

Manchester 5650

Bengal

June 6/84

My dear Mrs Stephenson

I have to thank

you very much for sending  
me your charming little  
book, & also the photo  
of the dear children which  
I have long been wishing  
for - as it has been so  
long ago, they must  
have changed a good  
deal in the interval, but  
still the picture helps  
me to imagine what  
they must be, and  
brings them nearer in  
a way so that I feel I  
can begin to write to  
them which I ought to have  
done years ago - I could

fill sheets with reasons  
& excuses for not having  
written before, but I  
feel that would be very  
useless, and so I must  
ask you to believe me  
when I say that my  
loving interest in <sup>the</sup> dear  
children has never ceased  
and in my prayers they  
(& especially my little Gotsen)  
have ever been remembered,  
God grant that my poor  
prayers may have brought  
down some help to you  
in your work of love for  
dear Lucy's children, yours  
too now - by many loving ties.  
I think you will understand  
that had I known something  
of what your little book  
has taught me of you I

should have passed it  
easier to write before -  
I trust you will pardon  
my long neglect -  
We hope, if it is possible  
for my husband to leave his  
work, to take furlough next  
year - my health has failed  
greatly of late & I hardly  
feel as if I could stand  
another hot season - it  
is seven years too since we  
have seen four of our  
children and you can  
imagine how we are longing  
for a sight of them - Mr.  
Stephens says he hopes  
to go home also - and  
I trust we may all  
meet - and learn to know  
more of one another and  
that our children may make friends

I am just recovering from  
an attack of Fluor and  
still feel very weak &  
not equal to much  
letter writing.

Believe me, with kindest  
regards & thanks

Sincerely yours

M. C. Hutley

Enclose a letter to  
you please give it to  
him - if you approve of it.

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