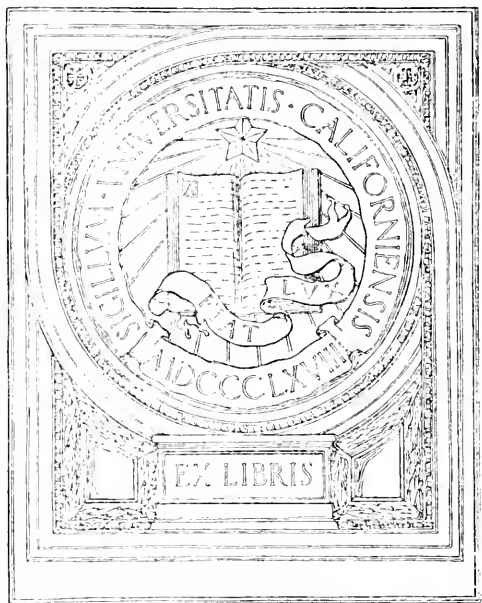




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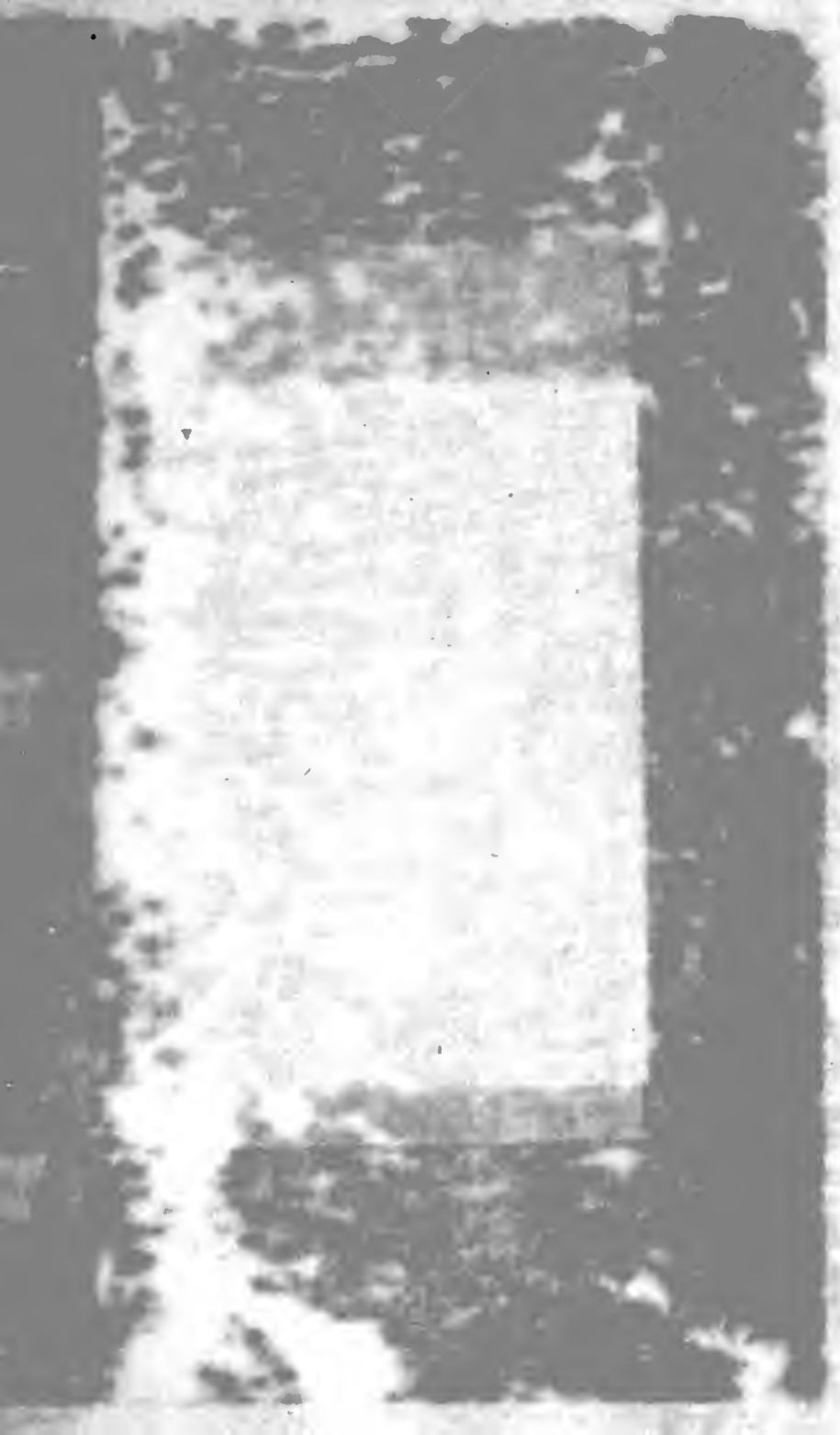
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A QUAKER POST-BAG

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*Sir John Podes*  
*1711 - 1781*



A QUAKER POST-BAG  
LETTERS TO SIR JOHN RODES  
OF BARLBROUGH HALL, IN THE  
COUNTY OF DERBY, BARONET, AND  
TO JOHN GRATTON OF MONYASH  
1693-1742

SELECTED AND EDITED BY

MRS. GODFREY LOCKER LAMPSON

WITH A PREFACE BY

AUGUSTINE BIRRELL

*WITH ILLUSTRATIONS*

LONGMANS, GREEN AND CO.

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1910

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## P R E F A C E

THESE letters have lain at Barlbrough in Derbyshire for more than two hundred years, and are now printed for the first time for any one who may care to read them, with such thoughts over a buried past as he may be able to muster. It is with some reluctance that their present owner has taken the letters out of the carved chestnut boxes, where they have so long rested, enjoying a Silence, and bathed with a Stillness, beyond any Quakers' meeting-house; unaltered by the slow passage of time, save in an increasing dimness of the careful handwriting. If any one bluntly asks, what can such artless, courageous Piety have to say to an Age like ours, there is really no need to hammer out an answer, for is not this too a fleeting Age, bound to disappear like every other? May not therefore the lady responsible for publication be content to shelter herself behind the venerable excuse "the request of Friends, both inside and out of the Quaker profession."

The Sir John Rodes (1693-1742) to whom these letters were addressed was a descendant of the Elizabethan judge, Francis Rodes, who built Barlbrough Hall in 1583; a great-grandson of the Sir Francis Rodes who fought for King Charles in

Exchange  
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Ireland and was made a Baronet ; and great-grand-son of Sir Gervase Clifton, who, as William Penn points out in one of the letters, hereafter printed, is "handsomely mentioned" in Whitelock's Memorials.

Sir John's father, though he made a pious ending, does not appear to have joined the Friends, though that his mother, Martha Thornton, did so clearly appears by her letters to her son.

Sir John himself has left no letters behind him, but in the Journal of Thomas Storey may be found some references to him and the household at Barlbrough. Thus in 1714 Storey writes: "I went that evening to Balber Hall to Sir John Rodes, and William Thompson with me, where I was kindly received by him and by the old lady his mother. There I stayed several days and had good conversations with them, being very open-minded and courteous, and of a good understanding in the Things of God. He was convinced when young and held his integrity through many temptations. But his circumstances differing from most among us in some respects, he never married, having a great aversion to all that was wanton, light or vain, and being of nice sentiments, both as to vertue, temper, education and Parts, all these (as I suppose) he has not found to concur so perfectly in any one agreeable person, as both to please the Delicacy of his own judgment and suit the good likings of his Friends, which probably may have rendered his life less satisfactory, having for the most part little agreeable society, and though very sensible of these and many other disadvantages in this world for the

sake of truth, yet he stands Steady and True, preferring the simplicity of Truth and the enjoyment of it before all other things."

This subtle estimate of the character of Sir John Rodes agrees to a shade of nicety with the judgment any careful reader of the letters, addressed to him, will be likely to form of his reserved and elusive personality.

Despite the pious efforts of many Quaker match-makers, Sir John Rodes died in 1743 unmarried.

Sir John Rodes and his mother, Lady Rodes, and his two married sisters, Ann Thornton and Frances Heathcote, the wife of Dr. Gilbert Heathcote, were in the inner circle of the Quakerdom of their day, and the intimate friends of William Penn, the foremost Friend of all time, and of most of the good folk, whose names are still known to students of the Quaker history. Friends were ever welcome at Barlbrough, whose shy owner they would have liked to see married to some pious damsel. ("A friend or two of thine have thought of a person to be thy wife, if thou shalt think so. She is young and hath a great deal of money, and it is believed her Parents would be easy to consent," see p. 132.)

Peace to their memories! They were quarrelsome, but so are doves, and their friendships were eternal. "Death cannot kill what never dies," says William Penn in a beautiful passage on the "Union of Friends." "Death is but crossing the world as friends cross the seas."

And what of their Wisdom? Who among us

dare account them especially foolish? If any one would read of a true Quaker conversion circa 1659, let him take down the "History of the Life of Thomas Elwood," 1714. They will find how it all came about from a visit to the Penningtons at Chalfont in county Bucks, as naturally as any Tractarian conversion may have resulted circa 1830-40 from a visit to a country rectory.

One thing in the strange history of the Quakers stands out in the clearest relief. Despite their bold denial of all the Sacraments and of any kind of formal Priesthood, or ministry, denials which, in the first instance, brought down upon their covered heads the whole forces of all the hatreds of a Christendom for once united, they nevertheless were the first, and for a long, long time the only, Nonconformists to obtain the protection of the law. This they won, not by political strife, but by a sublime indifference to consequences, legal or social. Unable to swear, they found the Courts closed against them, when in pursuit of their civil remedies. They submitted in silence, and were the more careful not to make bad debts. Marriage was only to be had within the walls of the Establishment. All other Nonconformists, wishing to wed, went to Church, at least once in their lives, fearing bastardy for their offspring. The Quakers feared nothing, did not go to Church, kept their own Registers, and made it a matter of religion never to die intestate. This attitude of sublime indifference was soon found intolerable. In 1696 Quakers were allowed to affirm in Courts

## PREFACE

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of Justice, and in 1754 their marriages outside the walls of either Church or Chapel were recognised. No such consideration was shown to more orthodox Nonconformists for a century or so. Quaker history stands alone in its indomitable success. If it is finished, it is a pity.

AUGUSTINE BIRRELL.





## INTRODUCTORY NOTE

THE present owner of these letters, as Mr. Birrell has said in his Preface, feels some diffidence in taking them from the boxes which for generations have been the resting-place of much correspondence concerning the family of Rodes during the sixteenth, seventeenth, and eighteenth centuries, correspondence for the most part undistinguished, and merely interesting to the conscientious student of county history. Fragrant with memories of innocent family love and untarnished friendship, it has seemed almost an act of sacrilege to thrust them upon a reading public already fed to satiety with memoirs and correspondence of every conceivable country and epoch. "Of making many books there is no end." It is felt, however, that these simple annals of the Society of Friends two hundred years ago will be of real and abiding interest to their descendants in the faith at the present time, both in America and at home, and for this reason, as well as in response to many requests for the publication of the "Penn" letters, this little book has been issued.

Sir John Rodes of Barlbrough was the fourth and last baronet of his name, the first baronet being Sir Francis Rodes, who married Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Sir George Lassells of Sturton and Gateford in Nottinghamshire. This Francis was the grandson of Judge Francis Rodes of Staveley-Woodthorpe, one of the judges of the common pleas in the reign of Elizabeth, to whom the practice of the law

does not seem to have been unprofitable, for, besides Barlbrough Hall in Derbyshire, which he left to his eldest son John, he also built two other houses, Hickleton, for his son Peter, and Great Houghton, in Yorkshire, for his son Godfrey, knighted in 1615, whose daughter Elizabeth was the third wife of the ill-fated Earl of Strafford. Judge Rodes's second son, Francis, was apparently passed over in this distribution of mansions. Possibly he was less worthy than the others, and early developed traits of character which, in later life, led to his being mentioned in certain family letters as having "hir'd three trusty fellows from Eckington to break into Brother Rodes's new house at Barlbrough."

Sir John Rodes, the Quaker, was the only surviving son of the third Sir Francis, his mother being Martha Thornton, daughter of William Thornton of Grantham, in Lincolnshire, and sister of Cyprian Thornton of Bloxham, in the same county. The Quakers, at that time, were mostly men of the humbler sort, and John Rodes was evidently of some account amongst them. In these later (and so much wiser) days it is delightful to read of the exceeding joy of these simple people at the conversion to their faith of one baronet.

Sir John Rodes died unmarried in October 1743, when the baronetcy became extinct, and his estates in Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire passed to his great-nephew, Gilbert Heathcote, who assumed the surname of Rodes.

S. F. LOCKER LAMPSON.

BARLBROUGH HALL,  
CHESTERFIELD.

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LETTERS OF WILLIAM PENN

1693—1699





# A QUAKER POST-BAG

FROM WILLIAM PENN TO SIR JOHN RODES

For  
S<sup>r</sup> John Rodes  
att  
Joseph Storrs  
Wollen-Draper  
In Chesterfield.

the  $\frac{m}{8}$  1693.

DEAR FRIEND,—I hope I shall always be ready to show thee how much I desire thy prosperity every way. It is long I have travelled in my spirit for thee and knowing the temptations that would grow upon thee and the evill days by means thereof that must attend thee, I have prayed that thy faith fail not, and that thou faintest not by the way ; for thou hast been called to a glorious mark, even that of an Heirship with the Beloved of God in Eternal Habitations. The Lord preserve thee to the end. Now as to w<sup>t</sup> I meant at C. Mars.<sup>1</sup> it is this : a Course or Method of life as far as we can be our own, I would divide my days of the week, and then the times of the day, and when I had

<sup>1</sup> Christmas.

Considered and divided my business, I would proportion it to my time. Suppose, for example, thus :  $\frac{1}{4}$  to Religion, in Waiting, Reading, Meditating &c. . . .  $\frac{1}{4}$  to some generall study.  $\frac{1}{4}$  to meals and some Bodily Labour as Gardening, or some Mathematicall Exercise.  $\frac{1}{4}$  to serve friends or neighbours and look after my Estate ; It prevents consumption of time and confusion in Business. The books I spoke of that are most valuable for a moderate Library are as follow. For Religion the Bible, Friends' Books, of w<sup>ch</sup> I advise an exact collection, binding the small up in vollumes together. The Books of Martyrs. For Controversy between Pap and Protestants Bp Jewel against Harding. L<sup>d</sup> Faulkland of Infalibility, and Chillingworth. For Devotion the Scriptures, Friends' Epistles, Austin his City of God, his Soliloquies, Thom a Kempis, Bona, a late piece called Unum Necessarium, and a Voyce crying out of the Wilderness writt in Q Elizabeth's time ; of Books forrunning Friends appearance, T. Saltmarsh, W. Dell, W. Erberry, Goad, Coppins, & Webster his Works. For Religious History Eusebius, Bp Usher's Annals, Cradock of the Apostles, History of the Waldenses, S<sup>r</sup> Sam Morland's of the Persecutions in Piedmont. Of mixt & generall History Prideaux, thin quarto, Petavius, a thin folio. Afterwards D<sup>r</sup> Howel late of Cambridge, not forgetting S<sup>r</sup> W. Raleigh's for his Preface sake. For natural Philosophy Enchiridion Physical and some of Sqr Boyle's Works. For Mathematicks, Leyborn. For Physick, Riverius, For the Gall, Way, and for Chymistry le Faber, unless a Practitioner, then, Helmont, Glauber,

## LETTERS OF WILLIAM PENN 5

Crollius, Hartman Scroder & Tibaut &c.; and for Improvem<sup>ts</sup> of Lands & Gardens Blith & Smith, Systema Agriculturæ, English and French Gardener. For Policy, above all Books, the Bible, that is, the old Testam<sup>t</sup> writings, Thucydes, Tacitus, Council of Trent, Machieval, Thynanus, Grotius's Annals. Of our own Country Daniel and Trussel. S<sup>r</sup> F<sup>r</sup>. Bacon Life of H. 7<sup>th</sup>, L<sup>d</sup> Herbert's H. 8<sup>th</sup> and Cambden Eliz. S<sup>r</sup> Thom. Moor's Utopia. Nat. Bacon. Hist. of the Gov. of E. Saddler's Rights of the Kingdom, S<sup>r</sup> Rob Cotten's Works, the Pamphlets since the Reformation pro et con. to be had at the Acorn. in Pauls Yard, to be bound up together, comprisable in about 6 quarto vollumes. Rushworths Collections, tho large, are not unusefull, being particular, and our own History and the best since 30. w<sup>ch</sup> is the chieftest time of Action. But I will add one more, the English Memorials, by the Lord Whitlock, a great man, and who dyed a Confessor to Truth, in w<sup>ch</sup> thy Grand father is handsomely mentioned.<sup>1</sup> Thes for the main Body of a study will be sufficient and very accomplishing.

There are other Books of use and vallue, as Selden of Tythes, Tayler's Liberty of Prophecy, Goodwin's Antiquities, Cave's Primative Christianity, Morals of the Gentiles, Plutarch, Seneca, Epictetus, M.A. Antoninus. Also Lives, as Plutarch, Stanly's of the Philosophers, Lloyd's State Worthys, Clark's Lives and Winstanley's England's Worthys. There are 6 or 8. Books publisht by one R. B. as the

<sup>1</sup> Probably his great-grandfather, Sir Gervase Clifton. See Whitlock's "Memorials of the English Affairs," p. 185.

History of England, S and J surprising Miracles, Admirable Curiositys & that have profitable diversion in them. But if I were to begin again, I would buy as I read, or but a few more at least, and in Reading have a Pencil, and w<sup>t</sup> is of Instruction or observable, mark it in the Margent with the most leading word and collect those memorandums with their Pages into a clean sheet put into the Book or a Pocket Book for that purpose, w<sup>ch</sup> is the way to fasten w<sup>t</sup> one reads and to be master of other mens sense.

Allways write thy name in the Title Pages, if not year and cost, that if lent, the Owner may be better remembred and found. Observe to put down in a Pocket-Book, for that purpose, all openings of moment w<sup>ch</sup> are usually short, but full and lively ; for I have few things to remember with more trouble then forgetting of such irrecoverable Thoughts and Reflections. I have lost a vollume of them. They come without toyle or beating the Brain, therefore the purer, and upon all subjects, Nature, Grace, and Art. Thou art young, now is the time and use it to the utmost profit. Oh ! had I thy time in all likelihood to live, w<sup>t</sup> could I not do. Therefore, prize thy time. I am now 26 years beyond thy age, and tho I have done and sufferd much, I could be a better Husband of that most precious Jewel. The Lord direct thee in thy ways, and he will, if thou take him for thy Guide, and if he be the Guide of thy Youth, to be sure he will not leave thee in thy old age. To him I committ thee and to the word of his Grace with w<sup>ch</sup> is wisdom and a sound understanding that

makes men Gentlemen indeed and accomplisht to inherit both Worlds, for the Earth is for the Meek, and Heaven for the Poor and Pure in Heart and spirit.

Give my love and respects to thy Mother and Relations ; all your welfare in the Lord I wish and am affectionately Thy Cordial friend

W. P.

My dear love salutes friends and J. Gr.<sup>1</sup> especially.

My indisposition with the toothache obliged me to use an other hand. Farewell.

I forgot Law Books, as the Statutes at Large and abridged—Doctors and Students, Horn's Mirror of Justice, Cook's Institutes, the Compleat Justice, Sheriff, Constable & Clark, and of Wills, Godolphin, Justinians Institutes is an excellent book also.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> John Gratton, Quaker preacher of Monyash, Derbyshire; died 9th of first month 1711-12, aged sixty-nine.

<sup>2</sup> Many of the books recommended by Penn to John Rodes are still in the library at Barlbrough, and John did not forget to inscribe his name in all of them, but not, alas, the "year and cost."

William Penn, the founder of Pennsylvania and the most romantic figure in the whole of Quaker history, was born in a house near the Tower of London in 1644. His father was Admiral Sir William Penn, a man of wealth and distinction, who was in great favour at Court, and his conversion to Quaker ideals meant breaking with all the old friends and the old life—but he never wavered, and perhaps the happiest of his days were those spent in the quiet Buckinghamshire home of Isaac Penington, with Thomas Ellwood and Gulielma Springett, Penington's step-daughter, who afterwards became his wife.

Despairing of liberty of conscience in England, Penn carried out the "Holy Experiment," and obtained from the English Government (instead of a sum of £15,000, which was due to him at his father's death), a Charter for the ownership of a large tract of

WILLIAM PENN TO SIR JOHN RODES

To Charles Hartford, Jnr.

in

Bristoll

For Sr John Rodes.

London. 31. 5. 94.

DEAR FRIEND,—With my love to thee and company ; know by this I had thyn, was glad of your well fare, and very sorry for my entanglements that gave so many good desires a dis-appointment. I have payd so dear for my last Leaveing the town, I finde my selfe engaged to persue this to a period before I quit it again. If I can be with you 7<sup>th</sup> night by flying coach I shall, but to see friends by the way is impossible. We have managed our after game the best that was possible, and I hope yet, a pretty good issue. I received great civilitys and better truly—from severall, and some rubs, that are smoothed.

This gave me an oportunity to visit Rochester to my unspeakable comfort, not only in beholding the beautifull effects of former services, but an addition of an other member or two upon this visit, though they were restless ever since the last we had, that is

country in America, on the banks of the Ohio river and north of the province of Maryland. This was Pennsylvania, the “ Forest of Penn,” and here he chose the site of Philadelphia, the “ City of Brotherly Love.” Penn died in England, not in the land of which he was the governor and which was called after his name, and he was laid to rest in the quiet burying ground at Jordans, in Buckinghamshire, by the side of his first wife and his son Springett.

## LETTERS OF WILLIAM PENN 9

D<sup>r</sup> F<sup>r</sup>. St<sup>1</sup> and I, 2 publick meetings on first day, and one in private with friends, and as oylly an one, as we have had ma(ny) a day. Also a farewell pub(lic)k one on 2 day afternoon, and to our souls content, and came up last night's tyde off boats, and am through mercy better for it, the numbers, and their seriousness and tenderness are hardly to be exprest for the place. So the Lord be with us all, and keep us low, and tender and steadfast in his precious Truth in which I salute you and desire thy encrease, being thy very true Friend

W. P.

My love to all Friends as is named. I am even with you for bad writeing.

### WILLIAM PENN TO JOHN GRATTON

To William Storr in Chesterfield  
for J. Gratton Darbyshire.

Lond. 21. 6. 95.

D<sup>r</sup> JOHN,—My unfeined dear love salutes and embraces thee. Know, I had both thy dear letters at my Comeing to Town, and still hold my resolution, if the Lord will, in a month or 6 weeks, if (I) can, and I hope by that time to be at liberty. My way will be from Bucks to Northampton and so the road to Nots, of which may inform thee. I rejoyce thou art better. If thou canst drink Garlick boyled

<sup>1</sup> Francis Stamper, Quaker preacher, of the parish of St. Edmund the King and Martyr, Lombard Street, London; died 1698, and was buried in Bunhill Fields.

in milk, or an handfull of Ivory shaveings—boyled in clear whit wine posset, drink it, and, then drink the posset drink (a pint). I hope thy Jaundice will be cured. So with my dear love to thee, thyn and Friends, I close, with deep owings of thy dear love, and prayers for thy preservation I am Thy assured friend

W. P.

Dr John, the expectations of people are great and my abasement instead of exaltation and pray that God may help and defend, and carry through, it is my peculier trial and travail I am sure.

For Sr John Rodes  
At Balbrough.

Brist. 27. 5. 97.

DEAR FRIEND,—Many carefull thoughts has the love of God filled my heart with for thy preservation, praying fervently that strength, and powr, and love, may attend thee, to encourage thee in thy obedience and service to and for the Truth, which shall prevaile, and does in divers parts, abundantly, blessed be the Lord, many being enclined and some added, and those of good note among men and many are ripe unto harvest. And Dear John, I have often be-grug'ed thee thy unactive life. The proverb is wise : Use leggs and have them. Gett abroad, and mix with liveing friends and thou will feel an encrease in thy bosome, and it will engage thee more in an universall spirit and generall service. The Lord that found thee out and called thee, intended thee other work than to spend thy youth, the cream of thy time, in a retired unconcerned silence. It



London. 5<sup>th</sup> <sup>th</sup> 2<sup>o</sup> 99.

pass by thy reproofs  
come from love. But  
I myself wish, if  
thou long live,  
as thou <sup>for thy</sup> at Norwich.  
my love is, as it should  
be to thee, in the  
th, where it lives  
all gods heritage, &  
without guile: &  
I would preserve us, &  
all with us. Dr. John,  
thou art here, & have  
with thee, & thy De wife,  
all. Know my eye  
neveria. at Bristol  
my hope to be but  
I say little, & hope not.  
for

Dear John

Lord.  $\frac{42}{5-29}$

I can easily pass by thy reproofs  
because they come from love. But  
I have forgot myself much if I  
writ not to thee long since,  
directed to Jos. Stur<sup>ts</sup>, at Marshfield.  
However, my love is, as it should  
be, very dear to thee, in the  
abiding truth, where it lives  
& springs to all gods heritage, &  
every where, without Guilt: &  
in which, if thou improvest, &  
all will do well with us. Dr. John,  
I remember thee often, & have  
fellowship with thee, & thy De wife,  
& of Faith fall. Know my eye  
is toward America. at Bristol  
yearly meeting, I hope to be out  
for London, if say little, & hope not.  
for

does not fill up thy caling nor quality. Thy outward Character, as a man, and thy service in the Church are at too great a disproportion, We have bitter adversaries, and want helpers: It were a fine Introduction for thee, many friends would be glad of thy company in their travails. I can say It was my delight, and I thought it my honour to be admitted to such fellowship and service, and so will that eye and minde that sees and Judges right. It has been often in my heart to visit thee, and I embrace this season, tho otherwise much prest in service and business. Pray give thy Mother and the Doctor<sup>1</sup> my Salutes. The Lord engage you all with an everlasting obligation, that your portion may be with the redeemed of the Lord for ever, amen. I am Thy assured and affect. Friend

WM. PENN.

To Sam<sup>el</sup> Allen in  
Chesterfield  
For J. Gratton Darbyshire

Lond. 5th mo. 99.

DEAR JOHN,—I can easily pass by thy reproofs, because they come from love, but I have forgot myself much if I writt not to thee long since, directed to Jos. Storr for thee at Moniash. However, my love is, as it should be, very dearly to thee in the abiding truth, where it lives and springs to all Gods

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Gilbert Heathcote, of Cutthorpe, Chesterfield, who had married Frances Rodes, Sir John's sister. He was the son of George Heathcote, of Cutthorpe, and Lydia, sister of Cornelius Clarke, of Norton Hall, who built and endowed the first dissenting chapel in Chesterfield.

Heritage every where without Guile ; and in which the Lord preserve us, and all will do well with us. Dear John, I remember thee often, and have fellowship with thee and thy Dear wife, and the faithful. Know my eye is towards America.<sup>1</sup> At Bristoll yearly meeting I hope to be ; but for London, I say little and hope not, for time speeds, and heats will come in, and some spirits have enough to tame and employ them. Days of perplexity are hastening and Europe will soon be a place of trouble, and my retreat I hope will be pleasant to me. I shall say little more at the present, only, forget not thy suffering but faithfull Friend and Brother,

W. P.

<sup>1</sup> Penn returned to America 1699.

LETTERS OF MARTHA RODES  
TO HER SON

1690—1713



For

Sir John Rodes

MY D<sup>R</sup> INNOCENT AND PRETIOUS BABE,—Thou art my Cheifest Earthly Comfort, the desire of my hart and delight of my Eyes, my son in whom I take pleasure and bless the God of my life for his Mercyes in giving me such A son . . . w<sup>n</sup> thou left me, I was very heavy and much out of order, and so I Continued till towards Evening. Robert Harrison was so kind, as to Come and see me that day w<sup>ch</sup> diverted me very much, and brought me out of my Mallincolly Humour, and we had A very Good time together, so I praise God I been prette well satisfied since, and willing to Commit thee to the Care and protection of Him who is able to keep thee in Perfect health, both soul and body.

I have just now re<sup>d</sup> the welcome news of thy being gott well to London, and thy Intentions of writing to me next Post w<sup>ch</sup> I shall be glad to receive A few lines from thee my D<sup>rest</sup> Child. I desire thee to remember my love in Generall to friends as thou thinks on, Forgitt not my Cozen Morris,<sup>1</sup> and her husband and Francis Stamper and W. P.,<sup>2</sup> and all the rest . . . so with unfained Love to thee, in w<sup>ch</sup> I tenderly Salute thee and remain thy affectionate Mother in the blessed truth

M. RODES.

<sup>1</sup> Isabel Yeatman, wife of Abraham Morris. Her maiden name was Fell. She was a step-daughter of George Fox.

<sup>2</sup> William Penn.

The 10 of the 4th month.

Thou may tell S. B.,<sup>1</sup> that I wish he Could light of  
A Good bargain of Sugar and send it down by water,  
if there be mony to spare, not Els, for I am not will-  
ing to run into debt, for I am the burnt Child that  
dreads the fire upon that account and it is against  
my judgm<sup>t</sup>, though I have too much practised, but I  
thinke to be more carefull for the time to Come. . . .

For Sr John Rodes  
att William Meads  
in Fanshaw-Street  
att the Sign of the Ship  
London.

June the 14, 1690.

MY D<sup>R</sup> LAMB,—I rec<sup>d</sup> thine dated the 10 of this  
Instant. I was glad to heare thou wast recovered thy  
journey, and so willing to return home againe so  
speedely. I hope their may be an opertunity fall  
out, w<sup>n</sup> W. Pen returns back againe for thee to goe  
to the bath, for I am yet desirous thou should make  
A triall of them waters ; but at present I am more  
willing thou shoulds be at home, because of W.  
Pen's Coming into the Country, for I would not  
have thee absent by no means w<sup>n</sup> he comes. I heer  
by Francis Ludlame, my brother<sup>2</sup> is come home, and  
was robbed upon his jorny twenty miles of this side  
London. They took twenty Guinyes from him and  
w<sup>t</sup> Silver he had and his sword. He was in a  
Hackney Coach, and their was 3 men besides him  
and one woman, and they took her watch from her

<sup>1</sup> Samuel Barker, Lady Rodes' bailiff.

<sup>2</sup> Ciprian Thornton of Bloxham, Lincolnshire.



and robed them all, and their came A gentleman and his man by, whilst they was searching of them, and they fell upon them and robed them also. They would A perswaded them to A left them something to A born their Charges, but the thiefes Answered and said : such Gentleman as they, had credit upon the road. I would have thee forcast to have Company down ; but I trust and hope God Almighty will preserve thee and keep thee from the Enemy, both outwardly and inwardly ; it is him alone that I put my Confidence in, for my Expectation is from him only. Remember to inquire about my Sister Hussies Children—thou may tell S. Barker, his Children is gon to Attercliffe. I would have thee mind him of speaking to Clark and sound him, that we may know w<sup>t</sup> would stop his mouth, for I am very fearfull of Law sute, by reason of my Larg Experience that I have had of the Charge and trouble they bring, w<sup>c</sup> does much disquiet me, and I have been set very hard to bear them ; but blessed be God, I have found him A present help in my needfull time of trouble. If thou hear of any ships going to Virginia, I would have thee write to Charles Rodes,<sup>1</sup> to give him an Account we have written. This young S. Clarke tel'd me w<sup>n</sup> he was heare, he would undertake to Convey a letter safe to him, so, if thee can light of him, I would have thee write to C. Rodes and wish him to write speedely back, for I have a great desire to heare from him. I desire thee to tell S. Barker I would have him to by me A silk dust Coat to ride in, for I find Camlit is so thick for this hot wether, I cannot well indure it. I wod

<sup>1</sup> Charles Rodes, a cousin settled in America.

have it A Grave Colour ; It is A slight kind of a silk, and will not cost much. I would have as much as to make me A riding coat and petticoat ; if it be a yard broad, 3 breadths will be enough for the Peti-coat. If S. B. does not understand w<sup>t</sup> silk I mean, he may call at Betty Ash and she can inform him w<sup>t</sup> is used for dust Coats, w<sup>t</sup> sort of silk—I write to thee since I rec<sup>d</sup> S. Barker's letter and the inclosed printed papers, and I have despatched one to Henry Jacksons. R. Harrison and his wife was hear yesterday to see me, and desired to have their D<sup>r</sup> loves and service to thee.

So with my own D<sup>r</sup> and tender love to my D<sup>r</sup> babe, I take leave of thee and remaine thy Affectionate Mother

M. RODES.

Thy sisters remembers their love to thee, I beseech God Almighty to bless and keep and preserve thee in thy jorny and ever more, so saith my soul. My Love my Love farewell farewell. Adew.

I would have my Coat partly of this Colour, but rather sader. My respects and kind love to S. Mead and Cozen Moris . . .

Ffor John Gratton at  
Charles Hartfords  
in Bristoll  
with speed

London, 1690.

MY D<sup>R</sup> SON,—I re<sup>d</sup> A letter from An. Gratton<sup>1</sup> this week, to let me know thou went well and cheerfully

<sup>1</sup> Wife of John Gratton.

away from her house that day when she write, and she said, it was thy desire, I should send A letter to Bristol, and direct it to her husband. It was very well thou write from Monyash, for it gave me great satisfaction. As for thy messenger A. Allin, he fail'd both thee and me. He went thorrow the town of the 2<sup>d</sup>, but did not call at the Hall.

Friend Alice Harrison does recover, but continues very weak. Her fitts left her the 6 day after thou went—her sick fitts after sleep continues still, but she is much better than thou left her, so that I have strong hopes, she will live to Praise the Lord in the land of living. . . . The night before thou went thy journey, I was much cast down, but in the Morning, I was very calm and quiet, and resigned up into the will of my heavenly Father with all that he had made me partaker of, and found meekness and Peace in submitting, and resigning up, and depending upon his Goodness. We have had a very stormy week. The wether changed of the first day at the Evening, and the next day was rain all day, and since we have had snow and frost, and likely to have A great deal more, for it keeps snowing. But I hope, if it be such wether w<sup>r</sup> thou art, friends will not suffer thee to travile. Thomas Buck sent A letter to S. Barker of A meeting being appointed at this house of Shrove tusday, so called next, and he intend to be here, but never mentioned what friends they were, nor what Country they came from, w<sup>ch</sup> I wondered at. Thou may tell Thomas Pattison, his brother Robert set forth for London the fourth day after he left, so, if he goe to London, he will see how he sattels. . . . Thos.

Lawson<sup>1</sup> sent A letter to thee to profer his servis to teach thee Lattine and Greek, and instruct thee in the product of Plants. It is A long letter. I think of sending it w<sup>n</sup> I send thy shirts, and then thou may write him an answer ; (he) gives direction how to send to him. I bless my God, that strengthens me and gives me firm hope and assurance that he will bless thee and prosper thee, my D<sup>r</sup> babe, and bring thee back to me in Perfect Helth w<sup>ch</sup> is the fervent prayer of thy tender and affectionate Mother

M. RODES.

the 20th of 12th month  
this being the 6th day

These  
ffor John Rodes at Balber Hall.

Greatstrickland, 18 of mo. 11 —90.

MY FRIEND,—Though unknown by face, yet hearing severall months ago, that thou was tinctur'd with inclination after the knowledge of plants, the products of the earth, I am induc'd to write these lines unto thee. Severall years I have been concern'd in schooling, yet, as troubles attended me for Nonconformity, I made it my business to search most countries and corners of this land, with severall of promonteries, islands, and peninsulas thereof, in order to observe the variety of plants there described or nondescripts, as also, Monuments, Antiquities, Memorable things, whereby I came to be acquainted with most of the Lovers of

<sup>1</sup> Thomas Lawson, Quaker Botanist. Son of Sir Thomas and Ruth Lawson. Was educated at Cambridge. Convinced by George Fox, 1652, while holding the lucrative living of Rampside in Lancashire. Died at Great Strickland, 1691, aged sixty-one.

Botany and of other rarities of the Royal Society and others, in this Kingdom and other places.

Now some years ago, George ffox, William Pen, and others were concerned to purchase a piece of land near London for the use of a Garden School-house and a dwelling-house for the Master, in which garden, one or two or more of each sorte of our English plants were to be planted, as also many outlandish plants. My purpose was to write a book on these in Latin, so as a boy had the description of these in book-lessons, and their vertues, he might see these growing in the garden, or plantation, to gaine the knowledge of them ; but persecutions and troubles obstructed the prosecution hereof, which the Master of Christ's Colledge in Cambridge hearing of, told me was a noble and honourable undertaking, and would fill the Nation with philosophers. Adam and his posterity, if the primitive originall station had been kept, had had no book to mind, but God himself, the book of life, and the book of the Creation, and they that grow up in the knowledge of the Lord and of his Creation, they are the true philosophers. Solomon wrote from the Cedar of Lebanon to the hysop upon the wall ; the works of the Lord, saith the holy man, are wonderful, sought out by those that have pleasure therein, his Work within and his Works without, even the least of plants preaches forth the power and the wisdom of the Creator, and, ey'd in the sparke of eternity, humbles man.

Now, if thou have an inclination after these things, and dost conclude the knowledge of them usefull, I could willingly abandon my employ of

schooling here, and being with thee, lay out myselfe for thy improvement in Latin, Greek, and hebrew ; and for the knowledge of plants, and without any great charge, could bring in 2 or 3 of the most parte or of all the trees and shrubs and plants in England into a plot of ground for that purpose prepared, and many outlandish plants also.

And if thou would incline to the propagating of wood, we might prepare a nourcery, where seeds being sown, and young plants set to grow till fit to be removed into other grounds—a work in no ways dishonourable, but very usefull and profitable.

I have not much more to write, but unfeignedly to acquaint thee that want of employ or beneficial place is not the primum mobile, as I may say, or cause of my writing, for I have better ends, which, if I were with thee, I could satisfy thee herein.

I purpose also, (if the Lord please,) to put forth an Herbal specially of English plants. I am also pretty forward with a piece I call *Flosculi Britannie*, given in Lat. a description of every county in England, the principall products of each county, why Cities, Towns, Rivers are called as they are called, and of the Antiquities, monuments, memorable occurrences, topical plants of each county, in reading of which a scholar not only improves in the language, but can give an account of the nation, as if he had travel'd it through.

No more, but unfeign'd love to thee and to thy Mother to whom I desire thee to shew this, and I desire a few lines shortly from thee, Thy truly  
Lo. ffrd,

THO. LAWSON.

LETTERS OF MARTHA RODES 23

If thou superscribe thy letter thus, there is no doubt of its failing.

ffor Tho. Lawson att Greatstrickland  
to be left with the Post master in Penrith  
in Cumberland, to be deliver'd as  
above directed.

Give this letter to the Northern Post.

MY DEARE MOTHERS LETTER

The 7 day of the 3<sup>d</sup> month.

MY D<sup>R</sup> AND SINCERELY BELOVED SON,—In the blessed truth, I doe salute thee and in the arms thereof I doe, as it were, Imbrace my tender Lamb, wishing Grace, Mercy and Peace from God our ffather and L<sup>d</sup> Jesus Christ to be multiplied and shed abroad abundantly upon thee, my Pretious Babe and most Esteemed Jewel the L<sup>d</sup> has blesst me with as to this world. So my D<sup>r</sup> Child, I have sent thee a small token of my love w<sup>c</sup> is the widows mite. A few Genneys w<sup>c</sup> is all A poor woman had. If I had more, thou should have had them. I have sent thee a bill w<sup>c</sup> is to be paid thee upon sight, thou may gitt Richard Smith to rec<sup>ve</sup> it for thee. I was at the meeting yesterday w<sup>r</sup> I met with Jo. Richardson's wife ; she is very much Enlarged in her Declaration. Poor Alice Harrison has a Grudging of her Distemper still, but I hope she will wear it off in a littel time. This is the 5th letter I write to thee, but never heard thou re<sup>d</sup> any of them, but I am in hopes to hear this week, because I think thou may be returned from thy Jorny. S. Barker will take care to pay Ann Gratton that monyes thou

write about. He intends to pay as soon as he can gitt. I have sent thee a Piece of Bacon to see how it is liked, as if it be lik'd I am heartilly willing to send more, but I have heard thee Comend London Bacon very much, made me Question whether it would be worth sending, but I desire to let me know how it is approved on, for if thou give me Encouragem<sup>t</sup> it is accepted on, I will send more. I am very sensible I am much indebted to Jacob Camfield and his wife for their kind respects for thee. The only time of sending Hony will be at the latter End of the year—now it is too hot, w<sup>c</sup> will cause it to work and so spoil it for eating. If thou have a mind to present them, thou may do it the latter end of Sumer, according to thy own likeing for bigness. I wish the pot come safe without breaking or working, but I am affraid off both. I would have thee think on Josiah Kirby for A place and send me word. So with my D<sup>r</sup> and unfained love I salute thee once more ; thou knows I love to doe it often of A day, w<sup>n</sup> thou art within my reach ; it is some satisfaction to doe it with my Pen, now I am deprived of that priviledge of my lips, so I hope thou wilt pardon all my weaknesses and fond Expressions w<sup>c</sup> proceeds from pure love w<sup>c</sup> is very fervent to thee from thy Poor Mother

M. RODES.

ffor Sir John Rodes.

The 2<sup>d</sup> month 1691.

MY D<sup>R</sup> CHILD,—I re<sup>d</sup> thine by the Post by w<sup>ch</sup> I understand, tom Bentley is gotten safe to London, and I approve of that way to have him be upon



## LETTERS OF MARTHA RODES 25

taking sometime before he be bound. I did intend to put thee in mind of Joshua Kirby, for his mother is very desirous to have him out, and it will be A making to the boy, so I would have thee remember to gitt A place for him upon such reasonable terms as ten pound, and parents find him Cloths and pay the monyes at twice.

I desire thee to gitt a hansome stuf sute and A good wascote. Thou knows I did not like the last stuf sute, therefore rem<sup>br</sup> and let it not be like that, but something more refined and finer. I wish, that riding coate of mine, the price I mean, had been bestowed of Cloths for thee. As for me, its littel matter what I wear. I cannot but take it kindly thou took such care for me, and it is a Demonstration of thy Love to me—Yet I should have certainly been satisfied of thy unfained Love to me, without that chargable present. I cannot help confessing, how sweet and pretious, and desirable and highly valueable thy love to me is, more than the Gold of Opher, and I hope nothing will be able to separate or with draw thy affections from me, tho' formerly I believe, thou may remember some People w<sup>f</sup> so wicked, as they desired to see A breach betwixt us, but their hopes is frustrated, as the hope of the hipocrite will Perish, and come to nothing ; but the just shall be Established and have an Everlasting foundation w<sup>ch</sup> cannot be shaken by the blast and breath of wicked men. So D<sup>f</sup> Babe, I comit thee to the keeping and Protection of Him who alone can keep thee and me in safety and Peace, so I hope he will keep us in unity with his Good spirit and that will keep us in Peace and love one with another

w<sup>ch</sup> is the fervent and cordual desire of her that is thy unfained affec. Mother in the blessed truth of our God

M. RODES.

I have a mind to know if thou hast seen W. P. So D<sup>r</sup> Babe let nothing trouble thee, but still trust and hope in God for their is safety in him both night and day w<sup>c</sup> was an Expression of thy Dear father's upon his death bed. I doe believe he came to witness and Experience the sweetness of trusting and depending upon the God of his salvation and I am satisfied he is at rest in the L<sup>d</sup>.

This For  
 Sir John Rodes  
 at Hen Goldneys  
 in White Hart Court  
 in Grace Church Street  
 London.  
 1693.

The 12 of this instant.

D<sup>r</sup> SON,—I rec<sup>d</sup> thine Dated the 6 of this instant w<sup>c</sup> was welcomly re<sup>d</sup> and embraced by me. I sh<sup>d</sup> A write by the next post, but I waited for an answer from Serlby; for Tom Pattison went to see them. Thy sister<sup>1</sup> hes not been very well; she had A fitt of an Ague, but thankes be to God, is very well again, and looks very well, Tom ses, and intends for Bal.<sup>2</sup> shortly. I w<sup>d</sup> fain A had thee Com<sup>d</sup> first. I re<sup>d</sup> the 2 barreles of Oysters and Disposed of them, according to thy order. I took it very kindly, but

<sup>1</sup> Ann, afterwards wife of William Thornton.

<sup>2</sup> Barlborough.

thought it rather too much for thee to Give at this time, because I know monyes is scarce with thee in that Place; Tho. I know thou art A Good husband, yet monyes will run fast. I w<sup>d</sup> have thee send to inquire at the carriers for A little paper Bundle w<sup>c</sup> was sent by Samuel Loft; thy silk wastcote was lapt within it, and some letters. This weeke thy Camlet Coat was sent up by widdow Dickison. Let them enquire for them both. I sent my acknowledgements in that bundle to Henry Goldney, and I doe really thinke myself very much obliged to them for their kindness to thee, and Therefore, remember my kind respects to them both, and let them know I am very sensible of their love to thee, and thankful to them for it, and Desire they may have A reward A hundred fold into their bosoms from the almighty for their Labour of Love to thee; for he is the bountifull repayer of all Good turns Dun here in the body, and he will recompence A cup of Cold water. I desire thee to buy me 6 books of W. Pens the fruits of Solitude. I w<sup>d</sup> have unbound for Cheapness and 2 bound; for I thinke them Excellent Pithy books, and may Do Good to be sent abroad—in all eight. I am very well pleased that thou Condescend to let me have libbertie to git Coals in that Close<sup>1</sup>; if it be no benefitt to me, yet it Pleases me: I hope if I doe gitt Coals, it will not Damage thee at all. These 2 last years, Their might have been A great many more sail'd both at thy Pits and Beaton feild Pits, so, if I had to furnish them, it w<sup>d</sup> A Dun the Country good and thee no

<sup>1</sup> Referring to certain ancient coal-pits near the house at Barborough, now filled in and covered over.

hurt. Time will show it, that I shall not be ongratefull to thee for thy favours and Condescention to me. . . . I can give thee no account of thy brother Heathcote, for I have not seen, nor heard of him Lately ; but I sent a letter to him lately for Herry. Its like he may be with thee before this Paper reach thee. So with saluation of my Endeared Love to thee, My D<sup>r</sup> Sonn, I remain thine

M. RODES.

Robert Harrison hes his Ague fits Every 3<sup>d</sup> Day. I desire thee to Let me know if thou hast red. wast-coat and coat and w<sup>n</sup> thou thinkes of Coming home, and how thou likes London in winter and also I desire to know, if thou enjoys W. Pens Company sometimes, and how he does and reme<sup>f</sup> my kind respects to him.

I thought fit to inclose this letter that thou may see how it is and w<sup>f</sup> abouts they intend to Pitch.

#### MY DEAR MOTHERS LETTER

The 2<sup>d</sup> day of the 2<sup>d</sup> month.

MY D<sup>r</sup> CHILD,—This is to satisfie thee, I re<sup>d</sup> thy kind letts w<sup>c</sup> thou sent by An. Allin w<sup>c</sup> gave me an account about the sattin. I thinke to have none of that high rates. I heard by A. Allin, thou was gone along with J. Gratton, but hopes thou may be returned by this time. I write to thee by the post and also by the Carrier 2 letters, but has not heard from thee since, but I thinke the cause of my not having A letter was thy absince fro London, w<sup>c</sup> might hinder the receipt of mine. However, I desire thee to write as soon as thou returns from thy jorny, for

I am not Easie in my mind, unless I heare from thee often. Thy old Land-lady Mrs Wigfall <sup>1</sup> has been hear this week to speak A good word for Robert Barker, and tells us of his Kindness to thy sister Ann, and he desires to know if I like of it. He is now gon to London. I ask't what Portion he expected, and she s<sup>d</sup> £2500, but I told her £1500 would be the most, and therefore desired her not to encourage him to come, unless that Portion might be acceptable to him. I told her it was A great Portion out of this Estate and would be very difficult to raise, considering the times. She s<sup>d</sup> he had maid my brother acquainted with his design and he lik't of him very well. If he likes of the Portion, he will Proceed w<sup>n</sup> he Comes down from the term I sopose. Mrs Wigfall Comends him Highly. If it be for her good, I shall desire it may go forward, if that sum will please him, not els, for I will not be engaged no further. She pressed for £2000 but I would not condescend to a greater sum.<sup>2</sup> A. Allin told us how well thou lookt. He told us, thou came into some place w<sup>f</sup> he was, and he thought thou had been some rich Alderman. We talkt and laught with him, and I was pleased to hear thou was so well. I perceive Tho. Bently is like to stay with the Kalender,<sup>3</sup> so I desire thee to agree with R. Smith upon as easie terms as thou caust for J. Kirby, for I thinke it

<sup>1</sup> Of Renishaw Hall, Derbyshire.

<sup>2</sup> Robert Barker evidently did not "like of the portion," for in the next letter, probably written two years later, Ann is mentioned as the wife of William Thornton.

<sup>3</sup> Calender or calenderer, one who calenders cloth.

"My good friend the Calender Will lend his horse to go."

("John Gilpin.")

would be amaking to the lad, w<sup>ch</sup> makes me very desirous of it. The next week I thinke to send some Bacon, having this opertunity of this convenient messenger J. Ludlom. I thort Good to give thee the satisfaction of hearing and enquiring of thy friends in the Country, so I ordered him to call at Barnett.

Brother Heathcott is pritte Harty : he came hither to night. I would have thee remember Samuells Glasses, and send them, as soon as thou can conveniently. I have A mind to know w<sup>n</sup> thou thinks of returning home ; it would be some satisfaction to me to know, so with salutation of Endered Love to my D<sup>r</sup> Babe whom the Lord hath made the support and Joy of my life. . . . This from thy Poor Mother

M. RODES.

For S<sup>r</sup> John Rodes att Henry  
Goldney<sup>s</sup> House in White  
Hart Court in Gracious Street  
London.

May the 21, 1694.

D<sup>r</sup> SON,—I hope thou art gotten safe and well to thy friend H. Goldney, by this time. It has pleased God to visit us in this family with trouble about poor little Willy who is very weak and in great Danger of being taken away from us in A short time, and his mother is very Impatient ; I know not what we shall doe with her. I wish thou had been at home. While their is life, their is hopes. We have had brother Heathcotes advice ; but I doubt he fears him. We did not discern



*Martha, wife of Sir Francis Roden*





him to decay before the latter end of the week thou went to London. I have been very much Exercised about the child, for I am very unwilling it should Die here if I could help it ; but I know its fitt I should submitt to the will of God in this and in all other things—It is that w<sup>ch</sup> brings me peace in humble submitting and resigning my will to the will of my heavenly father. I have found, by good experience, the sweet of it to my souls satisfaction and rest. I bless God, I am in good health, as to my body—Tom was telling me thou desired to know, because thou heard me complaining of A pain in my shoulder, but now, thanks be to God, it has left. But this poor littel infant, I am much concerned about ; it puts me so in mind of thy poor brother Gerards illness. How I was exercised at that time w<sup>c</sup> I shall never forgitt, at times, so long as I am in this earthly tabernacle and house of Clay. Thy brother Thornton does w<sup>t</sup> he can to comfort his wife ; he ses it has brought him very weak for fear of his wife. He ses he could part with A many sons, if he had them, rather than his wife. He will gitt up in the night to come to see how his son does, to satisfie his wife. He is a very loving and indulgent husband, as ever I see—She has great cause to praise the Lord for his mercyes to her. I desire thee to let me hear from thee, as speedely as thou can ; and I think it might doe well to write to thy sister to perswade her to be content and sumitt to the will of God about her Child. Alice Harrison bears her loss very well ; she carries very discreetly, and I hope will doe

very well; She was at a meeting at the house last 7 Day; Here was Thomas Musgrave<sup>1</sup> and Henry Batey. I was at Robert Harrisons funerall and it rained all the way; yet I got no Could, I bless God for his mercyes to me at all times and I pray God bless, preserve and keep thee in health both in body and mind, w<sup>c</sup> is the fervent cry and breathing of my Soul to the God of heaven. This is the earnest and dayly prayer of thy most affec. mother

M. RODES.

Ffor

Sir John Rodes

B. the 17 Instant 94.

MY D<sup>R</sup> SON,—I re<sup>d</sup> thine Dated the 7th of this Instant w<sup>ch</sup> brought great satisfaction to my poor soul, because I did find thy Love richly Demonstrated and made plain to me, w<sup>c</sup> I doe vallue and prize at a very High rate. Next to the Love of my God, I do desire it and thirst after it and beg for it, if it be the will of my heavenly father, He alone knows the sinceritie and truth of my heart to thee, so, if he please to move thy Heart with Pity and tenderness towards me, he alone is worthy of the praise w<sup>c</sup> I desire to give and ascribe to him, for to him it is due s<sup>th</sup> my soul and that continually, for at any time, if I have thought that thou hast been Possesst of hard thoughts ag<sup>st</sup> me, I could have born it as to my own perticuler, without lessening my affection, or having hard thoughts of thee, but my

<sup>1</sup> See note, p. 132.

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great Concern hes been for fear it sh<sup>d</sup> hurt thee, for my innocencies and integritie and Dear affec: to thee is known to the L<sup>d</sup> of life, and so I knew him able and all sufficient to plead my Cause in thy heart and in all Hearts. And so through mercy I c<sup>d</sup> lay down my head in Peace and quietly and Calmly and patiently bear and submitt to the will of God, knowing that no affliction Comes by Chance, and therefore it is our duty and our happiness to bear them Patiently. . . . I have just now received A letter dated from Tunbridge w<sup>c</sup> brought the good news of the waters agreing with thee, w<sup>c</sup> I fervently desire they may work for thy Good and all other things that thou takes in hand, for I can truly say, the Comfort of my life is bound up in thy life and well being, and so I pray God be with thee and bless thee and shine round thy tabernacle both night and day and preserve thee and bring thee safe to thy Deare Mother

M. RODES.

The Doctor<sup>1</sup> is sent for this Day to serlby, he gott his Dinner here and so went to Serlby. Littel Willie I hope does mend and in time may wear it off, but it will not be suddenly. I hear the great Lady Frechville<sup>2</sup> is going to tunbridge, thou wilt know her, tho' she, perhaps, may not know—it is impossible she sh<sup>d</sup>, unless she hear thy name. . . . As for the picture I thinke it will be best to let it rest till I (have) more monyes.

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Heathcote.

<sup>2</sup> Of Staveley Hall, near Chesterfield.

I hardly thinke anybody will give so much for it as 5 pounds, its like they heard A lady had A mind of it w<sup>c</sup> made them rise in their Price, its like if they see we be indifferent they will fall again.

For Sir John Rodes.

1694.

D<sup>R</sup> SON,—I received thine this instant, being the 6th of July, and am truly glad to hear of the continuance of thy health, and shall not be against thy going a long with W. Pen, for I thinke it may be advantage and improvement to thee ; for I am satisfied he is A very wise, prudent, Good man, and hes large Experience both of spiritual and temporal things.

This day the Docter is gon to Serlby to old Mrs. Sanderson, being ill of A sore leg and her D<sup>ter</sup> is much affraid of her, and Therefore sent for the Docter. He complains of the not writing to him, and I tell him its nothing but w<sup>t</sup> he deserves—he being so remiss in that Point himself—He gives us very littel encouragem<sup>t</sup> of Poor Willes recovery ; but as to my own thoughts, I have some hopes A live still, that he may wear it out in Gods Good time. He is A poor, worn babe, but yet is very pleasant sometimes, and will smile very prettely. I am very desirous of his life, if it please God. Honest J. Bancroft was here, and had a meeting of the 3<sup>d</sup> day, being the 3<sup>d</sup> of this month. I took it as a very great kindness from him. W. Wrag

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was here, and Tho: Samson, and severall from Chesterfield. I bless God, we are all in Good health, but the poor infant W. Thornton. Gilbert is a brave lad. I shall write by Tho:, and so shall Conclude with blessing, and praying for the beloved son of

M. RODES.

Ffor Sr John Rodes  
at Moniash  
This

31 of the 4.

MY D<sup>R</sup> CHILD,—I was very much concerned at the news Tom brought me of J. Grattons illness, for I know, he would be A sore mist man, but I have some hopes God will restore him to his former health again, for I perceive by the latter part of her letter his illness is much abated beyond her Expectation. My D<sup>r</sup> Love is to them both, and I desire the L<sup>d</sup> may support them under this affliction that they may have cause to say it was Good for them they w<sup>r</sup> afflicted. I hope thou may find him in A very hopefull way of recovery and thou will come chearfully back with Thomas to morrow, for I shall long very much to have thee at home, because distemper is stirring very much, and I am very apt to perplex myselfe with fears of the worst. However, I desire, thou may come home tomorrow, and I thinke I shall be willing to let thee goe shortly again and Company may be more acceptable to John w<sup>n</sup> he has a littel recovered his strength, for I cannot but thinke he

is brought very weak with his violent vomitting and Extreame pain. I wish I had any thing to send him that would doe him good. I have sent some littel things which I know will not hurt him. This tent wine may be good for him to take with a bit of bread tosted and put in and so eat the bread. If he can gitt it down, it will strengthen his stomack A littel and revive his spirits, if his vomitting and pain have left him. I canot be well satisfied, unless thou come home. Therefore, satisfie my desires at this time, and I shall be willing to condescend and comply with thee another time in as great a matter, So committing thee to the mighty mercifull and powerfull God Almighty who is able to keep thee and preserve thee at all times and in all places from dangers and distresses, both within and without, so D<sup>r</sup> Lamb I am thy tender and affectionate Mother

M. RODES.

For Sir John Rodes.

Feb. 19th.

MY D<sup>r</sup> SON,—I write last week about the Chariot lyning that I desired to have it Blue. I hope it will come to thy hands. This is to acquaint thee that I am to have seven p<sup>d</sup> of Jerimiah Ash,—it is his sister Marys money, and she has a Desire to have it Down, and so was pleased to let me have it, paying her so much here ; so I w<sup>d</sup> have thee order Cornelius<sup>1</sup> to goe for it, and he is to pay it upon sight of her letter

<sup>1</sup> Cornelius Cade, Sir John's servant.

—£5 is to be for the Coach, and the other fourty is to come out of Derbyshire—The Messenger is not returned back, so I canot tell the time of pament. I have been thinking several times of asking thy advice about Nephew Hussey, concerning making him A small present of A guinye, if thou think it may be acceptable to him. Thou knows his temper better than I. If he be a proud man, I know he w<sup>d</sup> scorn such a small matter, but I leave it to thy discretion to doe as thou sees Cause : So there is forty shillings remains of the seven p<sup>d</sup>, w<sup>c</sup> is, one guiny to Cozen Hussey, if thou think fitt, and the remainder is for some od thing for myself. I desired some orringes and lemons of Cornelius in my last w<sup>c</sup> I w<sup>d</sup> have thee give him mony out of this, and also I desire A pound of Coffe and 2 paire of Gloves, one coloured, the other white ; the coloured I would have stitched with black, and a quire or 2 of Gilded paper. I heard of thy coming this way with thy Uncle, w<sup>c</sup> is very pleasing to me. Mrs Shower told the Coachman that her husband write her word that S<sup>r</sup> John Rodes and Mr Thornton came all down together of tusday come senit. Thy sister has none of her new alterations finished, but is all in disorder. How her uncle will approve of it, I know not, nor she neither—I am in thoughts about the Chariot gitting down. I once thought of thy coming in it, but I think thou art otherways resolved. I was thinking, if thou hired A Coachman and Horses, and so thy Uncle and thee ride down in it and Patryark. But I shall leave to thee to Contrive how it must be. If thou do not come in it, it may be as well to let it alone, and send for it after thou art come down, and so let me help

to contrive about it—I would have thee visit the Duke of Leeds<sup>1</sup> before thou leave the town, I would have thy friendship kept, because he may, and it is in his power to doe thee a kindness, if he hath but a Heart to doe it. I desire thee to write once again before thou come to let me know the certain time of thy coming, w<sup>c</sup> will be very acceptable news to thy truly affectionate Mother

M. RODES.

For

S<sup>r</sup> John Rodes att  
Dockett Heathcotes house  
in Lincolns in fields  
London.

May the 10 (1712).

D<sup>r</sup> SON,—Yesterday I re<sup>d</sup> the good news of thy safe arrival in Lincolns inn feilds, w<sup>c</sup> I was glad of, and also that thou lik'd the situation of the place, and that the air agrees with thee better than thou did expect, so that I hope thou will stay with Ease and satisfaction to thy self and also to thy sisters. I am sure it would have been great trouble to thy sister Heathcote, if thou had not lodg<sup>d</sup> at her house, so I hope all sides will be easie . . . for I much desire that Peace and love may Dwell amongst you and remain with you for ever.

I hope this Tutour will please all sides. I long to hear that he is Entertained and approved on by his Mother, and admitted into his place of Govern<sup>t</sup> to her son, and that he may be tractable and willing to

<sup>1</sup> Sir Thomas Osborne, 1st duke of Leeds (1631-1712).



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learn, w<sup>c</sup> will be for his future good, and will please all his good friends, as Mo: Grandmother, Uncle and Aunt. I am sure it w<sup>d</sup> revive my spirits to hear that thy nephew Will does settle to his book, w<sup>c</sup> w<sup>d</sup> keep him out of bad company, so he would be A comfort to all his relations, and A happiness to himself. I desire much to hear from thee, therefore doe not fail to gratifie the request of thy Affectionate Mother

M. RODES.

My pen and ink is bad, but yet I venterd to write in hopes it w<sup>d</sup> bring A letter from thee my D<sup>c</sup> Son.

Ffor

S<sup>r</sup> John Rodes at Docter  
Heathcotes house in  
Lincoln-Inns fields  
London.

May the 17 (1712).

D<sup>r</sup> SON,—I re<sup>d</sup> thy letter dated the 13 of this instant w<sup>c</sup> was very welcome, as thine is always to me, it came unexpected for I did not think of A letter the last post, because thou could not re<sup>d</sup> mine.

I am glad thou hes prevail'd with Wille to go to school with Cornelius. I wish thou could also perswade him to learn Lattin and french with him, for I dispair of his Mother gitting him A Tutour. I desire to know if this be the man W<sup>m</sup> Penn

recommended for A Tutour to thy sister. I am glad to hear the Docter is so very obligeing to you all, and that there is such A good agreement amongst you, for Peace is very pleasant in a private family as in the Publick. I wish this news be true of the Queens Declareing the Peace w<sup>c</sup> will be very acceptable to all good People. Michael Milner was to see me this week and desired to have his kind love remembered to thee. He came before Dinner, and that same day, Mr Turner and his wife came to inquire of thy Health and seemed to be glad to hear that thou gott well to London. S. Barker write to thee to give thee an account how the work went on. He hes been very ill of his Distemper, since thou went, had a very sore day yesterday of his pain. He thought worse than ever he had. He hes tryed Coalback<sup>1</sup> his medicen, but finds no good but rather worse. He writes he w<sup>d</sup> have come up to London to be serched whether it be the stone or an ulcer ; he concludes it is one of them Distemper, or both, but S. B. he does not approve of that method, but is willing to wait upon God to order and dispose of him as he pleases and is very thankfull to God Almighty that he gives him so much time to prepare for his last day.

The sail for Coals is but slack as yet ; they will observe thy orders about the monys returning.

I write to thee ab<sup>t</sup> J. Kirby in S. Barkers letter and I desire to know what is done. We hear he his gotten A protection<sup>2</sup> so I hope this ten p<sup>d</sup> may be

<sup>1</sup> See note, p. 167.

<sup>2</sup> "Protection," *i.e.* a writ by which persons were formerly "protected" or saved from arrest.

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saved for better uses—If thou be not at leasure to write, order thy sister to write to me.

So with D<sup>r</sup> love to thee and thy sisters with prayers for your Healths this from Your truly affectionate

MOTHER.

My kind love to W<sup>m</sup> and George and Mat and Cornelius.

Ffor

Sir John Rodes at Docter Heathcotes  
house in Lincolns inn-field  
near Holbourne row  
London.

May the 8th (1713).

D<sup>R</sup> SON,—I have been several weeks in expectation of seeing thee at home, w<sup>c</sup> prevented me f<sup>m</sup> writing, but now it seems to me as though thou was unresolved of the time w<sup>n</sup>. Thomas Aldam<sup>1</sup> was here today, and he perswades me that thou willt stay the yearly meeting. He s<sup>d</sup>, he thought to have found thee at home. He had been at a funeral at Mansfield, and gott hether before Diner, and so gott his Diner. He left that after noon. I could not prevail with him to stay. He ses he hes been very lame all winter, not able to help himself, nor could not feed himself. I told him we did not hear he was so very ill.

<sup>1</sup> A prominent Yorkshire Quaker, living at Warmsworth.

I am glad to hear George Thornton is well placed to his own satisfaction, and that he likes the employm<sup>w</sup> will make his apprenticeship pass on very easily. I hope now thou has seen that work accomplished, of G. T. being settled, thou wilt make hast home, for I want thee very much; yet I am loath to press thee very much, because I know thou hes more Diversion and pleasure, than thou wilt meet with here at Barlbrough. Mallo Barnard is very ill. I am affraid of A fever. She began with a Cold fitt, but after was violent hot; but w<sup>t</sup> it will be, I know not as yet—It will be a great trouble to her Mo:—The workmen hes not begun of the stairs, I, expecting thy coming within a few days, thought it better to defer it, till thou came and then thou might have it done according to thy own mind; and thou also concluded thy letter to J. Hallum that they might be finishing the Chamber till thou came, w<sup>c</sup> made me more bold to determine the letting the stairs alone till thou come, w<sup>c</sup> I hope will not be long. It will be no prejudice to the work, nor the workmen, for J. Hallum saith the wood will be in better order for working, being it is dry wether. If I have done amiss in putting a stoping to the work, I hope thou wilt pardon me, for my design was good. S. Barker presents his kind love and service to thee. His distemper increases upon him very much; his pain is more violent and sharp than it was and continues very painful; his condition is very deploreable; he does bear it very pateintly, and seems to be very much resigned to the will of God to dispose of him, as he pleases, to be content. I desire, we may be fitted

and prepared for our great change w<sup>c</sup> will certainly come sooner or later.

My time cannot be long by course of nature. So desiring thou wilt remember me in thy prayers, who am, thy tenderly affectionate Mother

M. RODES.<sup>1</sup>

I desire thee to send J. Mager to Mary Bentley to bespeak 6<sup>d</sup> of Chocolate of Godfre Langford w<sup>c</sup> she use to buy. I w<sup>d</sup> have it fresh and new made. M. Barnard is better this morning, so I hope she will do well. My respects to Mr Caswell, not forgetting his pupil.

If thou be not disposed to write, order thy sisters to write, for it is the greatest satisfaction, I have in thy absence to hear of thy Health—The sail for Coals is quick this week.

<sup>1</sup> Lady Rodes died shortly after this letter was written, and was buried within the Altar rails in the Parish Church, Barlborough.



LETTERS OF HENRY GOULDNEY

1690—1725





Ffor Sr. John Roades  
at Balber Hall.  
To be left at Timothy Garlands  
at the Green Draggon  
In Mansfeild  
near Nottingham.

London the 22nd  $\frac{9}{110}$  1690.

SR. JN. ROADDES,—Esteemed ffrd, I recd thine by which I perceive the eldest lad is not to come, and that the youngest is intended ; I spoake to the ffrd abt it, and he seems inclinable to make tryall of him, and if he can be spared, the sooner the better, for he wants a Lad. To me the boy seemd hardy, and if he is, twill be better ; but, for the first year or two, his service will not be hard. As to the 10 pounds, if he likes him to stay for the one halfe 3 years, he will not be against, though tis Customary to have it downe—I desire thee send word whether he can come in a little time or no, that he may know what to depend upon—ffriends are now solisiting the Parliament abt getting our affirmation<sup>1</sup> instead of an Oath, and we are in grate hopes it will go throw the house of Lords, it haveing passed them once—There is a bill in the Commons against Clandestine Marriages wch. is good in itself, but will be prejudicial to ffrds, unless we can obtaine a Clause to tollarate our marriages wch. we

<sup>1</sup> Passed 1696.

have some hopes of, or else that the bill will not pass ; but I hope twill pass wth. a proviso for us.

If neither, we shall be greatly sufferers. The Conventicle<sup>1</sup> Act was a favourable one to this bill, for it obliges all to come to the Priest for marriage, and all others declared voyd.

I have no more, but my Dear Love to thee, the Lady and thy Sisters and to Thos. Aldam wn. thus sees him—I am thy reall ffriend

HENRY GOULDNEY.<sup>2</sup>

My wifes Dear Love is to thee. My love also to S. Barker.

Ffor  
Sir John Roads  
at Balber Hall.  
To be left at Timothy Garlands  
at the Green Dragon  
In Mansfeild  
near Nottingham.

London the 10th of the  $\frac{10}{mo}$  1690.

SIR JOHN ROADS,—Dear ffriend, Thine I have recd. and perceive thou or the lads ffrds inclinds that he should stay till the spring, for that he is

<sup>1</sup> Conventicles—private assemblies for religious worship. The name was particularly applied to those which differed in form and doctrine from the Established Church.

<sup>2</sup> Henry Gouldney, Merchant, of White Hart Court, Gracechurch Street (sometimes called Gracious Street), London. He was not “a man of letters,” like William Penn and John Tomkins, and the handwriting and style (to say nothing of the spelling) of some of his epistles are best described in his own words, “’twas ruff as it ran.”

learning to write ; (tis pittie he cannot do it alreadie) for his intended Mr. now wants him or another, and although writeing is a good Qualification to any one, yet in this way, tis but little wanted, but that he may make an entrance. He is willing to stay abt. 6 weeks or 2 months at farthest. Although he cannot be an artist in that time, yet he may learne so much that wth. his industry at leasure times, he may mend his hand ; and for thy sake, I would not have his Mr. take another : first, because, to come after, he must be under the other all along—Give me thy mind first. . . . As to our ffriend W. P.,<sup>1</sup> he was fully cleared without any objection the last term—I shewd him thine, and his dear love is to thee and thy Mother—The bill abt. Clandestine Marriages is quite throwne out ; those that ware our ffrds, in being willing to make a Proviso for us, not being able to carry it in the house in favour to us, joynd wth. them that ware against the whole bill and so threw it quite out, that now we are as we ware——

We have another matter depending, and it has passed the Lords ; that is, to be excused from Oaths ; it is now waiting a convenient season for the Commons ; but some ffrds are dissatisfied wth. the manner of wording of our Declaration, that we may not be desceived that by the pretence of excusing us from the Common forme, we may go into a new one, more invocating and imprecating, wch. many concludes amounts to an Oath, or however, beyond the Command of Christ that says : What is more than yea yea or nay nay comes of

<sup>1</sup> William Penn.

evill in Temporall Concernes ; in spiritualls it differs —and as near as I can remember tis in the Cerimoney of being uncovered ; and the title of the Act. runs : that Whereas we scruple the forme of swearing now used wch. implies that they account this but another forme for the same thing, many stumbles at it and none hartily likes it, yet some is for accepting of it so—If thou should quickly se T. Aldam, thou may shew him the forme to se if he approves of it. My dear love to him and should be glad to se him hear againe as also Jn. Gratton— for my part, I am affraide the world will repraoch us if we should comply of swearings, and so lessen our testimony against it ; but to have our words simply taken, wth. an equall punishment for the fallsiefeing our words wth. perjury, would be a great advantage to our bussieness in trade and I should be glad of it. I am with Kinde Love to thy Selfe & Mother thy reall ffrd.

HENY. GOULDNEY.

The forme runs thus

I, A. B. do in the presence of God sincerely and solemnly declare that I will true answer make in the present case, and I speake the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, and I call God to witness and appeal to him as Judge of the truth of what I shall say.

To be said bare headed.

Some learned of the world hearing it already, says tis an oath. I am apt to think ffrds. will be troubled to answer the many oppositions we may meet wth. by Professors upon it ; but I am apt to

think that the Parl. will be put of before tis don,  
the King<sup>1</sup> intending suddenly for Holland.

## HENRY GOULDNEY TO SIR J. RODES

To Timothy Garland at the Green Draggon  
In Mansfeild  
near Nottingham  
For Sr. John Roads at Balbar Hall.

London the 15th of the  $\frac{11}{mo}$  1690.

SR. JOHN ROADES,

DEAR FRIEND,—I have received thine in answer to my former, and have acquainted my Friend with its Contents about the Lad. He sayes he shall want him before and desiers he may come 2 weeks sooner at least ; but if it cannot be, I will get him to stay, yet he urges it pretty much :

I am glad thou art like to accompany John Gratton, whose Company will be acceptable here. I have now a matter of greife to acquainte thee with, I call it so because 'twill bring an exercise upon the whole church of God ; 'tis no less then the Loss of our Dear and honourable Friend and eminent Father G. Fox.<sup>2</sup> He came to my house last 7th day night not very well. His concerne was to be at meeting with us the next day, and was thare and was largely carried forth and spoake hartly. So soone as he came out, betwixt the meeting and our house, he felt the

<sup>1</sup> William III.

<sup>2</sup> G. Fox, born 1624, at Drayton, Leicestershire. Founder of the "Society of Friends," nick-named "Quakers" in 1650.

Cold to seize him inwardly, yet seemed Indifferent well, till towards night. Then he was taken very ill, and so continued till last 3d. night near 10th houer and then quietly departed without any groan or strugling. Many Friends came to vissit him, but for the most part, twas hard for him to speake, and not easily understood ; but severall times said the Lords Power was Over all. And he had a Concerne in his illness for the universall good of Friends in all parts and Countreys. Tis indeed Comfortable to behold the Concerne Friends are generally in for his absence from us, and how the Antient Friends mournes like little Children when in the waight of the sence of his service and Apostleship among them ; which desierrs that the Lord would make up his loss by largely powering Forth of his spirit upon such as are yet behinde. Indeed he was a Worthy Champion in his day, and lived to see a large increase of the spreading of that Gospell, that in these latter dayes was First plentifully mannifested to, and then faithfully declared by him ; But now he is gon and at rest from his Labours and has the reward of Joy and Comfort for his suffering and exercises here—no more at present but mine and my wifes dear love to thee and thy Mother also to T. A. and J. G.<sup>1</sup> when thou see them ; I am thy affectionate Friend

HENRY GOULDNEY.

W. P. was out of towne most part of his illness, he askd after him several times and desierrd to see him ; J. W<sup>m</sup> came that afternoone I staid much with him.

<sup>1</sup> Thomas Aldam and John Gratton.

Ffor Sir John Roades  
at Balber Hall.

To be left at Joseph Storrs Woolendrapet  
In Chesterfeild Darbyshire.

London the 5th of  $\frac{7}{mo}$  93.

DEAR SR. JOHN ROADES,—I recd. thine wth. the inclosed to our ffrd.<sup>1</sup> wch. I forwarded to him, being out of towne, and his dear wife indisposed greatly by a relaps, but I hope, now somewhat mending—Yesterday I had a letter from him abt. the bussieness, and gave me a letter to a ffrd of his on thy behalfe. I carried it to the other end of the towne where he dwells. He told me he would do his best, and appointed me to come againe this night. I accordingly did, who tells me that he spoake wth. one that have so great an interest wth. the secretary, that he dont at all question to obtaine thy request, saying 'tis contrary to the act of Indullgence; and that wn. the King comes, if he is reminded, he will be sure to do it, and that he have knowne the like thing don lately: I replied, perhaps to stay till he came might be too late, but we ware both ignorant of the time the Councill fixeth upon. The high Sherriffs being late, I could not be informed, but I shall endeavour to morrow, and if I se a nessesity I think to goe againe, the person not questioning doeing it although in the Kings absence. I have given thee the substance of wt. past, wch. was willing to doe rather than

<sup>1</sup> W. Penn.

thou should waite to here from our ffrd that might not come untill another post or two—I know thou have great relations that may be capeable of lending a lift in this case. I would not have thee to loose any interest that may help thee by depending upon this way, because I know Court ffriendships are not always certaine, though this seems feasible—

I am, with Dear Love to thee, and thy mother, thy reall ffrd.

HENRY GOULDNEY.

If thou have anything further to communicate, let me have it.

Ffor Sir John Roades  
at Balber Hall.  
To be left with  
Joseph Storr  
In Chesterffeild  
Darbyshire.

London the 24th  $\frac{12}{mo}$  1693.

DEAR FFRD,—The hearing of thy wellfare was but greatly acceptable to me, and this of thy saffe arrival, and meeting thy relations well to all your satisfaction, after so much and dear ffriendship between us cannot but be good news to me.

The mallanchollyst pt is the absence of thy Company than whome no one has been more wellcome to us both, and to take of obligation, thou tooke care to prevent by thy gennerous present, wch in my invitation had no share of the inducement—twas thy Civil-



lity, and so I take it—I observe wt thou writes abt. the Doctor's<sup>1</sup> Mother. Tis a branch that springs from the old root of envy, a true Charracteristick of that malicious tribe who had (was the Choice their own) rather hang up ten quakers than sacrifice one liffe of their owne. Although in her rage she may talke of its being her death, let her vent her mallice against thee as shee please : if so to do is vile, I hope (wch. reverence), be it spoken the Lord will yet make thee more so. I hope for thy pore Brother that he will continue in the constancy of his affections to truth, and not be scared with the prejudiced threats of his relations, though in their blinde zeals, they may thinke they are in the right, that wch. proceeds from that evill root is not of God, and they themselves will one day finde the loade of it—I am now to acquaint thee that this day after long weakness, came the news of the Decease of our dear ffrd W. P.'s wife ;<sup>2</sup> a man of many sorrows, indeed, for as he is naturally of a most affectionate temper, so, when a great object of that affection is removed, it cannot but have a deep impreshion upon so sensible a minde. She was a virtuous woman, had a noble regard to truth, wch. wth. the advantage of a temper not easily moved to extreame, she have for a long time borne up above the ffrightfull apprehensions of the many dangers her dear husband has undergone ; and although the Lord has been by an immediate hand, his strength and support under them all, her constancy and undauntedness, doubtless, have all along added to his—wch. I hope by a double por-

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Gilbert Heathcote.

<sup>2</sup> Gulielma Springett, married 1672.

tion, will be handed to him, if more exercise should be his lott, Yet I would hope that since he have had so great a share, the measure of his afflictions are now almost full, that in this world he may enjoy an outward portion of rest. 'Tis my hartly desiers to the Lord for him, if God in his wisdome se it best. I am, dear ffrd with mine and my wifes dear love to thee and thy Dear Mother also to thy Brother Heathcote, &c. ffrom thy affectionate ffrd.

HENRY GOULDNEY.

. . . Jno. Gratton writes to Thos: ffeild of a Child near thee being borne with a top knot. ff. seems inclinable to print it. Is the fact true or not?

Ffor Sr. John Roades  
at Balber Hall.  
To be left with Joseph Storr  
In Chesterfeild  
Darbyshire.

London the 27th of the  $\frac{2}{mo}$  94.

SR. J. R.,—Dear ffriend, twas last night that I considered, I was a letter in thy debt, wch ommission seized wth weight upon me. I do redeeme it the best I could. I fully intended a speedy returne—I have consulted W. P.'s french man abt. getting one of his countrey men to be thy servant; he has made inquiry and heard of one or two, but I thinck neither of them have the latting

tongue. They want to know what they must have for wages. Upon the whole I conclude it best that nothing be don, till thou come up to the yearly meeting, at wch. time I expect thee, and to be free wth. thee, I cannot tell how to thinck thou should lodge from my house, tho for abt. 3 weeks, it will, I conclude, be a hurrey ; after that I shall be more free, so if thou wiltt bare wth. the inconveniency, thou may asure thy selfe to be wellcome to a Landlord that has an intire affection for thee, and I am sure my wife has also—She is now in Buckinghamshire, and intends to stay 3 weekes—I have little to give thee account of ; the most considerable is G. K.'s<sup>1</sup> being here—He is not a man governed wth. that meekness that becomes his Doctrine who puts a great value upon the outward comeing of our Blessed Lord ; wch. I hope all honnest ffrds. finds it their duty to doe ; yet himselfe far from making him a lively example in meekness and humility—ffrds. have had many private meetings wth. him, and by them all, I don't finde great hopes of his comeing more near us in spirit. His doctrines, in the generall, are I think owned by all sound ffrinds, but he seemes to lay downe abt. 7 points wch. he calls fudimentalls, in any of whome, if we disagree in, he cannot hold ffellowship, tho upon the whole, was not his spirit wrong,

<sup>1</sup> George Keith (1639-1716) adopted the tenets of the Quakers ; settled in Philadelphia as a schoolmaster in 1689. Returned to London 1694, was disowned by the Quakers for preaching heresy. Obtained a meeting-house of his own at Turner's Hall, Philpot Lane, Fenchurch Street ; joined the Established Church in 1700, and returned to America as one of the first missionaries of the S.P.G.

that would easily be accommodated—He takes commonly large time in meetings, but mostly flat ; he has a tone sometimes, especially wth. on one of his pticular points that he huggs more than ordinery, that he carrys off more lively—My acct. is in grosse, tis to large and beyond my memmorey to pticularize—I hope it will have one good effect, viz. the more uniteing W. P. and G. W.<sup>1</sup> who chiefly manages him—the other ffrds. that came from Pensilvania appear far the better spirited. Men come in unity of ffrds there, and is so recd. here ; yet some caution upon them that G. K. might not take occation to accot. ffrinds partiall—He speaks of appealing to the yearly meeting and will submitt to their judgement so far as it agrees wth. his, and not otherwise—

I hope thy Brother, by the controversey that may happen, will receive no hurt. I think tis liffe and not arguments by wch. he was begotten, that so there is less danger. Thou may somewhat prepare him in the Interrim.—

Our ffrd. is of late pretty much among us—never a bad spirit dares to open at him ; he has his post and that is at the helme ; he is an able Physitian (under God) and his meddicines is chiefly Simpytheticall Balsome. He is not for wranckling the wound, but powering in of oyle—

I hope Jno Gratton will finde his way hither at that needfull time—I am with my Cordiall love and respects to thee, thy affectionate ffrd.

HENRY GOULDNEY.

<sup>1</sup> George Whitehead.

the 1st  $\frac{3}{\text{mo}}$ 

The above was wrote last post, but a fire happening that evening, tooke up my thoughts, that till too late, I forgot to send it—It burnt a great hall and abt. 2 or 3 houses.

For

Sr. John Rodes at Bloxam.

To be left at Henry Pickworths

In Sleeford

Lincollnshire.

London the 6th of  $\frac{10}{\text{mo}}$  94.

DEAR FFRIEND,—That I am in fault I shall reddily acknowledge ; but my ommishion has not been my forgetfullness, but cheifly a want of knowing where to send. But to-day I met wth. Anthony from whome I had direction. If this honest excuse may be credited, I question not forgiveness, but I presume upon thee the more, knowing I have been an old offender, and to thy kindness be it spoaken, thou hast often forgave. I have now an acknowledgement to make for thy kind toaken and no better reason I can give for doing it now than the Common that ; tis better late than never ; all wch. excuse, it have not been without my thoughts, for there thou art my dayly companion, but tis often under a sort of affliction wn. I consider wt. we hoped for in our western proggress, and misst it and that now they injoy what we desierd for and could not ; What, is the Countrey to be even wth. thee, because thou would not hon-

nour it, but then, why should I be a shearer in the revenge since I was no cause of the disappointment. *Chew upon that—*

But to be serious, let me tell thee that Brisstoll was scarcely ever so vissited and the ffrd.<sup>1</sup> never better recd. I dont envy their felicity, though am sorry I was not an immeadiate ptaker, yet for their sakes, I reioice. Twas supposed that severall times they had abt. 4000 at a meeting there, and psons of great account generally satisfied. He had abt. a doz: meetings in that City, and went abt. to the adjacent pts. In one place they gave up their towne hall, at another the market house. He is going for Exiter. On the way he have had great meetings, I am now in haste, shall conclude wth. dear love wth. my wifes also. H. G.

I forgot to tell thee B. Coole<sup>2</sup> and R. V.<sup>3</sup> are his companions from Bristoll. John Everard was with him most of his time there whome I accompanied at 4 or 5 meetings on the Road—Our ffrd. J. Tompkins is so ingaged wth. his spouse that his evenings are spent in amours, modestly but fondly psueing it; has been at their monthly meeting yesterday I suppose—I saw his two severall epistles. Be sure keep them; one time or other they may deserve a further publication. I was greatly effected at the reading; he is a deep

<sup>1</sup> W. Penn.

<sup>2</sup> Benjamin Coole of Wiltshire, afterwards of Bristol, preacher and writer, died 1717.

<sup>3</sup> Probably Richard Vickeris of Bristol, preacher. The only Quaker sentenced to death in England on account of religion. Liberated by the influence of the Duke of York. Died 1700.

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man; it may be said of him, as W. P.'s preface speaks of G. ff.<sup>1</sup> in a degree that part next the world is &c. . . . though he is notable there too.

Sam Jennings went downe to Gravesend 3rd day: T. Allwood has prepared an answer to G. K.'s reply not quite printed.

Ffor  
Sir John Rodes  
at Balber Hall.  
To be left at  
Joseph Storr  
In Chesterfeild  
Derbyshire.

London the 12th of  $\frac{9}{\text{mo}}$  95.

MY DEAR FFRIEND,—I lately rec<sup>d</sup> thy noble present p. the hand of J. T.<sup>2</sup>; wch was so well prepared and seasond, that tis my wifes oppinnion, that she never eat better. Neither did we eate it alone, for others partooke of it. Such a good thing, and to come from so good a ffriend, has a reception in our mindes beyond wt. I shall now illustrate :—

Tis now so long since thou wrote to me, that had not this gave me to believe the Contrary, a jellousey might have got in that I was out of thy minde. I am apt to thincke that a multitude of bussieness does not clog thee: Let not therefore thy retirement give thee too many ruminating thoughts, for if they are too much indulged, it may have too great an

<sup>1</sup> G. Fox.

<sup>2</sup> John Tomkins.

influence on thy minde. Be wt. thou canst in the practise of such things that may tend to thy eddification and diversion. Conversation rightly coupled gives a man great ease and satisfaction—I am not for thy keeping too much at home—Can thou do less than goe to the Marriage of thy old ffriend? <sup>1</sup> I heard he intinded first for your parts, and to that end was desierd to press J. Gratton to meet him, but I had no answer from him, nor know not wt. is intended. Love has an influence upon our ffriend; he now makes Bristoll his Center, but does keep moving to and fro, and has great and good service—But this affaier is not very well rellisht by many; yet I hope, after all, twill terminate in a Comfort to him; but was it now to doe, I see nothing in me to advise him to it. He has judgement, and I believe has sought for Councill, I hope his owne inclinations did not hinder the opennings of it unto him. I have been as plaine, as I dare since I knew nothing of it, till twas to late for contrary considerations to take place. I am not easy in it, yet I dont se how he could much mend it, unless by letting all alone.

I hear, thy company was desierd by the B.<sup>2</sup> of Yorke and his retinew to congratulate, but whither twas want of time or inclination to the worke, I know not—Pray remember me to thy Brother Heathcote, and tell him, the bussieness abt a servant I proposed for at the request of a ffriend of mine

<sup>1</sup> Penn married his second wife, Hannah Callowhill, in 1696. She died 1726, eight years after her husband, and was buried in his grave at Jordans.

<sup>2</sup> John Sharp, consecrated Archbishop of York 1691.



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will not doe, their mindes being altered—I should have wrote to him of it a month since, but I forgot it—A good acco<sup>t</sup> of his perseverance would be acceptable, knowing that if he is truly one with us, his Capascity and Circumstances would be made usefull to us, though tis chiefly for his sake that I desier his wellfare. I must not have thee a domestick. I beseech thee, put thy selfe upon a suteable conversation: ffriends in the 1st place are to be prefferd next a sort of the most Civill Gentrey whoes company, sometimes, if thou keeps in thy place, may be of service to thy selfe, however twill be to them as thou keep in that that will bare thee up wth thy testimoney over them in wisdom and Savour of truth, as thou art made comformable to it, who has of that wch. is esteemed Worldly Honnours. Let them see that in thee that they will not in others—because they are apt to dispise this meanness. Methincks I see a service for thy Charracter wn. I consider as Truth at first brooke forth among them that ware of low degree so their service were among such. So as thou art in a higher station, se if . . .<sup>1</sup> have not a service that all may worke together to the Glory of him that has called us—Tis now late so must end and my wifes dear love to thy Mother and Brother and Sisters. I am thy cordiall ffriend

HENRY GOULDNEY.

Excuse my immethodicall scribe, twas ruff as it ran.

<sup>1</sup> Illegible.

Ffor  
 Sr John Rodes att  
 Balbro: Hall.  
 To be left at Joseph Storrs  
 in  
 Chesterfield.

London the 23rd of  $\frac{5}{\text{mo}}$  1696.

MY DEAR FFRIEND,—The occasion of all this, principally, is a late concerne on my mind that I have of late so small a correspondency wth. thee, upon wch. reflecting our former intimacey, I am troubled wth. myselfe as well as at thee. Let us, I pray thee, no longer be guilty of such remisness, that if personal converse is obstructed by our remote circumstances, we may revive our near acquaintance this way. Indeed, I hoped to se thee at our anniversary meeting, a time, that I hoped nothing but a necessitous occation would interpose. I long to se thee, and I would that the time was come, we might have a happie meeting. I can, in truth, say my desires are for thy good every way,—I should be glad, I was in a capacity to serve thee in any good office for tis the cheiffest good. I love thee, and in that I desire thy preservation, as for my selfe.

I, enclosed, send thee a little booke I thinck well don, and will give G. K.<sup>1</sup> uneasiness. He, of late, have been very troublesome, haveing wrote a narrative of his work at Turner's Hall ; which booke is now I thinck answering. Wm. Pen intends to do

<sup>1</sup> George Keith.

## HENRY GOULDNEY'S LETTERS 65

his part whome he envyes greatly, as well as G. W.<sup>1</sup>  
—the former have lately finished a defence to his  
Key, being an answer to a booke wrote against it—  
I think that is well don—

He is now at Wormeighthurst enjoying his consort  
who lately went thither, and has for her companion  
one that I ever thought a proper companion for thy  
selfe, as beleiving thou wilt hardly ever exceed in  
thy Choice, which if thou could, I should be glad off.  
My pore wife is troubled againe wth. that sort of  
humour that thou once saw, fell into her arme ;  
now occationed by a scald and is very troublesome.  
Tis now abt. a weeke since she came by the hurt—  
I hope thou art well. My wifes dear love to thee  
and thy Mother &c. from thy affectionate ffriend

HENRY GOULDNEY.

Most people concludes the ffrench and the Duke  
of Savoy have made a peace.

Ffor  
Sr John Rodes  
at  
Joseph Storrs  
Shopkeeper  
In Chesterfield  
Derbyshire.

London the 5th  $\frac{1st}{mo}$  1697/8.

MY DEAR FFREIND,—I recd thine gladly, and I  
would not have thee be spareing to write, because

<sup>1</sup> George Whitehead.

thou have not opportunity of intelligence in so remote a part ; for as I love thee in a relation beyond that of the nearest outward kindred, so anything coming from that Divine relation renews it—we have indeed the opportunities of much conversation, and that of a better sort ; yet I know not but a little more recollection from the knowlidge of the world to the measuring our selves would be better ; and not abusing solitude, doubtless, is a double advantage to them that have it. . . . It has pleased the Lord to vissent a member of P——nt. viz. Esq<sup>r</sup> Waller,<sup>1</sup> wth a concerne to inquier after truth, in the way of it : and within this weeke have been at severall meetings. He seems inclined to leave all the Glory and repputation he had, and that not a little, to imbrace that Dispised Principle and People that the Lord has discovered and gathered a remnant unto—Altho for some years, he have had a pticular love and care for us. I have heard, W. P.'s preface to G/ffs<sup>2</sup> Journall hath conduced much to awaken him. I am in a concerne for his perseverance, being in hopes, he may lead the way to a further openness among psons of his ranck—a man of learning and great quallities of minde and of a good ffamily—I intend to go to his lodgings to morrow in order, to conduct him to meetings, being yet a stranger. Through W. P.'s means, I have had him at my house, and am somewhat acquainted—Salem Osgood have lately been very ill, but now, I hope, mending. He have had a ffresh vissent of the Love of God, both in Judgement and in mercey, of wch. he is truely sencible

<sup>1</sup> Edmund Waller, second son and heir of the poet.

<sup>2</sup> George Fox's "Journal."

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and very humble, often in great broakenness. The harts of ffrds are near him, and he feels it in love—Tis a good day for him, and many have made him comfortable vissits, ptcularly W. P. . . .

So deer ffriend, I leave thee, in much love and remaine as ever thy sincere ffriend

HENRY GOULDNEY.

W. P. this day left us in order to go for Brisstoll, and thence I think for Ierland—I should be glad to hear thou went w<sup>th</sup> him as companion, tho thats a seeming contradiction to my desiering to se thee here : yet as my end in both is thy good, it may the better be reconciled. Tis such a journey that of any I can propose to my selfe tis the best, and, nothing but the clogs of the world hinders me. How do thy Brother the Doctor do—When here, I thought the brand marke was not quite worne off. If any hopes, travill for him and help him w<sup>t</sup> thou can—my love is to him wn. thou se him. Vale—

Ffor Sir John Rodes

at Barber Hall.

To be left at Joseph Storr's Shopkeeper

In Chesterfield Darbyshire.

London the 30th  $\frac{2}{\text{mo}}$  1698.

DEAR FFRIEND,—The Principle occation of my present writeing is to Convey to thee the annexed letter, lately sent to Samuel Waldingfeild,<sup>1</sup> and as I

<sup>1</sup> Quaker preacher, died 1715, aged about sixty-three years.

was pleased to se so great a man under those serious reflections, so I thought it would be acceptable to thee to have a sight of it allso. Wn. thou reads it, thou need not be told he is a man of a quick understanding wch. iduement, having been all along mixt with great uprightness, hath deservedly obtaind him the love and esteem of men of that character— I wish thou would let our dear ffriend J. Gratton have a sight of it too, though tis hardly to be justified (but by the good designe) so to expose private letters—

I hope that our approaching meeting will not pass over without thy company ; surely, no wordly consideration should be a hindrance to thee from such enjoyment, nor debarr us of it, that desire it so much, as well for thy benefitt as our comfort in thee wch. we have longed for. I shall end this in as dear love as ever, hoping for thy preservation in wch. them that abides in the truth cannot but love thee ; Thy affectionate ffrd.

HENRY GOULDNEY.

He hath not been at the house yet. When he sees it, his place to goe, I hope he will preserve his peace, altho it be in a contradiction to the world.

W. P. & he are very intimate ; letters of good advice passeth from the one and well recd. by the other—

I suppose W. P. is gon for Ierland—

Coppy.

Hall Barne Beaconsfield Bucks.

the 26th day  $\frac{2}{\text{mo}}$  1698.

DEAR AND LOVEING FRIEND,—Thy letter of the 23rd inst. was extreame wellcome to me. A sober felowship and communion in Christ Jesus is food and refreshment to the soules of the Righteous. It pleases the Lord to answer our breathings and inward contemplations of and towards him, sometimes by quickening his seed in us, and making his light shine brighter then at othertimes, both when wee are alone and in silent meetings. But when friends are mett and gathered upon solemn occasions, as when thou and our London ffrinds were last in the country, then the Lord does make his Glory more manifestly apeare by the Devine openings he gives to those he raises at that time to utter and unfold his pretious misteries. There, att our Last meeting, the living fountaines of Heavenly Waters flow'd abundantly, and Gods love to man was made manifest by the Mouths of his people. Thus were the children of Irael fed with Manna from heaven and Rocks were made to send forth wholesome waters, that is, devine Misteries were explained and man assured of God's will towards him, if he be obedient to his rules and law written in our Hearts, and there only to be read, and as we listen to his still voyce and secret dictates with an humble and patient silence and waiting

upon him, the Lord will draw near to us and his light will shine as the Moon at full more Glorious then the Son. Oh! then lett us turn to him and submitt to him who alone is Worthy, who will be to us a father, friend, Brother, and a glorious Bride-groome, drawing us near to him in spiritual love—a love that never waxes old and has noe End, alwayes following, alwayes refreshing, allwayes young. Washt in the Heavenly Euridanus, her golden streams will transforme and regenerate us to what man was before the fall, when God himself communed with him. Then shall there need noe Law, when Love has so united man to God, that his owne will being lost, he has noe other will but God's will. Oh! may his Kingdome come and his will be done in Earth as in Heaven. Then will the same living Streame flow in Earth as in Heaven, and Praise, songs, Hosanahs, and Halilujahs proclaim Peace and Joy Eternal. This is the Philosophers stone, this is the perpetual motion, supplied by God who is the Everlasting fountaine of Blisse the Summum Bonum, that turns all soules into his own Devine Essence.

I salute thee with the Peace of God. I am thy sincere and lovving friend and Brother in Christ Jesue

EDMOND WALLER.

My fonder love to thy Dear Wife and thanks for her concerne for me. I have now no present thoughts of seeing the Towne, but lovingly accept thine other kind proffer. My Love to all friends, particularly Henry Goulding and those that were



downe with the King for such an other opportunity and thou and they shall always be wellcome to me, and indeed here may be an Harvest. I hope the Lord will send Laborers.

For  
Sir John Rodes.  
To be left at  
Joseph Storrs  
In  
Chesterfeild.  
Derbyshire.

London the 20th  $\frac{6}{mo}$  98.

DEAR FFRIEND,—I have thine wch came in my absence, haveing been at one of my neeces marriage at Chippenham whom young Mick Russell has taken to wife—I am alwayes glad of thine, and now to Choose since my former wth the inclosed came so acceptable, I have great hopes of the pson,<sup>1</sup> my early acquaintance, upon his first comeing to meetings, hath led me to a great ffreedom wth him, having been divers times at his house in the Countrey. He has an indisposition so mallencholly, and of a weakly constitution, and I find good company mends both; and to do him good, I have used a moddest freedom—He is under the conduct of Tho. Ellwood.<sup>2</sup> They both love and value each other, and has great kindness for our ffrd W. P.

<sup>1</sup> Edmund Waller.

<sup>2</sup> See note to letter, p. 91.

whose epistle to G. ff's Journall was I thinck the 1st help he had to open him towards truth.

I hear thou hast an intention to come for London abt the autum, of wch I am glad, hoping it may hold, for I long to se thee. I observe thy notice upon reprinting W. P.'s E.P.I.<sup>1</sup>—wth a new date, and not to mention it to be a 2d eddition. I have upon like occation blamed the printer, but tis their present advantage. I am satisfied he intended no present reflection, and the book being publick before, I hope it will prevent any malicious Caviller that may insinuate to his prejudice—He is expected home quickly ; but I fear he will not come by way of the north ; his wife being lately ill, of wch I suppose he had notice, and altho since, she is mended, that may not reach him. It would greatly please me, he vissited those northern parts upon his returne, it having been long expected from him. I dont remember wt letter of the Esqr twas, I sent thee a copy of, but as I remember, twas one to S.W.'s.<sup>2</sup> He since wrote another very extreordinary to one of his ffellow members discussing his not attending the house : Whither thou have seen that or no, I know not—John Archdale<sup>3</sup> I suppose thou has heard is Chosen and intends to stand to his Choice this Sessions. I am not easy at it, for, first,

<sup>1</sup> E.P.I., "England's Present Interest," first printed in 1675. Penn's "Fruits of a Father's Love" was first "made public for a general good" by a "Lover of his memory, J. R." (John Rodes), 1726.

<sup>2</sup> Samuel Waldenfield.

<sup>3</sup> Son of Thomas Archdale of Bucks. Became Governor of the Carolinas about 1695. Was returned to Parliament for Wickham, Bucks, in 1699. But because he would not take the oath was not allowed to sit.

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I question if he can quallify himselfe (tho that he seems to be out of question of) and yet keep within the verge of his Principle as a ffriend—But however it will cause many to immagin that we aim at that post, and to prevent us, they may abridge us of the libberty they intended us—I thinck, if we can be quiet, we need not desier any post, as matters now stand—I have scarcely room to say more, so shall end this in true love with desiers we may for ever be kept in that wch will recommend us to God and in love one to another wch concludes this from thy affectionate ffrd.

HENRY GOULDNEY.

My wife is still in the Countrey.

Ffor  
 Sir John Rodes at  
 Ballbrough Hall  
 near Chesterfeild  
 Darbyshire.

London the 1st  $\frac{6}{mo}$  99.

DEAR FFRD,—I recd. thine, by wch. I perceived thy getting home saffe, of wch. I was pleased, as always I am, at the Providence that affords thee good, thou being near me in my desires whoes pticular affectionate and free conversation obliged both me and my dear wife, and thou, (for want of it) lefft us sorrowfull. You two are fitt companions in sollitudes, and I am fitt to mend you both by my Chearfullness, and where tis held with in the line

I thinck, maliorates the spirits and renders them quick and active and the body thereby it renders more capeable of geting through the many inconveniencys, natures infirmities subjects us unto—Tis so long agoe that I had thine, that now I am writing, I know not where to finde it, wch. will render me imperfect in my returne; but one thing I remember, wch. was to excuse thy not takeing thy farewell of *our ffriend*; but the reason of it was so far from obliging me to it, that I know not that I ever did it—The worke he would a put thee upon was so suteable that I wish thou had engaged in it. Thou have rare armour against the efforts of our adversarys,—but not useing it tis grown rusty. Once thou was ingaged, I beleive thou would finde it pleasant; and wt. more common than for one Gentleman to be anothers 2nd. . . . He is now daily expected here, haveing been wth. his wife at Bristoll and the great difficulty of parting wth. those near relations is over, G. K. was there rejected by ffriends, but received by the Baptists—ffriends was challanged by G. K. at Turner Hall at the Baptist meeting. ffriends wrote to them that if they would own him, they would meet him and them upon the Challenge. It went of well as far as I hear—My ffriend, I hope thou willt meet wth. such an inducement that in a little time shall se thee againe—I am wth. mine and my wifes Dear Love, thy affectionate ffriend

HENRY GOULDNEY.

W. P. is just now come to towne.

Ffor  
 Sir John Roades  
 at Balber Hall  
 near Chesterfield  
 Derbyshire

London the 5th  $\frac{7}{mo}$  99.

DEAR FRIEND,—To whom my love flows free and clear always wishing thee health and prosperity.

My last was in great haste, yet could not delay it longer since twas in returne to the Civillity of thy last kinde letter. I had hopes of seing thee abt this time, and my thoughts are thou may spend the winter wth more comfort here than in that could and solitary Countrey ; for here thou may have the choice either of conversation, or retierment ; and, I think, a mixture does well—I waited upon the Governer, at Southampton,<sup>1</sup> abt 2 weeks since, wth many other ffriends. We have had a pleasant time sailing up and downe abt the Isle of Weight where the ship lay ; as well as at other times we had good meetings. The Mayor at Southampton readily granted the town Hall where we had a large auditorey entertained with B. Coole and the Governer, both dischargeing their giffits to the honnour of truth. In the evening of that day we had a solemn parting meeting at our inn, consisting mostly of ffriends, where many testimonys ware boarne in great reverence to the Almighty, love and affection to our ffriend and his returne to us. The remembrance thereof will, I hope, dwell comfortably wth many. From Bristoll wth

<sup>1</sup> Penn, Governor of Pennsylvania.

B. C. &c. came an Oxford Schollar, not long since convinced. His grave and wise deportment gave me great hopes of his usefullness. At Bristoll they have provided him a Schoole. Tis not him that was wth thy Brother at last yearly meeting—I lefft the Governor there wind bound. He went on the Island who was well recd there by the Governor who appointed a meeting for him and was at it himselfe. The wind first day last, comeing abt ffaier, I hope they set saile and that he may safely arrive in his own Countrey and meet wth a suteable reception to his chairacter and merit. Could I have but the wings of the morning to se that sollemn entertainment, I thinck thou believes I would take flight—

I am dear ffriend with mine and my wifes deer love thy Cordiall ffriend

HENRY GOULDNEY.

For  
Sr. John Rodes barrett  
at barlborough Hall  
near Chesterfield  
Darbyshire.

London the 26th <sup>1</sup>/<sub>mo</sub> 1700.

DEAR FFRIEND,—Altho I wanted a letter from thee, because I love thee, yet haveing heard by another hand, thou got well downe, it made me easie. Thy kinde resentment on the ffamily ffriendship of my house is owing to a better Character than worldly honour, for that had come to slight so homely a

treatment, but thy humillity hath learned thee content wth meaner things than thy station deserves, as well as thy generous present did answar, so that thou at once have acted both the Christian and the Gentleman ; and indeed to be truely the one, is to make a good step towards the other ; and all that I can say in return of thy Grattitude, thou had the wellcome, as well as the ffreedom of my house, and my heart too, in both wch. I tooke those libberties wth thee, that the best excuse I can make is, that I forgot all maner of distinctions—affection not being limmitted to the fformallity of Peddigree—I am pleased thy cold hath left thee, altho, sorry that the occation of thy hawking remains, and shall gladly forgive thee my Censure on Tobacco, if it please God to afford thee releiffe thereby. I know not whither thou tooke downe any. If not, pray advise, for I should be glad to present thee with some of W<sup>m</sup> Warrins wch. I take to be the best for a young profficient, because of its mildness. To renew to thee my old solicitations in this way that I have so often discoursed upon, will make the subject threadbare, but as tis one of the most materiell points to ad a Lusture to thy great enjoyments, I cannot but press it upon thee, that thou would reconcile thy dull inclinations to the reasonableness of it, and let a serious thought determine the point that wants nothing but thy assent—Not long after thou leffts us, my wife lefft me, and is gon to Alesbury—a vacancey at once too great for my conversation—I understand thy charriot is not yet readdy. Had thou not better let it stay here for thy returne from the yearly meeting, unless thou

choose to send for it down to ride up in it, for so that thou do but come, either, or any way, shall serve me. Phaps thou may have a mind to take the B. of D.—by along wth thee. I have had a kinde letter from him wch. is what he wants from thee, haveing not heard of thee since he lefft us— We are now a building a meeting house at Wapping, to ease Ratcliffe, and retaken the Bull and Mouth,<sup>1</sup> so that we are like to be accommodated wth two good ones, for we intende very much to improve the latter—I know not but R. Claridge did preach in our meetings before thou went. Since, I have heard him whose beginnings gives hopes of a growth to a great service among us—I pceive thy uncle recd no satisfaction at the meeting he was at here, but rather a confirmation of our weakness. It must be all lefft to the wise disposer that in his time can bend more sturdy oakes than he ; a way he is a taking wth some, pticularly at Nottingham, whare is a Pristbitarian minnister convinced, and left his flock ; and honest Christopher Midell continues hopefull. Jon Tomkins was well today, and I thinck so are thy acquaintance generally. I am wth Dear love thy ffriend sincerely

HENRY GOULDNEY.

<sup>1</sup> The early Quaker meetings were held at the "Bull and Mouth," Aldersgate.



Ffor  
 Sir John Rodes  
 at Balbrough Hall  
 near Chesterfield  
 Darbyshire.

London the 28th  $\frac{3}{\text{mo}}$  1700.

DEAR FFRIEND,—I shall not observe the Ceremony of due returns, but give thee wt is on my minde, notwithstanding thy silence.—I am now to tell thee, ptly at the request of John Gratton, that our meeting is over. I am glad, I can say, we had many comfortable seasons, and the affaiers of the Church managed to a pretty generall satisfaction; we had some few interuptions by some that use to give it; yet they were not able to obstruct any overtures that were made for a generall advantage.—

The Subscriptions for the Appollogey<sup>1</sup> amounted to near 7000, and we have agreed to have them well don, and in Calve for 2/100. That being finished, we made a proposall to print it in ye french tongue, and that for its name would scarcely be boarne, some pleading that the Lattin was the more universall Languidge. But by the helpe of thy brother and some others that were more proper Judges, we gained the point, that we should have another translation, wch, altho, at one time, I did almost dispond of obtaining, yet, many

<sup>1</sup> "The Apology" was written by Thomas Barclay (1675), and is remarkable as the standard exposition of the principles of the Quakers.

Countrey friends was so concerned to proppogate the worke, that they carried it by the force of truth, that tis now agreed 1500 be printed, after tis well translated into french—We had no Epistle from the Governor. I suppose thou have heard he hath a son—His name is John . . . Thy brother, I have great hopes, will come to a good settlement. I thinck he is taking root—Conversation with substantiall frds will do him good. He ingeniously detected the false notion of the Lattin being the most generall Language—I had like to have forgot, that Thos. Willson hath his dear love to thee, and bid me tell thee that before he came to London he had hopes of seeing thee here, and the want of it troubled him; for he desierd to se thee more than any one man. I give it at large, since tis unusuall for him to speake so—G. K.'s steeple house sermons are printed, really flatt and dull, wanting in manner and matter. I finde no one that values him for his revollt. Dear love to thee.

H. G.

Ffor  
 Sr. John Rodes  
 at Barlbrough Hall  
 near Chesterfeild  
 Darbyshire.

London the 23rd  $\frac{5}{\text{mo}}$  1700.

DEAR FFRD,—I hope I am not too early in  
 Congratulateing thee upon the favourable Pro-

vidence of thy recovery ;<sup>1</sup> since thy man was so kinde the last post to give me the wellcome news that on the 14th day of thy Indisposition thou was hopefull. The love I bare thee, leads me to desier, if twas the Lords will, thou might be restored againe, so that we might enjoy thee after this sore affliction, wch being once well over, would releive thee and thy dear Mother from those Common cares that the fear of this distemper brings. It was the great distance that discouraged my giving thee a vissit together wth the short time that the disease usually takes to determine the ishue of it. I bless the Lord for this mercey, and I am perswaded, twill be a renewed obligation to thee to give the Lord the remainder of thy days that hath so emminantly remembered the kindness of thy youth, in making him thy Choice, wn others were neglecting their time by spending it in vannity. I was pleased to hear how thou was vissited by thy pticular ffrds, as well as that thy dear Brother thy Doctor was so usefull to thee when thou could not help thy selfe—all wch doubtless was some comfort to thy poor exercised Mother, whose hopes was almost gone. Thou should be carefull of thy eyes (Reading, thy beloved Companion) will be hurtfull to thee. When tis fitting, makeing visits will doe thee more good. Be sure yield to thy brothers directions . . . but being wth the Learned, I have nothing to recommend thee but obedience. I must not be to long, for fear of putting thee to a taske I have cautioned thee against—read-

<sup>1</sup> From the smallpox.

ing, I mean—I shall therefore Conclude wth mine and my wifes dear love to thee, thy Mother, Brother, relations and ffrds. I am, in great affection thy Cordiall ffrd

HENRY GOULDNEY.

If dear J. Gratton is with thee, pray present my dear love to him in pticular.

TO JOHN GRATTON

For  
John Gratton.  
To be left at  
Joseph Ffriths  
In Chesterfeild  
Derbyshire.

London the 27th  $\frac{5}{mo}$  1700.

DEAR J. G.,—Thy thus taking notice of me, drawes great love from me, and the sence of the favour will rather humble than exalt me, knowing how unworthy I am of the notice of so many worthies—Thy news of my dear ffriend<sup>1</sup> brought sorrow wth it, wch lasted noe longer than the reading it, for the next letter I opened, was one from Cornelius—who gave me a very hopefull accot of his recovery. Thine had no date his was of the 22nd, so that I hope, thine is more early, for that thou werst gon home. Dear Jno, I hope our ffriend will be a greater comfort to thee than ever, an oppertunity being afresh

<sup>1</sup> Sir John Rodes.

put into his hands to see the near affection of his friends, and who it is, in the time of need, travills for him. Oh! how doe I desier that his noble understanding may be more and more enlightened wth the brightness of the sun of righteousness; and that being in love wth it, that he could not do other wise, than tell his neighbours of the glory of this excellent appearance, and that he would let his bow abide in strength, that he might shoot the arrows of the Almighty among the great ones of the Earth, that they might be struck at hart; for many will owne the truth in the notion and takes it in at the head, that armes themselves from being wounded in the right place. . . . I hear G. K. is gone for Brisstoll. Wt reception he hath, at present, I know not. Tho. Upshire is gone thither allso, so that I hope G. K. by preaching against us, will send many to our meetings, and that such a lively minnistrey will meet wth them, that it may be effectuell to the helping of many. His endeavours hath had this contrary effect hitherto, and doubtless it would be much more so, was it not for the great weakness that too often attends such that otherwise should be blessed wth the reward of turning many to righteousness.—Reading will be for a time prejudiciall to our ffrd, so that I would have him divert himself among you at Meetings, I should think it a wonderful enjoyment to be so imployed, was I not fetterd wth the necessary cares of this liffe. I have had a long letter from the Governor,—is much ffatigued in setting wt in his absence has been to his pre-

judice unsettled; also to redress disorders in mal administration that created him trouble and Charge here to deffend. Many ancient ffrriends being removed, he wants a recruit. Tho: Storey<sup>1</sup> staves—I hope will give him some ease, being a man of temper and discreation, and of some competent knowldge in the law—I have seen one of his printed proclamations against Piracey wth a reward to apprehend them—a peice of villaney that too much swarmes in those seas—Many are taken, sent over and executed and many more like to follow that Example—Since the above Jno Tomkins shewed me another letter from the Doctor giveing great hopes all will be well—His care and paines, will I hope, raise a suteable returne of affection and that there may be a greater nearness than of late hath been. The strong should bear wth the weake; his illness, I desier, may serve as an outward ffigure thereof—I love Unity, espeatially among Brethen—I am now obleiged to end, being late. Mine and my wifes dear love sallutes thee and all thats thine, the same to Thos Aldam &c. if thou sees him ffrom thy Reall ffrd

HENRY GOULDNEY.

Of this wandring Bugg,<sup>2</sup> he is bent to doe

<sup>1</sup> Thomas Storey, Quaker, 1670–1742. Was a churchman until 1689, when he joined the Quakers. Sailed for Pennsylvania in 1698, where at the request of Wm. Penn he remained sixteen years.

<sup>2</sup> Francis Bugg, 1640–1724, writer against Quakerism. While young joined the Society of Friends, among whom he soon obtained an unenviable notoriety. Left the body 1680, and began to write against it.

wickedly. The Lord rebuke him in his owne time and in his owne way. The Chancellor acted nobley; its a pittty some notice ware not taken to him for his moderation. Would R. B.'s Appology<sup>1</sup> was ready that he might be presented.

## TO JOHN GRATTON

Ffor  
John Gratton at  
Joseph Storrs in  
Chesterfeild  
Derbyshire.

London the 29th  $\frac{6}{mo}$  1700.

JNO GRATTON

DEAR FFRD,—Can we only condole each other in adversity, and not congratulate upon a reception of so great mercey; for ever since our dear ffrd hath survived his danger, thou hast been silent, so that now, I know not where a letter will meet thee red-dily. I hope this affliction will draw him nearer his best ffrinds, by makeing him think they are in reallity wt they seemed to be, and that none are more interested in his liffe than those that are desierous he should prepare for his death. I would hope upon the same principles of care, he will think of altering his condition upon better considerations than the rareity of a fface since he sees wt an alteration in a few weeks is made upon his own. There is a beauty more endureing that may be

<sup>1</sup> Barclay's "Apology."

carried to the grave and that will be comfortable to him on this side of it. Its a pittty smal things in the outward vew, should shade the ornaments of a meek, gentle, serious and ingenneous minde, wch are virtues and beauties that Grace gives to be prized beyond that of nature, or that can be raised out of our own species—

Ffor some weeks past, G. K.<sup>1</sup> hath been att Bristoll, where he hath been exercising poor B. C.<sup>2</sup> and the ffrds there ; in which they have not been wanting to expose him in his Contradictions ; but that wch was the most pleasant is wt a ffrd, a witty Cobbler, that they sent to spread a small pap ; printed upon him. He challinged a meeting like a nother pt at Turners Hall there. Noe ffrds came, but this Man. G. K. asked him wt Profession, he sd a Cobbler. Then he asked G. K. leave to propose one or two more, wch was granted—the 1st was how he might have an assurance of his salvation. G. K. said : by the spirit within him and the Scriptures without him. He returned he could not read—The other was whether the spirit dictated the Script: or the Script: the Spirit—G. K. made no answer but that he did not take him to be so cunning a fellow—The Question . . . to purpose for the answer would pinch him—I am confined, so must end in Dear love and great haste from thy reall ffrd

HENRY GOULDNEY.

Its so scrawled I am ashamed ont. Excuse haste.

<sup>1</sup> George Keith.

<sup>2</sup> Benjamin Coole.



Ffor  
 Sr. John Rodes  
 at Balbrough Hall  
 near Chesterfeild  
 Derbyshire.

London the 28th  $\frac{7}{\text{mo}}$  1700.

DEAR FFRD,—I recvd thine of the 14th, and since that, the box wth the last wigg wch. C. M. is willing to take againe. Coulers in the fancy are variable. I thought I had nickt it—Thou takes notice of the concern of thy ffrds. and how acceptable their care was for thy recovery. I am pleased that that had any place wth thee in those exercising moments, as well as tis a comfort to us that the Lord has spared thee among us, so that we have hopes of enjoying thee yet againe, here away, to which thy late intentions signified gives us a further prospect of obtaining that we soe much desier; and altho the more I had of thy conversation, the better I thought it, yet it being a supposed advantage to thy health, I am content wth the distance—Methincks the Lady, thy Mother, should come up wth thee—You have a Charriot, wch should be useful to carry her to meetings and to see her ffrds. I am reddy to thinck conversation would doe her good, and I know not where she may choose better than about this towne—It is often that distemper leaves remaines, and I question not the Doctors care and skill to carry that off too. That he hath such a glowing Interest among so many noble men is wt I

am pleased at, but tis no more than wt I thought would be the consequence of an honest resignation—I hope he is now fitter to bare the Cross in a faithfull testimoney to truth, than I feared he would, when first he believed. He now knows where he misst it, and wt it cost him to recover it againe, so that by the dearness of the purchase, he will know how to prize the Perle—Marriage is a subject I thought of laying aside, wn writing to thee, but thy reviving it, altho wth disponding thoughts, leads me to tell thee thy happieness wants compleating, untill thou come under that Yoake. I presume thy Visage is more massculine, an agreeable object to the other sex; besides thou have many Oyles and delicious waishes that will sett off a more rugged Countenance, than I believe the fury of thy distemper lefft thee—I would willingly impart unto thee any thing of moment, but really wn I consider wt I have, nothing worthy thy notice, or too long to relate this way—G. K. on his way from Bristoll, called at Melsham; Those where he lodged wth others, I suppose, thincking to have some diversion, sent for Thos. Beavon, whoe was as willing to meet him, as they to have him—After some preliminerrys agreed to. G. K. began with T. B., who answard him wth that distinction and Caution, that, to be sure, greatly disapointed their hopes—’Twas whether the Light was sufficient without any thing else, and abt the Scriptures—all wch he came off soe well wth, that the poor man confest he was such a Quaker as himselfe was, and differd little or nothing from wt he was now—Some Priests was there, confest he was very ingenious. They

would had him goe to hear G. K. He told them upon Condition if he had matter, to object upon w<sup>t</sup> he heard, he would otherwise not ; wch they refusing, he told them to his face, he had heard him and been tired w<sup>t</sup> his tedious, dull preaching, and so had some of their own church—His father was present, and altho a Church man, boasted his son outdid him,—Excuse the length of mine, for indeed historicall relations tiers me—But I thinck thou should come up and settle before the winter quite comes in. I am, w<sup>t</sup> mine and my wife's dear love to thee and thy Mother and the Doctor and other ffrds from thy reall ffrd

HENRY GOULDNEY.

Ffor

Sr John Rodes at Balber.

To be left at Joseph Ffriths

In Chesterfeild.

London the 18th of  $\frac{11}{mo}$  1700.

DEAR FFRD,—The news of thy getting well home affords great joy to thy ffrinds, many of whome pittied thy Cold journey. Providence favoured thy inclinations that was strong to se thy affectionate Mother, and the sence of your mutuall rejoycing in seing each other I had a sympatheticall touch of, having so lively a taste of that nattural love Complicated with a great many indeard Providences. Thou knows how to make a worthy return for

so great favours. And after all, if thou can thinck of the poor Doctor wth. that respect that becomes a brother, it will demonstrate that evenness of temper and good disposition that is not usually seen. I am satisfied twas not true religion that misleads him, but twas mistakes of it, too much the companion of his dayly conduct. I hear he hath lost a lovely son in his absence, and will finde a wife sorely afflicted, wch. I perceive was increased by finding thee without him come to her house, and thou could give no accot. of him neither, all wch. I hope will be as so much the more weight upon his mind in order to show him after wt he rambles. Oh that he was wise, since the truth leads to a good understanding, for tho' I beleive he designes not amiss, yet for want of guarding against to many ffamiliar spts. (I was almost goeing to say) he is, I thinck innocently betrayed but for all this, love must cover and affection to the better pt pittey his want of judgment in things of this nature—We have had tempestuous weather of late : many ships lost—one for Maryland, tho in the news sd for Pensilvania and that they abt 80 psons, mostly Quakers, was lost, wch is false. But one thing is worthy thy notice, that Tho. Tompson &c. was abt to take passage in that ship ; but wn he went in to vew her, he sd, he saw nothing but a Cloud of darkness abt her and would not goe in her. There is since, a ship from Pensilvania ; a passenger tells me our ffirds and ffammily are well and matters towards a good understanding and settlemt. For want of more matter worthy thy notice, I must end wth mine and my wifes dear love to thee and thy dear Mother. I

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am wth that love that hath ever lasted thy Cordiall ffrd

HENRY GOULDNEY.

Thy wigg and some other smal things lyes here for thee.

Ffor

Sr. John Rodes at Balbrough.

To be left with

Joseph Ffrith

Chesterfeild

Darbyshire.

London the 21st of <sup>II</sup>mo 1700.

DEAR FFRD,—My last was last post to wch I refer thee, being my sentiments at that time, since wch, we have letters from our dear ffrd Governer Penn intimateing his and ffamily's health and that things are growing better as to a good understanding between him and the People of his Countrey, he finding things in an unsettled posture. Thos. Storey is more pticular touching their late Generall assemblys—Conclusions haveing given him a pretty good sume of money, besides an additional duty upon the Imports and exports—so that I hope he will in time be made easy, and all things will Conclude well—The other side is Cobby of a page come from T. Ellwood<sup>1</sup> to me, excusing his not perfecting his answer to G. K. in deffence of W. P. abt

<sup>1</sup> Quaker writer, at one time Milton's secretary; died 1713, aged about seventy-four years. One of William Penn's earliest friends.

Deizme. He wrote abt 40 sheets, and now seems resolved to decline it—It grieves me so great an author should be discouraged. I intend to Load B. C. wth it, more as I have a little already— I am in haste, so must leave thee full of Love and am thine in the bonds of true ffriendship

HENRY GOULDNEY.

Indeed! Is then the work by me begun,  
 And wch I laboured at wth such good will,  
 Already by a readier workman done,  
 Whos nimbleness hath added to his skill!  
 Well may it thrive : successfull may it prove,  
 Truth's way to clear and stumbling blocks remove !

I never was ambitious to appear  
 In print : nor to myself applause have sought,  
 With satisfaction therefore I can hear  
 What thou design'dst, anothers hand hath wrought.  
 This superceeds my work : I am glad to see  
 Such help come in, that ther's no need of me.

This is the third time I have thus been putt  
 Besides my work ; wch makes me think, my ffriend,  
 The controversiall door to me is shutt ;  
 And of my scribbling service, ther's an end,  
 If so, content ; wth pleasure I can see  
 The work well done, although not done by me.

T. E.

Ffor

Sr John Rodes at Balber  
Hall, near Chesterfeild  
Darbyshire  
(via  
London)

Leave this with Anthony  
Allan to be delivered as  
on the other side  
Chesterfeild.

Graithwaite the 18th  $\frac{5}{mo}$  1702.

DEAR FFRIEND,—I have been at this place but abt 9 days and cannot caseily get away yet. John Tomkins I hoped to meet wth at thy house, but I finde he is to nimble for me, phaps I may meet him at W<sup>m</sup> Ellis on the 26th instant ; but of that I know not, how to determine, untill I hear from London, Tho. Zackery<sup>1</sup> having given me some expectation of meeting me at thy house, where my wife and I intend, the Lord giveing leave, to make thee a vissit. But the fear of hindering thee drincking the waters troubles me. Was I not sure T. Zackery would not waite for me there, I should adventure to stay a little longer to se my old ffrds J. T. and T. W. here, and my brother Rawlinsons<sup>2</sup> marriage not yet sollemnized. That I expect, may be in abt a weeke. If it fell out I should se thee here wth the above ffrds, it would rejoice me to

<sup>1</sup> Thomas Zackery, of Beaconsfield ; died 1686.

<sup>2</sup> William Rawlinson, of Furness, Lancs.

returne wth thee and T. Z. to come wth thee, if I . . . my thoughts of meeting them I may be wth thee the 29th or 30th mine and my wifes dear love sallutes thee and thy Mother, in great haste vale.

H. GOULDNEY.

Ffor  
Sir John Rodes  
at Barlebrough  
near Chesterfield  
Darbyshire.

London, 3d  $\frac{2}{mo}$  1703.

DEAR FFRIEND,—I saw thine to John Tomkins, and am pleased thou thought of me, that I might share wth him in any news thats in thy favour, as I beleive, that accomodation abt the Cole mines wth thy neighbour may prove to be. May it be teaching for the future—to be more open in conversation ; for many times, for want of consulting things and persons, difficulties appear greater than they be in themselves ; but I must not forget to say, that there is a season in Providence that many times presents, which renders difficulties more ffascile, than when we goe about them, when the way is hedged up. But men are more conversable, than some are aware of—I scarcely meet with any man, but in time, may be brought to reason, unless some antiquated, empty professor of truth that hath losst his oyle, and survived his understanding to that degree, that nothing, but will governs him. Other men, by the influences of reason, and a generous



principle, will be pennitrated, and of ennimyees become ffreinds. I have seen so much of the latter that I recommend it to thy Practise. Thou seems to put difficulties in the way of thy comeing to our annieversary, wch if thou wiltt attempt to overcome, I am assured, are not impregnable, and to be just to thy selfe, as well as to thy proffession, I thinck, none of those things should obstruct thy honouring us wth thy company ; besides, I had hopes we might afterwards goe together to Norwich, a journey I have a long time deseird, and hope nothing will stand in my way ; but should be sorry to have so great a check to the pleasure in it, as thy absence will be—I hope thou found the Doctor not the worse for our company, I ashure thee his was pleaseing to us, yet not without the mixture of the old sortment, but in the maine, free and easie, and, I thinck, hath an eye opened to se some shortnesses among some he used to admire. Love him, be free to him, looke over weaknesses—tis more flights than premedditation, an honest intention and loves the better pt, though not without too much Cumber and uneasiness. His wife should forget old weaknesses ; for reviveing aggrivates, raises stiffness, and vindication, when if forgotten, would not be renewed againe. I know thy care as well as discretion, and therefore the less reason for this way of writing—I did not forget thy orders to T. Sole ; but how she forgot her owne interest, shall know better when I speake wth her. I am (the Lord willing) intending in a weeke or two to goe to the marriage of my neece ; her desert, as well as relation prompts me thereto—Its a pittty thy sister Thornton is so dis-

consolate—over repineing will not be acceptable to him that hath the lives of the remainder of her Children and they hopefull ones too. I hope she will not be unmindful to give them the best education that may be condusive to her own comfort and their advantage—Shall now conclude wth dear love from thy reall ffrd.

HENRY GOULDNEY.

My wife is wth her sister at Stratford.

Tate Sole<sup>1</sup> tells me the bookes thou wrote for is not yet printed, and thats the reason, but I pceive they lost the memorandum and I cannot yet finde thy letter in wch thou gives orders.

For  
Sir John Rodes Knt. and Barr  
at Barlbrough Hall  
near Chesterfeild  
Darbyshire  
psent.

London the 14th  $\frac{10}{mo}$  1703.

DEAR FFRD,—Knowing twill be acceptable the hearing thy party grow strong—This night, upon the first reading, the Occationall Confirmity bill<sup>2</sup> in the house of Lords, after a long debate, was put to the question and thrown out by a majority of 12

<sup>1</sup> Tate Sowle, of George Yard, Lombard Street. She was very slow in printing the Quakers' books, and there were many complaints.

<sup>2</sup> The Occasional Conformity Bill, to render occasional conformity illegal, was brought in by the Commons twice and was twice rejected by the Lords.

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Lords. Tis said 14 Bishops was agst the bill. The Commons carryd it wth a great majority, and I believe, will resent this days worke, but I am glad they are disapointed. The Queen, tis supposed, favored the side that was against the bill, wch added weight to the Ball, for wch the sober pty has her in greater Reverance—We have yet noe news wt effect the storme had in ffrance, nor have noe more to say, but that I am ever thine with Dear love to thy Mother

HENRY GOULDNEY.

To Sr. John Rodes Baront  
at Balber Hall  
near Chesterfeild  
Darbyshire.

London the 6th of  $\frac{2}{mo}$  1714.

DEAR FRIEND,—The sence of my ingratitude has oftentimes troubled me, that after the reception of so generous a pressent, I should not be so worthey as to let thee know it came to my hand ; and I have nothing to say for my selfe, but that it was often in my mind, tho, hitherto, I have not don it, and I can only depend upon thy good nature and a sence of thy forgiveing temper for so great an omishion—It is indeed a long time since I had the favour of a few lines from thee, but I must not complaine, whiles so great an agressor, tho when they come, it gives me a feast and always sorry wn the banquet is at an end.

It is now about the time thou usually looks towards London : and as no time was ever more

pleasant than the last, so it affords me the greater pleasure to hope, that good time is comeing againe ; and if these lines should be the least motive I should thinck them advantagiously bestowed. This spring we have had the good company of my Cossen Lydia Lancaster,<sup>1</sup> sister to my brother Rawlinson, a woman of extreordinary qualifications. She had here a generall reception and so likewise in her travills. She may well be accounted of the first ranck ! Since she left us, she has travilled very hard, has been at Oxford, Cambridge and Norwich, and is now in Essex, and intends to vissit that county pretty thurrowly. I hope to meet her this week abt 40 miles off, and spend a few days with her, but thincks not of coming hither untill near the Y-M.<sup>2</sup> . . . I went with her to Reading and called at our ffrds. at whose house she had an extreordinary time in prayer. The Governor was much pleased and I thinck it did him some good. It seemed to me he was a great deale mended from the time I waited upon thee to make him a vissit, and there is hopes, if his life is spared, that he may be in a great measure restored——

But dear ffriend, I must say this world is attended wth various exercises, and we still ly under the mallancholly affliction of intestine trouble, so that I do not se the end of them, but I thinck I plainly se the ground thereof, wch is a libbertine spirit ruleing in placed than were set up to prevent the

<sup>1</sup> Lydia Lancaster, maiden name Rawlinson, noted Quaker preacher. Lived at Lancaster. Died in 1761, aged about seventy-seven. Had been a preacher for about fifty-three years, travelling in England and America. Some of her letters were published in 1840.

<sup>2</sup> Yearly meeting.

occasion of disorder—The old bone of contention still continues, and we are rather in a worse condition than ever about it ; and altho what we desier wd be offensive to none, yet the satisfied are so unkind that by their inclinations, I fear some of them dont desier our ease and now are the more intraged upon the apprehensions of looseing wt thy have or part with their darling, a libberty of voteing—when would they but se our true intrest, they had better part with it, and if so, we have good ground to hope the Commons wd grant us it in our own tearmes, but if we touch upon that string, it is more than will be boarne. . . . R. Claridge<sup>1</sup> has answered the Essay with his name to it, and I thinck he has bestowed a deale of pain to very little purpose upon the winding up . . . or however others will se it to be so, that now has other thoughts of it. As to publick affaiers, can say little. The Lords are at close worke examining into things and are come to several Resolutions upon late management that gives speculation, and have agreed to address the Queen abt the Pretender to ishue out her Proclamation wth a Reward to take him if in her dominions. I have no more, but dear love to thee and thy dear Mother as also is my wife from thy assured Cordiall ffrd.

H. G.

Give my dear love to Tho: Aldam wn thou sees him.

<sup>1</sup> Richard Claridge, Quaker writer and minister, wrote several works, including "The Novelty and Nullity of Dissatisfaction, or The Solemn Affirmation defended."

To Sr. John Rodes Baront.  
 at Balber Hall  
 near Chesterfeild  
 Derbyshire.

London the 21st of  $\frac{10}{mo}$  —14.

DEAR FRIEND,—I had once some hopes thou wd have accompanied thy sister hither, and that that would have aforded us some renewall of conversation, that thou might have been diverted this dead season ; but of that I was disapointed, and thou enjoying thy selfe in thy mallanchally Cell. Methincks a new Court<sup>1</sup> and such a happye administration should have drawne a pson of thy speculation to have had a curiossity of seing it ; but thou content thy selfe in liveing under its kinde, tho remote inflewences. As to affaiers amongst us, tis much as usuall, tho the Persons of Cumberland for abt a month since, has sufficiently exercised us, and we on the other hand, have taken care of the quiet of our meetings which has been made the easier to us, the Lord Mayor favouring our complaint that the help of his officers have contributed very much thereto. I am not sure, but from what I have heard, I hope they are gon out of Towne. Tho. Storey is come hither from Ammerica. He continues his sollid and discreet deportment—an extreordinary Man—The Dr. thincks pretty well of him, altho not quite callculated to his mariddion. But than the Doctor, I scarcely know a pleasanter man. I often thinck his con-

<sup>1</sup> George I. had succeeded Queen Anne on August 1, 1714.

TO  
**G E O R G E,**  
KING of GREAT BRITAIN, &c.

*The Humble ADDRESS of the People called  
QUAKERS, from their Yearly-Meeting in  
London, the 26th Day of the Third Month,  
called May, 1716.*

*May it Please the KING !*

**W**E, Thy Faithful and Peaceable Subjects, being met in this Our *Annual Assembly*, do hold Our selves obliged, in Point of *Principle and Gratitude*, rather than by *Formal and Frequent Addresses*, humbly and openly to acknowledge the manifold Blessings and kind Providences of God, which have attended these Kingdoms ever since thy *Happy Accession* to the Throne.

AND as Our Religion effectually enjoins Us *Obedience to the Supreme Authority*, so it is with great Satisfaction that we pay it to a PRINCE, whose *Justice, Clemency and Moderation*, cannot but endear, and firmly unite the Hearts and Affections of all His True Protestant Subjects.

We are therefore sorrowfully Affected for the Unhappinefs of those of Our Countrymen, who have so little Gratitude or Goodness, as to be uneasy under so just and mild an Administration: Nor can We reflect on the late Unjust and Unnatural Rebellion, without concluding the Promoters thereof, and Actors therein, were Men infatuated, and hurried by such an Evil Spirit, as would lay waste and destroy both the Civil and Religious Liberties of these Protestant Nations.

AND as God, the Lord of Hosts, has most signally appeared to the Confounding that *Black Conspiracy*, so We pray his Good Providence may always attend the KING's Councils and Undertakings, to the Establishing His Throne in Righteousness and Peace, and Making his House a sure House.

PERMIT Us therefore, *Great Prince*, to lay hold of this Opportunity to approach Thy Royal Presence, with Our Hearty Thanks to the King and His Great Council, for all the Privileges and Liberties We enjoy. To behold a Prince upon the Throne, Solicitous for the Ease and Happiness of His People beyond any other Views, so heightens Our Satisfaction and Joy, that We want Words to express Our full Sense thereof. And therefore We can do no less, than assure the King, That as it is Our Duty to demean Our Selves towards the King's Person and Government, with all Faithful Obedience, so We are determined, by Divine Assistance, devoutly and heartily to Pray the God and Father of all Our Mercies, To vouchsafe unto the King a Long, Peaceable and Prosperous Reign; And that when it shall please the Almighty to remove from Us so precious a Life, by taking it to Himself, there may not want a Branch of Thy Royal Family endowed with Wisdom and Virtue to fill the Throne, till Time shall be no more.

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The KING's Gracious Answer.

**I** Thank You for the Assurance of Duty and Affection to my Person and Government, contained in this Address, and You may always depend upon my Protection.

T O  
G E O R G E,  
K I N G of GREAT BRITAIN, &c.

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HENRY GOULDNEY'S LETTERS 101

versation wd be the best Physick thou could take. An answer to R. Claridges Novellty is answered in Primitive simplicity. Wn it comes to thy hands, I should be glad it made thee quite a convert. I thinck it will stir the old man so that for all, he will scarcely be able to help himselfe, but wn thou sees, thou wiltt judge for thy selfe—I also let thee know by Naylor the Carrier, I send thee a smal barrell of Collchester Oysters. The distance may affect them to a disadvantage I desierd the best, and hope will be good. The carriage is pd. The rest is the continued dear love of my selfe and wife. We have the mercy of our health. Wishing thee the same with true respects to thy Mother. I am affectionately thine

HENRY GOULDNEY.

To  
 Sr. John Rodes Knight Barontt.  
 at Balber Hall  
 near Chesterfeild  
 Derbyshire.

*But one entire sheet.*<sup>1</sup>

London the 31st of the  $\frac{3}{mo}$  1716.

DEAR FFRIEND,—I cannot say I owe this to thee by reason, had thou been in the way of thy duty, thou had been at the head of its delivery. But though the most disapointed of any man in the want of thy company, yet other obligations lead me to give thee the prefferance. This afternoone we were

<sup>1</sup> Written on other side of the printed "Address to King George by the Quakers."

admitted to the Kings presence, attending him wth. our address. G. W.<sup>1</sup> had the usual honour to present it wth an introductory discourse. Though not very long, yet considering it was not lively, was too long in the occasions. Upon presenting it, it was returned by the King to him for reading, and he, by a previous agreement, delivered it to B: Coole who read it wth an aier usual to his eloquence, and made humble Corsees at the end of every Paragraffe. At the end, he concluded wth *Amen* saith the Reader and G. W. as wittily added : and so we say all—The King seemed pleased with our appearance, and I suppose might have been favour'd to kiss his hand, wch some seemed willing enough of, had we not before declared our dissatisfaction in introducing a Novility, and if they wd., we wd. either not goe, or at least signifie to him our straight in the case. There were above 60 ffrds. namd, but as many more I thinck crowded in of our own ffrds. which was not prudent, but construed the effect of affection, and honest Jeremiah Grimshaw was pticulery showed to the King, and gave him a reverend bow, wch the King was pleased to returne againe. We had ruff work at our meeting sometimes, but at last concluded pretty easy. I am wth dear love, as also is my wifes, from thy old and constant ffrd.

HENRY GOULDNEY.

Our dear love to thy Mother.

<sup>1</sup> Probably George Whitehead, died 1722 or 1723.

To Sr. John Rodes Barrontt  
 att Balber Hall  
 near Chesterfield  
 Derbyshire.

London the 24th of  $\frac{10}{mo}$  1719.

DEAR FRIEND,—It lookes as if our ancient acquaintance was almost forgotten. I had renewed it before, to have condoled wth thee on thy late Exercises, but that being a subject that would perhaps have renewed greife, I knew not but silence might be best—Yet as thou art a man sensible of these uncertainties, it must be the less surprize, especially on the part of thy dear Mother whome Providence afforded for thy comfort to a good old age—

I wish, if it had been but for thy Diversion, thou would have taken a journey to this place, to have been amongst thy friends—I put so great a value upon thy conversation, that it would have been very acceptable to me, and have often been troubled, that for these latter years, thou hast so much declined comeing up. I am so blessed wth a wife whose conversation thou wd thinck so agreeable, that thou wd allow, I have made a good Choice ; the consideration of the mercy to me is worthy to be commorated with a thanckfull heart—Through the same hand of Providence, also, my health is renewed to me. I grow to fatt ; and stirring being good to preserve my health, the worthey, honest Doctor was always pressing me to ridcing, and for some time, I have wanted a good horse or mare, and have used great endeavours to procure one, but to no purpose. I have

thought often of thee as the fittest person to help me, but was unwilling to be troublesome: But being now in a straight, I make bold, according to former freedoms, to intreat thee to help me. He must be strong and wd not be for one above, rather under fourteen hands. I value goings more than shape. Trot and Walke is all I want of a horse; the trot *easey*, As to price, I leave it from six to twelve pounds. Yet not to limmit thee neither. Altho it should be more if thou thinck it to my advantage. So soon as thou can, wd be acceptable, the time coming on that riding may be pleasant—I am with hearty respects in much affection, thy assured ffriend,

HENRY GOULDNEY.

W<sup>n</sup> thou sees thy sister or Cor: <sup>1</sup> my kinde love is to them—

To Sr. John Rodes Barnt  
at Barlborough Hall  
near Chesterfield  
Darbyshire.

London the 20th of  $\frac{11}{mo}$  1721.

DEAR FFRIEND,—Our freedom in this way has of late years been almost forgotten, yet I hope from no declension of love. I am sure not in the least on my part. But haveing now a good oppertunity of reviveing it, shall take it upon the earliest occation—Last night the Lords passed our bill for a more easie affirmation without any alteration, but as it came to

<sup>1</sup> Cornelius Heathcote.

them from the house of Commons—In the lower house it went throu with much ease and little opposition, but in the upper it was attended with strong debates. Thou may give a gess what sort of men were most likely to oppose us ; some of whome stood it out to the last, though others, and I think the greatest number too, favoured our bill. But notwithstanding all their strenuous efforts, our friends in the House upon every question carried it by a majority of 3 or 4 to one. Their heartiness to serve us ought not to be forgotten. The constant attendance of noble men to serve us that are in comparison but a few to the rest of the nation, is owing to a Providentiall hand that has made way in the breast of the King whose influence, to be sure, strengthened the Ministry, that in a regard thereto, as well as their own good inclinations, did exert their utmost to remove that away that has long been uneasy and prejudiciall to us—Had I time, and was it proper to touch upon speeches that were made pro and con in this affair, it would be, I doubt not, very entertaining, but as it scarcely is, I shall forbear—Yet I may hint one thing a great Lord said : “ We had for abt 26 years promised them to relieve them from Oathes, and therefore they were in our debt, as the preamble of the first bill did set forth ; for what was granted them then was an O——, so they now in his oppinion ought to be relieved &c.— Upon the whole the favour given us is so great a mercy, that as a Society we ought to be humbly thanckfull, and be careful we abuse not the use of it—To conclude, our friends satisfied with the old affirmation, in a most hearty and prudent manner

assisted to set the solicitation on foot, spared no pain to press it on and never left it until it was crowned with success. The chief of them were John Gurney,<sup>1</sup> Joseph Wyeth,<sup>2</sup> Andr. Pitt,<sup>3</sup> J. Gee,<sup>4</sup> and John Eccleston,<sup>5</sup> though mentioned last, was not the least in his zealous endeavours. Many more contributed thereto, so that we went on in a general harmony; and a good disposition seems to be cultivated among us—

I have now to add that in the course of our Solicitation of late especially, I, with some others, were desired by the Dukes of Newcastle<sup>6</sup> and Kingston<sup>7</sup> to recommend to thy care their two friends the Lord How<sup>8</sup> and Sr. Robt Sutton<sup>9</sup> for Knights for the County of Nottingham. The latter spoke to me twice that I would mind it early—What interest thou can make them I hope thou wilt not be wanting in, for if ever a people were under an obligation of Gratitude, we are; and with submission, it is not a time to be indifferent in expressing it—Get some leading men to worke heartily,

<sup>1</sup> John Gurney, 1688–1741, son of a Quaker merchant of Norwich; at twenty-two became a minister, and devoted himself chiefly to the discipline of the Society of Friends.

<sup>2</sup> Joseph Wyeth, of London, wrote, amongst other things, a continuation of the life of J. Ellwood.

<sup>3</sup> Andrew Pitt lived at Hampstead. Voltaire stayed at his house.

<sup>4</sup> Presumably Joshua Gee, of London; wrote several books on the subject of Trade.

<sup>5</sup> Merchant of London; is believed to have left the Friends.

<sup>6</sup> Thomas Pelham Hollis, duke of Newcastle-upon-Tyne (1693–1768).

<sup>7</sup> Evelyn Pierrepont, created duke of Kingston 1715.

<sup>8</sup> Probably the 2nd viscount Howe, father of Admiral Lord Howe.

<sup>9</sup> Robert Sutton, 2nd baron Lexington, of Averham Park, Notts.

HENRY GOULDNEY'S LETTERS 107

for if noble Lords had been supine, we had lost our cause. Andrew Pitt gives his respect to thee, take the same from me and my dearest, that am wth all the freedom, of an Old ffrd thine as ever,

HENR: GOULDNEY.

To Sr. John Rodes Barontt.  
at Balber Hall  
Near Chesterfeild  
Darbyshire.

London the 19th of  $\frac{6}{\text{mo}}$  1725.

MY DEAR AND WORTHEY FFRD,—Long silence and absence psonally hath not lessned the great Esteeme and value I have for thee, for the same motives to love remaines, and are as fresh in my memory as ever. I am also glad to hear thou art pretty well in health. I wish thou wert both able and willing to make us visits as usual, and I am thinking of inducements thereto, I should somewhat kindle a desier, as near relations, and many near ffrriends tho some are dropt off and some that remaine are in their declineing age—

I have had it long since in my minde to write thee abt our worthy deceased ffrd: W. P: whose workes are now in the press, and what we want is some full accot. of his convincement, exercise thereupon, and hard treatment from his father; his steadiness notwithstanding, altho mixt with severe sufferings and imprisonments. I am the more pressing upon thee, knowing thy near affection to his

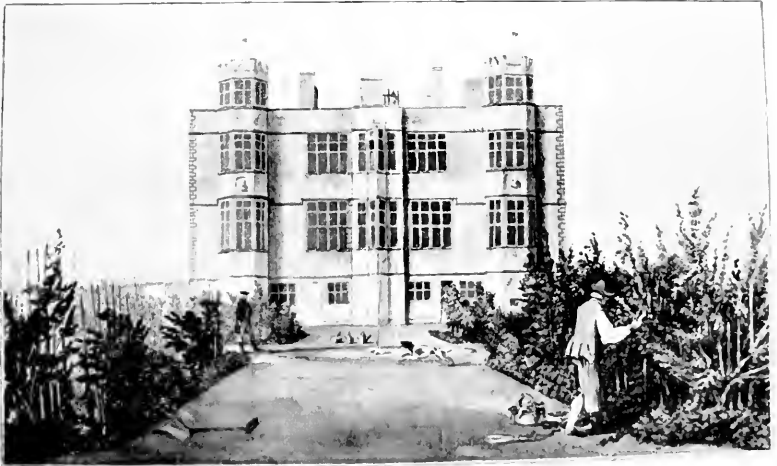
memory, who loved to sit under his discourse, and no doubt have made many good remarks upon some very material passages.<sup>1</sup> I greatly desire, thou wilt engage in it, whither by way of preface, or testimony concerning him, or in what manner thou shalt see meet, for it is a great pity, so great, so good and so extraordinary man should go off unobserved, that when living in so excellent a manner, revived the memory, works and fruits of many that he survived. I know there are some, yet living, that have good will; but if thou wilt reflect a little, thou wilt find but a very few capable of such work; but I know of one, wd thou but give me leave to name him; that best knew him and made the greatest remarks upon him and perhaps read him more, so that the person I am writing to is the most accomplished for the work and his happiness of still more agreeable to the deceased. His whole works are to be printed, and much of it being controversy, I have used my interest to persuade the persons concerned to make the last volume to be that, for tho that is excellently well done, yet many don't like to read such writings, and mixing it with another nature may disappoint the reader, so not answer the mind of such. Another difficulty I lie under is that, in his more early controversy, having to do with unfair adversaries, that very egregiously had abused the simple meaning of our friends, as well as falsely charged them, after he had detected their abuse, he in a warm zeal,

<sup>1</sup> There is no trace of John Rodes having edited Penn's entire works. This was done by Besse and also by Dr. Fothergill. John Rodes edited a small book entitled "Fruits of a Father's Love," published in 1726.





BARLBROUGH HALL IN THE 18TH CENTURY



BARLBROUGH HALL, NORTH FRONT



severely censures them especially Hicks, ffaldoe,<sup>1</sup> Jenner &c. which as the leaveing it out, is no part of his Argument, so I thincke it no injury to the matter to drop some of them. But I have not yet gained that point—John Whiteing<sup>2</sup> had laboured much in compileing something for the press ; but he went on another bottome, than wt is now agreed to, for we print the whole, and his was supposing it not to be. Besides some imperfect accot of his life, he tooke notice of the several bookes he wrote wth his remarkes thereon, and also all the prefaces to his bookes. The whole tooke up abt 4 quier of pap. Jos: Skidmore<sup>3</sup> haveing had that before him, tooke much the same method and the ffriends appointed to the reading it, laid them both asside—I have heard thou hast a manuscript of his abt his children<sup>4</sup> wch I hope thou willt forward that it may go into the first volum. I have been larger than my intention wch pray excuse. What I write is somewhat undigested being just now come out of the Countrey and have not time to mend it. Must now end wth dear old true love, thy constant ffrd.

HENRY GOULDNEY.

<sup>1</sup> Reference to opponents of the early Quaker teaching.

<sup>2</sup> John Whiteing, Quaker writer, died 1722.

<sup>3</sup> Jos. Skidmore, of Rickmansworth, Quaker writer.

<sup>4</sup> "Fruits of a Father's Love," see p. 107.



LETTERS OF JOHN TOMKINS

1694—1703



These  
To Sr. John Roades  
At Balborough-hall.  
To be left at Wm Storrs  
In Chesterfield, Darbs.

London 27th of 7 mo 1694.

DEAR FRIEND,—I need but a small share of charity to remit the offence of thy supposed omission. I did not resent it amiss, for considered by thy absence, the Inspection of affairs at home might have occasioned a longer silence. Though desirous to hear from thee, I speedily intended to have wrote to thee, if thine had not yet arrived; but receiving thine hath laid the greater obligation. I am sensible of thy cordiall love and respect to thy Friends here, and my self particulerly, and though we are remote from thee, which I could also heartily wish otherwise, yet let us be near in affections and Brotherly Love, for, Reall Friends to have the privilege of frequent Conversation, is a happiness perhaps not duely considered, but by those who want it. For as much as Providence hath not permitted us the advantage, let us be thankfull for what we doe Injoy, improveing it to the best ends we can; Blesed be God, we know measurably the Fellowship that is in the Truth and the enjoyments we have of one another therein, when personaly absent. And that we can in part expres our minds by letters, for I have

reaped great benefit from those whom God hath made livingly sensible and experiencers of his work in their hearts. Their lives have not only been Instructive to my understanding, but hath also been Refreshing to my Soull, because of the vertue and savour of Life accompaniing them, so that they have been truly beneficiall to me both as man and Christian,—Dear Friend, since we parted, I have often remembered thee with much more love than I can express, and frequent desiers unto God on thy behalf, The very repeating renews it upon me, with eyes full of tears, proceeding from a reverent and thankfull Sence in my Soull of the great Love of God revealed to a few, who are but as an handfull to the harvest which shall be gathered from all corners of the earth (I say), in a Sence therof my heart is tendered, that we are made partakers together of the Glory and unspeakable Riches which was promised to be made known in the Gentiles. . . . I thought not to have so enlarged, but when I began to write, felt great Love and warmth in my heart, and as it arose, I suffered it to proceed to this length, hoping the reading hearof will not be tedious to thee. May it also produce good effects to mee, that I may receive Some Lines from thee, for I place among my cheifest treasure the good epistles of my friends filled with good advice and Love, viz. the Love of God, a great Theme. When we have spent all our days in admiration therof the time is too short. Tis a work fit for Eternity.

Remember me kindly to thy Brother Hethcott.



I wish him a dayly increase of the experience and growth in the Truth, he is called, with many more, to be witnesses of, before men; and the number of those (if faithfull) God will account a kind of first fruites to himself in this last dispensation. It would be great pity the glory of this world, or love of other things should ever be able to separate any from the blessings enjoyed in keeping faithfull to the present Truth. My respects to John Graton if at home, Brother Thomas presents his to thee, and Dear Friend let me Conclude with the same who am assuredly thy affectionate Friend and Brother

JOHN TOMKINS.<sup>1</sup>

I have often thought of those papers at Woringhurst, and wish my Capacity may outwear thy opinion thou hast of me to perform a task so difficult as to reduce them into exact order, however I shall not be wanting in my endeavours when oppertunity permits, my own pleasure and advantage in peruseing such excelent tracts will prompt me to it, as wel as the designe of generall Service. Our worthy Friend<sup>2</sup> . . . there yet; he is expected here next week, and suddenly after, designs for Bristoll. He has been about home ever since thou left him. That County has a large share of his Company, while we have sometimes wished for it. Thomas Ellwoods<sup>3</sup> answear

<sup>1</sup> John Tomkins, Quaker annalist, died at Maryland Point, Stratford, in Essex, 1706, aged about forty-three years.

<sup>2</sup> William Penn.

<sup>3</sup> Thomas Ellwood. See note, p. 91.

to G. K.<sup>1</sup> and R. Hannays<sup>2</sup> papers are come out. But that I have not thy leave, I would lend thee one by the Post, but I doubt it would cost thee a shilling eighteen pence. It is well done. The old Williams, when they heard it was in the press, they and G. K. strove hard to obstruct its appearing abroad, and to effect there designe, gave the 2 days morning meeting, as well as the meeting for sufferings, severall contentious visits; but their attempts were vain. If thou art willing to give me orders, when any thing remarkable comes forth, let me know thy mind and what carier I shall send by, shall be very ready to serve thee in that or any thing els I am capable. Thine

J. T.

For Sir John Rodes.

To be left at Henry Hickworths<sup>a</sup> at Sleeford  
In  
Lincolnshire.

London 20 10 mo 1694.

DEAR AND ESTEEMED FREIND,—I heartily respect and love thee with unfeigned love because of the nearnes of spirit the Lord hath brought us into, by the operation of his mighty Power, whereby he subdueth all things to himself, and bringeth to pass whatsoever he will. . . . Thine was very acceptable

<sup>1</sup> George Keith. See note, p. 57.

<sup>2</sup> Robert Hannay, of America. Took the part of George Keith in the controversy about Pennsylvania. Wrote a preface to the tract called "A true account of the Proceedings, Sence, and advice of the people called quaker." 1694.

to me, not hearing, began to doubt whether mine reached thy hands, because I sent it to Darbysher, not Lincolnshere. Dear Freind, I am troubled at the expression I saw in thine, that I had heard sooner from thee, but that thine comes so short, it will be no ballance to mine, I am of another opinion, what have we but what we receive ; Brotherly Love and prayers one for another will ballance accounts between us. It is well, if we can be helpfull. I desiere allwayes to be kept in this mind, that we may injoy, though outwardly remote, the benifit of true Fellowship. What are we without the Lord and the dayly assistance of his spirit ? If he hide his face but a very litell time we are sad !

As to my seeing thy lines, I had it in my Pocket, as thou thought and cautioned me of H. G.<sup>1</sup> Thou knows he has such Power over his frends (as I know none has the like) because of his loving disposition. I could not withstand him. . . . As . . . (illegible) defect in thine is the occasion of thy reservednes, so it ought also to restrain me from exposing it, and should, but to him, who is so intimate with us both, for what thou was pleased to say therin, they are too high charactors of me. If there had been anything I had conceived a secret, should been more cautious, for I am allways carefull to keep the rules of Friendship. However, to remove all straitnes and that thou may be free to write thy mind, shal for the future observe thy directions both to thy own and mine too, being wiling to continue Coresponding, being satisfied of the Integrity of thy heart to walk in faithfulness and simplicity of

<sup>1</sup> Henry Gouldney.

the Truth, refusing the familiarities of the world and embracing a retired Life the beter to Injoy communion with God, whose presence produces more solid Comfort in one hour than can be found dureing many years otherwise. How often have I wished for but a few weeks of the many thou injoys to be sequestered from business and Crowds of men. I beleeve I could employ it to my satisfaction, but I am content, my lot at present is otherwise cast, and I have no cause to complain. The Lord is good, blessed be his Name.

Touching G. K. about 6 weeks past has quite left our meetings, resorting to Harp Lane, but none that I hear of note goes after him. Those, who was so troublesome in pleading for him dont think fit to follow him thither. As to his challenge of T. Ellwood, G. K. is a master in faction, and knows what will take with the mobb. No doubt to see the quakers gather a thousand or two together openly to dispute about differences among themselves would highly gratifie them, besides, according to my oppinion, that is not the effectuall way to inform People, seeing he begun and spread the difference abroad in Print, and none could hear that Conference, but who was present, except they print the narrative of it, and perhaps there will be as much difERENCE about the Impartial relation thereof and the controversie it self. If so, how will this prevent the writing of many books? and he pretends T. E.'s<sup>1</sup> reply to G. K.'s<sup>2</sup> last answer is in the Press, near finished. I understand he has handled him well again, and this passage, no doubt, per-

<sup>1</sup> Thomas Ellwood.

<sup>2</sup> George Keith.

ticulerly, though I forgot to inquire what his answer was to this. As to his Collection of the unguarded expressions etc. in friend's books, I dont see much cause to fear him therein. If W. P. G. W. or other friends, in there treating of the Resurrection, have not spoken so fully of the Resurrection of the Body, chiefly aiming at the spirituall part, as most nessesary to the Resurrection of the soull from Sin and death spirituallly, in order to our Body's risinge beter hereafter, I dont see that can be a crime—Seeing, not speaking so largely as others would have them, but denying any Article of Truth, is the Sin, and if he should bring forth his Collection, I beleve 'twill in the end (though evily designed by him) prove to the advantage of Truth, for it will give occasion for those doctrines to be more fully explained, which will tend to the farther opening Peoples understanding. Thou sees, I am still long, don't blame me, thy good leter is the cause, stirring me up a fresh. As Iron sharpeneth Iron, so doth the face of a man his friend. I am in much Love and Sincereity thy dear Friend and Brother in the Truth

JOHN TOMKINS.

If thou put me out of Office of buying books for thee, because of that smal present I made thee, I think the penalty will be greater than the crime.

H. G. is become an Auther. I advised Anthony to send thee one of them. It is a stroke upon Geo: White and old Saperate. I understand he is replying, so I hope H. G. will not want work now,

having taken up the Gantlet, cannot in honner put up his sword, till he has made his adversary cry Quarter.

R. Barow,<sup>1</sup> R. Wardell,<sup>2</sup> S. Jenings<sup>3</sup> and Tho. Duckett<sup>4</sup> with others are in the downs with the fleet onwards of their voyage to Pensilvania. Leters from there came this week says Tho: Loyd<sup>5</sup> is dead.

There is one thing more I must acquaint thee of, and had done it in my last, but there was not room. I understand H. G. has been so inteligeble to give the account of it already. I intend, if the Lord permit, to take a wife, and have proposed it to the meetings twice, and intend the 3d time next 2d day. It is the Person at J. H.'s whom I told thee of, the report I heard is short to what I find, since acquainted with her. I am well satisfied in my proceeding, earnestly desiering we may be directed to finish in the fear of God and to our mutual comfort. It will be about 6 weeks before we accomplish, and I should be very glad to have thee one of our witnesses. By that time the winter will be pretty well over. I desere thee be not so long between the receipt of this and thy answeare as before ; thy

<sup>1</sup> Robert Barrow, born in Lancashire, travelled much in America and died there in 1697 ; buried in Philadelphia.

<sup>2</sup> Robert Wardell, of Sunderland, 1635-1696, travelled extensively as a preacher in Great Britain and America.

<sup>3</sup> Samuel Jennings, of Bucks, afterwards of New Jersey.

<sup>4</sup> Thos. Duckett, one of the first settlers in the neighbourhood of Philadelphia, and was prominent in religious and political life ; died 1699.

<sup>5</sup> Thos. Lloyd was convinced of Quakerism in Wales. He emigrated to Pennsylvania at the request of Wm. Penn, and became a prominent Friend in the public life of that province.

lines are very acceptable to me, much more thy Company. We have every week, I may say, almost every Post, accounts of the extraordinary service our dear and worthy Friend hath in the Western Parts. He has been lately at Exeter and thereabouts. At Exeter, there was, by computation, about 4 or 5000 People at one meeting. He is expected at Bristoll again on next first day, if Friends doe not draw him to Waymouth etc. after there, a week about Bath, and then homewards through Gloscester Oxford etc. It is great satisfaction to us, God hath heard the many Prayers that were put up for him in his Captivity and answered them, that his adversaries are dis-appointed, and he is covered with honner, because of the Praise he brings to the name of God and his Blessed Truth. Many speaks well thereof his Report coupled with fear and a heavenly Conversation, while those who wait for his hurt are dis-appointed and cloathed with shame. We expect him home in 3 or 4 weeks time. Give my hearty love to thy Brother Thomas Heathcot and receive Brother Thomas Respects to thy self. I am Thine,

J. T.

For Sr. John Rodes.

To be left at  
William Storrs in  
Chesterfield  
Darbyshire.

London 10. 4th mo. 1695.

ESTEEMED FRIEND,—It was a dis-appointment to me not seeing thee before thou went, but had no certainty, nor did beleeve thou wouldst goe that morning, yet lest it should be, came soon after thou went from H. G. and suppose could have overtaken thee, but knew not what Inn thou took Coach at, neither could the young men tell me. I am sory thy departure was so sudden, in my opinion 'twas not so agreeable to thy Charæctor to be so quick, that none of thy Friends could bid the farewell. I find, some resents it, not so kind as I would have them, for I beleeve, thou Intended no slight upon thy Friends, thy man's stay with the horses was the reason thereof. I had the 2 Ginneys by the Porter from the Inn, and discoursed H. G. about thy board. He was unwilling to take any thing, looking upon this Stay but as a vissit, and thou was welcome to his entertainment, but says, if he took mony, he intended it should be when thou wouldst take thy abode at his house for some considerable time, as a whole winter etc., but lest thou should not be pleased with him, he received them, though he thinks it too much.

Busines prevented my writeing sooner and excuse my delay. Seeing thou had committed this affaire



to me, suppose thou expected an account before thou wrote. I hope shall hear from thee suddenly and of thy safe arrivall at home and that thy relations were well in thy absence. I shall now only add concerning G. K. since yearly meeting, he has published three things ; the first thou saw called the Narrative of the proceedings of the meeting with him the list of the errors of W. P., G. W., and J. W. which he threatened in the Title Page of the Narrative is now come forth consisting of mangled Citations out of their books Concerning the Body, Blood etc. of Jesus Christ, together with many base and undue reflections upon friends, and within this few days the 3d caled an answer to the Quakers Nameless Bull given forth against G. K. stufed with as much Gall as he could fill his pen with. It is left to T. Ellwood to Continue Answers to him upon all. Friends haue drawn up somewhat briefly in reply to the Querys proposed to the yearly meeting by the B of L's chaplain. They are not yet delivered.

Dear Friend this I think is what offers at present with the remembrance of true Love and Respect to thee in that near Fellowship of the Truth, wherein we feel our hearts Comforted one in another by the divine Influences of the Spirit of Truth when our Bodyes are at great distance, I pray God keep us near unto him in the dayly exercise of our hearts and minds in this Blessed Truth and heauenly Gift of Grace, and therein shall dayly Injoy his Presence and Constant unity together, and feel our hearts opened to behold more and more of the excellency and Glory that is in the Truth and the Dispised

followers thereof whilst those who are in prejudice and enmity are allways complaining, haveing lost the glory in themselves, conclude it is departed from others also. I am thy True and Faithfull Friend

JOHN TOMKINS.

My wife desiers me to mention her Love to thee. J. T.

For Sr. John Rodes.

To be left at William Storrs  
In Chesterfield  
Darbyshire.

London the 24. 7 mo. 1695.

DEAR FRIEND,—In the Love of the Truth, the Lord hath revealed in our Day I send thee tender Salutation, feelling my heart unto thee my dear Friend to whom I have more respect, than am willing to express this way. I received thy letter above a mo. since, thy kindnes therein expressed is great and Certainly calls for sutable returns from me in a double respect, not only to thee for thy Love and open heartednes so freely to invite me to thy house, but to myself also that I may walk worthy of the regard Friends had to me. . . . Thy desiere, as well, the great advantage would accrue to my self by the company and oppertunities obtainable by our Dear Friend W. P. are such great Inducements, that I cannot but embrace it. That saying of our Lord hath had effect upon my disposition, especially in Religious Company who-soever shall compell thee to goe with him a mile,

goe with him twain, that I think, may say without vanity, am not behind many in that respect. But we who have but small concerns of trade in the world, it must be sometimes attended, though have often denied my self of very profable advantages for the sake of good Company and good Meetings. But the posture of my affairs lye so at present, and Indeed have been so all this year, occasioned by the death of the great person at Court,<sup>1</sup> that I have been debarred much of the happiness I have formerly Injoyed, and I cannot see but I must deny my self this allso—

I cannot give a perticuler account, when our dear Friend intends his Journey your way. Suppose it will not be long. He went last 7th day to a Quarterly meeting in Kent, about 50 mils from London, returns back to the Citty about 4th or 5th day next. H. G. is with him, I could wished, with others as well as himself. It may be before winter approach farr, but things often interpose to his hinderance in many good purposes. I hope thou wilt not imprison thy self all this winter in that Corner,<sup>2</sup> but let us have the benefit of thy good Company. We should be glad of it, and thou knows, thou art wellcome to us. R. Barclay is in Town and hath appeared in diverse of our meetings of note (but not large). I have not heard him my self but hear hopefully of him from some that have. Perhaps thou hast had oppertunity before us as he came up. Brother Thomas desires me to give his

<sup>1</sup> Queen Mary, queen regnant, wife of William III., died Dec. 28, 1694.

<sup>2</sup> Barlborough.

Respect to thee. The Day desired by him is approaching. it is next 5th Day come week, which as I take it, will be the 4th of next mo. that is fixed for the accomplishment of his marriage George Keith gives us litell trouble since yearly meeting. Not long since, he was a broad and at Reading and Wickham, and as far as Marlborough. It was said he intended to Bristoll but went not. 'Twas thought hardly any Friend there would received him or give him Lodging. Thomas Ellwoods answear to his pamphlets are come forth, and are well done. Dear John, let me hear from thee and also see thee this winter. It will be a good oppertunity when the Friend<sup>1</sup> goes to your parts to come up with him. I beseech thee dont use reserves, but be open and free with him. I suppose thou knowes my meaning. He intends not further than Darbyshire, and his stay will not be long. He has defered his Journey to Ireland, till towards the spring. Dear Friend with dear Love conclude. My wife is out of Town I know her Love is to thee. Thy Assured faithfull Friend,

JOHN TOMKINS.

The Turkey Fleet long expected is come in ; the marchants have had dismall loses lately by the two Indian ships richly laden, and II Barbadoes men and 2 Pensilevain ships which the French<sup>2</sup> took, besides about 220 vesells lost, some Laden, but most Lite Colliers, spoyled by the late Storm of Wind.

My dear love to John Gratton.

<sup>1</sup> Wm. Penn.

<sup>2</sup> War with France, begun 1689, ended by the Peace of Ryswick, 1697.

For Sir John Rodes.

To be left at  
William Storrs  
In Chesterfield  
(In Darbyshire).

London 22d 8 mo 1695.

ESTEEMED FRIEND,—Notwithstanding I sent thee a letter a mo agoe and received no answer since, my love is such, I can make two returns for one kindness, and more, if occasion. My last gave the reason why I beleev'd if dear W. P. had come into your parts, I could not come with him—Now I dont know w<sup>n</sup> you will see him. If not suddenly, I doubt not this winter. Suppose need not tell the reason why I think so, beleeving thou hath heard w<sup>t</sup> work he is engaged in at Bristoll. Perhaps he may give you a visit from thence, for I understand the expectation of the People in your parts (the world, as well as friends) if it be not answered by him, may give them that offence as may not easily be removed. I know not how to show dislike to w<sup>t</sup> he doth: he is a man to whom I have given preference in my Respect and Esteeme to any I know, therefore must be excused, if am spareing of writing against his present proceedings.<sup>1</sup> Many here are not satisfied with the object for a help meet, tho she may be a person unexceptionable for some other (perhaps thy self if thou had thought so). His circumstances considered every way, severall of his nearest friends in affection doe not think so of it, as I suppose he doth! but it

<sup>1</sup> See Henry Gouldney's letter of the same date. Friends were averse to Penn's second marriage.

may be objected by some, should not every man have the priviledge to choose his own wife. So it must be left, hoping that the Lord hath been with him, and signally appeared on his behalf in many respects, so in this w<sup>ch</sup> is none of the least affairs of his life, he will so work by his Divine Providence, that if it will not prove to the honner of Truth and his benefit, it may not come to pass. I would be willing to leave the issue thereof to this effect— Thomas Ellwood hath answered G. K.'s pamphlets published about the yearly meeting time, and G. K. hath lately published in print those Qieries brought to the last yearly meeting by the Bp of London's<sup>1</sup> chp. (Chaplain) and frends' answers to them, with Citations out of some frends bookes w<sup>ch</sup> he would Insinuate to the reader, contradicts the late answers upon the same subject. The title is Hypocrisy and Error detected in the late Answer of G. Whitehead to his Brethren to some Qierys &c. He seems in his last pamphlet to bend his malice chiefly agst G. W. . . .

Favour me with some Lines and let me have thy Company as soone as thou please. Dear frend I am in much sincerity and respect Assuredly thy loving and faithful frend.

JNO TOMKINS.

Excuse bad writing, I am at present not well. The french have taken 3 East India Rich Ships more lately. They was all they lookd for this season. It is a dismal loss to them as well the nation in Generall.

<sup>1</sup> Henry Compton, consecrated Bishop of London 1675.

For Sr John Rodes.

To be left at W<sup>m</sup> Storrs  
Shop-keeper In  
Chesterfeild  
Darbyshire.

Guildford 16 of 2d mo/96.

DEAR FFRIEND,—I have many times of late thought of thee, some times with some uneasiness of mind, when I consider thy silence. What should be the occasion thereof, I know not. I have reflected on my self if (I) have given thee any cause. When I consider thou also withheld writing to H. G., nor indeed any of thy acquaintance that I know can give any account of thee, I forbear to charge my self. It is I suppose 6 weeks since I sent a few lines to refresh thy memory of us by R. Needham, an other I sent thee some weeks before that, but no answer Thy last to me, I suppose, is above 6 mo, since which, there is my 3d or 4th letter to thee—

D<sup>r</sup> ffriend, I should be unwilling to Impose upon the fredome of any of my ffriends, but leave them to the liberty they find in them selves to write; but when I remember the desiere thou had expressed to hear from us, and thy willingness to continue the Correspondence begun, I hope, to mutuall advantage, am ready to conclude thou are not well!

Let us hear how it is then in two lines. If art so busy can write no more, what I have said above,

will I hope be sufecient demonstration that the same love remains still with me on thy behalf; and be assured, it is so, I am unwilling to say any more of that, beleiving thou knows it—I shall now tell of the occasion of being at this place—Here is a good number of thy perticuler friends and acquaintance, viz. J. Vaughton,<sup>1</sup> J. ffeild, S. Waldenfeld, H. Gouldney, P. Marks, R. Barclay, F. Stamper, W. Robinson and divers more upon a double account, for we meet both at the house of Mirth and Mourning; the one is to be witness this day to the marraige of W. Bingley with widow Hannah Smith of this place. Last night arrived here the Corps of Springet Penn<sup>2</sup> in its passage to Buckingham, there to be Interred tomorrow at Jordans by his mother. Our dear frend W. P. accompanys the Corps with his wife, his Son, and Daughter, and ffather Callowhill—After (the) marriage, we made towards Windsor in order to be at the Interment tomorrow noon. This is an occasion of grt sorrow to our frend, but it is his portion to have wormwood mingled with his drink. The Deceased was the most beloved of his Children, if can be. He intends soon after this to be at Bristoll, to be at yearly meeting there, and afterwards to yearly meeting at London. I hope shall see thee here before then, and if art willing to accept of Quarters at Bro: Tom's, I doubt not but he will be glad of thy Company—He has

<sup>1</sup> John Vaughton, of Gloucestershire; died 1696.

<sup>2</sup> Springett Penn, the dearly loved son of William Penn, by his first wife, Gulielma Springett. His father wrote a little book, "Tribute to the Memory of Springett Penn."



LETTERS OF JOHN TOMKINS 131

took a house in Cannon Street, near Clements Lane. I have divers things to Informe thee of, but let me know first if this be acceptable, before I inlarge. Meantime, with assurance of constant friendship, In that love, w<sup>ch</sup> changeth not, I am thy friend

JOHN TOMKINS.

For Sir John Rodes  
to be left at W<sup>m</sup> Storrs  
Shop-keeper In  
Chesterfield  
Darbeyshire.

London 26 m/7 1696.

DEAR FFRIEND,—Thou art often in my thoughts . . . I shall be very glad to see thee here, and so, I know, will others of thy friends, who desiere thy Company this winter in this City. We wonder what thou doth propose by thy, so long, as it were, imprisoning thy self. Are not here more oppertunities, both as to good society and good meetings, and divers other advantages, than thou canst enjoy in the Country? For my part, I very much desiere to see thee, and had not my wife been so near her time, and that time, w<sup>ch</sup> was most convenient for me to leave my business, I should have given thee a visit. Dear W. P. and his wife is expected next week from Worminghurst, where she hath been this 3 or 4 m<sup>o</sup> past. They intend from hence to Bristoll. I understand she is towards a litell one. I suppose thou have

heard of Tho. Musgrave's<sup>1</sup> arrivall from America, by reason his road homeward lay thy way. We understand by letters from Jamaca, that Rob<sup>t</sup> Barrow,<sup>2</sup> who with Robert Wardell have been almost thro' America, is deceased in Jamaca. He dyed there in the 8th m<sup>o</sup> about the time his wife dyed in Westmoreland. Dear frd with salutation of true and Constant love I remain thy sincere frd

JOHN TOMKINS.

H. Gouldney's dear love is to thee. Favour me with a few lines of thy welfare pr next post, after this reaches thy hands, and if we may expect thee at London this winter—A frd or two of thine have thought of a person to be thy wife, if thou shall think so. She is Young and hath a great deal of mony, and it's beleev'd her Parents would be easy to consent—if N. Marks have writ to thee lately, suppose he hath given thee an hint (I forgot to ask him). I mention it, however, because am desierous to see thee well maryed, that thou might enjoy the comforts of that relation, w<sup>ch</sup> by the blessing of God, is certainly the happyest on Earth.

J. T.

My wife desiers to be remembered to thee. Were not the winter so near as it is, for we

<sup>1</sup> Thomas Musgrave was a native of Yorkshire, and laboured extensively in the work of the ministry; afterwards settled in Pennsylvania.

<sup>2</sup> See p. 120.

LETTERS OF JOHN TOMKINS 133

have much rain here, and I had but a sutable companion, doe think I should come and see thee, but hope thou wilt now save me the labour.

J. T.

For Sir John Rodes to be left  
at William Storr's  
Shop-keeper  
In Chesterfield  
Darbeyshe.

London 11th 12th mo 1697.

DEAR FFRIEND,—Thy kind leter I received of 7.10th mo last . . . Now the sun is approaching nearer, the spring will advance a pace, and we hope to see thee amongst us. Some of thy ffrriends are desierous to know if thou art inclinable to be at yearly meeting at Bristoll. If thou art, it will be an Inducement for them to meet thee there, and from thence, may come home together to London. Bristoll meeting falls on 22nd 3 mo next, just 3 weeks before London. . . . Let me know thy thoughts of the proposition. If thou consent to it, I shall be more willing to endeavour to go thither, if I have hopes to meet thee there. . . . Our dear friend W. P. has been troubled with bleeding at his nose, which has occasioned the loss of much blood, and confined him to his chamber this 2 weeks, but hope shortly to see him abroad again. His wife, son, and daughter is in Town. He lately inquired of thy welfare, he doubts thou took his letter amiss,<sup>1</sup> not

<sup>1</sup> See Penn's letter, p. 10.

having heard from thee since. He expressed much good will to thee. . . . Our friends delivered an address to the King<sup>1</sup> on behalf of friends in this nation, which he kindly received, and was pleased to promise that he would protect them. Thy Bro: was lately in this city. I once had an opportunity to dine with him at John Barkers. Should have been glad to have seen him oftener, but understood that his affaires lead him mostly to the other end of the Town. My kind love to him. . . . Dear friend I am in Reall Respect thy Lo: and assured friend

JOHN TOMKINS.

. . . Our Antient friend M. ffox<sup>2</sup> is here about town. I wish she had staid in Lancashire or returned back soon after she came—I fear, by reason of her age, that she will be lead by her son W<sup>m</sup> into something or other, which may not be of the best consequence to Truth, nor the quiet of the Church, nor her own honner. This by the by to thee. J. T.

As a token of my love and Respect to thee, have sent thee 3 dozen of wine, viz. 1 doz of Canary 1 Red and 1 whit wine. For the Conveniency of packing, have put them in two hampers. The Canary is in two doz pint bottles. The carrier left

<sup>1</sup> William III.

<sup>2</sup> Margaret Askew, married first, in 1632, Judge Fell of Swarthmoor, and second George Fox in 1669; died in 1702, the eighty-eighth year of her age. Mother of the early Quaker Church in Swarthmoor, the centre of early Quakerism. Works collected and published in 1710.

the town this day ; his name is Fretwell, the Inn's the Bell in Chesterfield and I think he said he was the M<sup>r</sup> of that Inn. He will be at Chesterfield next 5th day. The carriage is paid and note tyed to the hamper directed to thy self at Balbar Hall. My respects to thy mother unknown, if thou please.

J. T.

To Sr. John Rodes

These  
present

London 14 2d mo 1698.

ESTEEMED FRIEND,—Thine of the 28. 12 mo. last is before me. Thou may justly blame me for my delay. I was often about to write, but have been unwillingly prevented. My respect is such to thee that I would not be guilty of anything that is unkind. . . . Touching the book caled the Sn: (Snake) in the Grass, it is an heap of Rubbish, wch has been gathering this 40 years ; Several parts, yea, most parts, have been answered again and again. Keith, Penyman,<sup>1</sup> Bug,<sup>2</sup> and Crisp<sup>3</sup> have been the

<sup>1</sup> John Pennyman, of London ; born 1628. He was one of the 164 Friends who offered "body for body" for the redemption of their friends in prison. See a "Declaration of the present sufferings of whom 140 of the People of God called Quakers." 1659. Later seceded from the Quakers and became bitterly opposed to them.

<sup>2</sup> Francis Bugg, see p. 84.

<sup>3</sup> Stephen Crisp, Quaker writer. Born at Colchester 1628. One of the leaders of early Quakerism. Took a prominent part in the controversy with those who seceded from Friends on the question of Discipline. Died 1692. His sermons have been printed many times, and his writings in English and Dutch passed through many editions.

Cheife Labourers in this work, and Charles Lasley,<sup>1</sup> as I take it, is the M<sup>r</sup> builder. The men has an indifferent glib still, and the book cheiffly consisting of storeys, makes it slip the pleasanter away before the eye of the Reader. And not withstanding that Author's pretence of personall kindness to many Quakers, that book and some others, he has since writ, being plainly to be calculated for the worst of our Enemies to gratifie their prejudice and stir up, if possible, the Powers of the Earth against us, that we may no more be a People. . . . Upon occasion of thy leter, I did lately peruse most of said book and G. W.'s Answear thereunto, I have that book of G. ff. (Fox) also by me, caled the Great Mistery &c., and I find some passages not so wel guarded against, as might have been perticulerly that about the soull of man, in which the Snake &c. takes notice of in page 53 section 7 first Impression. I apprehend that of the Soul's equality, and being Infinit, and a part of God &c. ought to be understood of that Divine breath, or Spirit, wch. God, in the beginning, breathed into the soul of Adam, whereby he became a liveing soul. Tho: the Snake scoffs at W. P. for excuseing g. ff. in these perticulers against J. ffaldoe<sup>2</sup> who made the same objections 25 years agoe. Yet what W. P. says is very reasonable, where he undertakes to say for G. ff. that G. ff. understood no more by Equality, than Unity, for God is greater than all ; by infinite, something not finite, or which comes to an end ; or by the Soul's being

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Charles Leslie, author of many books adverse to Quakerism, notably "The Snake in the Grass."

<sup>2</sup> John Faldo, writer against Quakerism ; died in London 1690.

without beginning or a part of God, no other than that divine breath of Life, that came out from God, and therefore is of God. See W. P. Invalidity of J. ffaldoe's vindication page 353. And G. W.<sup>1</sup> is to the same purpose in his Antedote to the Snake &c. page 61 and 62, and G. W. in page 61 doth disown that the Quakers doe make their souls of the same substance with God. Therefore, it was disingenious in our Adversary to turn such plain and vulgar expresions (as W. P. calls them) to such ill use, as he doth those of G. ff. But he is glad to take advantage of every thing to blacken the Quakers. . . . I confess if said Auther of the Snake &c. had been more perticularly answeard, it had been well, tho. I think that book has had more paines bestowed upon it, than it deserves, much of it being made up of old storys, with great mixtures of falshood, many of which, as I have said, are answeared. And those wch have any prt of Truth in them, as the wickedness and falshood of any professing Truth among us, our adversaries knows, that we disown such things. Only the Snake has new licked them over and jumbled them together, to render Truth and ffriends odious. I suppose thou may know that ffriends doth not imply G. W. in this work, but as he has been an Antient writer for ffriends, so those books, which come out against us, his name is generally concerned in them, relating to somewhat which he has writ, so thinks himself more Concerned to vindicate it; tho I beleeve, were he 20 years younger, he would be fitter for that work; for those who write Contro-

<sup>1</sup> George Whitehead.

versie, should have some mercury, as well as Truth in their Composition. It was proposed to T. Ellwood to make a fuller answer to sd Snake, but what he has done, I dont hear. I wish the sence thou has of the use of good Controvertists amongst us to defend the principle of Truth agst its adversaries would stir up the Gift that is in thee to so good a work. Thy understanding, parts, and stile are good ingredients. It would be a noble employment for thee, no ways unbecomeing thy quality, but an honnour to it ; and I doubt not, if thou wouldst begin, but in a small Essay of a sheet, by way of Remarks, or a reproofe upon that spirit which lifts up its heel agst Truth, that thou wouldst find thy Talent increase, and thy service therein would be acceptable to the Lord and to his People, and be an occasion for the further opening of thy understanding in the mysterys of the Doctrines of Truth ; so that thy service might not stop there, but thou mightst advance, step by step, to an higher station in the work of the Gospell— . . . I understand by H. G. that he has also given the account of the convincment of a Person of note.<sup>1</sup> He continues in the way of Truth he has begun to walk—he is now in Buckinghamshair, at his own seate there,—he is comeing boldly to confess Truth before men by an open proffesion therof in the cross to this world ; is frequent at friends meetings there, as he was in the city, and constant with friends in Conversation. T. Elwood he has Respect to, who is helpfull to him. . . Dear ffriend, I hope thou

<sup>1</sup> Probably Edmund Waller, son of the poet. See H. Gouldney's letters, 1698.



wilt not suffer thy Relations to prevent thy coming hither next yearly meeting. Thou who formerly used to come every year and stay some time with us, not to come once in 3 years, will look unkind. I desire thee let none hinder thy coming, if the Lord permit thee life and Health. Dear W. P. left city last 7th day; he made a visit to Esqir Waller in Buckinghamshire and had a meeting there last 1st day. Next day, from thence, onward to Ireland, but to Bristoll first—He did not unkindly resent thy Silence, tho he would have been glad of a letter from thee; he desired me to remember his very kind love unto thee. In very dear love, I am thy constant, faithfull and affectionate friend

JOHN TOMKINS.

There is an Answer to primitive Heresie reviewed &c. by Joseph Wyeth. I spoke to Tate<sup>1</sup> to send it.

J. T.

For Sir John Rodes.

London 18. 5th mo 1698.

DEAR FRIEND,—It was no small disapointment to me and some others of thy friends that thou came not to the yearly meeting. We fully expected, and had provided lodging at my Bro Thomas. Many friends did inquire for thee. I gave them that which thou gave me for the reason of thy

<sup>1</sup> Tate Sowle, who published the Quakers' books.

absence, and however they looked upon the plea to be valid, I could not take it so, tho on the other hand am unwilling to use arguments to induce any, especially one I so much value, to under-take any thing beyond their own freedome, least any thing should happen amiss. It is true that the Small Pox has been in this City this summer, and so it is always, but they have been much less mortall this year than many other years —I hear that the Countryes are sickly and in many places more dyes even of that distemper, considering the number, than there dyes here. As it is not good to be presumptuous, so not too timorous, for the hand of the Lord can reach us where he pleases. They exceeded in their report, who informed thy mother of the great distruction which that disease made hear, and that the Contagion thereof was so high, that it was suspected twould turn to the Plague. I never heard any such thing, but in thy letter. I write this, that that notion may not so affright thee, as to shut out the thoughts of coming to us this winter. I am sorry that thou misst such good oppertunity as the late Y-M<sup>1</sup> did affoord us; it was a good time and the Lord was with his People according to his wonted goodness, tho friends have not been without some exercise, perticularly by the means of M. ff<sup>2</sup> whose extreame age some few did impose upon to her dishonour, and the greife of many faithful Brethren. But friends would not admit of any thing of that kind and all ended well. For

<sup>1</sup> Yearly Meeting.

<sup>2</sup> Margaret Fox. See note, p. 134.

the more perticular account of affaires amongst us, I refer thee to the bearer, our near and antient friend J. Blackling, who in his old age hath undertaken a long journey to visit us, and as his service was great amongst us in diverse respects, so I hope he goes away easy in his spirit and well satisfied in the love, union, and fellowship of friends here. . . . I have intreated him to take a nights lodging or two with thee. I know thou knows him to be worthy, and doubt not of the kind entertainment which he will receive from thee, if thou art at home. In your society, remember me. I was almost of the mind to have accompanied him so far as thy house, for as I have love and esteem to him, I have also to thee, which occasioned me the more to request him to make a stop at thy house. Dear John, I am often ingaged in my spirit for thee and that thou may abundantly manifest thy Love to God, who has been so exceeding kind to thee. . . . As to G. K. his new tract for outward supper and Baptisme, it has done more service for Truth than hurt, for many weak People up and down the Countrey are now thereby convinced that he is further backsliden and Apostatised in respect to Doctrine than they apprehended him to be. Besides the book itself has litell in it, he haveing not that I can perceive, advanced any new argument for the use of those shadowy observations, than what our adversaryes before has said—I suppose thou has heard that our dear frd W. P. is in Ireland with John Everad and Tho. Storey who went before Y-M and since, J. Vaughton and S. Waldenfeild are also well in their service

there. W. P.'s service has been unspeakably to the honner of Truth and his own Reputation therein : people of all ranks and sorts resorting to meetings and speak well of Truth by occasion of his ministry, so that what his adversaryes can doe amounts to no more than the striking a lighted torch against a post, which occasions its light to burn the brighter—H. G. I know, has his dear love to thee, but he is out of town, gone to Chippinham to the marraige of his sister Gouldney's daughter Jenney with Michael Russel's son of London. Dear ffriend in most true and cordiall Love I remain thy Constant frd

JOHN TOMKINS.

Rob<sup>t</sup> Barclay is here with his wife, she intends to tarry here the winter.

For Sr. John Rodes.

To be left at Wm Storrs

Draper

In Chesterfield

Darbyshire

London 18. 9m 1698.

DEAR FRIEND,—Thine of the 15 instant and that which gave account of thy kind Token, also thine of the 17th 7mo last came all to hand, for which I am thy debtour, and have often desiered oppertunity to acknowledge it, but have been pre-

vented by the interveening of many affaires relating to the Service of Truth and the Friends thereof. And Friends having been greived at the Delay of Dear G: ff's Epistell in the Press, occasioned by a Clark that they hiered to take care thereof, discharged him that attendance, so that care fell upon the meeting for sufferings<sup>1</sup> and from thence mostly upon me, but the last sheet is now in the Press. That perticuler Service hath taken me up much time, so that, and not being willing to neglect some other Services also, I have been obliged to Run in Arreares to my Friends which I hope Love will excuse—Dear Friend, my heart, at this time, is filled with Love of God towards the Brethren, and therin thou may assure thy self that thou hast not the least share. . . . I would not have thee think that because thou did not hear from me, that therefore the good account which thou gave me in the first, and Confirmed in thy Second Letter, was not duely Received and Considered, I doe assure thee that there is not any thing, these many years, hath so affected my heart as that did. As this was cause of Joy in Heaven, so it is unto the Faithfull on Earth. And I could not be content to satisfie my Self alone therewith, but did impart it to the Brethren, thy good Friends. They are glad therof, and we forget not to make mention of you in our Prayers before our God, that he may strengthen and establish us

<sup>1</sup> In the days of persecution, cases of suffering often occurred between the times of the Yearly Meetings, so a committee of Friends was appointed in London to deal with these cases. This met on the 6th day of every month, and was called the "Meeting for Sufferings."

to the praise of his Grace. The Scripture is fulfilled unto us, Let the Righteous be glad. Let them rejoyce before God, yea Let them exceedingly Rejoyce. Sing unto God, Sing Praises unto his Name—God seteth the Solitary in Familys, he bringeth out those who are bound in chaines, but the Rebellious dwell in a dry Land, the Lord hath regard unto thee, he hath heard thy Cryes and seen the exersise and travaile of thy soull, when thou could say with the afflicted of old, I am like the Pelican in the wildernes, I am like an owl in the desart, I watch, and am as a sparrow alone upon the house top. The Lord remembers those times of affliction, and is Causeing his People to say, the wilderness and the solitary places shall be glad for them, and the desart shall Rejoice and blossome—If thy Brother continue in faithfulness unto the Lord, thou wilt have a partener and Companion in the Service for Truth thereawayes. You wil be Comforted together and be a strength one unto another, and you know not what Instruments of good unto others the Lord may make you in his hand, so that in your severall Capacities, you may hold forth the blessed Truth, as an Ensigne to the People, that many may flow together to the goodness of the Lord, and sing unto him in the height of Sion, and Praise his Name for the wheat, and for the wine, and for the Oyl, and for the Young of the Flock, and of the Herd. And their souls shall be as a watered Garden, and they shall not sorrow any more at all—My heart is full of the Joy that I conceive in the Increase of Truth, and of the spreading of the Fame of that Name wherein we

have beleevd. Oh let all that know the Lord, bless the Lord, and walk before him Reverently and in humility. Give my dear love to thy Brother H—. Thy first gave me some hopes to receive a few lines from him. I look for them yet, and it will be our joy to receive some account from himself of the work of the Lord in his own soull— Our dear Friend, W. P., is well, and in a Living exercise in the Service of Truth. His dear love is both to thee and G. H. I doubt not but he will visit you with a Letter (but he is lately come to this City) he is glad in you. We are all glad therof, upon the account of the prosperity of the Truth of God and the benfit of the Souls of those who truly beleeve therein. Friends here are generally well, and Truth prospers amongst us. Here are now in Town Tho: Upsher,<sup>1</sup> R. Ashby,<sup>2</sup> John Pope, and Dorcas Dole<sup>3</sup> of Bristoll and severall other publick Labourers, Ben: Coole<sup>4</sup> and John Boulton.<sup>5</sup> I had a Leter this day that they intend to morrow at Colchester in order for London, they have been lately at Ives and at Norwich. G. Keith was down at Ives, not long since, and by the insinuation of R. Bridgman late of this City, now Resident in Huntington, poor Marget Everad was too much perswaded into an

<sup>1</sup> Thomas Upsher, of Colchester, Essex; died 1704.

<sup>2</sup> Richard Ashby, of London, afterwards of Norfolk; wrote a number of religious pieces; died at Wymondham (Norfolk) in 1734.

<sup>3</sup> Dorcas Dole, of Bristol; wrote several religious pieces during imprisonment in Newgate (Bristol); died 1684.

<sup>4</sup> See note, p. 60.

<sup>5</sup> John Boulton, prominent early Friend; writer and preacher.

Indulgence towards G. K. insomuch that she is hurt by him, but not so much but there is good hope of her Recovery. I don't understand, but that was the most mischeife that he did in that progresse. From thence he went to Colchester, but there he could effect nothing, Friends would not permit him to have oppertunity in their meeting house to preach, but when meeting was done Cavill and quarrell he did, and was sufficiently answered by a Couple of Stripelings Tho: Upsher and Jacob Followfels to his disgrace even in the eyes of the Common People. But one disaffected man, to Friends, proffesour of Truth in the whole Town of Colchester, that its thought would entertain him, and though G. K. taryed at his house but a few nights the man saw so much of him that he was weary of his Company and did forbid him his house. So here he is, poor Creature to be Lamented as an example to backsliders. The Lord hath been pleased to take away our dear Friend Charles Marshall after near 4 mo Sicknes, W. P. was to visit him the night before he dyed when he was full of Love and Zeall for the promotion of the Gospell of Christ though very weak in Body, he was a Zealous Labourer in the Gospell, much beloved, yesterday buryed, its thought to be the greatest appearance of Friends at his buriall as of any yet, exceeding in number either G. F.'s<sup>1</sup> S. C. or F. S.<sup>2</sup>—

I take notice of thy different exersise from G. H. That thou has met withall from some Great Men. I am satisfied that thy eye Looks above those uncertain things, and that thy care is most for the.

<sup>1</sup> George Fox's.

<sup>2</sup> Francis Stamper.



promotion of the Truth and its Reputation, knowing its Testimony is to the Cross of Christ, and that is Safe and the following of that saying of the Apostell Brethren, know ye not that the Friendship of this world is Enmity to God. Yet as Civil Men and Neighbours, they are to be courteously treated. The wisdom of God will lead those that follow it through this world and preserve from the Evill therof. We shal be glad, if the discourse which thine hinted that . . . between dear J. Gratton and thy Self coming up this winter, would proceed into action. Pray, Let me know if it is . . . to be so. What, though the Roads be bad, easy Journeys and good horses will bring you thorow safely I hope. Give my dear love to dear J. G. I saw the Confirmation of thine from him to J. F. Dear Friend I have writ a long Leter this night though I have writ and yet have others to write, perticularly to B. Cool and J. Boulton this post, but I wil make no appology, thou knows my Sincer Love In which I am Thy assurd Friend

JOHN TOMKINS.

When W. P. & C. was in Irelande, to satisfye some objectors, they published there in print some Articles of their Christian beleefe. Since W. P. coming over, the Bp of Cork<sup>1</sup> has published a kind of an answer which Wiliam has Replied to very smartly. It is a prety thing, and beleave will be of service when it is published, my Brother Tho: and his wife and Son is well, so is my wife

<sup>1</sup> Edward Wetenhall, consecrated Bishop of Cork, 1679.

and lital ones, my wifes dear love to thee. Thy cask of Ale came, wel conditioned it is, we preffer it to wine. Thy love and it is acceptable to thy Friend J. T.

A further answer to the Snake is ready for the press by Joseph Wyeth, W. P. part of the Christian Quaker being answer to the Baptist with G. W. is in the Press, by it selfe I suppose, otherwise Methodized. I desiere to hear from thee speedily. I hope I shal not be so long in thy debt for the future. Edmond Waller Continues in a hopeful way in the Truth, W. P. was to visit him as he came to London, so is the Baptist Preacher that thou hath formerly heard. . . . I must forbear writeing but not Love.

J. T.

For Sir John Rodes  
 At Balbour Hall  
 to be left at Joseph Storrs  
 Draper  
 In  
 Chesterfield  
 Darbyshire.

London, 3<sup>d</sup> 11 m<sup>o</sup> 1698.

DEAR FFRIEND,—In Cordiall love I salute thee, that love which I always retain towards thee for Truth's sake, wherein thou art a beleever. . . . I am now about to come out of thy debt for letters ; this is my 3<sup>d</sup> since my last to thee of 18-9<sup>m</sup>. This letter is like to be long, because intend thee a

particular account of the Conference between some Priests of Norfolk and friends. Suppose by this time (thou) may have seen hints of in Print. The Priests there are enraged at the increase of Truth in them parts, for when the People know that a Publick frd is like to be at frds meetings, in many parts of the Country, they can get hardly any of the People at their Church.—frds meetings much crowded, which together with the malice of frd Bugg, and the Instigation of G. K., the Priests have challenged friends, and when they had done, would have turned the challenge upon them. So they intended to have made a Turner's Hall<sup>1</sup> jobb of it, and to that end, had curtailed friends writeing, many of them the same which G-K. had at Turners Hall, and w<sup>ch</sup> J. Penyman, T. Crisp, Snake<sup>2</sup> and Francis Bug—had printed over and over and was answered in print. Friends in those parts much intreated some frds here to goe down, so T. V.,<sup>3</sup> T. ff,<sup>4</sup> S. W.<sup>5</sup> and J. B.<sup>6</sup> went down. I went with them. The account is as followes. On the 7th, last m<sup>t</sup>, we came well to Stoke in Norfolk, having parted a day or two for the sake of meetings; met many frds from Norwich and other parts of Norfolk and Suffolk. The place appointed to dispute was at West Dereham, about 2 miles from Stoke. Many People came together on this occasion; between 30 & 40 frds on horsback went together from Stoke to Dereham. The Priests had

<sup>1</sup> George Keith's meeting-house, Philpot Lane, Fenchurch Street, London.

<sup>3</sup> Thomas Vaughton.

<sup>6</sup> Samuel Waldenfield.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Charles Leslie.

<sup>4</sup> Thomas Field.

<sup>6</sup> J. Butcher.

appointed that morning we was to meet their Prayers—so we did not goe to the place till near the 10<sup>th</sup> hour, but we found that they had delayed their service till ffrds came, and when they entered, began their clamorous noise, but certainly none of (the) poor deluded Quakers could be at all affected with their formality and vain repetitions performed with so much indifferency and levity of mind. The 6 Priests, appointed the opponents in the dispute, were most of them, huge, jolly ffellows, who dureing their prayers (w<sup>ch</sup> continued a considerable time after we came in) staired about, took observations on the People and bawled out their Littanyes with Elevated hands, now and then spareing so much time from looking abt them, as to turn up the whites of their eyes, which was grievous to behold. They had built two stages oppositt, one for themselves, and the other for friends.

Ffriends stood covered as a sign and testimony against their will worship. When their service was over, S. Waldenfeld kneeled down to Prayer. The Assembly was all uncovered, except the Priests and some few about them, at which they shewed some uneasiness and Lightness, but the power of Truth was over and was quiet untill Conclusion. Then the Priests read a letter from ffriends to them which they calld a Challenge, and R. Ashley offerd to speak. After some discourse, the letter was read and R. A. had his liberty, who opened the state of the Controversie proveing that there was both actions and words from the Priests previous to this letter and w<sup>ch</sup> was the occasion of that letter of ffrds, w<sup>ch</sup> they calld the Challenge. So ffrds

insisted that all the letters &c. might be read to the Auditory, both the priests and ours ; and after the priests had striven much, it was granted. The Priests read their letters, and J. Butcher read ffrds Letters, wherby it did plainly appear to the People, that ffrds was the Defendants and not the Challengers, and that they did not only challenge ffrds, but went to severall places urging divers perticuler ffrds to bring forth the Quakers &c. The next thing discoursed of, was the preleminaries to the dispute, but notwithstanding much was said by ffrds to shew the unreasonableness of comeing up on tryall for crimes so high as blasphemy against God, Christ, &c., without we had first a copy of those passages said by them to be blasphemy in our ffrinds bookes, with the Titles, pages &c., of said bookes. But this they would not grant, which if they would grant it, ffrds did offer the priests, allowing Convenient time for them to procure said bookes and consider them, that they might true answer make, they would (illegible) them as publickly as they would. But this the priests would not admitt, noe doubt, beleaving, if that was granted, but that we should even by said bookes, out of which they pretend to charg us, wipe off those Aspersions they had cast upon us—Judas—i.e. f.f. Bug, stood at the Priests Elbows and was their Agent to look out places, quotations, &c. ; and at the notice of Bug, they insisted upon a passage in Edwd Burroughs<sup>1</sup> works, where he calld forth all

<sup>1</sup> Edward Burroughs, Quaker, 1634-1662. Born near Kendal ; became a minister in 1652 ; travelled much in England, Scotland, and Ireland ; was imprisoned in Newgate, where he died.

sort of proffessours in Religion to a publick Tryall &c.—This, they would have the terms or preliminaries on this occasion. Friends shewed it was irrationall to beleve that a Person deceased above 35 years should write preliminaries so long before fittly adapted to the present occasion.—The Priests did mostly betake themselves to their stage, except some smaller Priests, who sat in a high Gallery. There was one priest, who came accidentally, and stood alone in the pulpitt, who by his countenance seemed not to be in the enimitie with the Rest—frds appealed to him in diverse cases, wherein he shewed much moderation, and before Assembly broke, he left the place. It will be too tedious for a letter to relate perticularly the whole proceedings of the day, but more rudeness and confusion, especially from men so high in proffession of Religion, was hardly ever seen; and fr: Bugg with them hooteing and hallooing and laughing; and a few joyned with them, about 20 or 30 as near as I could compute, who was ready at their back and notice to laugh, bawl, or hiss. Such ugly laughter, as I saw in the priests, I never beheld, except on a mountabanks stage. Indeed the Power of Darkness did shine agst the Power of Truth, and it was plainly felt and seen. But the Power of Truth prevailed, and when they would essay to read their Quotations to render Truth odious, frds did appeal to the People, w<sup>ch</sup> were many hundreds, of the unreasonableness thereof, having not the books, nor time to consider them. And frds sounded the testimony of Truth over the Assembly opening unto

the people our Christian beleefe in diverse particulars, wherein they were questioned, and the Testimony of Truth did get entrance and the People was generally sober. This made the Priests to rage and gnash with their teeth, and endeavour what they could to stop the mouths of ffrds by raising halloeing and Laughter amongst their mobb, perticularly once, while T. Upsher was speaking ; but he proceeded in his Testimony and w<sup>n</sup> he had done, two or three ffrds more stood up succesively testifying to the Love and kindness of God in sending his son Jesus Christ to save sinners, and other doctrines relateing thereunto, in so much, that the Priests was down and the People quiett, but afterwards w<sup>n</sup> some time had been spent in debate, they (illegible) to proceed again to expose friends to the derision and Rage of the People. But the People was moderate and quiet, except some few as before. Ffrds still declared their willingness to joyn Issue with them upon equall and just terms, and as oft as the Priests did insist upon the one, ffrds did insist upon the other, denying them to be a court of Judicature, or to have Power to bring us to publick account, without our consent and agreement, but upon terms agreed beforehand. So they was not able to obtain their design. There was a Justice of the Peace present and a Colonel, as I take it, who now and then put in discourse. The Colonel, after the Testimonys of ffrds, was observed to say litell. The Justice in favour of the Priests, should have had ffrds let the Priests proceed, but ffrds did appeal to him concerning

the unreasonableness thereof. He seemed to be a sober man and was, that day, moderate, and did not at all seem pleased with the Rudeness and Lightness of the Priests behaviour. And this did very much Confound the Priests, that w<sup>n</sup> they produced a charge of Errour in Doctrine against ffrinds, there was not wanting but one friend or other stood and opened to the People ffrds beleefe touching that Doctrine and other principles of our ffaith. The priests one time above the Rest, stired up their Emmesaries into such disorder, which disordered the Assembly, that ffrds could not be heard. There was divers ffrds had taken in their pockets each a doz or two of a litel book cald Christian beleefe of the people cald Quakers, formerly addt to the Parlament and Reprinted upon this occasion and 1000 sent down thither for the People, w<sup>ch</sup> when ffrds saw that they could not be heard for the noise, we scattered them openly amongst the People to speak for us. It had good service, for it divided the watters and the People fell to reading them and so way was made for ffrds to be heard again. Oh the Priests Raged at this, who sometimes cald to the Justice for the Stocks and to take our names and to silence us. They grew weary of their work; the Justice perceiving them willing to be gone, he came in to their releife and proposed that inasmuch we could not agree about terms to come to the business, he did not see it to any purpose that the People should any longer be detained, and thought it very proper that the People did dismiss, night also approaching; for it was near the



4th hour, which proposition the Priests seemed very easy with (I beleve they was hungry, for thy did not look as if they was used to fast so long). But ffrds to the last did insist upon these two things, that they had all along insisted upon, 1st. that it was not our Challenge, but theirs, for prooffe whereof certificates was read from the neighbourhood to whom the Priests had dared them to bring forth the Quakers, or els would account them Cowards for ever; and also, if the Priest misripresented this Controversy to the B-p of Norwich,<sup>1</sup> which John Gurney of that Citty did very handsomely mannage, (who also had been with the B-p) to the satisfaction of the People, and 2<sup>d</sup>, that our refusall to joyn Issue with them then, was because of the arbitariness of the Priests proceeding with us—not our fear of any thing that they could bring out of our bookes, (for the diverse Letters had pasd between the Priests & ffrds before the day we met, yet would not the Priests agree upon terms and what ffrds demanded beforehand, but in their last Letter, following G. K.'s example, whether ffrds would come or not on the 8 December, (it mattered not; they would be there on that day). This done, ffrds concluded, testifying to the People of the Principle of Truth in their Consciences; But near the Conclusion, ff. Bug tels the People of his purpose to be there to morrow, but ffrds did acquaint the People what an Apostate he was; that he had been answeard from time to time, yet always restles; therefore

<sup>1</sup> John Moore, Bishop of Norwich, 1691-1707.

did refer them to our books, in that case, not accounting our selves as a People concerned to meet him. The Priests was asked concerning his appearing there. They disowned it, and said it was not theirs, but Buggs business—The People began to move off, but ffrds was not hasty to depart the place. The Priests wanted to be gone and said to ffrds upon the Stage; Pray Gentlemen, begone; it is hard if we cannot have the Liberty of our own church; But while the People was departing, the Priests & ffrds had very friendly Conference, as they stood on the oppositte Stages, and they wished us well, and did declare (as they had done 2 or 3 hours before) that they did beleve that the Quakers of this present generation were ORTHODOX.

I beleve Quakerism (as the Priests call it) was never so preached in any of their Churches in that diocese before, insomuch that some of the Priests said: the Church was become a Conventicle. So the People being gone generally, as the Priests went off the Stage, ffrds went off by degrees, tarrying in the house until we see every Priest off the Stage. And more of the same bookes was delivered at the doores of the steeplehouse.—Thus this days work ended, I hope no way to the dishonour of Truth, nor the ffrds thereof; the Priests friendly with us, both upon the floor of the steeplehouse and in the Yard seeming very kind and neighbourly—Truth has the pre-eminence,—God shall have the praise and honour—It was his doing, for they had made a firme agreement and great preparation

beforehand to bring the Quakers into Contempt. . . . But, at last, they was so tame, that all their threats to accuse us to the Parliament, and to appoint other days to do their work, if they could not do it then, vanished as Smoke—There was a good appearance of ffrds ; they went mostly home the next day, declaring their easines and satisfaction of mind, except some Publick ffrds, who on the first day following did appoint meetings—There was a meeting at Stoke the day after the dispute, and on the first day at Lyn, Downham, Hetford, Bury, Fakenham &c., besides divers other places the residue of the week. The next day, Bug was to be at the said steeplehouse and R. Ashley, Tho Pinnock, Tho: Upsher had some concern upon their minds for the sake of the People who might be there, and they went in the morning, but he had but a small company, about 100 people. His busines, that he pretended was to prove that the Quakers denied Jesus of Nazareth to be the son of God, and that we exalted, at least, equalled our own sufferings with the sufferings of Christ &c., that we spoke contemptuously of the Scripture and 2 or 3 more such like articles much the same that G. K. has had in Turners Hall . . . J. Vaughton, and S. Waldenfeld hearing some Priests was there, was concerned in mind to be there, so they went about noon, and ffrds that was present had good oppertunity to clear up and wipe off many calumnies cast upon ffrds by Bug, and did so mannage the matter, that ffrancis Bug was much confounded in his work, and making no earnings of it, for they spoyled his

drollery and sport, that he intended amongst the mobb, and he shutt up his bookes and broke off a considerable time before the People expected him and that he had given them expectation. And there was that day also, papers dispersed at Steeple house door intituled Some positions touching divers weighty Truths beleevd by the People cal'd Quakers, subscribed by many hands—So both days work ended, and since, the Priests have publisht in the Post Boy (which suppose thou has seen) some blind account, not true of the busines, which ffrds think it enough at present to deny to be true, w<sup>ch</sup> was also inserted after; and they have replayed, but they don't think themselves concerned much further that way, understanding they are printing their Narrative. W<sup>n</sup> it comes out, they must have an Answear. Thou sees I have taken a great deal of paines to write so long letter. I hope thou wilt not think it burdensom. I will assure thee, I cannot be so liberall to all my ffrds, who much importune me for account of things; but I hope thou beleeves thou has such intrest in my heart that I shall always be willing to oblidge thee. . . . Our Dr. frd W. P. is now at Bristoll. His son W. P. to be marry'd to one of Ch: Hartfords daughters the 5<sup>th</sup> day of the next week. Some of us are much disposed to be there, but having been several of us in Norfolk lately, can hardly goe down so soone from home, though our Respect is true and dear to the father, and the son has some share for the ffathers sake. I desiere to hear from thee as soon as thou please and to know w<sup>n</sup>

LETTERS OF JOHN TOMKINS 159

thou thinke we may see thee, so dear ffrd, in dear love, I conclude thy sincere ffrd

JOHN TOMKINS.

I have sent the yearly bill of mortality for this City, that distemper viz: small pox is many hundreds less dyed this year than some other years.

For Sr. John Rodes  
at Balbarr Hall.  
To be left at Wm Storrs  
Draper  
In Chesterfield  
Darbysheire.

London, 18 1st Mo. 169 $\frac{8}{9}$ .

DEAR AND BELOVED FRIEND,—I write a few lines last 3d day post adviseing of the Receipt of thine, since I have been much out of health, this is cheifely for Covert to the inclosed, which was delivered to the House last 5<sup>th</sup> Day but it had not its mischevously Designed effect, many of the members resented it as a Rediculous mischevious Peice, one called it impotent Malice and as an Argument that it was so the very next morning upon the Reading the Bill in the House to prevent Papists from Disinheriting their Protestant Heirs, a Clause was at that time offered to prevent the Quakers also in the like Case, which occasioned a member to say what do you make of the Quakers, han't we

Acknowledged and Indulged them as Protestant Dissenters and upon very little debate more, the House called out, Reject it, Reject it, which we beleve will be no Small Mortification to our Adversaries. The occasion of this was H. Jackson's Son, who it seems acknowledged himself a member of the Church of England, and as I hear haveing made application to the Bp. of York that his Father upon his Joyning to that church had disinherited him, and I know H. J. to be of a violent disposition, yet it seems that what was done against his son was done before he made this pretension even whilst he was called a Quaker. I was last first day at Hartford and on 2d day comeing out of the Town I saw Sarah Stout wel in health, who the next morning was found drownd in a River near that Town. She left her mothers House (or rather her own for she was M<sup>rs</sup> of that house and much riches besides) about 11 at night, another person was with her at that time who says he left her there at home, but just about one time her Mother and servants found them both gone and sat up all night expecting her returne, when next morning soon as day, news was brought of her death. She was found without her Gown and Apron, Lying close to the Grates of a Mill, her staves and Petycoates on, some Gold and Silver in her pockets, and all her buttons etc. of gold and sillver in her Sleeves and shoes. Her apron was found, but not her Gown, which by the strings appeard to have been untyed not cut nor broke. It happend upon the Great or cheife day of the Assize so that the news on that occasion was swallowed up in discourse of her.

There are no certainty of things. The man that was with her has a wife and children: he did sometimes place mony out to Interest for her but the Juges verdict was that she drownd her self being non Compus mentes. She was, poor lass, grown very high, haveing litell regard to Truth nor her aged Mother who is a good Woman—

As to E. W.<sup>1</sup> and T. L.'s daughter. When he was first Convinced, he happened to fall into there hands, and there did appear too great forwardness in the old folks to promote their daughter; but quickly after, he went into Buckinghamsheire, I think it is now about 12 months, where he has remained ever since and is averse to any such thing, I am not unmindfull of what thou write. When I am prepared, shall give thee account. I wait for oppertunity, that I may the more undiscernably slide in busines—I am in true affection Thy constant Friend

J. TOMKINS.

The Petitions are not yet delivered nor doe I think much will come of them this Sessions.

<sup>1</sup> Edmund Waller?

To Sir John Rodes at  
 Balbar Hall  
 To be left at Joseph Friths  
 Butcher In  
 Chesterfield  
 Darbysheere.

London, 4. 4 mo. 1700.

DEAR FRIEND,—. . . I received thine 18 of 2d mo and should have been glad to see thee at Y. M. Here was a large appearance of friends—things was very well, I know not any thing worth the noting, saveing two things, one occasioned by T. L.<sup>1</sup> endeavouring with the meeting to obtain more of G. ffs papers to be printed, viz. manuscripts, than friends was willing to consent unto, which occasioned a debate but not long. The other by A. A.<sup>2</sup> takeing up time unseasonably in giving a narrative of his travailes, with so much indiscretion, as it gave advantage to some, who look not with the best eye towards America. So it greatly grieved his ffrds, and being that discourse took up an hour and half of the last two hours we had to spend, the hurt both to himself and the meeting could not be recovered. But other wise, things was well, and good accounts of things from many parts of the prosperity of Truth, for which the soulls of many was thankfull to the Lord. Dr J. G. left Citty yesterday was a sennight for Y-M at Colchester. In the way taken sick, but made shift to reach Colchester, and

<sup>1</sup> Probably G. Fox's stepson-in-law, Thomas Lower.

<sup>2</sup> Aaron Atkinson.



was so bad, that they dispaired of his life, and was about to send away for his wife. J. ffield went down with him, came home last night, left him under hopes of Recovery. . . . Thy Bro H— left city yesterday; home by way of Coventry, pretty reserved from us of thy nearest acquaintance. He sat once at my house w<sup>ch</sup> I took kindly; seemed much affected towards a young man he brought with him. I know not his name. I saw yesterday a frend at (illegible) came from Philadelphia, abt 12 of 1st mo: last, per way of Maryland. The Governor, wife, and child, all well then. No doubt but the publick prints have suffeciently informed thee of G. K. Conformity to the Ch. of E. They make a tool of him; he preaches every first day at a new place; but generally even. Such as are of the Church, have him in Derision: he serves for a jest. Even whilst he is in the pulpit, there is such a murmur with the secret talking and observation of his hearers, together with their dumb notices and laughter, that many could not hear him, so that we may observe from the saying of our Lord, when salt has lost it savour, wherewith shall it be salted. It's not ordination or imposition of mens hands can give it savour again: it's thence forth good for nothing, but to be cast out and to be trodden under the foot of man. It is an Eternall Truth and is fullfild upon him, that even now, whilst he seems to be entering into preferment, he is Cloathed with contempt. . . .

. . . As to those Quakers, the publick prints speak of being baptized, they are of the old shattered Separates, and even in Huntingdonshire that G. K.

boasts of the great Conversion, J. Everad<sup>1</sup> says, but 4 who was in unity with ffrds, who have gone to Steeplehouse, his wife and R. B. two of them. The other poor people who flocked after him, was of the weak sort who leaned to the old separation, but G. K. has out-run them, and they will not follow, but returns to ffrinds meetings, tho, it cannot be denied, but he has muddled the minds of many weak persons, which time will help to reduce as well as Truth. Since then, we have built a new meeting house at Wapping, where is a prospect of an increase. At Y-M the ffrds brought up Subscription for 6606 of R. B.'s Appology. They will come at 2<sup>s</sup> and 10<sup>d</sup> in Calf Leather and 2<sup>s</sup> and 7<sup>d</sup> in sheep, and moreover the Y-M have agreed to be at charge of the translation therof into french, and to have 1500 printed and dispersed into foreign parts for Information of strangers.

Dear ffrind I desier to heer from thee and in very dear love Remain thy Cordiall and Respectfull Friend

JOHN TOMKINS.

. . . my Respects to thy D<sup>r</sup> Mother and my wifes Respects to thy self.

To Sr. John Rodes

These Presents.

London 8. 6 mo. 1700.

DEARLY BELOVED FRIEND,—I cannot relate the suffering of my mind dureing thy late sicknes, I have witnes therof in some measure, though none knoweth fully but the Lord, and I have had help herein for many here was concerned and much

<sup>1</sup> John Evarard, of Chattens, in the Isle of Ely.

desiered thy Recovery : and had not some circumstances attended, my affaires, which are not proper to communicate in writeing, (though I may tell them thee) I had gone on purpose and waited on the disposing hand of God. But the Lord has been gracious in his dealings and had mercy, not only on thee, but on me also lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow—

I am much beholding to Cornelius<sup>1</sup> for my intelligence which did often mitigate my fears dureing thy sicknes. He has shewed him self as a Faithfull servant, and his carefull concern for his Master did as much affect, as oblige me. I understand by his of the 3d instant, that thou gathers strength, and that thy appetite increases, which I am glad of, a due care and watchfulnes not only in thy phisition, but in thy self, will be nessesary to carry off the Reliques of the distemper—Oh dear Friend, my heart is melted in a sence of the mercies of God, surely he is worthy of more then the Calves of our Lips for the same ; even to be Reverenced and served with our whole man. It was the Lord who strengthened thee in thy Languishing, and made all thy bed in thy Sicknes, even when as the Psalmist said, when an evill disease cleaved fast unto thee, he hath raised thee up, and in this, hast favoured thee because thine enimies doth not triumph over thee. I have indeed considered thy dear Mother, that it was no doubt a time of sorrow and a sore tryall to her. Surely now she may account her self, as it were, of the number of those good women of old time, who by faith, received

<sup>1</sup> Cornelius Cade, Sir John's servant and steward at Barlbrough.

their Dead raised to Life again. Will she not in gratitude with Hannah, who dedicated her son to the Lord, offer him to his service ; my dear Friend I remember Its not a time to make long visits ; thy eys no doubt are very tender, but my Love would suffer me no longer to forbear to manifest a littell of the frame of my heart. In dear Love I remain always Thy very affectionate and Faithfull Friend

JOHN TOMKINS.

H. G. I saw this morning. His dear Love to thee. My true Respects to the Lady thy Mother to Doctor Heathcot and D<sup>r</sup> J. Gratton. When strength will permit shall be glad to hear from thee.

J. T.

London 3<sup>d</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> mo 1701.

MUCH ESTEEMED FRIEND,—Thine of 13<sup>th</sup> 11mt I have which should I suppose been the 12m for I received it the 16 of Febru pr the post mark. Was glad of a leter from thee. Wish this may find thee better in health, and beleeve a Journey to this Citty would contribute to it now—spring is come, I should also think it a happiness to myself, as well as to thee, if could see thee fix upon a sut-able companion : for a wife—though I have no more in the matter then the pleasure of seeing thee so happy—That Family are pretty well in health, except the Mother, who has at times returne of her ague—I was, according to order, in thy last, goeing with the fee to Dr Gibbons,<sup>1</sup> but remem-

<sup>1</sup> William Gibbons, M.D. (1649–1728), the “Mirmillo” of Garth’s “Dispensary.”

“While others meanly asked whole months to slay  
I oft despatched the patient in a day.”

bred thou did order me before in some of thy Letter, to give D<sup>r</sup> Coleback<sup>1</sup> a Ginea, and soon after order me a 2<sup>d</sup> fee of like sum for him, which I did delay hoping to have seen thee before this. Now I writ to know which D<sup>r</sup> and what I must give them—Richard Claridge has gone through much of what he intends for answer to thy neighbour Ja: Cook,<sup>1</sup> and I dont see but he will be Inclinable to print it, but I doe what I can to suspend it. I find he has taken some pains, and beleeve he will hardly think the Labour worth his time, only for the Information of one single person. I gave him both his name and thy charectour of thy neighbour, and hope he will treat him answerable thereunto, though I have not yet seen it. The 2<sup>d</sup> part of my small Collection, to which thy preface is fixed, is in the press and it was well approved by the Friends who heard it. We wish it had been larger that it might have done more good, and though I print thy name without thy consent to it, yet as I hope any good design will bear me out in the Generall, so I hope, and doubt not, but thou will forgive me that presumption, though I confess, being to my own book, may look a litell vain to some. Yet knowing my own sincerity, and to what end I doe it, I shall be willing to bear the Reflections which may come on that accountt. Dear W. P. is at Bristoll; his young Son has been very ill; some danger of Life feared, but better,

<sup>1</sup> Sir John Colebatch, physician, knighted 1716; died 1729.

<sup>2</sup> The Rev. James Cook, Rector of Barlbrough. In a letter dated Aug. 9, 1699, applying for the living, then vacant, he wrote: "If my friend and neighbour Thomas Aldam has given a good character of me, I will do my best to make it appear to be true."

and Recovering. His wife Lookes every day—yet he is expected in town this night. He has not yet appeared publik but once at Westminster. There is some danger that they will take his Government.<sup>1</sup> The Sessions being like to be short, is the cheif Security, though as yet, no bill, that I know, is brought into the (illigible) Tho. Greens Rich widow dyd sudenly, being found dead in her chamber last 7 day alone; so Covetous, poor woman, could not affoord to keep a maid. A will was found, which has bequeath'd much money about, mostly to Friends. R. Dimsdale and his son at Eping, both Doctors in Phisick, and a kinsman of hers, not a Friend, are made executors, to whom she has given the Residueary part of her estate, which is like to be considerable. The King haveing hurt his Collar bone by a Fall off his horse signd yesterday, by Commissioners under the great seale, the act for attainder of P. of W,<sup>2</sup> and an act against Mutineers in the Army etc. And the Affirmation Act and one private act. Joshua Arnold has been very sick in danger and made his will here, but now is like to get home again he was at Plaistow meeting 5 mile out town first day I saw him also this Day at J. Fields—As for poor Tho. Aldam I am afraid, thou will hardly see him any more. What with the Cumber and perplexity of

<sup>1</sup> Penn returned to England suddenly this year, fearing the loss of his Colony. "The war with France and the alliance of the Canadians with the Iroquois gave the friends of an Imperial Colonial system an immense advantage with the Dutch Sovereign (William III.), and in the absence of most of the great proprietors, they had got a bill introduced into the Lords for converting the private into Crown Colonies" (Hepworth Dixon's "William Penn").

<sup>2</sup> The Prince of Wales, *i.e.* the Pretender.

his executorship of R. Fretwell, he is so oppresed and overwhelmed in his spiritts, even to a Desparation. I have been with him severall times, as well divers other Friends, but cannot prevail with him to leave his chamber, which he has taken among the Lawyers, to come to D Quarey, or any of our houses as he pleases best. His body is brought into a bad condition of health. Having his mind Disturbed, has removd Sleep, and his blood changd and turnd yellow like the Jaundice, I know not, whether he writes for his wife this post. I perswaded him last 5th day post, and he made me beleeve he would ; but I find he did not. I wish she was here to take care of him and comfort him for he wants Comfortabl and proper food for his body as well as Repose to his mind. I did not expect this of such a man, as I did esteem him for qualifications of mind. But what is the wisest and strongest, if the Lord is pleased to try them?—G. Whitehead has been ill, but better in health again. My very Dear Love to D<sup>r</sup> J. Gratton and to D<sup>r</sup> Heathcot and his wife. Please to mention my Dear Love and Respects to the Lady thy Mother. Thou knows the same is due to thy self pray accept it from thy true Friend

JOHN TOMKINS.

Favour me with a few lines of thy health and when we may expect thee in town.

I beseech thee write to Henr Gouldney. He has rashly said, he wil not write, till he receives a Letter from thee. Consider it, as a case of necessity, for I would intreat thee to open a Correspondence between you—He is well, and desierd me to present his Dear Love to thee and to the Lady.

To Sr John Rodes Barronett  
 at his Seat at Balbar Hall  
 Near Chesterfield  
 Darbysheere.

London 7. 1 mo 1701.

ESTEEMD FRIEND,—Because I love thee I am bold to trouble thee with my letters I writ thee (I think) last 3<sup>d</sup> day in answeare to thine, and now have, what is not pleasant, nor profitable to the Nation, for I believe we, as a people, shall have our share of the effect of what is like to come upon us. There is great discourse at change and other places of the dangerous circumstances of the King :<sup>1</sup> His Life is much doubted, nay it was reported, this day, that he was Dead, but, since, I have heard, not since his fall from his horse, has been so Indisposed, that he has not been able to goe abroad, signed the attainder of the Prince of Wales and our affirmation bill and 2 new acts by Commisioners. He is, they say, attended with a Loosenes and vomiting, accompanyd with a feavour, and they also say, his collar bone is broke by the fall. We have things at Reports : but doubtles, it is dangerous, for the stocks in the severall Funds and Coperations are much Fallen and the Bank of England People were crowding there to day to Receive monys : It will be occasion no doubt of a great change of affaires, not only in England but all over Europe, if not most of the Civillizd part of the world. They say : but that I have not certain, that the act for preservation of the King's person etc. i.e. Abjuration

<sup>1</sup> William III. died March 8, 1702.



Act,<sup>1</sup> was past this day by an other Comission, and that the King was not able to writ his name, but stampit it at once in a print, or stamp made on purpose—he has been a Prince of moderation to all men, and we, as a people, have had large share thereof: for wch we ought to be thankfull to God and the King—My wife is not well, so that I cannot goe out this night more fully to Informe my self of the certainty of things, but considering that thou dwells in a Remote Corner, I was willing to shew my readines to serve thee. For I love thee with Cordiall Love, and shall be glad to hear of the Increase of thy health as the Spring rises. I thank the Lord I am much better this winter than of late years in winter, though the Infirmitie Continues, but the Doctors say it is for my advantage. If it never be worse, I shal not need to Repine, not hindering my travelling either on horsback or on foot. Dear W. P. is come back hither from Bristoll 2 days since. I have not seen him, he is now at Henry Goldneys to be at meeting to morrow in the City. My poor wife cannot forget the Loss of her Children last Summer. She has not been well since. The next post may expect more fully to be Informd of affaires.

Mean time Remain thy very affectionate and Faithful Friend

JOHN TOMKINS.

My Dear Love and Respects to the Lady and remember me also to Dr. J. Gratton and to Dr. Heathcot.

<sup>1</sup> The Abjuration Act—"The Oath of Abjuration" of the Pope and the Pretender was first administered by Statute XIII., William III., 1701.

For Sir John Rodes  
 At Balbar Hall  
 To be left at Joseph Friths  
 Butcher in Chesterfield  
 Darbyshire.

London 6. 3m 1701.

DEARLY ESTEEMD FRIEND,—Yesterday I Received a letter from D<sup>r</sup> Heathcot without date but know it must be wrot last 7th day wherby I find the Doctors willingness to come up to City to give Cozen Betty assistance if capable to Receive it, and he Intimated his Intention to be here this night or to morrow, except extraordinary busines prevented. Now seeing he came not to night, know not but he may be detained by some extraordinary occasion. Therefore thought meet to signifie how it is with her, for I am not insensible of your Regard to her, who I know had true affection to thy self, as if her Brother &c.

She now Lyes at the point of Death. I have (since I have been a litell able to goe abroad) been often with her and didst first find her under a deep travail of Soull that she might be fited for her great Change, and she has seen the travail of her soul answeard, and I am wel perswaded is made ready by the operation of the spirit of God to enter into the Chamber of the Great Bridegrome. Her soull was in manifold deep exersises, and God was very Gracious and did give her to drink of the brook by the way, and she will, I doubt not, Rest with him for ever! Its too long now to give thee an

History thereof, but I have put thee Some of her expressions on her sick bed down in writing, in order if she decease, (and I Live) to be published. She sent for me this morning between 5 and 6. I went to her, but before I got there, her understanding was much departed, yet at times very Sensibl, and would express her self so, but not continue one minut together. So I left her, and came again at 2<sup>d</sup> hour. Just now, I sent again to know and she is yet alive, but has not spoke for some hours, nor taken anything (who before usd to take all they would give her). There has been no lack of advice, they had Dr Gibbons for these last 6 days and he had hopes, but they are frustrated. Tis a sorrowfull house : the old folks much afflicted, the old woman must turn nurs in her old age so that if Dr Heathcot be not set out, let him know this. Please to let John Graton (if thou see him) know that I received his 3<sup>d</sup> 3 mo, and I have taken care of Lodging for him according to desiere. John Field desieres me to write him that he is not willing he should accept of any quarters but at his house. S. Waldenfeld also was willing to give him quarters, and Dear Friend, I desire thee not to think of Lodging any where but at a Friend's house near the Meetings, for it will not be proper for thee to have far to goe in evenings. Thou knows thy last quarters with H. G. wch thou art still welcome to, and I would Intreat thee Lodge no where else in the City. I shall be glad of a few lines. Time now will not admitt me to enlarge concerning my self, who am not curd of my Malady. I must be cut again next 5th day, and whether they

will effect a cure at last, I know not. The Lord knows best, what is best for me, and to him I commit my self. I am concernd for this poor Cozen, and if God had seen meet, should have much Rejoyced in her Recovery, for that I beleave, she would have been a great Instrument of good among them. Her poor children will dearly want her, and her husband as much as they, in one sence. My Dear Friend, the Lord be with thee, and Continue his goodnes and mercies to thee. I am with my Respect to thee thy very loving and affectionate Friend in hast

JOHN TOMKINS.

For

St John Rodes at  
Balbar Hall

These

To be left at Joseph  
Frith Butcher In  
Chesterffield  
Darbyshire

London 15. 3<sup>m</sup> 1701.

DEARLY RESPECTED FRIEND,—It is time long since I should have answeard thine dated 4 Instant, with the Docters, both which came to my hand on the 7th. . . . I was obliged to be cutt again for my distemper, and I doubt I must be worse dealt with yet. . . . If thou wilt favour me so far to enquire of the Docter his judgment in my case, and let me know by the first, I shall take it extreemly kind—

I am also under more severe exercise at present, by reason my littel prety Daughter Molly is at the point of Death, to our apprehension of a violent feavor—this is the 7th day and we fear she will not live over this night. We have had great store of advice, but none as yet can releive her. It exceedingly afflicts my dear wife & self. She was the flower of our Garden, and a prety pleasant companion in her 4th year, and that which ads to my exercise, my poor wife is with child and I fear her safety—it goes to wear her, together with the fatigue of nursing etc. . . . The Lord is trying of us and I bless his name I can say (thorow much struggle in my self) *his will be done*. We received her at his hand, and considering she was but Lent, and he whose she is, calls for his own, tis but reasonable & just to resigne it up. Who shall say to him *What dost thou?* This is the 7th day, and if she live over tomorrow, we may hope for an alteration to the best for her recovery, but that we dare not expect—I am sorry for thy Indisposition and very much desier the Lord to ad to thy Days and prolong thee among the Living. However it may goe with me, and if thy health will permit, I shall be very glad to see thee up at yearly meeting—For ought I know, it may be the last time I may see thee, if I should not get cure for my distemper, for was I of a strong constitution otherwise the difficulty would be the less, but my lungs are still pained, or at least pain in my breast, over it—John Gratton we expect will be at Bristoll Y-M. None of our publick ffds goes from this city this year. . . .

Pray let me be favoured with a few Lines and I shall answer it, if I am able who am in sincerity and Truth, thy affec<sup>d</sup> Friend

JOHN TOMKINS.

My due respects to thy D<sup>r</sup> mother & the Docter.

For Sir John Rodes

To be left at Richard

Marchant

In

*Bath*

Somersetshire

London 24 3<sup>d</sup> mo 1701.

DEARLY BELOVED & ESTEEMED FFRD,—I am sorry indeed for thy indisposition, but not that thou art got abroad, hoping it will be a means to remedy thy infirmities as thy affection & kindness has been great to me, beyond my deserts, so I perceve it still continues, manifested in thy late kind Invitation to the Bath. Could I have been permitted a journey of that length, twould have been to thy own house in Balbar, but so it hath pleased our great & good God by divers Cross providences to exercise my patience in severall afflictions that hath befallen me, first by Infirmity of my own body, which have & doe still continue, but that he also sends more, that I forget my self in great measure because the greater swallows up the Lesser. My dear child Littel Molly, the flower of my flock, (tho that's nothing to parents) for beauty, is taken from us. She dyed this day week and what with

the constant affectionate attendance of her mother who always lay with it till the last night, and griefe for its departure, brought such weakness upon her, being great with Child, that the next Evening after it was buried, she fell in Labour and was attended with such ill circumstances, that we feared we should have lost her before we got help. But when something was administered, she revived a littel, but under such dangerous symptoms, that Dr Hambleton the man midwife was not willing to lay her. But so it pleased God, that this morning early, contrary to hope, she was delivered of a son still born, two months before her account. I see the Lord is all wise. He knows how to make us bow to him and acquiesce with his Doeings. The loss of my Molly went so near me, that it is unutterable, tho I did resign her to God who gave me her, and never durst to ask her life, tho nothing, next to my D<sup>r</sup> wife's, would have been so acceptable. But when I thought the Desier of my eye should be taken from my side and her child she went with, both was nothing in Competition to her, and oh now, if the Lord spare her to continue with me the time I have to stay and for the good of my Litell ones yet surviveing, I shall esteem it sufficient favour. She is very weak, but we hope things may prove so well that she will recover. As for me, I wrote a letter of 15 instant making Complaint to thee of my loss, which then I did apprehend, for She was not deceased, together with my own Infirmity of Body that I filled thy Letter with. . . . I think a worse ayle attends me, which is my old pain on my breast.

. . . I have advised with many physitions and none yet have been positive what it is, and for my own part I have given up myself into the hand of the Lord. If he sees meet to Discharge me, his will be done. My prayer is not for length of Days, but that he would dayly make me more fitt for him and the hour of that great change. I hope thyself and the Lady thy mother will come to London at y. . . meeting and return to Bath again now that she is from home. . . . I had a kind letter from D<sup>r</sup> John Gratton which I received the evening after I buryed my Child & it was a Comfort to me. I shall be glad of a few lines from thee to hear that the waters have the desierd effect for thy health. With Respects to Thy self & D<sup>r</sup> Mother I conclude. Thine in whatsoever I am able

J. TOMKINS.

To Sr John Rodes  
Barronet  
At his Seat at Balber  
Hall  
near Chesterfield  
Darbyshere.

London 10 12<sup>m</sup> 1701.

MY VERY D<sup>r</sup> & ESTEEMED FFRD,—I can no longer forbear to send thee to enquire of thy health having sometime waited the favour of an account thereof in answeare to mine I sent thee when I remitted thee the advice of D<sup>r</sup> Ratcliff.<sup>1</sup> I shall be glad to hear that his prescriptions have answeard the end—pray be

<sup>1</sup> John Radcliffe (1650-1714), physician to Queen Anne.



pleased to give me a few lines. We are busy here what with the Company of some of our Country ffrds come on the account of the Affirmation,<sup>1</sup> and meetings about that and other concerns. Yet I think no affair will make me forget thee, for thou art engravd in my heart and I esteemed my self so much concernd in thy welfare, that I am always the better to hear of it—

Joshua Arnold is here and very honest and zealous—yet safe in his discourse in the meet: suffer: (meeting for sufferings) touching the affair above said; but our folk are so fraid to lose the sweetness of the previledge that it causes them too much to hasten on the matter and leave their uneasie conscientious Brethren behind—this between thee and me—Tell D<sup>r</sup> J. Gratton we are sorry he is not with us—the Bill if engrosed in order to be read a 3d time in the house of Commons which is shortly expected to be, so that then there is no roome to expect Reliefe except it be in the house of peers—I shall not enlarge but in D<sup>r</sup> love to thy self and the Lady thy D<sup>r</sup> Mother, I am thine in all sincerity

J. TOMKINS.

J. Thomson, & J. Binning, & W. Rawlinson, B. Cool, T. Beaven, R. Haydock,<sup>2</sup> Tho Aldam & divers Brethren more are with us. W<sup>m</sup> Pen is now

<sup>1</sup> The Quakers conscientiously objecting to oaths, their simple affirmation was accepted instead, for the first time, 1696. The affirmation was altered in 1702 and again in 1721.

<sup>2</sup> Roger Haydock, 1644-1696; born near Warrington, Lancs; Quaker preacher and writer; visited Ireland 1680 and Holland 1681; was often imprisoned; travelled more than thirty-two thousand miles in his wanderings.

pretty well recovered after his lameness & feavour. After he has seen the K—g,<sup>1</sup> purposes to appear publick which yet he hath not done, having been hinderd by reason of his Indisposition. W<sup>m</sup> Awebury courts Letetia.

London 31. 5 mo 1702.

DEARLY BELOVED FRIEND,—Wee got home wel 5th day both of us. S. W. was much out of sorts with his hurt he got which oblidged us to make very easie Journey together with the hot weather which in this City is very great. I sweat more here in an hour or two walking moderately than I did in a whole day with rideing. We found our Familys well and Friends so W Bingley wife not dead as was reported : The remembrance of that Love flowing from a true heart which thou was pleased so largely to manifest to us remaining upon our Spirits with much sweetnes and gratitude. Thy Dear Mother's great Love is also engageing upon us, and we pray for the blesing of the great God upon you, and that the Truth which has brought us so near together in affection of Spirit may be dayly more precious to us, that we in serving the Lord in the knowledge and Sence of Truth, may feel our dayly refreshment and comfort in him : We reached Notingham the night thou left us but mist the path you directed us and took the midle road ; but we got

<sup>1</sup> “The attack on Penn's property and private rights was veiled under pretences of public good : but he saw through the disguise . . . and felt certain that after what he had done, he should be able to convince the king of his faithfulness to his great trust” (Hepworth Dixon).

in good time, and the next day to Leiscester, tarryed there first day and had a good Meeting. G. Knipe<sup>1</sup> and W. Rigg had a meeting near us. Next morning we went on and took no more mettings. the people busy at harvest. We also mist of Tho. Zachary at Newport Pagnel: tho we were at same hour in the town. I hope our Dear Friend H. Gouldney and wife are wel come to thy house, G. K. and W. Rig also. I wished and doe wish my self with you, but I see the netts doe sometimes entangle the young men as well as it did the old men in former days—but since my Comeing home, I have answeard the chief end for which I was oblidged to returne the quicker, but I am very easy, being satisfied as it is. There is no great need of such as poor me—if had gone 'twould have been for my improvement not others. Give my Dear Love to H. G. and his wife, and to W. Rawlinson. If so kind as to accompany him so far as thy house, bid them rest some time there, 'tis hot travelling. I called at H. G. house. Family well and M. Russells Family also. Rebecca and Rachael still here. R. Hadock is now this evening seting out for home to be at Watford tomorrow, 'tis not a Discharge, but only Larges by favour of the Warden. I have advised him to call and see thee in his Journey but question it, he is for makeing haste home. W. P. was with several of us to take leaue of him, and is goeing with his wife this evening to D. Wharleys. I have not more to ad, but that Dear Friend I am in all true affection thy assurd Faithfull Friend

JOHN TOMKINS.

<sup>1</sup> Of Hawkshead, Lancs; travelled in the ministry; died 1709.

My dear Love and Respects to the Lady thy Mother. R. Hadock sets homeward next week his Dear Love to you all. Olivers respects to his Mother. Tell H. G. to Morrow week J. V. and J. B. has appointed another meeting at Edgarth, the first R. H. had has given great Incouragement Excuse bad writeing, being in haste.

To Sr John Rodes Barrn<sup>t</sup>  
At His Seat at  
Balbar Hall  
near Chesterffield  
Darbyshire.

London 9. 6 mo 1702.

ESTEEMED FFRIEND,—I have thine date 4. 6 mo. I am glad to hear that our D<sup>r</sup> ffrd H. G. & his wife is with thee and that he is well, notwithstanding he would not receive our love left with thee for him. I wish you compleate satisfaction together. D<sup>r</sup> J. G. has sent a Complaint after us (which I have seen) that we did not visit him when so near. When I writ my last W<sup>m</sup> Bingley's wife was dead, though I knew it not. Dyed 7th Day last in the Evening bury<sup>d</sup> at Gilford 3rd Day. W. P. did not goe into Bucks till this day and so for Sussex for the marraige of his Daughter<sup>1</sup> which is intended for the week after next—There is a pennsilvania ship taken by the french lately, where young W<sup>m</sup> Machell was on board with others that we hear are set ashore in

<sup>1</sup> The marriage of Penn's daughter Letitia to Wm. Aubrey took place on the 20th August (6th month).

LETTERS OF JOHN TOMKINS 183

Ireland—The relation of T. Zachary, which thou hints, and I have heard at Large in H. G.'s letter to M. Russell, is an unaccountable story, but I have not had oppertunity to see him since he came home, so am ignorant of his defence which I doubt will be weak—Tell H. G. I am no man for publick news so cannot accomodate him—suppose Mick Russell may.

I dare not be so vain to wish my self with you. But I am sure, should be glad of such an oppertunity, were it but for 2 or 3 hours. I have been disapointed in my late journey in not attaining to what I did propose in it, but for what I had, am fully satisfyed, and the conversation with thee was not of the less part. It would be kind, if thou wouldst come up with H. G. to London with thy mother and so for the Bath—Dear Friend in that dear love which never changes I am Thy faithfull friend

J. TOMKINS.

Give my D<sup>r</sup> love to thy Mother & to H. G. & his wife & to the Docter.

To Sr John Rodes Barronett  
at his seat at Balbar Hall.

London 16. 8 mo 1702.

ESTEEMED AND DEARLY BELOVED FRIEND,—  
Though it be long that I have been Silent, yet not without thought of thee and the kindness that I was partaker of when at your house. The love I bear in my heart to thee will never decay so long as we abide in that love, which God hath

shed abroad in our hearts—that is the Roote and spring of our Love. I pray God keep us here to the end. My heart is united to thee in true affection, and shoud be glad of more frequent conversation by Letters ; for now Winter is so near, I dispair of seeing thee in this Citty, neither do I understand that thou went to the Bath. Suppose the Queen's beeing there discouraged, for I know thou loves quietness. Our Dear Friend W. P. we understand had the favour to be with her near two hours. He is expected this evening in town—

Our Friend J. Haddock is come again to Citty, in order to terme about his Law Suite. The noise against him which was made about Lancaster Assize came to nothing, being cleared of both Indictements, which was the whole of the severall score that was pretended was to be brought against him at the Assize.

Give Dear Love to our Dear Friend J. Gratton. Tell him we shall take care of the Lawson<sup>1</sup> manuscript, and it had been reprinted ere now or near it but that the M. Meet:<sup>2</sup> is under consideration about printing his whole works which yet they have not concluded—As to Inspecting the will of Stockdale, twas sometime ere I had the note from H. G. and being not so acquainted at Docters Comons as J. Field, I desiered him to doe it, who returns me answear : that the Proctor would know where said Stockdale Dyed. If in Yorkshere, then its not to be found here, but in the Dioces of York, but if he deceased in Darbyshere or Notingham, we can search here. Dear Friend excuse that this has not been quicker

<sup>1</sup> Thomas Lawson, see p. 20.

<sup>2</sup> Monthly meeting.

dispatched. I gave my Wife and Children a few weeks Liberty from home to be at Hertford, and every week was with them, with some other occurrences that made me omitt the Looking after this no sooner, which I hope thou will excuse.

One of the Friends that travels in America are returned, one John Salkell,<sup>1</sup> who has had as great Service as any—by our Dear Friend W. P.'s account. He was took with an ague comeing on board which held him all the voyage, and had like to have held him, but since on Shore is recovered prety well—he is a Cumberland young man went thither from Ireland. The Grand fleet is dayly expected home, an Indifferent Summers work for so great a navy as hardly ever was seen before. Powti (?) is out with the Dunkirk squadron supposed to be gone towards east Country for Navall Stores of which the French have had none come in all this summer : and the Spaniard have got there Plate fleet safe home. So that he will have mony, or rather the French, to cary on war next summer. Its expected the Parliament well call this expedition to account but I don't use to trouble my Friends with news, and My Wife is by me and intreats the remembrance of her dear Love and Respects to thy dear Mother and to thy self. Which I also intreat you to accept from thy Faithfull and affectionate Friend

JOHN TOMKINS.

My love to the Docter. Is Kathlene quite gone off?

<sup>1</sup> John Salkell, or Salkeld ; born in Westmorland 1672 ; emigrated with his wife to Pennsylvania 1705 ; died 1739.

To Sr John Rodes Barnt  
 at his seate at Balbar hall  
 Near Chesterffield  
 Darbyshire.

London 9  $\frac{M}{12}$  1702.

DEAR & ESTEEMED FFRIEND,—I have thine of 5 instant, and am heartily glad if I can be serviceable to thee in any respect, or to any of thine, for the Love I bare in my heart to thee is beyond Expression, the root thereof springing from the love of God. I am sorry thou may (be) disapointed in thy good intention (for their sake) of visiting them,<sup>1</sup> beleeving twould have contributed to their pacification under the extremitie of greife, for I know by what I have seen from thy mother, they must desier a visit from thee, yet I am tender of pressing for two reasons, 1st considering the difficulty of the roads & 2d but thou has another sister with thee, who loves thee, & it will be a refreshment to her that she has thy company which I know also is acceptable to her. Please to give my hearty respects to her—

I perceive by thine that the littel son is deceased as well as the daughter of thy sister at Bloxam,<sup>2</sup> which thy Dear Mother did also advice me in hers of the 2d instant, and is like vinegar pourd into a wound to the Mother of them, who like Rachell of old, refuses to be comforted for her children,

<sup>1</sup> Reference to the Thorntons of Bloxham, Lincolnshire.

<sup>2</sup> Ann, wife of William Thornton, of Bloxham.



because they are not. I write this night to answer the request of the Lady, for I have a sympathy with them, having buried a daughter of equall age, within a few weeks. And the sorrow for her cost me also the loss of a son—Oh that we could know our minds brought into the submission to God's will that we might say with good old Ely, when he heard the prophet Samuell pronounce those heavy things w<sup>ch</sup> God would bring upon his ffamily, who submitted and said "*It is the Lord, let him do what seemeth him good. . . .*" Samuell Waldenfield is still out of health. He was so when I writ the last to thee troubled with a great Dizeness in his head, not daring to adventure abroad alone—We have also a sudden loss happend to us in the Death of Michell Russel senior. He was last first day at Gracious Street meet., had been troubled for 3 or 4 days past with some indisposition of body, was advised to be blooded, but deferred till 7th day and when that day came, said twould hinder going to meet, so went, and did speak a few sentences there, and it being a full meeting, whether the weight thereof did occasion an unusual perturbation of mind that might affect the animale spirits; but so it was that as soon as he had sat down, was observed to sit down with a pretty full couler & presently fell into a pale Countenance & put up his hand to one side of his head and sank down as a dead man. N. M. & his bro: H. G. &c. was near him, and I understand they did support him from falling or slipping off the seate and rub<sup>d</sup> his head, hoping it might be only a swooning fit. But that caused an unusuall notice in the assembly, so they

took him forth to his house. Dan Philips was at hand, and they did bleed him & cup him, which for a littel space did recover in some measure his spirits, but he soon relapsed, and notwithstanding all their endeavours, he departed this life at 8th hour that Evening. His wife a sorrowful widow, his son at Norwich and his sons wife at Stratford, but lately recoverd of an indisposition of vapours and much like to Lunacy. Tis a sorrowful family. . . . Yesterday we buryed our antient ffriend and minister of Christ, Thomas Gilpin<sup>1</sup> of Oxfordshire, an orriginall of the primitive Quakers both for purity of Doctrine and conversation. He desierd that W<sup>m</sup> Bingley<sup>2</sup> might be a witness of his interment, they having been old ffellow travellers in the work of the ministry—My dear ffriend I approve of thy notion concerning R. Clar: and the parson. It answers my sentiments of them exactly. . . . I am glad the distemper of the stone has left thee. As for thy old distemper, I think nothing will cure thee of that, but a good wife—I shall be glad to see the D<sup>r</sup> if he will favour us with his company when in the city. With dear love I rest Thy affectiond ffriend

JOHN TOMKINS.

A ffriend lately recommended to me a daughter of Isaac Heming as a person sutable for thee if thou shall think so also.

J. T.

<sup>1</sup> One of the earliest persons to join Friends in London about 1694 was Thomas Gilpin, of Warborough, Oxfordshire.

<sup>2</sup> Writer and preacher; died 1715, aged sixty-four.

To Sr John Rodes  
 Barronett  
 At his seat at  
 Balber Hall  
 near  
 Chesterfield  
 Darbyshere.

21st 9<sup>m</sup> 1702.

DEAR AND ESTEEMD FFRIEND,—I sent thee lately a few lines with inclosed account of the late victory at Vigo,<sup>1</sup> w<sup>ch</sup> since, hath been caryed on by some (?) to be of great disadvantage to the enemie, whatever advantage it will be to this nation—That letter was designed as an evidence of my remembrance of thee, and tho' I can not yet obtaine time perticularly to reply to thy kind letter date 23 8 mo last, yet, this may certifie, that the busines thou was pleasd to intrust me in the letter, touching some good Lisbon wine, whit, that thou orderd me to send thee—I have now done it. It went last 6th day hence by Bartholomew Fretwell, one of the Sheffield carriers, who goes by the same way as does A. Allen. I could not furnish thee out a cellar with such wine of that sort, as I did beleeve thou deserved, it being the latter end of the year. Vintners are most likely to have the best. I did buy it of Tho: Cox, and told him who it was for, and I beleeve he has taken care

<sup>1</sup> Sir George Rooke, with the combined English and Dutch fleets, defeated the French fleet and Spanish galleons in the port of Vigo, October 12, 1702.

that thou hast his best. It is coverd with Canvas to be prevent their taping of it with pencers.

The cost of T. C. bill is thus : viz. :—

20 Galons Quart wine best Lisbon Whit			
at 5.4 p Galn.	. . . . .	£5	8 0
2 Casks	. . . . .	0	4 8
Canvas to cover them	. . . . .	0	1 4
Portridge at hous	. . . . .	0	1 6
			<hr/>
		£5	15 6

I hope it may please thee, that I may not lose my Employment to serve thee again in the like or any other affair wherein thou Esteeme me capable to serve thee, for I can doe it freely, because I love thee heartily—I hope thy D<sup>r</sup> Mother will not suffer thee to dwell alone in that large prison by thy self these dark, short days, and long nights—We are all in health at present. Wishing thy self to injoy that health with many more blessings is the desire of thy sincere friend

JOHN TOMKINS.

To Sr John Rodes Barronet  
at his seate at Balbar Hall  
Near Chesterfield  
Darbeysheire.

London 28. 11<sup>m</sup> 1702.

DEAR FRIEND,—I Love thee in that Love which reaches over Sea and Land, and the remembrance of thee continues constantly with me, heartily desiereing the blessings of the Kingdom of Christ Jesus

our Lord may be dayly increased upon thy Soul. I did write last, but have seen a letter from thee to our Freind H. G. that advises of thy Lonely dwelling this long nights and short days ; It is much thou hast not diverted thy self by a Journey to Bloxam where I understand that thy Dear Mother is, whose company is always agreable, and the more, that now Esqur Thornton<sup>1</sup> is deceased whose conversation was antipodes to thee. I understand by Letter from the Lady Rodes that thy sister Thornton is under much affliction for the Loss of an only daughter, and is Augmented by a son of hers very weak with convulsion Fitts—both which she bears in much sorrow even exceeding, which may prove very prejudicall to her own health and the whole Family. She Loves thee and no doubt, 'twould abate her Greiff if thou wouldst Afford her a visit at this Juncto—I have writ to thy Dear Mother to comfort her under these exersises; and that which adds to hers is that she cannot be with thee, for whom she is also concerned—I understand Dr Heathcot was at Bloxam, but none can Baile those whom the Messenger of Death doth arrest, whether young or old, the Innocent or the Sinners—The Lord prepare us all for that great change—I understand thou received the white wine safe and shal be glad to hear from thee if thou art free of the late distemper the Stone—My dear wife is now about the house again ; She has brought me a brave Girl. O that I could perswade thee to be so happy, as to be capable to receive such blessings. They are lasting comforts as well as carefull com-

<sup>1</sup> John Rodes' uncle, Ciprian Thornton.

forts—There is now pretty much discourse of W. M. endeavouring to match his son with M. C. Thou lets every one step in before thee—There is another of S Grooms daughters grown up and seems a very likely young Person—Dear W. P. is in and about the citty attending about his American affair<sup>1</sup>—pray give remembrance of very dear Love to the Lady thy Mother, when thou sees her and to Dear J. Gratt—not forgetting the Doctor. I understand by J. G. that your County much desires two of Tho: Lawsons bookes should be printed in one vol and wil take of an hundred of, viz. Mite in the Treasury and of the Call, wages, etc. of the ministry of Christ and of Anti Christ which our 2d dayes meeting have consented to, and they are in the Press, to be Intituled the 2d vol—the first being to be printed afterwards, viz. of the Baptism and supper and Dagon's fall before the Ark. There is also considerable quantity of sheets in manuscript, which if proper, may be printed for the 3d voll which will conclude the whole of his works—S. Hunt<sup>2</sup> has been lately here, I think not gone; has written a peice which he calles a Catechism for Children wherin he has not performed the work according to the Title, to the satisfaction of our

<sup>1</sup> "Anne, like her sister Mary, had been a firm friend to the Governor of Pennsylvania. But, even before King William's death, he had been somewhat relieved from his anxieties on account of the colony. . . . The accession of Anne put an end for a time to these intrigues; but troubles continued to increase on account of the Colony; and family circumstances, within a year or two of that event, induced Penn himself to make proposals of a surrender to the Crown" (Hepworth Dixon).

<sup>2</sup> Samuel Hunt, of Nottingham; wrote "Instructions for Children and Others by Way of Question and Answer," first published 1703.

meeting, which they did intimate to him sometime since by letter; and then J. Hart at his request presed it again upon them, which they kindly reply unto to J. H.: But when Samuell came up he altered the said manuscript, supposing they were (no doubt) amendments, but still they are of the Judgment. It is not yet proper for the publick—I doubt our Friend S. H. is much offended, and if should return home so, may prove to be his own prejudice, therefore if thou see J. Grat give him this Item. Pray his moderating Samuell, but I desiere make none privy to this but J. G. designing nothing herein but wel wishes for S. H., though neither J. Field, nor my self, was concerned in the censure of said Catechism this last examination. J. F. tells me has lately presumed upon thee the charge of postage of account of affairs to America, which I told him I did beleve thou wouldst pardon—

Richard Baker of Black Fryers has had a certificate from this City to Chipenham in order to marry N. Gouldney—My wife desiers me to present her kind love to thy self with my own also is what offers more at this time From thy Lo: Faithfull Friend

JOHN TOMKINS.

Richard Clarridge gives me account who I saw this day that he had writen to thee and also to the parson thy neighbour on the subject of Baptism etc. Of which I shal take it favourably if wilt give me thy sentiments and what the priests are upon. What R. C. has writ to him, being as I understand not a compleat answer but a Letter to him.

To Sr John Rodes  
These

London 2<sup>d</sup> 10<sup>m</sup> 1703.

DEARLY BELOVED FRIEND,—It is now 9 days since thou left us, by which time, we expected an account of thy safe arrivall at home, being the more concernd by reason of a violent storm<sup>1</sup> of wind, of which we have not know the like, not the oldest man that we know of. It began to blow so hard here from South west, and by west, last 4th day viz 24 last mo, at which time one man of Warr was lost off Harwich and damage in divers other places—and so continued turbulent till last 6th day 26, about 11th hour night, and held in an extreame maner, till past 7th hour next morning—The violence therof, not only did Infinit damage by Land and Sea, also Country as well as Citty, but killd many, and affrighted the whole Citty, bringing down to the ground some houses, and multitudes of Chimneys and Tileing ; wherby severall were kild, as appears by Inclosd bill of Mortality for last week. More will be inserted in the next. It will be endles to Insert what we already hear of the dismall effects of this Storm, which we look upon, as a Judgment upon the Nation, and will be found to be so. The Merchants and tradeing part have not had such a

<sup>1</sup> This was the "Great Storm" of Nov. 26, 27, 1703. The loss sustained in London alone was calculated at £2,000,000, and the Eddystone Lighthouse was destroyed.



scourge in their memory so generall. One Merchant ship at Plymouth called the Sarah Mary Hopewell, out ward bound for Barbadoes, value 40,000, is lost—where many Friends were concerned—and perticularly N. Marks, many hundred pounds—besides sundry other ships of considerable effects, which effect Friends perticularly. Bristoll has felt the same smart: Sundry of the Queans ships lost there, and besides Merchants ships, one perticularly from Virginia, which had 900 hogsheads of Tobacco on board, and withal such a mighty Innundation of water occasiond by excessive heighth of Tide, that great quantitys of Tobacco, Sugar, salt etc. was destroyd, and the loss therby much surmounts the damage done by the wind. Very great Tides we have also had at London, since the storm, that has spoyled much goods on Southwark side especially, and much People and Cattell drowned about Bristoll, all along the Severn side, towards Gloster. And the Packet boats, with 60 passengers, we hear lost in their passage between Wales and Aust in Glostershere near Oldston. I refer thee to the Inclosed, printed dayly currant and most authentick of prints, except Gazet, to save transcribing, which may not be so compleate; only I observe the charge of postage which upon so extraordinary occasion thou will pas by. No busines done here in respect to trade at Exchange, but relateing and hearing accounts of losses abroad etc. The Lords hand is in all this and it will be well if people would bear the Rod and him that hath appointed it, for there is a voice which is teaching in this Calamity—I hope to hear from thee sud-

denly my true love and respects to the lady thy  
Dear Mother and to thyself From thy Faithful  
affectionate Friend

JOHN TOMKINS.

Jo: Baines dear love is to thee my dear love to  
Dr J. G. let me know if mett with any Storm or  
had any of those bad effects in your Country.

LETTERS OF SILVANUS BEVAN

1719—1742



London, Aug<sup>t</sup> 16th 1719.

DEAR BROTHER,<sup>1</sup>—I am sorry the first occasion of my wrighting to thee, since my being in your family, should be on so melancholy an occasion, wherein I am equally concerned with, viz: the misfortune of father's <sup>2</sup> being overturned in a charriot near Highgate about 10 a clock fifth day night last, on his return from seeing a patient, by which he received a violent contusion of the brain, and died in about half an hour. Thou may easily imagine the surprise and affliction it is to us in w<sup>ch</sup> all his friends here joyn. I am unfitt to advise thee how to allay the sorrow thou wilt be under without referring thee to submit to Providence.

Thy presence will be absolutely necessary by the return of this messenger, tho' cannot tell whether we shall be able to keep him unburied till next fourth day, from Gracious Street Meeting, which we partly intend, but it is not positively resolved yett whether then or second day.

I leave it to thee to dispatch the messenger to Balbrough with this letter w<sup>ch</sup> will also inform Grandmother and Unkle.

I am, with simpaty with (thee) in this affliction thy affectionate Brother

SILVANUS BEVAN.

<sup>1</sup> This letter is to his brother-in-law, Cornelius Heathcote. Silvanus Bevan married Martha Heathcote, Sir John Rodes' niece.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Gilbert Heathcote.

We did not send a messenger sooner because we feared it might be too great a hazard of thy health to hasten to the funeral under the dejection of mind this accident would occasion.

To Sir John Rodes.

London. March 25th 1742.

DEAR UNCLE,—As the information we had of thy late extream fitt of sickness by D<sup>r</sup> Wales (in order to consult D<sup>r</sup> Mead<sup>1</sup>) gave us great concern, so the latter accounts we have had since from him and also by Gilly has given us great satisfaction in that thou art recovered to thy usual state of health, excepting what must be the effect of time, viz., the recovery of thy flesh and strength. I hope thou received the hamper of wine safe, the Clarett, Hermitage, Burgundy, and Champagne I had of a French wine Merch<sup>t</sup>, who engaged to put up the best. The old Madeira 30 years old, the Canary and Cyprus 18 years old were out of my own cellar and the Usquebach is a present of D<sup>r</sup> Meads and is very old and the best, which he recommended as a good remedy for those constant vomitings thou wast then attended with.

Last week I dined att Sir John Heathcote's where was thy neighbour Esqre White. . . . Thy own infirmitys engage thee too much to be very atten-

<sup>1</sup> Richard Mead (1673-1754), son of Matthew Mead, minister of Stepney, who was ejected for nonconformity. He was appointed physician to George II. in 1725, and wrote many medical treatises, including one on "The influence of the sun and moon on human bodies."

tive to public affairs, tho' the late change of the Ministry in the removal of Sir Robert Walpole and the struggles of the other party to enjoy the fruits of a long opposition by succeeding to places of Proffit and honour very much engages the discourse of the town, and plainly show what were the motives of so violent opposition. It was very much the surprise of everybody that the Duke of Argile<sup>1</sup> resigned his places, tho' many are well pleased with it. He has showed on this occation great heat and ambition and had engaged his Honour to the Tory's (who are about 80) that if they would heartily joyne with the discontented Whigs to change the Ministry, they should share with them in enjoying places, and accordingly severall of the most violent of the Tory's were insisted upon to be in the Treasury and Admiralty, which the King<sup>2</sup> resented in such a manner that he declared he would not employ any whose known principles were opposite to the intrest of his family ; and so, finding he could not perform his engagement, he threw up his Commissions and places which immediately were given to others. The Earl of Stair<sup>3</sup> is made Field Marshall, and is going to Holland and is to comand the Forces, the King and the Prince<sup>4</sup> are reconciled and I hope all our party disputes will be so qualified as that they may apply to the good of the Country.

I intend to send thy watch (which has been

<sup>1</sup> Archibald Campbell, 3rd duke of Argyll (1682-1761).

<sup>2</sup> George II.

<sup>3</sup> John Dalrymple, 2nd earl of Stair (1673-1747).

<sup>4</sup> Frederick, Prince of Wales, father of George III., died 1751.

ready some time) by Joseph Broadbent, there has been a great deal done to it and the repeating part is repaired.

The continued severity of the weather affects my Lungs very much. My wife is in good health and both joyn in dear love to thee and I am Thy affectionate Kinsman

SILVANUS BEVAN.

[There were to be no more letters in the Quaker Post-bag. Sir John Rodes died Sept. 1743, and was buried in the Friends' burial-ground at Handsworth Woodhouse. There was once a simple head-stone to mark his grave, but it was removed in the last century.]

FINIS



York, and Elizabeth Heathcote of Cuthorp in the Parish of Brampton  
 Intentions of taking each other in Marriage, before several Meetings of  
 -belong, according to the good Order used among them whose proceedings therein  
 account therein were allowed by the said Meetings...  
 the full accomplishing their said Intentions the Sixteenth day of the third  
 u Thousand, Seven Hundred and Forty Six, They the said Peter Acklom and  
 said People and others mett together at their Publick Meeting place all  
 He the said Peter Acklom according to the good order used amongst them  
 declare as followeth. *Witness in presence of sundry honest & sober men  
 & sober women Occasion of this my worthy & virtuous Elizabeth  
 Heathcote to be unto her a faithful & Loving Husband in the best  
 Cathode having the said Peter Acklom by the Hand did in like manner Declare  
 me of this Assembly whom I desire to be my Witnesses & take  
 from my Tongue (this Divine assistance) to be unto him a faithful &*  
 For the Law and Custom of Marriage Elizabeth Acklom as a further confirmation  
 Marriage have also hereunto interchangeably set their Names the Day and

Peter Acklom

Eliza Acklom

not others at the solemnizing of the said Marriage  
 have also subscribed our Names to these Presertles

John Haslam Sarah Back  
 Wm Longmire Mary Wells  
 John Hilditch Sarah Bradent  
 Wm Harris Sarah Backer  
 J<sup>n</sup> Lee Mary Lee  
 Henry Bowman Catharine  
 John Frick Ruth Frith  
 Isaac Hulbert Susannah Ashton  
 Tho: Howard Sarah Hilditch  
 Caleb Lee  
 John Ashton  
 Georg Hewitson  
 Thomas Johnson

Relations of  
 Gilt Roden

Tho: Acklom

John Heathcote  
 Prory Barlett Jun<sup>r</sup>

Maria Backer  
 Eliza Heathcote

John Richaby

Wm Fry  
 Tho: Smith Jun<sup>r</sup>

Franc: Smith

Joseph Stogor  
 Wm Bradent

MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE.

Whereas Peter Acklam of Lonsdale, and County of York, and Elizabeth Heathcote of Cudworth in the Parish of Stamps in the County of Derby, having publicly declared their Intentions of taking each other in Marriage, before witnesses of the People of God with Witnesses who witness that did respectively belong according to the good Order and among the aforesaid proceedings hereafter after a due and solemn Consultation of and Consent of Relations concerned therein were allowed of by the said Meetings on the 17th day of the Month called May in the Year according to the English Account One thousand Seven hundred and Forty Six. They the said Peter Acklam and Elizabeth Heathcote appeared in a Publick Assembly of the aforesaid People and others met together at their Publick Meeting place called Churchfields in the County of Derby aforesaid and then and there He the said Peter Acklam according to the good order last aforesaid acknowledging the said Elizabeth Heathcote by the Hand did openly profess as followeth: *I do give my consent and give my consent to give my consent to the said Elizabeth Heathcote to be my Wife according to the Order and Manner of the People of God and that in the said Assembly the said Elizabeth Heathcote having the said Peter Acklam by the Hand did in like manner profess as followeth: *I give and on the Year of 1746 in the presence of the aforesaid People whom I believe to be my Witnesses of Lawful Age and Reasonable Understanding to be my Husband from now forth until Death be come to us by the said Peter Acklam and Elizabeth Heathcote.**

And the said Peter Acklam and Elizabeth Heathcote now after the Sole and Custom of Marriage Elizabeth Acklam as a further confirmation and for the testifying and consummating of the aforesaid Marriage have also hereunto interchangeably set their Names the Day and Year aforesaid.

We whose Names are hereunto subscribed being present amongst others at the solemnizing of the said Marriage and subscription in manner aforesaid as Witnesses hereunto have also subscribed our Names to these Records the Day and Year above written

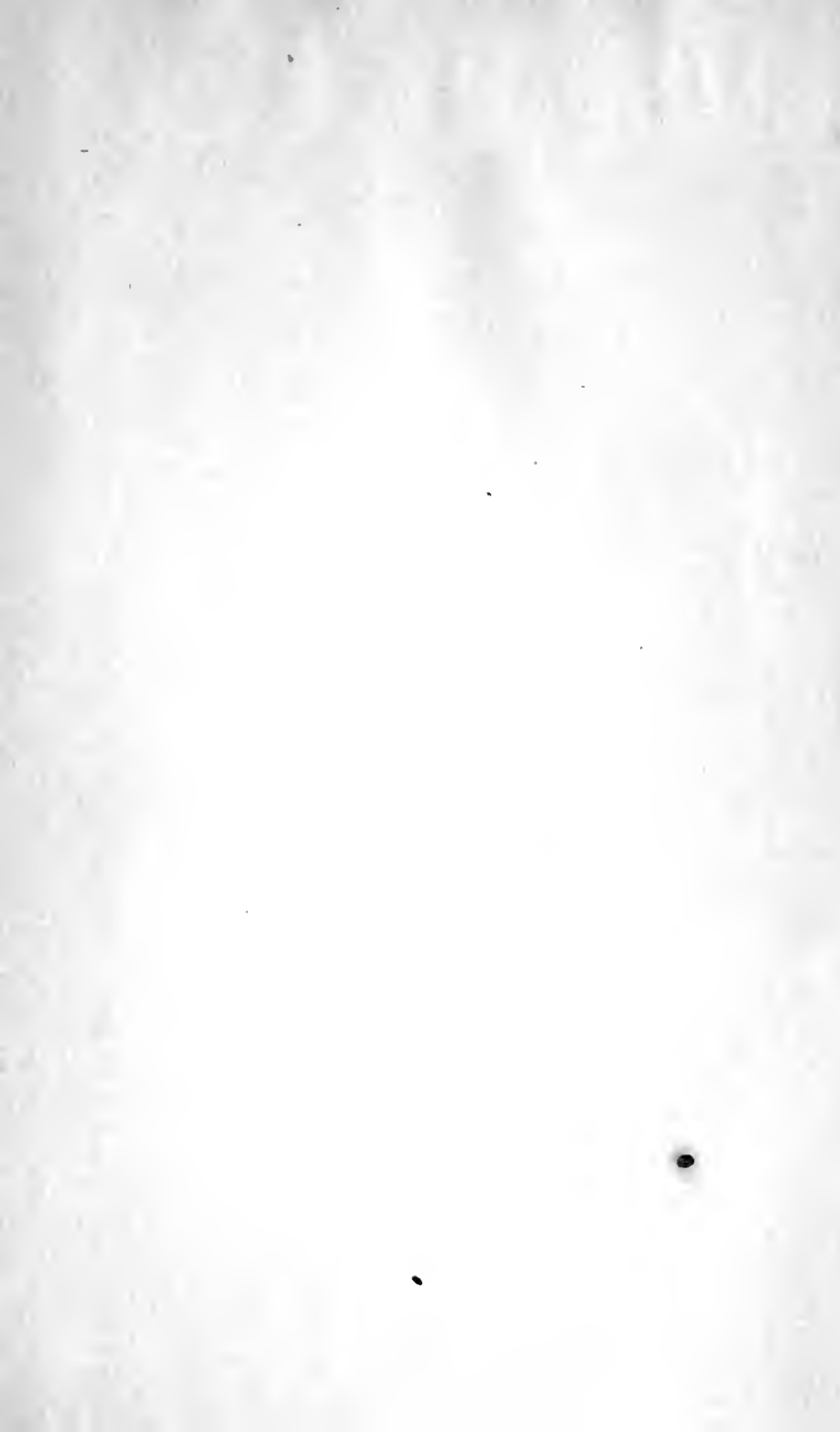
Peter Acklam  
Elizabeth

John Holton Sarah Beck  
Mary Gommers  
John Hildes Sarah Tomlin  
Mary Moore Sarah Booth  
John Lee  
Mary Newman Catherine  
John French Ruth Firth  
Jane Kalkoff Sarah Alton  
The Howard Sarah Kalkoff  
Caleb Lee  
John Acklam  
Mary Howson  
Thomas Johnson

Richardson  
John Rida  
The Acklam  
John Heathcote  
Mary Barlett Jun.  
Nath. Barlett  
John Heathcote  
John Barlett  
John Smith  
John Smith  
John Smith  
John Smith







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