

My sister Hammond is 4 years
older: so that we must both
have our loins girded about
& have our lamps burning.
I am now obliged to have a
Cauter, & only to take such
duties as my state of health &
my infirmities enable me
God has long borne with
my warped manner; &
hence why should I complain
amidst my great mercies.
Only let us pray for one
another, & rejoice in the
precious promise of the everlasting
Gospel. — I do not think

Mr Hammond will hold out
long: He has a bad rupture
& is mostly confined to his
bed. May the Lord guide &
help you my dear Niece in
all your troubles, & give
us all to meet at last
around the throne. I think
some of us at least will
be glad to disappear from
the world of sin & sorrow.
Treaty heavenly joys.
The weakness of men is great
— but the Divine mercy is
also great — My Brother, John

was an all doing pretty
well, & I believe grows,
the more they belong to
the Church of England, which
is a grief to me. However
I trust the Lord will remember
them in the day of his
appearings.

He has had a long,
staying winter in England;
never now the weather does
not seem to be settled, a great
many of our friends have been
carried into eternity during the
last few months. We remain
May we be faithful to death
& yet then in mortal crowns!

Blank

Town Hall Chambers
Southwark
Jan^y 4th 1876

My dear Sarah, I thank you
for your very nice letter, re-
ceived with one from your
Brother Robert. It is delightful
to hear of the proceedings of those
we love in a far off land; & to
know that they are prospering,
amidst life's difficulties & trials,
to their heavenly home. Each
year has its tale of the
dealings of a kind Providence,
& at its close, we are called
upon to recount the facts, &
tracing the Divine goodness &
mercy, to feel that we should

line near to the Rock of our
salvation. Surely, we must
feel lifted up in faith, &
look for a sower, & more
continued trust in the precious
promises of the Gospel, which
shall all be realized of those
cleaving to them.

I am
now in my 77th year, & cannot
expect hence to remain very
long in this pilgrim's con-
dition. My only remaining
sister is in her 80th year, &
been worn up amidst many
afflictions, tho' in tolerable
health. I think now she is
gradually breaking: but her faith

is firm, & her confidence in God
unshaken. My dear wife ^{has} lost
her only remaining Brother a few
weeks ago: He died in New London
the U. States of America: happy
in God. A little while longer,
& thus struggle with Satan & sin
& this corruptible flesh; & then
we shall all be at rest.

The present is a sad day
of Infidelity, Blasphemy, &
careless indifference. Self
conceit, & self opinion, rule
the mind & hearts of multitudes,
& sometimes think surely
the end must be near. But
however the Lord liveth, & his
kingdom of righteous ness will
come. Lord & Hasten it!

How is James? I have a
sort of special feeling for him,
having seen him in England.
Is he pious? Is he married?
How is he going on in worldly
things? When you write, please
tell me all you can about
those for whom we are here
concerned.

My Brother John's children
are all doing on the whole,
— well. Samuel's son, James,
is married & has one child. He
is with his father in the law,
& is a D. William has a large
family, & is a sort of preacher.
He lives at Hestford.

God bless you all in P. D. L.,
& make you all a blessing with
my wife & my own love. I remain
your aff. uncle & Brother

Blank

34 Borough High Street
Southwark
Sept. 11th 1876

My very dear Niece,
I was very glad
to receive and read another
letter from you a few days ago,
& to hear the happy result
of James' examination. And
now I do trust that he ^{will} succeed
in his Professor, & be an
honor to, & useful in his
generation. I have a good
recollection of him when
in London, & thought I saw
then qualities in him highly creditable
- though, I confess, I felt rather

Letters from the Revd. Samuel Benson,
who was for many years rector at
St. Saviour's, Southwark; and, the
youngest brother of Ann Benson,
written to his niece, Sarah Benson
Walker (wife of George Washington Walker).

Revd. Samuel Benson born 4 Aug. 1799
and died in 1881.

This letter gives particulars of
members of the Revd. Joseph Benson's
family (pp. 3+4).

disappointed in his leaving the
Dart Bank. However, all is of
God; & if so, we may hope that
he will yet prosper. You tell
me that, he is not so devoted
to God as you could wish: but
I have some confidence that
he will yet be numbered
with his children, & have his
name enrolled in the Book of
Life. Give my, & Mrs Aunt's love to
him

You know that I am
getting fast into years; & losing
my recollection, & my sight.
I am obliged to take a Curate,
to whom I give the Pulpit, & other

Ministerial duties. It is a great
grief to me, speaking humanly;
but God must do all right; &
if I am to be shortly laid aside,
my duty is of patients, ready
for my service

I think by this time
you must ^{have} received 2 Photos
- i.e., of myself & my wife. The
period of the death of my
Brother Joseph & John, as far
as I know, was the former in
November 1853 & the latter Aug: 1860

I think you know that
my Brother John left several sons,
two of whom are in the Law
& I believe, possess, the Rectory of
the English Church. In fact,

Several of them are, in their
several ways, Weakness.

As I am so unequal to
any thing of a literary kind,
I must forbear writing more
at present. Only I may tell you
that, my only surviving sister -
now about 81, - is in good
health, & her son James is in
tolerable health, tho' unable
thru weakness of one knee, &
general weakness, to do any
thing for the support of his mother
& sister. From your dear Uncle

J. Benson

M. With love to all