Needwood Parsonage
Burton-on-Trent
February 22, 1845

Dear Mr. Hand:

I have not dared on account of the cold to venture out except to Church since you were here, and I now fear that I shall not see you again before your departure; but my very best wishes will most surely go with you, and we are all in His hands who fixes the bounds of our habitations. In His hands I had rather be than in any other; and so, I think, would you and your dear wife; and to Him, the wide Atlantic is no more than the little rill in the little valley betwixt your present abode and this; and He could make it as trifling to us to cross, should it be His will and pleasure that we should live together again as agreeing and happy neighbors. Till then, if we live, my thoughts will be often streaming across the Ocean in quest of you and yours, participating in all your struggles, solicitudes, and opening prospects; for let the struggles be what they may, opening prospects full of hope will be as sure before you in America, as in England they are to us full of dismay. In the condition of England I can see nothing but wreck to the great body of the People, save in accordance with the noble American Poet Briant's lines on Europe which I once repeated at your house; but, ere they are fulfilled, grievous will be the sufferings of the millions in England, -- rankling wounds, covered over and hidden from sight by a splendid court, a vain-glorious Aristocracy, and a proud aspiring and callous-hearted Moneyocracy.
These three last are considered England; the bulk of the People may be anything or nothing, just as may best suit the wonderful trio -- the Court, the Aristocracy, the Moneyocracy -- the only things worth calling England!!! On such an England you have turned your back, and therefore hope lies before you. Follow your hope manfully and joyfully; and may God prosper you! I wish that all the toiling and almost hopeless (if not thoughtless) millions in this country were going with you. So far from their being an encumbrance to you they would only add to your prosperity and joy; for they would have hope before them also and ample ground for it both literally and figuratively and in all good truth America is wide enough and more than enough promising for ten times such an emigration.

May all the blessings of True Religion be your's and all that belong to you!

(signed) H. Price

Mr. Joseph Hand