh Paper puctending to prove that the litizens of the United States are as great Slaves as the Hegroes in the West Inder if they pubmit to the Excile Ad. But the Oco. The design are imposed on by the dying accounts given of this Country by Paine & Barlow, the list of whom in calculating the Expences of our Government, omits the whole Charge of the Government of the Willen States, & the last lays inpudently that no Toute in the World are mor devout than the Americans though not to much as the Face of Religion is to be feen in most Pads of the Country & title ap. pearance of Senousness among the few that are thill connacted with Religious Societies. Such are the dies by which many of the poor People of Great Britain are tempted to lay their Country in Blood & Ruin, after the Example of France. I have lun the tourilous Publication of Mr. Black against Mr. anderton, but I think it cannot willed any Perlan that is lound in Mind, who has ever read Mr. anderfor's Treatife. I beard that Mr annan was to write on the lame Sitied. I think he ought to

do it now . It to expole the Unfairness & Sumility of Black , Problication , were it only in Order to do Tullice to Mr. anderfen, whom, I am told, he has much injured, for I never read his Rusting Elder. I am obliged to Mr Jale for informing you of my Intention to Subtaile for Dr. Home's Commentary on the Stalms, but as I am no Busy here, I am ill calculated for a fift Rame . You would so better to apply to the Secretary of State , or of the Treatury . I think that Brown 's Dictionary of the Bible is very soice for Republications of might to Grand I were a the fitter it would fell. I am glas that your school Bible has foll well . It inlend when I am more in last that at prefent, to ender three lopies of the line Paper, if they are of a noched Lize, to give to my Children but of this I will acquaint you in due hime. I am long to be lo long in your Debl , but like other depende Deblon , am endeavouring to get further into it, as I define you would find me len bycloc Luinsmore of the Foolscap Paper, luch as you lent last, al I with you would order it to be cut on the Edge as I up it for my Letter to Enrope. Mr Jumbull will be down next Month, of I my new of old Sever with you of once. I have great Stone of the de maining, as I ut it only for my american Conseppondents, which are have likewife abundance of the thin German or american Paper of which on that account I employ for fome Passicular Friends in Work and receive inclosed three dollar lar Europe, one for Virginia, & one for Philadelphia. you ought not to be perprised that I am anxious for the Delivery of my Letters, Mellingen mostly never return, to give me any acount of them. Remem. ber me kindly to Mr. Marthal. & with him May in my Mame of Mrs. Withcopposis late Delivery of a Jen which I only heard just now . I am , with Esteem ,

Dear Sir, your very humble Sewant Chai Nisbel.

Carlisle, 6th Novr. 1792.

Dear Sir,

I was favoured with yours of Octr. 28th by Mr. Wilson, & write you this by his nephew, who is on his Way to Charlestown, South Carolina, to another Uncle whom he has in that City. I am not surprised at the Contradictions you mention in the News Papers. We had the like in Great Britain, during the American War. France & England are now in a divided State, & every Party reports rather what they wish to be true, than what they know to be such. I am glad however that your Brother does not bring Notice of any more Disturbances in Scotland, than those that have been so much magnified in our News Papers. Many indeed seem to be going Liberty-mad, & imagine that a popular Government would remove all their Grievances, but the Instance of France, & even of this Country, ought to convince them that there is a great Difference betwixt People's having the making of their own Laws, & having them well made & executed, but the Heat of their Zeal for Liberty will not suffer them to consider things with any Degree of Coolness. They complain of high Taxes, & very justly, yet they praise those Ministers most, who did most to raise them. They complain of corrupt Elections, & unequal Representation, but they do not consider that no Reform whatever, except of their own Lives & Characters, could be of any Service to them, & that those Members of the House of Commons who have been most in the Interests of the People were many of them such as bought their Seals, or were self-elected. They never think that a greater Number of fools or Knaves would vote for as bad Members as a smaller Number of People of the same Character would do, & if they were in America they would see that our very equal Representation is as much complained of as their unequal one, & that the Reasons why we do not pay high Taxes here are chiefly these two, first because we are not able to pay them, & secondly, tho' we were able the Government has not Strength to collect them, after they are imposed. They would see that a small Excise laid on Spirits is more than all the Authority of our Government can raise, & that this Duty is a partial one,

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being paid only by a small Number of People in all the States, & has been presented as a public Nuisance by the Grand Jury of Charlestown. The President's Proclamations have come no farther than York, & I do not hear that any Body regards them, or dares to affix them publickly in this County & Westward. My Friend Mr. Turnbull is concerned in a Distillery at Pittsburgh, but dare not make any Use of it, as if on the one hand he should pay the Duty, nobody would buy his Goods, & he would be certain of having his Distillery & his House burnt over his Head, by the free Citizens of Allegany & Washington Counties, in spite of all the Power of the fifteen States. And on the other hand, if he should distil, & not pay the Duty, his Goods would be liable to be seized by Order of Government & himself liable in heavy Fines. Such is the Protection that a free Government gives to Property, & so cordially are the People subject to Laws made by their own Representatives! I have seen Essays in the Pittsburgh Papers, pretending to prove that the Citizens of the United States are as great Slaves as the Negroes in the West Indies, if they submit to the Excise Act. But the People of Great Britain are imposed on by the Lying Accounts given of this Country by Paine & Barlow, the first of whom in calculating the Expences of our Government, omits the whole Charge of the Government of the fifteen States, & the last says impudently that no People in the World are more devout than the Americans, though not so

much as the Face of Religion is to be seen in most Parts of the Country & little Appearance of Seriousness among the few that are still connected with Religious Societies. Such are the Lies by which many of the poor People of Great Britain are tempted to lay their Country in Blood & Ruin, after the Example of France. I have seen the scurrilous Publications of Mr. Black against Mr. Anderson, but I think it cannot mislead any Person that is sound in Mind, who has ever read Mr. Anderson's Treatise. I heard that Mr. Annan was to write on the same subject. I think he ought to

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do it now, & to expose the Unfairness & Scurrility of Black's Publication, were it only in Order to do Justice to Mr. Anderson, whom, I am told, he has much injured, for I never read his Ruling Elder. I am obliged to Mr. Tate for informing you of my Intention to subscribe for Dr. Horne's Commentary on the Psalms, but as I am no Body here, I am ill calculated for a first Name. You would do better to apply to the Secretary of State, or of the Treasury. I think that Brown's Dictionary of the Bible is very proper for Republication, & might do Good, but you are a better Judge whether it would sell. I am glad that your School Bible has sold well, & intend when I am more in Cash than at present, to order three Copies of the fine Paper, if they are of a pocket Size, to give to my Children, but of this I will acquaint you in due time. I am sorry to be so long in your Debt, but like other desperate Debtors, am endeavoring to get farther into it, as I desire you would send me ten or twelve Quires more of the Foolscap Paper, such as you sent last, but I wish you would order it to be cut on the Edge as I use it for my Letters to Europe. Mr. Turnbull will be down next Month, & I [square missing from letter] my new & old Scores with you at once. I have great Store of the L [square missing from letter] remaining, as I use it only for my American Correspondents, which are [square missing from letter] have likewise Abundance of the thin German or American Paper of [square missing from letter] which on that Account I employ for some Particular Friends in Europe. You will receive inclosed three Letters for Europe, one for Virginia, & one for Philadelphia. You ought not to be surprised that I am anxious for the Delivery of my Letters, as my Messengers mostly never return, to give me any Account of them. Remember me kindly to Mr. Marshal, & wish him Joy in my Name of Mrs. Witherspoon's safe Delivery of a Son which I only heard just now. I am, with Esteem,

> Dear Sir, Your very humble Servant

> > Chas. Nisbet.

I was favoured with your of the 18th our. this afternoon by Mr. Sensple. Probably I had received your tall when I wrote mines but can not be popular, as I do not remember what I wrote you. I give you many thank for your valuable Prefents, of Dr. Reie's Effays, & Mr. Scott's Fire of buth. I am glad to underthand by Mr. Sample, that the Effays fell well, as this Country has much Reed of them, but I am afrais that loo lew will take the Trouble of peruling a large Book, which requires deep thinking & ferious at tention, effecially as it exposes the Withedoch, July & Abfurdity of the Infield Philosophers, the admired Leaders of the Mullitude the great Defenden of diberty of Conference & the Rights of Man, who are proposed to have given to much light to the profent age, that they are become about blind. The Death of the King of France is a new Triamph of diberty & Equally, Supported by Philosophy. It is Pily that languels are not litting otherwise you might have had a most pumpour Rejoicing on the lecation, & the Oichures of the King and Queen of France, that are or formerly were in the Senate Chamber, might have been executed publickly in the Prifon yard, & buried with the fame Greenflances of Iguaring as the Originals. But at any Rate on the next S! Hoblaine's Day (you ought to know what time of the year that is) your People with alebrate this glorious Victory of the Rople of France, & lethy your admiration of their Virtues, by getting as dunk as nothible, & facrificing a few Hundreds of arithograles, in honour of Liberty & Equality. It is a Shame to a City to enlightened as yours, that you have not get got a Lanterne, for the Upe of your Willowa cy. Do you know that this Inthumant was the coule of all that glorious dight that has now there upon France, & which all america & the World worthippeth? It fams none of your Bakers an lo great Patriots as those of Paris, as I do not hear that any of them have offered to being gratis any arifloured that the Ronk thall bring to him. The Beach who live among you, will be much furprited to fee that you are to far back in Reformation. I have not get free and get been the Effay on Equality, by an Officer (I hope it is not the Profident) of the United States . but that dangerous Infied is now in a fair Way of being agilated among us, & what may be the Confequences, is impossible to lay. I hanble to think of the Bloodshad that may be expeded this Summer, and how many leune, thoughtlet & daving Sinners will probably be level to their long home, by live & Sword. We ought to expect that God who miles the World, in finite of the Rights of Man, will avenge the Quarrel of his lovement, & make Men for whether they will or not, that verily there is a God, who judgeth in the Earth. He who of old make the Midianiles & amalekiles destroy one another, may fond a Spiril of Discord among the Northippen of Vollaire and Rouffeaux & him he Iword of every one of them against his tellew. and if the People of

Great Britain & Ireland are not degrived of their Surfer, they may bearn from the Example of the French, what are the blebed buils of diberty & Equality. The Irith Mob from to be mad enough already, as they have declared that they will have no thing, but as their leurage is as Small, as their Rolling great, I hope all their Undertakings will end in Smake. Means have been ufed to this up Infunections in Scotland, but as our Mot are not to ignorant as the Irith Roman Catholics, I hope that they will not knowailed on to adopt Paine's dythour, the forme of them have escribed Briefley's. The Vigilance of the British Government in calling out the Militia, I proclaiming War again the Savages of France, may love at least to compley their own Scople, & to draw off forme reflets Spirits, who are ready for Infurrection. They have certainly good Reafor to be on their Guard against French Refugees & Emillaries, & thok Societies in England, who correspond with the Tacobin Out at Paris. And as nothing is now more witible than that it is the Defign of the French Mol . to overlum all the existent Governments of Europe, & to form an alliance with the Mob in every Country for that Purpole, that none may remain to punish them for their limes, all the lower of Europe mult consider thefe Savages as Enemies of Mankind in general. I make the Extirpation of them a common laute & even the Justs & Ruffians may be expeded to join this Confederacy. Our Mow Philosophers to whom all the Governments of Europe have been quilly of giving too much Encouragement. have been telling the World for a long line, that Religion is uplef to Jociety, that Rules ought to despite the Questions of Divines, to Show an Indifference to all Opinions, & to encourage that Philotophy which lets Men fee from Keligions Prejudices, & enables them to affect their Rights of believing & hiving as they please. How probably God is about to then the World, what Set of Government that is, that the Philogophen have been enging up, I have much it is calculated to grounde the Happiness of Marshind. Whether the French will be permitted to defliny Rome, & overhern all the States of Italy, time will Show. But it appears already, that they inlend to omit none of them, as the little Republic of Geneva has not ofcased them which has food to long amidt contending Powers. It is faid that Gen. Montefquiou was accupil by his army as a Trailer to the highls of Man, because he did not allow them to plunder that unfortunate lity, but as it is faid that he is arrived in London . I proposed that his Difarace with the People is merely po. bilical, & Mad he has been feel by the Convention to command the Mot of London, as founds Dr. Prickley, another French libizen, can get them together. The War of the anataplifts in

Munfler, is the likest thing to the prefent French Mob, of any thing that we find in History, & the they began with Equality. They foon fell under artibrary Government. How as Thomas Paine is profent ty at Panis, the Mol need not want a John of Leyden to head them, which Mont. Pothion infifts en being the Monarch himself. Religionish have often been charged with Enthuliafon by Intide Olive. tophen & Pobilicians, but it may be referred to any Person of laber Tudgment, whether the Profes. for of any Richigion, ever leftified as much Enthuhaps, as has already appeared in the atheritical Northingers of Vollaire & Kouffean. If Mr. Paine does not obtain the Monarchy, he must be content to be the Hispperdoling of the new John of Leyden, & to hang up every one whom Mont. Pelhion marks out for Definishion , - I have heard of Mr. Themplon', Delign, & that endeavour to feer him, if I am pared to vifil your lity in May, But I am an adular of the Old Bible, and configuently can not encourage any new ones. Dr. Robert Molines, Profesor of Bocky in the University of Cambridge, Ow England, is at prefent engaged in an Undertaking, with Regard to the Jext of the Septuagint, of the Jame Nalure as that of the late Dr. Kennicott, with Repart to the Hebren Original, & Subscriptions are railed in England some time ago, for comparing all the Manuforigh that are to be found in any of the dibraries of Europe, I mean Juch as the Goths & Vandals of France have not abready defloyed, & while fuch a Work is in Expedation, I think it would not be proper to think of publithing any Translation of the Septuagint. Befides its thronology would encourage the Infidelo, many of whom do not know any thing of the Difference belowed the Hebrew Chronology & that of the Septenagint & Samarilan Pentaleuch. a Capt. Lane of Voment boath, in your Papers of having Joung Frogs in digging a Well at the Depth of looky led, which he affirm mult have been there long before the Pays of adam. But this Philosopher did not confider that the Frogs might have latter into the Well after it was dug, & that the height from which they had tallen, & the bad air in the Well, might be the laule of their appearing to be dead, with they were revived by the Nation. Thek Ore-adamilical Frogs on all to have been fent as a Prefent to the Funch Malional. Convention, who would have fed on them with the quater Religh, that in their Opinion they afforded a Teffin eny against the Truth of Revelation. I am, with fincese Effects,

Dear Sir, your very humble Servant Cha. Nisbel.

Carlisle, 22d March, 1793.

Dear Sir,

I was favoured with yours of the 18th cur. this Afternoon by Mr. Semple. Probably I had received your last when I wrote mine, but can not be positive, as I do not remember what I wrote you. I give you many thanks for your valuable Presents, of Dr. Reid's Essays, & Mr. Scott's Force of truth. I am glad to understand by Mr. Semple, that the Essays sell well, as this Country has much Need of them, but I am afraid that too few will take the Trouble of perusing a large Book, which requires deep thinking & serious Attention, especially as it exposes the Wickedness, folly & Absurdity of the Infidel Philosophers, the admired Leaders of the Multitude, the great Defenders of Liberty of Conscience & the Rights of Man, who are supposed to have given so much light to the present Age, that they are become almost blind. The Death of the King of France is a new Triumph of Liberty & Equality, supported by Philosophy. It is Pity, that Congress are not sitting otherwise you might have had a most pompous Rejoicing on the Occasion, & the Pictures of the King and Queen of France, that are or formerly were in the Senate Chamber, might have been executed publickly in the Prison Yard, & buried with the same Circumstances of Ignominy as the Originals. But at any Rate on the next St. Voltaire's Day (you ought to know what time of the Year that is) your People will celebrate this glorious Victory of the People of France, & testify your Admiration of their Virtues, by getting as drunk as possible, & sacrificing a few Hundreds of Aristocrates, in honour of Liberty & Equality. It is a shame to a City so enlightened as yours, that you have not yet got a Lanterne, for the Use of your Aristocracy. Do you know that this Instrument was the Cause of all that glorious Light that has now shone upon France, & which all America & the World worshippeth? It seems none of your Bakers are so great Patriots as those of Paris, as I do not hear that any of them have offered to hang gratis any Aristocrat that the People shall bring to him. The French who live among you, will be much surprised to see that you are so far back in Reformation. I have not yet have not yet seen the Essay on Equality, by an Officer (I hope it is not the President) of the United States, but that dangerous Subject is now in a fair Way of being agitated among us, & what may be the Consequences, is impossible to say. I tremble to think of the Bloodshed that may be expected this Summer, and how many secure, thoughtless & daring Sinners will probably be sent to their long home, by fire & Sword. We ought to expect that God who rules the World, in spite of the Rights of Man, will avenge the Quarrel of his Covenant, & make Men see whether they will or not, that verily there is a God, who judgeth in the Earth. He who of old made the Midianites & Amalchites destroy one another, may send a Spirit of Discord among the Worshippers of Voltaire and Rousseau, & turn the Sword of every one of them against his fellow. And if the People of

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Great Britain & Ireland are not deprived of their Senses, they may learn from the Example of the French, what are the blessed fruits of Liberty & Equality. The Irish Mob seem to be mad enough already, as they have declared that they will have no King, but as their Courage is as small, as their Noise is great, I hope all their Undertakings will end in Smoke. Means have been used to stir up Insurrections in Scotland, but as our Mob are not so ignorant as the Irish Roman Catholics, I hope that they will not be prevailed on to adopt Paine's System, tho' some of them

have adopted Priestley's. The Vigilance of the British Government in calling out the Militia, & proclaiming War against the Savages of France, may serve at least to employ their own People, & to draw off some restless Spirits, who are ready for insurrection. They have certainly good Reason to be on their Guard against French Refugees & Emissaries, & those Societies in England, who correspond with the Jacobin Club at Paris. And as nothing is now more visible than that it is the Design of the French Mob, to overturn all the existent Governments of Europe, & to form an Alliance with the Mob in every Country for that Purpose, that none may remain to punish them for their Crimes, all the Powers of Europe must consider these Savages as Enemies of Mankind in general, & make the Extirpation of them a common Cause & even the Turks & Russians may be expected to join this Confederacy. Our New Philosophers to whom all the Governments of Europe have been guilty of giving too much Encouragement, have been telling the World for a long time, that Religion is useless to Society, that Rulers ought to despise the Questions of Divines, to show an Indifference to all Opinions, & to encourage that Philosophy which sets Men free from Religious Prejudices, & enables them to assert their Rights of believing & living as they please. Now probably God is about to show the World, what Sort of Government that is, that the Philosophers have been crying up, & how much it is calculated to promote the Happiness of Mankind. Whether the French will be permitted to destroy Rome, & overturn all the States of Italy, time will show. But it appears already, that they intend to omit none of them, as the little Republic of Geneva has not escaped them which has stood so long amidst contending Powers. It is said that Gen. Montesquieu was accused by his Army, as a Traitor to the Rights of Man, because he did not allow them to plunder that unfortunate City, but as it is said that he is arrived in London. I suspect that his Disgrace with the People is merely political, & that he has been sent by the Convention to command the Mob of London, as soon as Dr. Priestley, another French Citizen, can get them together. The War of the Anabaptists in

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Munster, is the likest thing to the present French Mob, of any thing that we find in History, & tho' they began with Equality, they soon fell under Arbitrary Government. Now as Thomas Paine is presently at Paris, the Mob need not want a John of Leyden to head them, unless Mons. Pethion insists on being the Monarch himself. Religionists have often been charged with Enthusiasm by Infidel Philosophers & Politicians, but it may be referred to any Person of sober Judgment, whether the Professors of any Religion, ever testified as much Enthusiasm, as has already appeared in the Atheistical Worshippers of Voltaire & Rousseau. If Mr. Paine does not obtain the Monarchy, he must be content to be the Knipperdoling of the new John of Leyden, & to hang up every one whom Mons. Pethion marks out for Destruction. I have heard of Mr. Thompson's Design & shall endeavour to see him, if I am spared to visit your City in May. But I am an Admirer of the Old Bible, and consequently can not encourage any new ones. Dr. Robert Holmes, Professor of Poetry in the University of Cambridge, Old England, is at present engaged in an Undertaking, with Regard to the Text of the Septuagint, of the same Nature as that of the late Dr. Kennicott, with Respect to the Hebrew Original, & Subscriptions are raised in England some time ago, for comparing all the Manuscripts that are to be found in any of the Libraries of Europe. I mean such as the Goths & Vandals of France have not already destroyed, & while such a Work is in Expectation, I think it would not be proper to think of publishing any Translation of the Septuagint. Besides its Chronology would encourage the Infidels, many of whom do not know any thing of the Difference betwixt the Hebrew Chronology & that of the Septuagint &

Samaritan Pentateuch. A Capt. Lane of Vermont boasts in your Papers of having found Frogs in digging a Well at the Depth of forty feet, which he affirms must have been there long before the Days of Adam. But this Philosopher did not consider that the Frogs might have fallen into the well after it was dug, & that the height from which they had fallen, & the bad Air in the Well, might be the Cause of their appearing to be dead, till they were revived by the Water. These Preadamitical Frogs ought to have been sent as a Present to the French National Convention, who would have fed on them with the greater Relish, that in their Opinion they afforded a Testimony against the Truth of Revelation. I am, with sincere Esteem,

Dear Sir, Your very humble Servant

Chas. Nisbet.

Maving arrived here in Safely on Monday last, I lound that Horne on the Ofalm, had not been fent up during my abfence, I as you did not till me to what Waggener you had delivered it, I know not when to enquire for it. It would be better to take Receints for all Parcels that you land up, & then it would be known at least who is to blame when they are not delivered, as the Faith of Waggonen, like that of Mations, is often very Hippery, & little to be selied on . I expect the lorgues their & Micron's Sen mons, with the Box, & Bandbox of my Daughter's things, by list Wagger if they are not already fent off. We have had conflant Rains here these pour days past but this Day we have a Propert of clear Weather. Mr Semple fel of Mis Morning for O'Moburgh having Moppe'd one Day to wait for Company. A Subscription is going on here for the Support of the French, & People are cager to contribute, in order to then their Contempt for the Profident's Proclamation. But I believe their diterality will either be embeggled among themselves, or go no surther than the Citizen Minister in your City, who can diffribute it among the numbers of Functimen among you , or more wifely been it to himfelf. I lorged to enquire whether you had lent of my dellers by Mr. Semple or before he led out. Mis Brother lays that he is disposed to be a Minister, but did not mention whether he meant to return to this Country. Give my Compliments to Mr. Marthal, & lott him that I delivered his deller to a Neighbour & Intimate of Mr. Irwin. I long to hear of the Success of Dr. Witherfacon's Operation, & at what Time the Pope is expected in Philadelphia. Our Sconle has are lathering themselves, with a Region What has been received, that the Turks have emouled the Caule of the French Republic, which perhaps on account of its great Probability, they hope may prove hove. The lear of the Indians begins to encreape, & all the Tradices of our wife Go. vernment have ended in Delubien, & Lop of Lives & Property. When our fovern

ment will begin to think rationally of the Defence of the Frenties, & of the Country in general, to hard to lay. I pray God that we may not be involved in a War with England, by the Intrigues of the Citizen Minister & his Adherents. If any Back. wandrich is theren in reflering the Villet Taken by the Charlestown Privateers, & the Thin that was taken in the Bay of Delaware, your lity may loon non the Rith of a Bombardment. and if the attention of our Government is divided bewisel the Defence of the Funtier & that of the Sea wall, I am apaid that all the Wifelen of the People would be much at a dop how to proceed to I hear that forme English Privateur & Ships of War are on the Coast, I am in hoper that the Communication with Great Britain will not be intermpted. Hour Letters from Scalland arrived during my Allenee, but brought no material Mens. I got over fundry Pamphlets & two Sermons on the French Revolution, which are very well written. One of the Pamphlets & both the Sermons, were published in Scalland. It the War with France does not last long, or is not carried in to any great Langth by Great Britain it is to be hoped that is internial Tranquillity will be the towner reflored, as the Reformers and Friend, of the People, who depended on the Afillance of France will be and to be more quied, when they be their Power reduced, I as the French Fled is not formidable these will be little Bragon to dread any Invalien in Ireland, of which the Brilith Minithry were most apprehensive. and the Rebellion with which they were threatened hom that thingdom, will be the lep formidable, on the same account. I had an account hom scotland of a dady who dreamed that the was dead & had gone to Hell, & in ob-

lowing that Salan in Derlon opened the Door to her in Perfon, the exprehed her Surprile that none of his Servant had been employed in that Office, but received for answer that he had not one Sewant left about his Moule, as they had all your to France low Years ago. It this Preum could be rebied on, it would be me that diberty & Equality are very much to the Taple of a certain Order of tallers -Spirit , as well as to their Friend, & adherents in this World. I home you will write me where I am to apply for Home on

the Olalus, & land up my other things if not lent of already

by the list Oppolumity . I am

Dear Sir,

your very humble Servant.

Dear Sir,

Having arrived here in Safety on Monday last, I found that Horne on the Psalms had not been sent up during my Absence, & as you did not tell me to what Waggoner you had delivered it, I know not where to enquire for it. It would be better to take Receipts for all Parcels that you send up, & then it would be known at least who is to blame when they are not delivered, as the Faith of Waggoners, like that of Nations, is often very slippery, & little to be relied on. I expect the Corpus Juris & Micron's Sermons, with the Box, & Bandbox of my Daughter's things, by first Waggon if they are not already sent off. We have had constant Rains here these four days past, but this Day we have a Prospect of Clear Weather. Mr. Semple set off this Morning for Pittsburgh having stopp'd one Day to wait for Company. A Subscription is going on here for the Support of the French, & People are eager to contribute, in order to show their Contempt for the President's Proclamation. But I believe their Liberality will either be embezzled among themselves, or go no further than the Citizen Minister in your City, who can distribute it among the Numbers of Frenchmen among you, or more wisely keep it to himself. I forgot to enquire whether you had sent off my Letters by Mr. Semple or before he set out. His Brother says that he is disposed to be a Minister, but did not mention whether he meant to return to this Country. Give my Compliments to Mr. Marshall, & tell him that I delivered his Letter to a Neighbor & Intimate of Mr. Irwin. I long to hear of the Success of Dr. Witherspoon's operation, & at what Time the Pope is expected in Philadelphia. Our People here are flattering themselves with a Report that has been received, that the Turks have espoused the Cause of the French Republic, which perhaps on Account of its great Probability, they hope may prove true. The fear of the Indians begins to encrease, & all the Treaties of our wise Government have ended in Delusion, & Loss of Lives & Property. When our Govern-

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ment will begin to think rationally of the Defence of the Frontiers, & of the Country in general, is hard to say. I pray God that we may not be involved in a War with England, by the Intrigues of the Citizen Minister & his Adherents. If any Backwardness is shown in restoring the Vessels taken by the Charlestown Privateers, & the Ship that was taken in the Bay of Delaware, your City may soon run the Risk of a Bombardment. And if the Attention of our Government is divided betwixt the Defence of the Frontier & that of the Sea Coast, I am afraid that all the Wisdom of the People would be much at a Loss how to proceed. As I hear that some English Privateers & Ships of War are in the Coast, I am in hopes that the Communication with Great Britain will not be interrupted. Four Letters from Scotland arrived during my Absence, but brought no material News. I got over sundry Pamphlets & two Sermons on the French Revolution, which are very well written. One of the Pamphlets & both the Sermons were published in Scotland. If the War with France does not last long, or is not carried on to any great Length by Great Britain, it is to be hoped that its internal Tranquillity will be the sooner restored, as the Reformers and Friends of the People, who depended on the Assistance of France will be apt to be more quiet, when they see their Power reduced, & as the French Fleet is not formidable there will be little Reason to dread any Invasion in Ireland, of which the British Ministry were not most apprehensive. And the Rebellion with which they were threatened from that Kingdom,

will be the less formidable, on the same Account. I had an Account from Scotland of a Lady who dreamed that she was dead & had gone to Hell, & on ob-

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serving that Satan in Person opened the Door to her in Person, she expressed her Surprise that none of his Servants had been employed in that Office, but received for Answer that he had not one Servant left about his House, as they had all gone to France four Years ago. If this Dream could be relied on, it would seem that Liberty & Equality are very much to the Taste of a certain Order of fallen Spirits, as well as to their Friends & Adherents in this World. I hope you will write me where I am to apply for Horne on the Psalms, & send up my other things if not sent off already by the first Opportunity. I am,

Dear Sir, Your very humble Servant,

[Rest of back page missing]

Dear Sir, I have no Bractice in writing Phyling Letters, but I take it for grant. I mad they ought to be written in a Style fimilar to that of Bills of Exchange. By this my third of Phyling therefore. I give you to underthand that my Parcels that were lest in your Cullody, with another that I hear came to your hands after I left you, have not yet come to hand. I pupposed that you received my light thyling Letter by Major Montgomery, & my lecond by David Williams Waggoner, Il my Parcels an not yol on the head, I hope you will now at tall enquire at the Black Bear, & knd them by the tit had you can lind. I am conficiens that I would do as much for yourif I had it in my Jower. I got a trange view of Intelligence talety. Some body who had a mind to laugh, or some derson whose Deligns I cannot nendrate, has sent a Pumble Silk load, directed to me, to Mrs. Nicolas's at the Confloga Waggen, Market Street. Major Montgomeny low it, & would have brought it up in his Saddle Bags, but he was apaid of poiling it. He low me that General Irvine, who know as little of the Hillory of this load as he himself did, would contrive to bring it with him in the Itage which drives on Salurday neal Week. This Matter escapions much Speculation. Il any body in your Place who intended a Take, has made me a Present of a Silk load, I think they went have lend a Taylor to lake my Meafure, as you know that Mademoifelle Clairon the lamous actuals did to monficur Marmontel, when he list went to Paris, & was ill provided of Cloaths. But es no luch thing look Place while I was with you. I know not what to make of the Maller. I cound imagine that the litizen Minister, who probably had Hole lome Cloaths out of the Wardrobe of dens the 18 in would have taken it in his head to make me a Brefard of any of them, untils you had given him Advice to that Pumpele, and if the Matter is taken in

a ferious boint of view, I am no lot at a Lop to guest at the Giver of this extraordinary Prefent, unles perhaps your acquaintance the Pope of Rame has thought proper to promote me to the Purple by weating me a lardinal on bearing of my Intention to wait on him in Company with our Friend Mr. Marthal. But if this is the lafe, he would have fent the red Had along with it, with an order to Billion larvol to involt me with it in the Name of his Holinds, with the afual Commonies. in Trinity Church. fourth Steel. Now as I hear nothing of the Mal, I am prepricions that either Bithon Carrol or Mr. Marthal who doubtlets must have been remembered as with as myfelf in the lake Oromotion of Pardinals, has hent back the Hat, for what Keafers I can not lay . - I would be much obliged to you if you would inform me whe ther Mr. Marthal wears arred Wat when he goes to his Meeting, & if he Aver, to alk bein why he has not lond mine, according to his owers from home. You may likewife alk him why he loud the Purple load to the Conchega Waggon, rather than to your lave, but I suppose that he thought you would be conclets & would not forward it to me, judging of your londuck by your Reglect of the other Parcels. I land you this by Judge as. difon of Walkington Country with Orders to pass dentence against you in Case you thank have neglected my Parcels. I hope you will excuse me for applying to the daw, after having waited to long in vain. — I give you the Isouble of another Letter to Scotland, which I hope you will forward by litt organismily. I tent you in my last by Williams, an Invola of all the Letter contained in the Saret, which I hope you have forwarded according to their reprective Directions. In have never yet heard of

Bithon Worne on the Ofalms. Do you keep no auound of the Names of the People to whom you deliver Parcelo? We are to have a kind of rejoining here to monow, being the anniversary of the Independence of america, but the priends of diverty & Equality are to have a much greater one on the 14th, being the anniverlary of the French Re. volution, which they prefer to ours. I with that no Milchief may happen on that Oc. capion. Our People are divided & at Enmily with each other, for what Keafon I know not. I hepe you will take lan to land me all my Parcels, including Bithop Horne, if you have not fent them already. I inform me when I thatt eath for them. Mede inform Mr. John Pour, Mad I never have got any Money for him, & that the Students which he expeded from North Carolina have

never arrived here.

Dear Sir,

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you that you was selected to that happened and if the Madler is taken in

your very burn ble Servant,

Chai Nisbel

beel.

Carlisle, 3d July, 1793.

Dear Sir,

I have no Practice in Writing flyting Letters, but I take it for granted that they ought to be written in a Style similar to that of Bills of Exchange. By this my third of flyting therefore, I give you to understand that my Parcels that were left in your Custody, with another that I hear came to your hands after I left you, have not yet come to hand. I supposed that you received my first flyting Letter by Major Montgomery, & my second by David Williams Waggoner. If my Parcels are not yet on the Road, I hope you will now at last enquire at the Black Bear, & send them by the first Waggon that you can find. I am conscious that I would do as much for you, if I had it in my Power. I got a strange Piece of Intelligence lately. Some body who had a mind to laugh, or some Person whose Designs I cannot penetrate, has sent a Purple Silk Coat, directed to me, to Mrs. Nicolas's at the Conestoga Waggon, Market Street. Major Montgomery saw it, & would have brought it up in his Saddle Bags, but he was afraid of spoiling it, he told me that General Irvine, who knew as little of the History of this Coat as he himself did, would contrive to bring it with him in the Stage which arrives on Saturday next Week. This Matter occasions much Speculation. If any body in your Place who intended a Joke, has made me a Present of a Silk Coat, I think they would have sent a Taylor to take my Measure, as you know that Mademoiselle Clairon the famous Actress did to Monsieur Marmontel, when he first went to Paris, & was ill provided of Cloaths. But as no such thing took Place while I was with you, I know not what to make of the Matter. I cannot imagine that the Citizen Minister, who probably had stole some Cloaths out of the Wardrobe of Louis the 16th would have taken it in his head to make me a Present of any of them, unless you had given him Advice to that Purpose. And if the Matter is taken in

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a serious Point of View, I am no less at a Loss to guess at the Giver of this extraordinary Present, unless perhaps your Acquaintance the Pope of Rome has thought proper to promote me to the Purple by creating me a Cardinal, on hearing of my Intention to wait on him in Company with our Friend Mr. Marshal. But if this is the Case, he would have sent the red Hat along with it, with an Order to Bishop Carrol to invest me with it in the Name of his Holiness, with the usual Ceremonies in Trinity Church, fourth Street. Now as I hear nothing of the Hat, I am suspicious that either Bishop Carrol or Mr. Marshal, who doubtless must have been remembered as well as myself in the late Promotion of Cardinals, has kept back the Hat, for what Reason I can not say. I would be much obliged to you if you would inform me whether Mr. Marshal wears a red Hat when he goes to his Meeting, & if he does, to ask him why he has not sent mine, according to his Orders from Rome. You may likewise ask him why he sent the Purple Coat to the Conestoga Waggon, rather than to your Care, but I suppose that he thought you would be careless & would not forward it to me, judging of your Conduct by your Neglect of the other Parcels. I send you this by Judge Addison of Washington County, with Orders to pass Sentence against you in Case you should have neglected my Parcels, I hope you will excuse me for applying to the Law, after having waited so long in vain. I give you the Trouble of another Letter to Scotland, which I hope you will forward by first Opportunity. I sent you in my last by Williams, an Invoice of all the

Letters contained in the Parcel, which I hope you have forwarded according to their respective Directions. I have never yet heard of

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Bishop Horne on the Psalms. Do you keep no Account of the Names of the People to whom you deliver Parcels? We are to have a kind of rejoicing here to morrow, being the Anniversary of the Independence of America, but the friends of Liberty & Equality are to have a much greater one on the 14th, being the Anniversary of the French Revolution, which they prefer to ours. I wish that no Mischief may happen on that Occasion. Our People are divided & at Enmity with each other, for what Reason I know not. I hope you will take Care to send me all my Parcels, including Bishop Horne, if you have not sent them already, & inform me where I shall call for them. Please inform Mr. John Poor, that I never have got any Money for him, & that the Students which he expected from North Carolina have never arrived here. I am,

Dear Sir, Your very humble Servant,

Chas. Nisbet.

Dear Sir, was michigan with promise Carlille, Huly 10th, 1793. I have now at last received my Box & Parcel of Books . by Mr. Welber's Waggen, but hear nothing of my Nig, nor of Bishon Horne. I home you have get to much Intruction in the art of Plyling, hom my there last Lekers. that you may now be a proper beston to be employed in llyling on other Sconle. I beg have therefore to bruble you with a lought of Myling Commissions , list to the Waggener who mileamied Bithen Morne, whom you must know, but I so not know; & next to Martin Piris Hair deeper in 4th Street who promited to land my Wig. for which I naid him. but has not yet fent it. I heard that another Parcel for me had arrived from Scotland, but know not whether the Report is love or not. You ought to tell Mr. Marthal that your People have got a Dr. M'Gill among them, as well as the Ethallithed Church of Golland. I mean Mr. Graham of Newestle. I have read over his Invective against livil Establishments & think that it is the most look impudent & Senfeles thing that I have sead of a long time. In most parts of it he talks like an Infidel. and the he con. denons Ribigious Mablithments as lending to give the Clergy a worldly -Spiril, yet his great lumplaint against them is that he & those of his Communion have not an emportunity of being commented in like Mannes by civil Concerns de Jecular Dignities, as of the Priviledges that Clinit purchased for his People were chiefly thole of elaufong Members of the Legislature, & enjoying lucrative Mices in the State. If the affociate Land Lynod does not immediately I granale him hom their Communion.

I think they will be as quilty of renorming their Confession, as the Soulds General Membly. Mr. Graham leurs to be an Independent & may now. bably have brought over his Congregation, it not tome of his Brethren, to his own Sentiments. I heard that Mr. Semewithe died lately in Rock bridge County, Virginia, of an apoplechie Fil. Some lay that it was in the Outpil. He was a Perfen of great Simplicity & godly Sinesity. I hope his Brother will continue his thinduch to his Wife & Family Great Sichness has prevailed here for some time path, especially remittent Fevers & Thezes. I have Reafon to be thankful that I X my family have hitherto escaped, the we are not without our leass. I hear nothing of the French War, but you will have Information of all that paper in Europe by your Intimmey with the Citizen Minister & his Friend Mr. Dunlage. The Hopes of Sufune hours in Great Britain & Ireland one now at an End, to that your Acus writers must be obliged to entertain you with leigned accounts of Bankrupters in don. on & Prophecies of a National Bankmyley. I believe that those who hade with America, are of all the People in England, in the greatest Danger of Bankning except Mole who have engaged in French Speculations, which are the chief laufe of most of the Bankneyleier that have really happened. The Friend, of France ex. pack that they will be able to Mablith their Republic, if they can hold out for the prefent languaign, but I rather think that it will be a lengthy affair, & that more Revolutions : Maffacres & How Constitutions may thill be expected. We hear nothing as yet of the Treaty with the Indians. I it is faid that the giving up all the Country believed the this & the Lakes may be intitled on as a preliminary

article, which will prevent all Negotiations in Inture. It is probable that one Way or other we may loon be engaged in a War with Great Britain, which would nut an End to our Independency & bualled Conflikation, while our People are devoully expecting that Great Britain will be mined by the War with France, I hear that the Impost Duty is already taken confiderably, to that our People are not likely to be great Gainers by the Mis: Johnnes of England, however much their Malice is gratified by the Expeddion of its Ruin. Il May law their her Interest. They would lind that they are Hill as much if not more interested in the Propperity of Great Britain, than before their Indepen. dence. But they fee only what their Leaders bid them, & are None-blind to wany thing ele. It all Power were in the People, I think it ought to be accompanied with all Wildom, which certainly is not the late, as their Leaders by protending to bornen Willow from them, eatily prevail on them to adopt their Molions, & to put ever had nower

in their hands, of which the People themples are to vain. But to it has been how the Beginning. I were am,

Dear Sir,

your very humble Servant Cha. Niskel.

Carlisle, July 10th, 1793.

Dear Sir,

I have now at last received my Box & Parcel of Books, by Mr. Webber's Waggon, but hear nothing of my Wig, nor of Bishop Horne. I hope you have got so much Instruction in the Art of flyting, from my three last Letters, that you may now be a proper Person to be employed in flyting on other People. I beg leave therefore to trouble you, with a Couple of flyting Commissions, first to the Waggoner who miscarried Bishop Horne, whom you must know, but I do not; & next to Martin Pirie Hair dresser in 4th Street who promised to send my Wig, for which I paid him, but has not yet sent it. I heard that another Parcel for me had arrived from Scotland, but know not whether the Report is true or not. You ought to tell Mr. Marshal that your People have got a Dr. McGill among them, as well as the Established Church of Scotland. I mean Mr. Graham of Newcastle. I have read over his Invective against Civil Establishments & think that it is the most loose, impudent & Senseless thing that I have read of a long time. In most parts of it he talks like an Infidel. And tho' he condemns Religious Establishments as tending to give the Clergy a worldly Spirit, yet his great Complaint against them is that he & those of his Communion have not an Opportunity of being corrupted in like Manner by civil Concerns & Secular Dignities, as if the Priviledges that Christ purchased for his People were chiefly those of chusing Members of the Legislature, & enjoying lucrative Offices in the State. If the Associate Synod does not immediately separate him from their Communion.

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I think they will be as guilty of renouncing their Confession, as the Scotch General Assembly. Mr. Graham seems to be an Independent & may probably have brought over his Congregation, if not so me of his Brethren, to his own Sentiments. I heard that Mr. Somerville died lately in Rockbridge County, Virginia, of an apoplectic Fit. Some say that it was in the pulpit. He was a Person of great Simplicity & godly Sincerity. I hope his Brother will continue his Kindness to his Wife & Family. Great Sickness has prevailed here for some time past, especially remittent Fevers & Fluxes. I have Reason to be thankful that I & my family have hitherto escaped, tho' we are not without our fears. I hear nothing of the French War, but you will have Information of all that passes in Europe by your Intimacy with the Citizen Minister & his Friend Mr. Dunlap. The Hopes of Insurrections in Great Britain & Ireland are now at an End, so that your News writers must be obliged to entertain you with feigned Accounts of Bankruptcies, in London & Prophecies of a National Bankruptcy. I believe that those who trade with America, are of all the People in England, in the greatest Danger of Bankruptcy except those who have engaged in French Speculations, which are the chief Cause of most of the Bankruptcies that have really happened. The Friends of France expect that they will be able to establish their Republic, if they can hold out for the present Campaign, but I rather think that it will be a lengthy Affair, & that more Revolutions, Massacres & New Constitutions may still be expected. We hear nothing as yet of the Treaty with the Indians, & it is said that the giving up all the Country betwixt the Ohio & the Lakes may be insisted on as a preliminary

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Article, which will prevent all Negotiations in future. It is probable that one Way or other we may soon be engaged in a War with Great Britain, which would put an End to our Independency & boasted Constitution, while our People are devoutly expecting that Great Britain will be ruined by the War with France. I hear that the Impost Duty is already fallen considerably, so that our People are not likely to be great Gainers by the Misfortunes of England, however much their Malice is gratified by the Expectation of its Ruin. If they saw their true Interest, they would find that they are still as much if not more interested in the Prosperity of Great Britain, than before their Independence. But they see only what their Leaders bid them, & are stone-blind to every thing else. If all Power were in the People, I think it ought to be accompanied with all Wisdom, which certainly is not the Case, as their Leaders by pretending to borrow Wisdom from them, easily prevail on them to adopt their Notions, & to put even that power in their hands, of which the People themselves are so vain. But so it has been from the Beginning. I ever am,

Dear Sir, Your very humble Servant

Chas. Nisbet.

Dear Sir, I received yours of July 29 th last Salurday by Judge addition & had got Bithon Horne fome Necks ago. Mr. Nebber had received a lopy above the Number that he had ordered, but as it had no Direction upon it, he could not tell for whom it was intended, till Mr. Jake happening to ke it, pagethed that il might be for me, on which Mr. Webber delivered it. I hope it fells will with you, Many Ministen new it, to prevent them born blappheming & latting Menterle when they peak of the Plalms or of the Old Teplament. I hope it may be ufeful for dillufing lome dight among our People, many of whom feem to abher the Platins of David, perhaps became he was a King, but one went francely think they know or believed that he was infrinced by the Moly Spirit. - May Sin informed me that he had taken Arrangements for lending up my Wig, logether with a Parcel of his own. I am glad to hear That all is quiet & thriving in Sections. & hope loon to hear that the Effect of all the Bank. expletes at London is vanished, as quickly as the Disturbances that were to much boasted of in Ireland. The French Convention from to be projecting a Now Maffacre in honour of Libesty and Equality, as they inclend to have discovered a New Confirmacy. The Condition of Manhind in that Country must be thocking, as we hear of nothing but Murder & lighting in every Corner of it. The Pathion for ruling & culting Throats laws to have postioned up every other Pathion. What Savages are Mankind, when left to themselves? If these are all the Blopings of diberty & Equa. lity, it wents have been good for Mankind that they had never been heard of in the World. The aniflocrates that have been driven from lape François will be a heavy Burden on this Country. Hour entightened libigens who have received them as Sufferen in the laufe of diber by & Equality, have done more Monour to their Humanity than to their Underflanding. But I know not what Excuse they can make to the libizen Minister, for receiving the vanquithed Enomies of his Republic as piends, in Opposition to the Treaty. I am afraid that thepe Funchmen may head time Infurction in this Country, being itle, poor and ourflowed to live on the Lubour of their Slaves. Your Chizens may lown lament, that they had not Haid at S. Demingo, to be maffacered by the Order of the Matienal

Convention, in honour of diberty & Equality, as many of their better have been before them. I am long to hear that the Spanish Minister has been recalled, on account of the Favour and Bedilection that has been thown to the libigen Minister. I consider this as a Icelaration of War on the Part of Spain. against this Country, & fear that the other altico Powers who are al War with France, may lotton the Example of the Spaniards. I am apaid that in that lafe, neither the litizen Minister now the Democratic Society would be able to prolect so, as we have no army, I our Militia are good for nothing but to light with each other. I lear much that our Partiality to the French atheigh is tikely to cost us very dear. as it may render all the other lower of Europe our Enemies. I do not understand hope any of your libigens could have been accused of breaking the newtrality in tower of England, as I have never heard of any English Ship of War or Drivateer entering your River. By the taking of to many of our Ships, Irade must hufter much, & the Want of the Im. post must occasion a large Deficit in the Revenue, Our Sconle boasted at the Beginning that their Flag wented be univertally repreded. & that they would make with by the carry. ing Trade, while other Powers were at War, but their Bookings are come to very little Accompt. as they are not able to defend what they carry. The Milenies of a long War leem to be Phreatening Europe, & we are low much dependent on it, not to feel its Effects. The Stothiti. lien of all Confuendance by the French Convention, Jeeus to indicate that they are in a terrible Situation at home, notwith Handing all their Vapouring in the News Papers. But as the attied Power lean only intent on defending their own Country, & acting as little on the offensive as possible, it may be a long time before this Consussion is brought to an End. But as long as Great Britain remains in Poplepion of the Sea, it's Interest a Trade can not be materially affected, as the French have no flect with mentioning, & the English can capily match them for Privateurs. It appears that the English & Spanish Flech are medi. lating lome allack on the South of France, probably Joulon or Marloilles, specially if it is true that the Committionen of the National Convention have been driven from the latter City, & their authority abolified. Some thing or other is to be withed for, that may give us a Proposed of Scace. The internal Wirificus of France may pro. bably produce the list evertures of this Hind, but I give no Godil to the Keposts

that England is already negotiating a Peace with the French Rulers, which would be fatal to it in its prefent Situation, when the Country is to hell of Frenchmen, as puch numbers wents immediately come over as might endanger it salely much more than all that the French can to in War. I would always with to bear that forme one former of the World were in goods, amidf the profent general Combustion, & as America has much more Dependence on Great Britain than on any other Country, notwithflanding all over boutling to the combrary, we have cortainly the greatest Interest in its Proposity. France sower was able, this now less able than ever, to furnish us with those articles that we have from England, nor can their Merchants aford to give long Coedil, Juch as our Circumplances require, allho' they had the Goods which we want. I am thocked to read in your Paper to many tenfeles & idiberal Infulls on the English Nation, & to many maticions Wither for its Definicion. Our tenfalets Po. tilicians do not know that the Deftruction of England would involve their own , so ignorant are they . of the Interests of their Country of which they boats to much. Some well dipoled Pionte have been endeavouring to perfuade themselves, that fomething of advantage to real Religion may arise out of the prefert Confusions. but I confes that I be nothing that Javour that Opinion. The Increase of Infide tily & Contempt of Religion terms to me to be the worth Sign in the World, of its Revival. That great Mudgments & Strokes are hanging over the World is quite apparent, but any Good that may ante out of them. Icems to be far out of our Sight at prefent. It is hue. that Man's Extremity is God's Opportunity & that Christ has often fent his Church aclear Day after a very dark Highl. But things do not been as yet to be come to Extre. mily, and as we are in not in a Situation to be Objects of God's Mercy, we have Rea .. for to apprehend the Manifeffations of his Mutice. I am afraid that for of us are praying, except for our own Ends, & that the difmal State of Religion is not much the Subject of Lamentation. We live in an expiring Century & a decaying World, & our Picky learns to be worm old by Longth of years. We are to indifferent about the Inth, that I am afraid tome would think il a Sin la pray for it Success. We have a great many Religions, but little Religion. We are zealous for the diberties of other Churches, but we keem to care very little for our own. We must undergo a great alteration before there can be any probable Hones of our Reformation. I enclose four Letters. Ino for Scotland, & two for this lountry. I wer am,

Dear Sir,

your very humble Servant

Cha. Nisbet.

This President of Dictions on College.

Carlisle, 7th August, 1793.

Dear Sir,

I received yours of July 29th last Saturday by Judge Addison and had got Bishop Horne some weeks ago. Mr. Webber had received a copy above the Number that he had ordered, but as it had no Direction upon it, he could not tell for whom it was intended till Mr. Tate happening to see it, suggested that it might be for me, on which Mr. Webber delivered it. I hope it sells well with you. Many Ministers need it, to prevent them from blaspheming & talking Nonsense when they speak of the Psalms or of the Old Testament. I hope it may be useful for diffusing Light among our People, many of whom seem to abhor the Psalms of David, perhaps because he was a King, but one would scarcely think they knew or believed that he was inspired by the Holy Spirit.

My son informed me that he had taken Arrangements for sending up my Wig together with a Parcel of his own. I am glad to hear that all is quiet and thriving in Scotland, & hope soon to hear that the Effect of all the Bankruptcies at London is vanished, as quickly as the Disturbances that were so much boasted of in Ireland. The French Convention seem to be projecting a New Massacre in honor of Liberty and Equality, as they pretend to have discovered a New Conspiracy. The Condition of Mankind in that Country must be shocking, as we hear of nothing but Murder & fighting in every Corner of it. The Passion for ruling & cutting Throats seems to have swallowed up every other Passion. What Savages are Mankind, when left to themselves? If these are all the Blessings of liberty and Equality, it would have been good for Mankind that they had never been heard of in the World. The Aristocrates that have been driven from Cape François will be a heavy Burden on this Country. Your enlightened Citizens who have received them as Sufferers in the Cause of Liberty & Equality have done more Honour to their Humanity than to their Understanding. But I know not what Excuse they can make to the Citizen Minister, for receiving the vanquished Enemies of his Republic as friends, in Opposition to the Treaty. I am afraid that these Frenchmen may head some Insurrection in this Country, being idle, poor and accustomed to live on the Labour of their Slaves. Your Citizens may soon lament, that they had not staid at St. Domingo, to be massacred by the Order of the National

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Convention, in honour of Liberty & Equality, as many of their betters have been before them. I am sorry to hear that the Spanish Minister has been recalled, on account of the Favour and Predilection that has been shown to the Citizen Minister. I consider this as a Declaration of War on the Part of Spain, against this Country, & fear that the other allied Powers who are at War with France, may follow the Example of the Spaniards. I am afraid that in that Case, neither the Citizen Minister nor the Democratic Society would be able to protect us, as we have no Army, & our Militia are good for nothing but to fight with each other. I fear much that our Partiality to the French Atheists is likely to cost us very dear, as it may render all the other Powers of Europe our Enemies. I do not understand how any of your Citizens could have been accused of breaking the Neutrality in favour of England, as I have never heard of any English Ship of War or Privateer entering your River. By the taking of so many of our Ships, Trade must suffer much, & the Want of the Impost must occasion a large Deficit in the Revenue. Our people boasted at the Beginning that their Flag would be universally respected, & that they would make rich by the carrying

Trade, while other Powers were at War, but their Boastings are come to very little Account, as they are not Able to defend what they carry. The Miseries of a long War seem to be threatening Europe, & we are too much dependent on it, not to feel its Effects. The Prohibition of all Correspondence by the French Convention, seems to indicate that they are in a terrible Situation at home, notwithstanding all their Vapouring in the News Papers. But as the Allied Powers seem only intent on defending their own Country, & acting as little on the offensive as possible, it may be a long time before this Confusion is brought to an End. But as long as Great Britain remains in Possession of the Sea, its Interests & Trade can not be materially affected, as the French have no fleet worth mentioning, & the English can easily match them for Privateers. It appears that the English & Spanish Fleets are meditating some Attack on the South of France, probably Toulon or Marseilles, especially if it is true that the Commissioner of the National Convention have been driven from the latter city, & their Authority abolished. Some thing or other is to be wished for that may give us a Prospect of Peace. The internal Divisions of France may probably produce the first Overtures of this Kind, but I give no credit to the Reports

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that England is already negotiating a Peace with French Rulers, which would be fatal to it in its present Situation, when the Country is so full of Frenchmen as such Numbers would immediately come over as might endanger its Safety much more than all that the French can do in War. I would always wish to hear that some one Corner of the World were in quiet, amidst the present general Combustion, & as America has much more Dependence on Great Britain than on any other country, notwithstanding all our boasting to the contrary, we have certainly the greatest Interest in its prosperity. France never was able, & is now less able than ever, to furnish us with those Articles that we have from England, nor can their Merchants afford to give long Credit, such as our Circumstances require, altho' they had the Goods which we want. I am shocked to read in your Papers so many senseless & illiberal Insults on the English Nation, & so many malicious Wishes for its Destruction. Our senseless Politicians do not know that the Destruction of England would involve their own. So Ignorant are they of the Interests of their Country, of which they boast so much. Some well-disposed people have been endeavoring to persuade themselves, that something of Advantage to real Religion may arise out of the present confusions, but I confess that I see nothing that favours that Opinion. The increase of Infidelity & contempt of Religion seem to me to be the worst Sign in the World, of its Revival. That great Judgments & Strokes are hanging over the World is quite apparent, but any Good that may arise out of them, seems to be far out of our Sight at present. It is true, that man's Extremity is God's Opportunity & that Christ has often sent his Church a clear Day after a very dark Night. But things do not seem as yet to be come to Extremity, and as we are not in a Situation to be Objects of God's Mercy, we have Reason to apprehend the Manifestations of his Justice. I am afraid that few of us are praying, except for our own Ends, & that the dismal State of Religion is not much the Subject of Lamentation. We live in an expiring Century & a decaying World, & our Piety seems to be worn out by Length of Years. We are so indifferent about the Truth, that I am afraid some would think it a Sin to pray for its Success. We have a great many Religions, but little Religion. We are zealous for the Liberties of other Churches, but we seem to care very little for our own. We must undergo a great Alteration before there can be any probable Hopes of our Reformation. I enclose four Letters, two for Scotland, & two for this Country. I ever am,

Dear Sir, Your very humble Servant

Chas. Nisbet.