

My Dear Bro.

It is a long time since I wrote to you; my numerous avocations must be my apology, and indeed this apology is the true one, for most of will is not the cause; I shall however now write you a short note to make amends for my long silence and request a continuance of your correspondence.

You as well as myself are acquainted with the circumstances of free Brethren having been sent from America to begin a Mission in the East. They have all safely arrived at this place, but have been absolutely refused to let them stay here, and have pre-emptorily ordered them to leave this place and not to settle in any country belonging to Great Britain or her allies; We have tried our interest, but have succeeded no further than to gain permission for them to go to the Isle of France, to which place Bro. and Sister Newel went before the arrival of the other three. It soon appeared that the mind of Bro. Judson had been much employed upon the subject of Believers Baptism, and in a little time after his arrival he and Sister Judson wished to be baptized, with which we complied, and they

were accordingly both baptized publicly at Calcutta in the name of the blessed Trinity. I enquired of Bro. Judson what could have induced him to take this step; to which he replied that on his voyage he thought much on the prospect of meeting with us at Serampore. He knew that we were Baptists, and supposed that he might possibly be called to defend infant Baptism among us. This led him to examine the evidences for it; and the further he proceeded on this examination, the clearer the evidence for baptizing believers only, and that by immersion, appeared. He frequently conversed with Mrs Judson upon the subject, which was the occasion of her thinking as he did upon that ordinance. Since his baptism he preached a very excellent discourse upon Baptism, which we intend to print, with an account of the change in his views on his own words.

Since his baptism I hear Bro. Rice has been thinking closely upon the subject and to night I was informed that he had made up his mind to follow our Land in his Ordinance. He disputes the matter with his other Brethren, and it is difficult to say what will be the effect of his conversation.

Now what is to be done with these Brethren? They expect to be discor'ded by the board of Commissioners for Oriental Missions. We shall advance them temporary supplies

but we are not able to invite them to become Missionaries for the Baptist M. Society without first writing to England and receiving our Brethren's consent. Our Brethren in India and there would also be glad to be American Missionaries.

Can we our Baptist Brethren in America form a Missionary Society either Auxiliary to our Society in England, or distinct from it, as may appear most eligible, and take these Brethren as their Missionaries? I believe they are men of the right stamp. They intend to vettles eventually on the Island of Java, but must go first to the Isle of France on account of the orders of Government. One of our Brethren is also going <sup>via to Java</sup> thither; We will then write with advice, and every thing else within our power.

I think this circumstance opens a new scene of Duty to our Baptist Brethren in America; and though I am persuaded that their proper sphere of action is among the Indians of North and South America, and in the West India Islands, yet this extraordinary call should not be lightly refused over.

The Lord is still bringing in his work, about 4000 are now expecting to join the Church at Calcutta and to be baptized in a month or two more.

Calcutta. I am  
20<sup>th</sup> Oct. 1812 very affect. Y<sup>r</sup> yours  
W. Carey.