

Letter
to Mr. Schlemmicht
4 Oct 1856

Calicut Oct 4/56

My dear Sir, I duly received your favor of the 25th ult. Although I fear you will consider it as giving in my shame, I feel proud to say that I was one of the audience which met not only a "second" but a "third" time to "patronize" Mr. Wortabet's Lectures. I am far from taking refuge under the plea which you kindly suggest of the manner of the Lecturer having been the sole cause of the "considerable interest" felt in his Lectures. It is true that it was one of the causes of the interest, but by no means the sole cause. I frankly admit that there was something exceedingly

interesting in the bold, energetic and fearless manner in which the Lecturer advocated the claims of our common Christianity. There was something also in the mere circumstance of this being done by a Lycian, - a native of a country which has for ages been sunk in Mahometanism and the grossest superstition, - and one of the first converts to Protestantism. I do not think there is any force in the argument, that because there is nothing new in the Lectures (suppose that even to be the case) that therefore they are unworthy of being listened to, or published. What new thing do we hear in our Churches? It is nothing but an expounding of the truths contained in the Bible, and the Bible is em -

phatically an old Book, and yet who
ever heard that we ought not to go
to Church because we hear nothing new
there. If there had been much that
was new in the Lectures, they would
not in my opinion have been worthy
of attention. They inform us of the
destruction of Tyre, Bealbec, Petra
&c., shewing the fulfilment of the
Prophecies in a remarkable degree
for the destruction of those cities
was foretold in the Bible. There-
fore the ~~destruction~~ information of
their destruction was old, and
must remain old. Had the Lectures
said that those cities were not
destroyed it would certainly have
been something new, but being
contrary to Holy Writ, would most
assuredly have been false; but I
accept your challenge, and say that

~~Bedford and the Indians of both~~
~~and the relations that the~~
Province. - The Morning Journal,
Provincial Wesleyan, and
Western News, (a thing I believe
unprecedented in this Province
in the history of Lecture reporting,
and would have been continued
in them, and also published in the
Witness, had it not been for the
appearance of them in Pamphlet
form. In the Halifax papers
containing them, not a copy
could be obtained after 12 o'clock
on the day of publication, of the
first Lecture, so, although you
were pleased to set them down
as a "jumble of nonsense", it
appears that all were not of
your opinion.

I am much obliged by
the kind offer contained in
the concluding portion of your

Letter, and encouraged by its
venture to send you 50 copies
which I trust will meet with
a ready sale. I am also
sending a few of them to Mr
Grant, and to Mr Macdonald.

I remain

Dear Sir

Yours very truly
J. Aldrich

Jas Dawson Esq

