

Herwick, 29 Aug. 1892

Dear Sir

This day I have received your Floral Offerings, - franked by Mr James Gilbert. I am much obliged to you for these agreeable pleasures. - the more agreeable, as being fruits of a cheerful old age, when cheerfulness is the surest indication of a healthy mind. I thank you also for the six volumes, - for which I will send by the first opportunity, & which I shall ^{have} much pleasure in perusing & placing on my shelves. - Any opportunity that may offer of mentioning them to advantage, I shall be glad to take.

I do not wonder that you speak of the Methodists in your neighbourhood as intolerable fanatics; fanaticism is always intolerable when it becomes intolerant, & that way it almost always tends. A large part of them however, I hope will rather side with the Church than with her enemies in the great struggle that is approaching.

But whether with or without such allies, such will be found
to defend the Church as it is now stand, & - if a
the cause of God's judgments it should be overthrown.
to rebuild it from its old ruins, upon its old & undisturbed
-to the foundations

I remain Dear Sir

Yours with sincere respect

Robert Southey.