

Sheerness Jan. 25 1818.

Dear Wife,

I now take the offered opportunity of sending to you once more in the hopes that these lines will find you in good health as this leaves me thanks be to God for that inestimable blessing. We sailed from here on Sunday the 11th and went as far as Deal and returned here yesterday in consequence of a misfortune befalling ship. We expect to sail again in about 10 days so that there is time for you to write immediately, which I hope you will do and I beg you will not delay as our time here is uncertain, and inform me how all relations and friends are and how and where John Moore's son is and what the sentence of the other prisoners is. We are all in tolerable health and spirits in the hopes of doing well in another country. Had I been twenty years younger I should not have been so much troubled at the quitting my native country. But the parting with relations and friends almost rends my heart asunder.

Should any of my friends be disposed to send me a few pairs of cotton stockings they would be acceptable and might be of service to me at New South Wales. Likewise should you send me a small parcel, a little looking glass would be serviceable. The breeches and waistcoats I wish you to mention what quality, the leather ones I have seen. Should my sister Melisent send a neck handkerchief a little more thread would be useful as I understand it is very dear. But I don't wish you send me any thing to injure yourself. Although you don't send a small parcel, don't neglect writing dear wife. My love I send you. Give respects to Brother Robert and family, Brother Saml. & wife, Isaac Millington & Jacob & Elizabeth. To Mr. Stafford & Mrs. & family and Mr. Danah, Mr. Edward Fletcher & wife, Mr. Thos. Moore & Wife and to enquiring friends. When you send don't pay the postage as it will come sooner. Send by coach and the postage you might enclose.

I will conclude for the present.
I remain your ever affectionate husband

Josiah Godber

P.S. Let me know how trade is and how my familiar friends are situated. Respects to John Turton & Harrie Butcher and to all who put there signature to my character
Direct for me on Board the Tottenham Transport Ship Sheerness for New South Wales.

For
Reecca Godber
Ripley near Derby
Derbyshire