

health. Peggie¹ & Hitty² likewise send you their seruisse and Loue to y^r selfe and their sister. Yesterday arriued a ship from London who aduises that the fleet saild from England the 27th July Eight days before she came out so that we may Expect them hourerly, we haue had a very great drought soe that I shall be forced to putt away my whole stock for want of hay, w^{ch} I must confess is of heauie consequence to me,—but must submitte to this as well as Other dispensations of God, for w^{ch} I pray his assistance. I haue not further to ad, saving that I would haue you Assured that my desire and Edeauors shall euer be to discharge myselfe towards you as becomes y^r very L^d father

JO NELSON

John I Nelson to Henry Lloyd.

DORCHESTER, Octo 28: 1709—

DEAR M^r LOYD S^r

God in his holy will & providence is pleased to follow me wth many afflictions, amoungs^t which none has been more sensible to me than the sorrowfull circumstance, & condition, poor Becky³ seems (by y^r letter) to be in. I hope her sisters coming and assistance may be of some reliefe to her, & tho' her stay wth you is designed to be but short, yett we propose to supply that defect; by the coming up of Hitty⁴ in her stead, w^{ch} will be the next week. I know not what further to doe for her at this distance saueing my prayers to god, for y^r support & her recouirie w^{ch} I trust thro' his infinite mercy he will grant to our mutual Joy and Comfort, in hope of w^{ch} I remaine y^r very

Louing Father.

J^o NELSON

¹ His daughter Margaret, later Mrs. Steele.

² His daughter Mehetable, later Mrs. Temple.

³ His daughter Rebecca, Mrs. Lloyd.

⁴ His daughter Mehetable, later Mrs. Temple.