

DEAR SIR,

Yesterday I had the satisfaction to receive a letter from you, dated the 18th of May, on the melancholy subject of the death of your late pious and worthy son. I had long been waiting with the expectation of hearing from you, or seeing one of your sons here; which was the expectation of the deceased, to see about his papers and effects; but my letters to you have unfortunately miscarried. I wrote you about three weeks after your son's decease, by a small vessel belonging to the river St. John's from Newburyport. The letters were put on board by the postmaster. The letter to you was inclosed to Mr. Lowran Dewolf of Windsor. About the beginning of May I wrote again from Boston to you, giving a more particular account of the triumphant exit of your son, together with the most remarkable occurrences of his life during his confinement. That letter I left to the care of your kinsman, Mr. Henry Alline, of Boston, and hope that one or both of the above have come to your hands before this time. Your son gave me a particular charge with respect to a number of hymns, which it was his desire should be published, for the benefit more especially of his friends in Nova Scotia. He had begun to draw off the journal of his life in a legible hand, but had proceeded but a little way in it. He expressed a desire to have the remarkable providences of God towards him made public for the good of souls. And if some judicious person, who is acquainted with the characters in which he wrote, would undertake it; something well worthy of the attention of the public, and which might be very beneficial, might be collected. He appears to have been, by what I can gather from his journals, a burning and shining light in Nova Scotia and elsewhere, and that many souls rejoiced in his light. And his christian virtues, zeal, fortitude, faith, hope, patience and resignation shone bright as the lamp of life burnt down into the socket. And we trust, he is now united with seraphs and saints in their pure ardours of holy love and everlasting joy. From the time of his landing on the eastern shore, until his arrival at Falmouth, his journal is continued; after that his infirmities prevented his continuing it; although they prevented not his preaching, which seems to have been attended with power to the consciences of sinners in almost all the eastern shore, where he bestowed his labours. May it please the Author of all gracious influences to cherish the seed sown there, and cause it to bring forth fruit which shall be to the praise of redeeming love, and a crown of joy to him the faithful labourer.

In my letter to you, I gave an account of your son's effects, and agreeable to your directions shall forward them together with his papers, to your nephew, Mr. Henry Alline at Boston, to be by him forwarded. Wishing you, dear sir, and your worthy partner the divine consolations in the vale of life, and a happy meeting with our friend, your dear departed son, and the best of Heaven's blessings to your family, I subscribe myself, dear Sir, your sympathizing, affectionate, though unknown friend and servant,

DAVID M'CLURE.

North-Hampton, New-Hampshire, Aug. 3d. 1784.