

Paxton Aug⁹ 1845

Dear Brother & Sister

It seems a long time since we have received a communication directly from you which leads us to make the inquiry whether it may not be owing in part to our own delinquency in not answering yours received last Spring. Reassured it was not forgotten neither the kind inquiries you made at the time respecting my health. As it didn't seem convenient to answer it immediately concluded to wait untill after my return from Providence. Since these weeks have passed by and company and other cares have prevented. I find it a much greater task than formerly to write owing in a great measure to the state of my health I think, as the position while writing seems unfavorable for my side which must be one apology to my friends for not writing more intelligibly. You wish me to be particular respecting my health. In some respects there is an improvement my arm & ear are much better, less pain about ^{the} shoulder & arm &c. My general health is better. With regard to my side can say nothing decidedly. The course I am pursuing is entirely different cannot tell the result. If nothing occurs to prevent shall go and see the physician again in two or three weeks. But if God should not see fit to bless the means used for the recovery of my health neither the skill of physicians nor the sympathy and anxiety of friends around me can be of any avail. Could we at all times fall to put our trust in our Heavenly Father then should we be prepared for all the scenes that await us, whether prosperity or affliction, realising that God doeth all things well, that he does not willingly afflict nor grieve the children of men, and in regard to his true followers all their afflictions are sent in covenant love, and infinite tenderness