

Dear Rev Sir

Clapham 26 April 1771

I have now to thank you for your favors of the  
9<sup>th</sup> Nov & 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec last it is my sincere desire to alleviate  
that load of anxieties & care that you must necessarily  
be under for I bear you much upon my heart & I do  
believe I may safely assure you that my poor prayers  
are not wanting, I trust that kind Lord that has spared  
you hitherto will long continue your valuable life &  
direct & guide you thro every intricacy I was sorry  
to hear of Mr Kirtlands going over to the Boston Trust  
which I did my utmost to prevent & with that view  
offered to assist him with Money if his exigencies  
required it, he had complained of your untimely  
on account of some disagreement with your Son  
which also Mr Whitefield mentioned to me as well  
as himself, he is as you will know a valuable Man  
much owned & blessed, his Zeal runs away with him  
sometimes & consequently leads him into some mistakes  
but I believe even then his intention is commendable  
& all that will be set right by the Discipline of the

Spirit by a little more experience, you will know what  
slow proficients the best of us are in the School of Art  
the great forbearance we require & will I dare say make  
every possible allowance, manifesting the Law of kindness  
is wrote upon your heart, I hope all breaches will be  
made up & every mistake overlooked, the Gentlemen of  
the Boston <sup>Trust</sup> on this side are not in our sentiments &  
I wish that may not be a bar to a perfect union  
for they have testified opposition hitherto & you would  
be grieved to see, how much has been said about  
the Trust being abused & the Money applied to very  
different purposes from that for which it is collected  
& there has been almost an outcry about it, that  
you must let the benefactions on your side be em-  
ployed towards the Building of both School & College  
as we really have not a power vested in us to apply  
our Monies to any Building, if this should put you  
to any difficulty, I am ready to assist you with 4  
to £500 out of my private <sup>on the double think of it, you judge it needful</sup> fortune, but we must  
let our eyes be open & our ears open, for whatever is more  
than this cometh of evil, many things have been said  
on this side maliciously to hurt the cause but it matters

little for by our Master we stand or fall & the most that  
speak against us is on account of the cause we are engaged  
in, however we must not only take heed that our end is  
right, but also that it is rightly pursued & that we give  
no just occasion to those that see occasion, it has  
been surmised (but barely so) that you had changed your  
religious Sentiments & was disposed to standman's sen-  
timents, I trust that like every other fallumny is believed  
by few, that are acquainted with Jesus & those who do  
pretend to believe it, don't know what it means, I  
presume you know D<sup>r</sup> Whitaker was thought a double  
minded Man & artful while on this Side the Water  
that his espousing your cause can by no means help it.  
I really believe all the Gentlemen of the Trust have  
a just opinion of your Conduct, & as far as they think  
they consistently can they will go hand in hand w<sup>th</sup>  
you, but where they can not do it without infrig-  
ing on the Trust it can't be expected & they will  
not depart one little therefrom

I was grieved at what I heard of Mr Quorn indeed  
I fear he had had usage & that drove him into  
the horrid sin of drinking, pray my dear Sir see  
how tenderly for fear much mistaken if his heart

is not right with God, I apprehend the Trust case  
have no objection to your assisting him occasionally,  
if you can not do it for them, pray do it for me &  
draw the money as before

I send you herewith a List of the Bills that  
have appeared all which are taken care of & as  
there will be a necessity of producing some acct  
I hope you will forward them as soon as possible  
I trust every blessing of Covenant love will be  
witnessed & that your unwearied endeavors will  
be crowned with abundant success which will  
most sincerely rejoice

Dear Sir

If I mistake not the  
Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr John Todd is  
your Neighbour & a valuable one John Thornton  
I saw an acct from him in July 1768 when he was  
bringing up some young Men for the Ministry & I  
what I saw so well that I was glad to throw in my  
Mite to forward the good Work - D<sup>r</sup> Witherspoon  
gives me a pleasing acct of a great revival at his College  
in New Jersey, that the Lord has many Witnesses for  
To the Rev<sup>d</sup> D<sup>r</sup> Wheelock

From John Thornton to D<sup>r</sup> Wheelock