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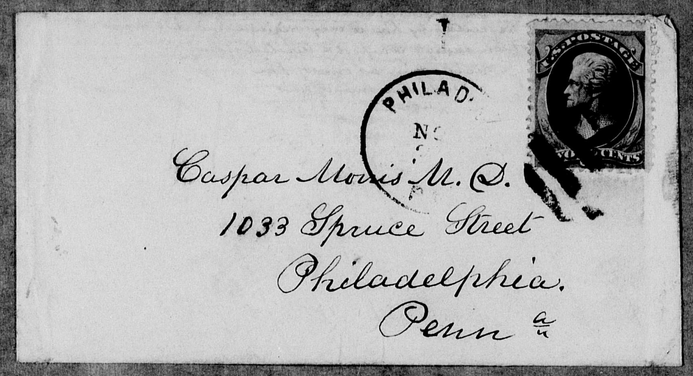
1874 June - December

Caspar Morris - Incoming letters

MS 1894

SIDE ONE



147 School Lane 1/29 1874.

My dear brother, Dr. Morris, it really seems as if I ought to commence this note with an apology for neglecting so long to answer a very acceptable and interesting letter received from thee some months since, to which I had intended replying immediately, but in consequence of not knowing where to find thee then, postponed doing the same until now, and feeling some shame for remissness in that particular, and also for forgetting to thank thee for the memoir of Margaret Cheston which I owe to thy kindness, I must pray thee to forgive my delinquencies, and remember that the forgetfulness of old age is increasing upon me daily, so much indeed, as sometimes to alarm me with its very rapid progress.

I should be very much pleased to receive a line from thee now & then expressive of remembrance.

Though I never cannot expect to see thee at this avoid ministry season of the year

but very different — his account of the Broad churchman the Rev. H. R. Haweis at St. James's Church is very spicy, tho' his sermon surprised me much, & when thou readest this extract from it, which I copy for thee, thou wilt understand my astonishment — "What's Death?" he proceeded to ask, colloquially, "It is something to make Christians shiver with terror, but among heathens it was a good minister or angel, sent to free men from troubles. Why is it that the Christian fears death? Because he has had preached to him a gospel of Damnation, instead of a gospel of Salvation. He has had preached to him a God who, after threescore & ten years, plunges people into an imaginary Heaven or Hell, for each of which they are equally unfitted. So we may say that, by all the laws of dogmatic theology a great many people are going to be burnt in the fires of an All Merciful God, & if we escape, it will be, "by the skin of our teeth." This was spoken within the walls of a Church of the Establishment — the sermon was extempore & delivered with so much rapidity as almost to puzzle a short hand writer to report verbatim.

a mixture of Ritualism & Spiritualism is assisted to this Broad Church clergyman Haweis