

**PR30/1/C1/2, f21 Letter, Sophia Sheppard to brother President Martin Routh,  
17 Jul 1810**

**p1**

[upside down:

The Paper I showed you at  
Oxford is destroyed & is as if  
never written]

Amport 17 July 1810

My dearest brother,

I guessed you would leave  
Brooke about the time mentioned in the letter I  
had the pleasure of receiving this morning. I write  
immediately, hoping my information will give you  
as much pleasure as I feel in communicating it to you.

We went to Salisbury yesterday, Dr Sheppard and  
Mr Halton called on the Bishop, who I believe did  
not think the worse of Dr S or better of Mrs C after some  
facts were stated and others explained. The conser-  
vation ended with the Doctor's naming the  
President of Maudlin as the Clerk he intended  
to present to the Rectory of Tilehurst. You  
will not be angry my Brother at this liberty  
being taken without your knowledge but putting  
aside your ignorance of Dr Sheppards kind  
intention convinced the Bishop then was no  
understanding whatever between you His Lord  
ship was more than polite on the occasion,  
he was surprised to hear you were not in  
Priest Orders, and said that if any accom-  
modation, he should be happy and ready  
to give you a private Ordination on his re-  
turn from the Isle of Wight where he was going  
next week for about ten days In return for

this civility, Dr Sheppard recommends you to write

F21, p2

immediately to his Lordship a few lines of Thanks intimating that you shall make a point of waiting on him when returned to Sarum. You know how soon the Living will be lapsed & that there will not be much time to lose. It is hoped therefore you will hasten to Amport as soon as possible after the Election & not forget to bring your Letters of Orders and a Testimonial. The Doctor has left directions with the Secretary to make out the Presentation, so that you can be ordained presented & instituted at the same time. Allow me now my dearest Brother to congratulate you on an event so gratifying to myself and beneficial to you and conclude with an earnest wish that you may long live the Rector of Tilehurst with good health to enjoy it-

Dr S is doubtful whether a private Ordination must be on a Sunday but in your letter to the Bishop you had better request to him -self. Perhaps Brother Samuel will go with you for Institution at the same time He is coming here to-morrow to consult Dr S not whether he shall take a Living, but which of the two will be most eligible. In his letter he thus writes "I like Alton extremely and am in comfortable Lodgings, so that if it

f21, p3

cannot be made to appear, by Dr Sheppard that Boyton  
very much exceeds in value my present two  
Hampshire Livings I had better remaine satisfield”

We advised him to apply to Mr Lichfield  
respecting the Value & particulars of Boyton  
as he can give him much better information  
on that head than Dr Sheppard he ought  
not to be much longer in deliberating con  
sidering the six months are nearly expired

I am very much concerned to find there has  
been such an alloy to the enjoyment of your  
Norfolk visit. however you had, instead of  
one, the advantage of several good Nurses & Advisors  
& could with more convenience be unwell at  
Brooke than at College next Week. I hope

and pray you may be suffic  
-ently recovered to go through  
the business with tolerable care

I wish one of the Dinners had been a day  
later, that we might have sent you a Couple  
of Ducks by Mr Caravan, or one of them. As it is you must  
come & eat them here. What pleasure and  
gratification do I promise myself at our  
next interview! Delay it not my dear Brother  
longer than is absolutely necessary, in the  
mean time write & tell me how you do of if  
too busy emply your Amamuensis again. God bless  
you. With the Doctors kind Regards believe me ever

your Sophia

f21 p4

Besides what I have already said about Sam

Dr Sheppard wishes me to add that he shall for  
-bear to say much in favour of one Living more  
than the other, lest Sam should complain afterward  
that he was removed from a situation he liked to  
one he does not like so well. Mr Hutchins  
is just come to dine with us, he is rather better  
& diseris his best compliments. Once more

Adieu

[address cross written – July 18<sup>th</sup> 1810]

My dear Anne            Neither Time nor Paper will  
allow me to say much. You can bring the Gown  
with you & then I shall see whether I like it well  
enough to take it, off Sarah's hands. You comforted  
me very much by what you added about my good Brother

God bless you

f46 Last will and testament of Martin Routh – leaves “all my freehold estate situated in the  
parish of Tylehurst aforesaid or elsewhere in the County of Berks and all other my real Estate  
To hold unto for the use of my said Sister Sophia Sheppard”, 17 Mar 1837, Oxford