

Berkeley March 3rd 1800

My dear man my
 your kind letter ^{has} ~~quite~~ ^{raised} ~~me~~ ^{me} from the ground - I was very melancholy and almost in despair, but your kindness was like a ray of the sun - it shined like a flash, and in a moment bewinged me from prospects in life - I can truly say I am rich in friends, not in the multitude of them, but in the sincerity they bear towards me - My dear friend I let in on you say, but my nature is so feeble, that I almost faint'd after great rest, and had to began to ^{gladden} me as I read your affectionate tokens of remembrance - the vision soon ^{disbursed} - a steady presentation appeared, I felt the value you have for me, and the love I bear you - May I be able to support a manly character through my future ^{advancement} in life, free from shillings of mercenary, and that consequence which youth too often ^{bring} they are beset of - after an illness of near 6 months, I now begin to ^{renew} crawl out upon the ^{sun} ^{spring} as a an ^{ill} from ^{the} ^{sea}

I am I believe cured — I feel more attached
to my family, and I fully intend to go
to the Quakers Meeting again — Not that my
father has shewn to me of it, for he behaves
in the most noble manner to me, but
I can no longer withstand his affectionate
without shewing some piece of gift — something
which will give him great pleasure, and
which is his right — my ^{sitting} ~~stayed~~ two hours
on a Sunday under the same roof ⁱⁿ ~~there~~
as I give health, always seem to live, later
a few weeks since, I was quite down,
indeed, I now remember ^{each} ~~of~~ the murder of
absolute dishonour — had I ^{had} the murder of
the wound on my mind, and the banishment
of the honestest of Mankind, I could not
labour under a greater weight —
You must perceive how continually I dwell
on myself — pardon it — the time I hope is
approaching, when I shall stand on the
same list ~~of~~ my Brethren, and feel of
no more consequence, than a natural
helmet in the sphere of general existence.

I fully intend coming to Cambridge
before long — I have some prospect of
bringing my sister Priscilla from London, in
that case, I should certainly spend a day or
two with you — every pleasure of my
life is derived from my friends, or a sense that
them the most exquisite apparent delight,
would be fruitless and barren — They
are like comfortable warm beds in
a Wilderness of Mesog, where the soul
may rest from its toils, and I remember
in the dreams of security and peaking
peace — Without them my life would
be a torment, but with them, the greatest
Evils would become bearable —, and if
you seek, let us not be cast in any station,
you perhaps ^{may} find a some fellow soul —
and an unpretentious being, who breathes
in the midst of distress for the backs of
a beneficent friend — I have and
myself to talk much at random on
speculative subjects — I think you

would find me attend in that respect
home comforts I begin to feel a relish for,
and when the Mind is fixt in its sphere
it is pleasant to take a flight in the
infinity and ever changing regions of
the labyrinth — not forgetting the grasp

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1800

John Mason Manning
Mr. Bishop
Cambridge

of friendship, when the Mira begins to droop,
hark like, from the sky, and that the
enjoyment of plain and distasted comforts
are the truest Blessing of Life — My dear
Manning excuse my undue desecration and
at all times ~~the~~ rely on my friendship
and before long, May I shake hands with you
in your own chamber farewell M. M.

Rf

Bingley March 3rd 1800

My dear Manning

Your kind letter quite raised me from the ground - I was very melancholy and almost in despair, but your kindness was like a ray of the sun - it opened like a flash, and once more shewed me fair prospects in life - I can truly say I am rich in friends, not in the multitude of them, but in the sincerity they ^{bear} towards me - My dear friend I believe all you say, but my nature is so feeble that I almost panted after greatness, and Pride began to glimmer as I read your affectionate token of remembrance - the vision soon dispersed - a steady foundation appeared, I felt the value you have for me, and the love I bear you. May I be able to support a manly character through my advancement in life free from childish querulousness, and that consequence which youth too often think they are possessed of.

After an illness of near 6 months I now begin to revive I crawl out when the sun shines as a snail from his shell. I am I believe cured - I feel more attached to my family, and I fully intend going to the Quakers meeting again - not that my father has spoken to me of it, for he behaves in the most noble manner to me, but I can no longer withstand his affectionate solicitude without shewing some free gift - something which will give him great pleasure, and which is his

right - my sitting two hours on a Sunday
under the same roof in silence as I gain
health, things seem to brighten a few weeks
since, I was quite down, indeed, I never
remembers such lowness and absolute
despair - had I had the murder of thousands
on my mind, and the Bankruptcy of the
honestest of mankind, I could not
labour under a greater weight -

You must perceive how continually I
dwell on myself - pardon it - the time I
hope is approaching, when I shall stand
on the same list as my Brethren, and feel
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helpmate in the sphere of general existence

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before long - I have some prospect of
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in that case, I should certainly spend a
day or two with you - every pleasure of my
life is derived from my friends and
without them the most exquisite apparent
delight would be fruitless and barren, they
are like comfortable warm huts in a
wilderness of misery, where the soul may
rest from its toils, and slumber in the
dreams of serenity and freshening peace -
without them my life would be a
torment but with them, the greatest evils
would become bearable - and if you seek,
let your lot be cast in any station you
perhaps may find some fellow soul and
sympathising being. who yearns in the
midst of distress for the looks of a

beneficent friend - I have used myself
 to talk much at random on speculative
 subjects - I think you would find me altered
 in that respect - home comforts I begin to
 feel a relish for, and when the mind is first
 in its sphere it is pleasant to take a flight
 in the infinite and ever changing region
 of the happy serenity - not forgetting the
 grasp of friendship, when the mind begins
 to drop, look like, from the sky and that
 the enjoyment of plain unsophisticated
 comforts are the truest blessings of life -
 My dear Manning believe my undue
 deviation and at all times rely on my
 friendship remember me kindly to Charles
 and Sophia and before long may I shake
 hands with you in your own chamber
 Farewell
 R Lloyd

Thomas Manning
 Mr. Cripps
 Cambridge