

Calendar of Letters, 1742-1831.

(Concluded from page 185.)

190. [1807 May? See Periodical Accounts III. 350.]

From SABAT to "The Man of God, the Revd. CAREE, WORD or MARSHMAN, or any other one of the ministers of the gospel at Serampur."

Refers to a "young man, Mahomed Saud of Besra" who "seems to be a true converted man," but he is sending him to Serampur for a few days, that "when thou wist he is worthy to be baptised thou mayest baptize him." There are others to follow. A collector's SIDE NOTE says; Sabat, a converted Arabian of distinction. See "The Star in the East," by Rev. Claudius Buchanan, D.D., and also the 24th Report of the L.M.S. and Appendix No. 3.

[Sabat was an Arab Christian, educated at Bagdad. He worked with Henry Martyn, who wrote of him, "He looks on the missionaries at Serampore as so many degrees below him in intellect that he says he could write so deeply on a text that not one of them would be able to follow him." Sabat's own Arabic and Persian versions were so deep that Arabs and Persians could not follow them.]

191.

From JOHN LAWSON (India) to SAM LAWSON.

Sending some shells from Amboyna for "Maria" by a returning soldier.

192. [1819.] Dec. 18.

From SAMUEL GREEN (Bluntisham) to Rev. JOSEPH BELCHER (Somersham).

Owing to engagements at Hurst and Colne, G. cannot yet come to Somersham. "Should it be the will of Providence that I should come to reside at Bluntisham, it will, I assure you, be a happiness to me to live in terms of social fellowship with you." Remembrance to Mr. Ibbott, and Mr. and Mrs. Leach.

[Samuel Green, the father, moved from Dereham to Bluntisham in 1819; and in that same year Joseph Belcher settled at Somersham. Samuel Green the son, whose letter

follows, published from Thrapston two pamphlets in 1831, the year when Mann died.]

193. [1831.]

From SAMUEL GREEN to I. MANN.

Sends copy of his *Essays* for review. Mentions Mr. Haddon as, with him, being equally obliged for such a criticism. (NOTE: By the handwriting, this is NOT the Green of the previous letter (192). Moreover, the spelling is bad, whereas G. of Bluntisham writes correctly.)

194. 182-.

From W. W. SIMPSON to — (not stated).

Supporting "bro. Carleton's" application to the Fund. Though not ordained "he preached regularly to a people at Burston for many years . . . and has supplied for me at Eye."

[Simpson was ordained at Eye in 1810. Carleton and Burston were too obscure for this application to succeed.]

195. [1821.] "Mar. 29."

From J. FOSTER (Downend, Bristol) to J. SHEPPARD (Frome).

Arranging for a visit to Frome. F. states that he must soon return "to the task which I have been so long a slave." The book he is writing is now under close "revisal" and will be nearly 300 pages. Hopes Sheppard's "sermon is by this time printed."

[John Foster had published his *Essay on the Evils of Popular Ignorance* in 1820, and on March 15, 1821, he gave a long account of how busy he had been revising it. Sheppard in 1820 preached a funeral sermon for Mrs. Bunn, which was subsequently printed.]

196. "Apr. 17."

From J. FOSTER (Stapleton, Bristol) to I. MANN (Bermondsey).

The letter refers to some publications which M. has enquired about and it seems would wish to revise and re-print. The articles referred to are "Paul's Address to Agrippa"; an article in the *Eclectic Review* on the death of Hume, saying his phil. is now obsolete; "Address on behalf of the Bristol Education Socy."; the "Preface to Doddridge" (published 1825).

197.

From M. N. WHISH (Minister, St. Mary Redcliffe, Bristol) to

Enclosing £2 "which I should have put in the plate yesterday," and further regretting that he was unable to call on Mr. Hall, and requesting the addressee and Mr. Hall to visit him on Tuesday. (Note: this letter is a palimpsest—written over some faint, religious notes of Mr. Hall—unsigned but his writing.)

198.

JOHN RYLAND.

Some Notes: "On the Necessity of Atonement."

199. [1816?]

From TIMOTHY THOMAS (Bishopsgate St.) to B. LEPARD (Devonshire Square).—"For January meeting."

T. is unable to be present, but encloses a number of letters, among which, he says, are—a large number from the Welsh Churches; one from Steadman on the Shipley case; "Mr. Wigley to Mr. Ashlin," and on the back, "my letter to Sarjant"; and a letter from Mr. Rowe about "the state of interest there," and asking suppression of unfounded and unfavourable reports.

[Mann went to Shipley, 1816, W. H. Rowe died 1817; compare letter 119 for their friendship. This letter appears to be concerned with applications to the Particular Baptist Fund.]

200.

From JAMES UPTON (address not given—but accompanying photograph says "Church St., Blackfriars Rd.) to I. MANN.

Enclosing a proof received from Mr. Barfield, and Mr. Paine's letter" asking for an unbiased opinion.

201. [1772?]

PRINTED letter headed "Reverend Sir" and signed (in handwriting) by BENJAMIN WALLIN and SAMUEL STENNETT. This copy was sent to REV. THOMAS (Heptonstall).

In view of the inclination of the Govt. during the present Session to give further relief to Protestant Dissenting Ministers (which the Toleration Act affords), this letter conveys the resolution of a "General Meeting of the Body of Dissenting Ministers in and about London," viz.:

“That the taking off the Subscription required of Protestant Dissenting Ministers to the Doctrinal Articles of the Church of England, and the obtaining relief for Schoolmasters and Tutors among the Dissenters, were very desirable and important objects.” It asks for “a list of names of all ministers in your county or neighbourhood, who agree with the Resolution of the General Body as expressed above.” Closes with a long quotation from the Ven. Dr. Owen’s “Discourse on Toleration, and the Duty of the Magistrate about Religion.”

[Richard Thomas was minister at Rodhill End and Slack from 1747 till his death in 1772. This circular was sent out at the instigation of Josiah Thompson. It must have reached Heptonstall just too late for Thomas to sign, but Fawcett of Wainsgate, who took charge after his death, did sign in 1773. The results were tabulated by Thompson in a book of great value, which has been printed in the Transactions of the Congregational Historical Society for 1912. The attempt failed.]

THESE 201 LETTERS have now been copied in full by Mr. Hastings. It is not often that such a varied and valuable correspondence has been allowed to drop out of sight. One owner was interested only in the signatures. To Mr. Hastings we owe the chronological arrangement, which illustrates many details of our story over ninety years. The breadth of the interests of Isaac Mann is interesting. The men who admitted him as the first student of the Northern Baptist Education Society in April 1805, must have watched his progress with thankfulness, and William Steadman may well have felt that his care was rewarded when Brown University under the guidance of Asa Messer in 1825, sent a diploma of A.M.; and when Mann fulfilled his course six years later.