

# Letters from Joseph Burney to Joseph Burney Bevan

*Concluded from page 84*

13

Norwich 20<sup>th</sup> Feby 1775

Dr Coz<sup>n</sup> Joe

Thy fear of losing the frequent correspondence of my Bro<sup>r</sup> John on account of the happy engagement w<sup>ch</sup> I hope he is likely to enter into perhaps may be well founded, yet I think however he may domesticate himself when his heart is fixed at home, he will not enter into that ease & idleness as entirely to lay aside the thoughts of his Fr<sup>ds</sup> in Middlesex, but will, (tho' perhaps not so frequently) deign to write thee, a batchelor. As to thy other Correspondent (supposing thee means T. Kett<sup>28</sup>) I suppose there is little reason to be afraid of losing him as yet, his Mistress being so young that t'is hardly probable they will be united in less than a year or two, tho' he seems to stick very close to her, & wherever she goes, (if he can) he attends her. They yesterday afternoon drank tea at our house, & by the particular notice he took of her there seems no doubt but he is in earnest.

I wish he may succeed as in my opinion they are quite calculated for each other, being brought up in much the same way—his education, certainly has been rather confin'd, tho' his natural disposition adapts him to society.

I am very glad to find thou art at last coming to see us, I hope thy stay will not be finished with the occasion of thy coming but that thou wilt not pretend to return in less than a month. We expect to see my Bro<sup>t</sup> tomorrow, I hope to find him in good spirits, and that the present joyful thoughts of his Catharine may smooth the wrinkles on his brow, w<sup>ch</sup> I am persuaded she was before the occasion of. My Sister Rachel is not yet quite recovered she has had again a slight return of the pain in her head & sickness . . . & I heartily wish there cou'd be found some remedy to relieve her, as it seems to depress her spirits. It must be something rather out of the common way to have an

effect on them as generally she has a happy flow, tho' it is remark'd & I believe very justly that those who are most elevated when in Health are the most depress'd when anything is the matter with them, for the mind of man is like the quick Silver in a Barometer, w<sup>ch</sup> when it ascends very quick it generally brings fine weather for a few hours, & then Clouds arise, so that it descends as fast or faster than it ascended; on the contrary when it rises by degrees, & keeps rising till it reaches near the summit, then its a pretty certain sign of a Continuance of a Calm & serene time uninterrupted by storms or tempests.

I have often endeavour'd to find out w<sup>ch</sup> is the most preferable state of mind, that w<sup>ch</sup> fluctuates or that w<sup>ch</sup> is serene; in regard to the first it enjoys pleasure with more extacy & pain with more depression, it excites strong feelings for the misfortunes of one's fellow Creatures, & likewise strongly partakes of the pleasure they enjoy. Now as to the latter it seems a state of insensibility, it's neither elevated by pleasure nor depressed by pain; the scale continually stands on a ballance, whereas in the former it moves up & down. However, in either the state of a clear conscience is always the happiest.

My Sister Agatha & her little one<sup>29</sup> are quite well, she was at Meeting yesterday since which they have both taken a ride in the Coach, but for want of Curiosity or something else slept all the way. . . .

thy affectionate Coz<sup>n</sup>

JOS GURNEY<sup>30</sup>

14

Norwich 20<sup>th</sup> March 1775

Dr Coz<sup>n</sup> Joe

As thy last Letter consisted chiefly in messages I have only to say that I delivered them all to the person's to whom they were assignd, w<sup>th</sup> my accustomed politeness which thou knowest is very great in its way.

I receiv'd thy present of the whip, for which I am much oblidge'd to thee. It is generally approv'd by the knowing ones in this part of the Country, & has already been of use in persuading the Colt to do what he otherwise wou'd have denied—viz<sup>t</sup> To leap over a ditch w<sup>ch</sup> he perform'd (after much resistance) with great activity.

I have been taken off from writing by my Sister Agatha who requested an arm of me, to walk to St. Georges, which will prevent my spending so much Ink as I otherwise shou'd have done in thy service, it being late, that I am in momentry expectations of hearing, ding, dong, dong, for the Letters, tho' upon recollection I believe shall send it by Parcell, & shall enclose in it one to my Bro<sup>t</sup> John, by which thou wilt find that my Sister is not quite so well as She has been, tho' I hope it will [not] be of material Consequence, as I believe it came from a little over fatiguing herself last seventh day at Keswick where we had a large route of young people.

Please to desire my Bro<sup>t</sup> not to be alarm'd if my sister does not write to him tonight as she has been engaged this afternoon at Coz<sup>n</sup> Wright's<sup>18</sup> who has been for several days poorly, but today She is somewhat better : her Case is very melancholly as She can enjoy nothing without the fear of being ill after it.

I shall write again soon to make up for this short epistle, so desiring to be kindly remember'd to Damsel, Tug, the black Cat, & all my old acquaintances in that way.

I remain

Thy affectionate Coz<sup>n</sup>

JOS GURNEY

15

Norwich 28<sup>th</sup> March 1775

Dr Coz<sup>n</sup> Joe

I am monstrous illnatur'd, & I'll tell thee the reason for it, w<sup>ch</sup> when done thou wilt not be surpris'd ; I am confin'd to the house with an intollerable purging which causes great pain & disturbance in that part, the great Philosopher Martinus Scriblerus calls the Kitchin of the Soul.

. . . . .  
 . . . . .

Expect my Brother John will reach this place before this letter reaches thee, therefore I shall not enquire how, when, where nor what about him nor his Catharine as it's most likely I shall hear enough of it when he arrives, yet I am extremely glad to find he has so near reach'd the Crisis of his wishes as to have the Credentials sign'd by his charming Mistress. I suppose he will be married about the time thee were laying out, when in Keswick.

It is true I did not in my last mention anything respecting our Uncle & Aunt Bland,<sup>20</sup> but, alas! poor things they are married, & the nine days wonder seems over. To be sure they continue in every respect the marks of *their youth* & I must confess it still appears diverting to see how very fond they are of each other, in company generally sitting hand in hand, with [fre]quent smiles & fond looks passing from one to the other which may be allow'd to a young Couple, but in People advanc'd I think it rather disgustful.

Thy Scheme of riding in the morning, I know by experience is very agreeable, being in the practice of it myself those people who lay abed till almost noon, lose, by far the most pleasant & healthy part of the day, for what can be more delightful, & more conducive to health, than to enjoy the melody of the Birds & the fresh air of a fine frosty morning which one cannot do in greater perfection than on horseback.

JOS GURNEY

16

Norwich 27<sup>th</sup> June 1775

Dear Joe

. . . . . In  
 . . . . . the first place then, I have to inform thee, that my Sister Rachel experiences already the good effects of dipping at the pool of Neptune she has p<sup>d</sup> her devotions 3 times, which will be all she will do for the present as we expect them home tonight, in order to stay over the yearly meeting,<sup>12</sup> after which my Mother & Sister will return, join'd I believe by Priscilla & Christiana.<sup>31</sup> I wish my Sister had not return'd from Yarmouth quite so soon, as I think she can hardly have had as yet sufficient proof of the certainty of bathing's being good for her Complaints.

There is a Party of us going to set out on the tour of Norfolk<sup>32</sup> tomorrow morning—My Bro<sup>t</sup> John & Sister being at the head of it, are join'd by Priss. & Chriss. & Richenda Springall of the females, & of the males are D. Springall & Lindoe,<sup>33</sup> & myself. Coz<sup>n</sup> Priscilla Wakefield,<sup>34</sup> Miss Whittaker & Hy Kett,<sup>35</sup> set out this morning in order to see Halsham, w<sup>ch</sup> we must omit, as it's only to be seen on a 3<sup>rd</sup> day at which time my Bro<sup>t</sup> & Sister set up for Company. We are all to

meet & join Company's at Houghton, as that is the principal object in our Tour, not allowing ourselves time to take the whole round, as we purpose being at home on 7<sup>th</sup> day at longest.

I was mentioning my Bro<sup>t</sup> & Sisters setting up for Company—they began on first day evening & had about 17 in all, but, yesterday expecting a vast round, all the Chairs were lugg'd down from the Chambers & set in high order as many as cou'd conveniently in each parlour, & least there shou'd not be enough some were set in the Hall, both the Footmen were furnish'd with their waiters, & Tea & Coffee for ab<sup>t</sup> thirty. Coz<sup>n</sup> Priscilla Wakefield was there to entertain the Company with her Conversation. After waiting some time the first who made his appearance [was] John Woodrow<sup>36</sup> Jun<sup>r</sup> &, unlucky Fate! behold he was the last. It was for him alone that Chance had ordain'd all those fine preparations. It put me in mind of the noble Knight's Drum, in Pompey the little, tho' it did not end to quite so much Satisfaction, as *no* Lady Bab Frightful arrived at last.<sup>37</sup>

My Mare Coz<sup>n</sup> Joseph is come up from Grass quite fat & fine & looks very handsome, has her limbs entirely at liberty & moreover is nam'd Fanny by the united approbation of a Company of the Fair Sect, met & assembled Keswick the 21<sup>st</sup> day of June 1775.

This puts me in mind of Eliza: Bell,<sup>38</sup> when thee sees her next please to give my——“ what thee likes,” to her & say that from her putting me off with one excuse or another from time to time I despair of receiving her present untill I see her again at London. It rains gloriously at this time. I am heartily glad of it, as all Nature will be refresh'd by it & it will lay the dust for us tomorrow

I remain as usual

JOS GURNEY.

17

Norwich 14<sup>th</sup> Sept 1775

D<sup>r</sup> Cos<sup>n</sup> Jo<sup>s</sup>

According to due form & order thee ought to have answered my letter long before this time, however, I can make an excuse for thee & suppose that accumulated engagements have prevented thee the writing me being the

least adapted to thy inclination it consequently gave place first. When this Cloud of engagements is a little dispers'd & thou seemest inclined to give up a few minutes for my satisfaction & amusement, spur on thy inclination & perform the task of pleasing willingly—to please others is certainly very pleasing, yet its natural to desire a more immediate pleasure shou'd result from it than the mere distant Idea of others being pleas'd; this I suppose has been thy case & as thee found no other amusement in writing to me than merely because I wish'd for it, thou has not thought it worth the trouble to continue it. But think again, & let me share at least a small mark of thy affection which I can assure thee I very much covet.

I find thou hast been a fellow Sufferer or rather a fellow partaker of the accusations of Coz<sup>a</sup> Priscilla Barclay,<sup>16</sup> we may congratulate each other on being honourably acquitted. I wish heartily it was so with my good Sister Catharine, the unreasonable & most unjust opinion she has formed of her, has cost my Sister much uneasiness—if Coz<sup>a</sup> Priscilla had set & form'd all the frailties human Nature is Subject to, I don't think she cou'd possibly have pick out one more diametrically opposite my Sister's disposition than that which she accuses her of; so far from being a slanderer, she is remark'd for excusing those who are ill spoken of. I don't find its yet made up but that no more is to be said about it, consequently an abominable cool indifference, ten times worse than a down right Quarrel, is to be supported on both sides using Compliments with [? no sincerity] at heart, & behaving Civil with the inclination to Quarrel. Such is my opinion of it, as I think it's impossible after such an accusation to be tolerable Friends without a full explanation & agreement.

My Mother is much better & will I hope in a few days get about as usual.

Pray is Priscilla & Christiana gone to Bath yet? I find there has been an Earthquake there, it must be very alarming. My Sister Rachel bathes in the cold Bath she likes it very much & it agrees with her vastly well. I believe the ride from Keswick to Norwich & back again before breakfast is half the battel, w<sup>ch</sup> she does on horseback if the weather is fine.

I remain Thy affectionate Coz<sup>a</sup>

JOS GURNEY

Norwich 20<sup>th</sup> Sept 1775Dr Coz<sup>n</sup> Joe

I am sorry to find thou thinkest me such an Epicure as only to desire to live in health, merely for the sake of eating dainties, however I can with Satisfaction inform thee, that I have no occasion to follow thy wholesome regimen to cure my Cough, as it is departed without it. I wish Priscilla's was of no worse consequence than mine; she has had it a long time upon her, & it seems to be very much fix'd in her Constitution. A worthy Cousin of ours takes her departure very much to heart. I believe she gave him an undigestable Pill before she went away.<sup>39</sup> Poor young Man! I sincerely pity him, he appears thoroughly unhappy, & so dejected that he shuns the Company even of his nearest & most intimate Connections. I shall be heartily glad to see thee down amongst us, for thou art not a very frequent visitor of these parts without having some particular circumstance in view. The present I presume thou wilt think the most agreeable that has drawn thee hither for a long time; my Sister's being well settled is certainly very desirable but, nevertheless the loss of her Company will be very great to me in particular. I wish she may have no occasion for the cold Bath when she gets to London but that matrimony may entirely reestablish her health, yet it's very clever your being so well & easily accomodated in that respect.

I am asham'd to send thee so short a letter, but a summons from my Sister Catharine to attend her to Keswick in the Chaise (my Bro<sup>t</sup> being absent) will excuse me.

JOS GURNEY.

Norwich 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct 1775.Dr Coz<sup>n</sup> Joe.

I am now so deeply engag'd in business from Awbreys being out on a visit to his relations, that I can hardly spare time to write thee. Nevertheless, my mind will not remain easy until I have disburthen'd it of this my Duty towards thee, therefore as my engagements w<sup>ch</sup> require immediate attention seem at this time pretty clear, I shall dedicate the

few minutes they remain so to thy Service first acquainting thee (w<sup>ch</sup> I suppose thou knowest already) that my Mother has fix'd to set out with my Bro<sup>th</sup> & Sister Barclay next 4<sup>th</sup> day, but as the house at Cheapside will not be compleatly ready for their reception till 6<sup>th</sup> day evening, they will find some method not to be there till that time; & cannot but feel some regret at the near approach of my Sisters departure, yet, as they remain now in so unsettled a State it's much to be desired for their own Comfort & enjoyment, that they may be fix'd to their own home as soon as possible, where, I have no doubt, they will experience the happiness mutual affection inspires, & altho' in the midst of the hurry & bustle of Cheapside they will find serenity & retirement in each others Company.

I am incessively concern'd at informing thee of the sudden decease of our worthy Friend Jos Oxley, he died last night about 12 o'clock without any preceding indisposition, having eat a hearty supper, & went to bed in excellent Spirits. Just before he went off he complain'd of being very cold, immediately turn'd about in his bed, made an effort to stretch his arm to his Wife, & departed without sigh or groan. His loss is sincerely lamented by all that knew him, he has strictly preserv'd a clean life & unspotted reputation.

I understand you were near being rob'd in the forest, & that you all three behav'd heroically but in different ways. Polly natural to her Sex was much frightened, but exercis'd heroinisme sufficient to be silent. Bob like a Philosopher feig'd indifference by half sleeping (being half kept awake by fear) & thou thyself wast serene, by the assistance of manly resolution. But pray, my good Cousin, from what authority canst thou assert they were highwaymen? As your presence of mind was so strongly put to the test, it's pity but they had rob'd you, because you wou'd then have had something to talk of, but, now perhaps they were only two innocent Travellers who for the sake of Company rid by side of your Chaise. . . .

I remain

Thy affectionate Coz<sup>n</sup>

JOS GURNEY.



Norwich 7<sup>th</sup> Nov. 1775.

Dr Coz<sup>n</sup> Joe.

I have been sometime considering whither to write thee or my Sister, however as I always think it best to clear of debts before one distributes favors thy letter claims the right of being first attended to.

Its surprising with what grace of attitude thou hast drawn the Cat with, that struck thy fancy so much. I shew my Sister Catharine thy performance, she laugh'd at it most heartily, & said it was just like Joe Bevan. We expect to see Dan & Elizabeth<sup>40</sup> the latter end of this week. I am vastly vext they come just at this time as I am likely by it to miss their Company both here & in London, at least I do not expect to be many days with them here, as in all probability I shall be in the great Metropolis by the latter end of next week. I am glad to hear thy Cough is gone, & that thou art no longer to be rank'd amongst the list of Invalids, which may be very properly termed the black list, as gloominess is the frequent attendant on ill health, w<sup>ch</sup> I have heard some people call the black Devil. Thou art not much afflicted with that distemper, & even if thou wast I think thee took a more effectual means to drive such a Companion away, by Dick Phillips & the Jews Harps, than any remedy the highest feed Phisical Fop cou'd have prescrib'd. I think to compleat the joke you ought to have had some Dulcineas to have danc'd to your hum strum.

Why did you not call in Alis, the fat Cook Etc. I was much diverted a few nights ago with looking in at the window of a Shabby Alehouse where there was a large Circle of Mobility set round a large fire, being attentive Spectators of an old fellow who was dancing to the fiddle w<sup>th</sup> a young sprightly Girl. In eve'y countenance there appear'd Joy uninterrupted by the thoughts of tomorrows drudgery, "Sufficient for the day is evil there of," was the text imprinted in each look. I staid till the dance was over & the Pot began to go round w<sup>ch</sup> the ladies seem'd to partake of with as much relish as their hard working Companions.

I lodged at Milend last night, my Uncle was very finely & in excellent Spirits.

*JOSEPH GURNEY TO JOSEPH GURNEY BEVAN III*

As a partial examiner into the Causes why more robbers shou'd be found in your part of Kingdom than in ours, thou hast to be sure very ingeniously made out the reason to your advantage, but then remember that this same luxurient soil that produces such fine Crops & consequently so many weeds, will if great care is not taken, be over run with so many flowers, that they will hinder the growth of each other, & be stunted before they arrive at Maturity, now there is another soil w<sup>ch</sup> is much cleaner & more free from weeds, at the same time it will produce such a quantity of flowers, as having space to grow, will flourish & arrive at the greatest perfection. This is as likely to be the reason we have so few robberies.

JOS. GURNEY.

21

Norwich 27<sup>th</sup> Dec. 1775.

Dr Coz<sup>n</sup> Joe

. . . neither do I find myself ever much inclined to work during the Christmas hollidays, it seems a kind of natural relaxation to all degrees of people—the enjoyment of liberty is mark'd on ev'ry one's countenance. I truly sympathise in the Joy of some poor Creatures, who on these days shake off the load of confinement & drudgery which is heap'd upon them the rest of the Year, & in putting on their Christmas Cloths, drive away old Care, & with the few shillings they are able to gather together rejoice the hearts of a whole family. To be sure its too often dedicated to the bottle & Glass, & the time designed for relaxation is turned into hard labour, for I suppose there is scarce any more difficult than that of getting drunk, or at least of supporting that situation for many days together.

We had a melancholly accident a few days ago, by a mans being drunk & playing some tricks with his Horses fell off fr<sup>m</sup> his Waggon & was kill'd upon the spot just by Milend.

Thus much of this letter seems adapted to the time, indeed there are so many circumstances constantly putting one in mind of it, that it's impossible to have your thoughts turn'd to any thing else, especially of an evening when you are ev'ry moment saluted with the songs of the boys &

congratulations of the old women whose wither'd limbs the Cold weather sends to the Door, in order to beg for something with which they may be enabled to buy Coals or a Cordial to warm them.

There is one practice w<sup>ch</sup> I partook of with great pleasure last night or rather this morning, & that was the weights—the solemn stillness of the night, being interrupted by the sound of the French horn & the other instruments that accompanied it, made me not regret the desertion of sleep from my eyelids.

. . . .

JOS GURNEY.

22

Norwich 27<sup>th</sup> Jan. 1776.

D<sup>r</sup> Coz<sup>n</sup> Joe

I receiv'd thy letter with much pleasure after so long a cessation of correspondence, I should almost have thought your ink as well as water was froze if I had not incontrovertible proofs to the contrary by letters from thee to my Brother &c<sup>a</sup>, however, I am entirely of thy opinion that there are times when we experience a more particular regard for those who constantly engage our affection, & no doubt it is then the proper opportunity to be engaged in their service, but my good cousin in future I beg thee would not *wait* for such times but when they happen obey their dictates & in the intermediate place let me hear from thee, otherwise I shall very seldom have the pleasure of a pledge of thy regard by letter, if I may judge the time thy last has been coming.

This very cold weather has drove me to be a skaiter. I confess for the first week of the frost I comforted myself with the reflection of enjoying unbruised bones, (the lot of most beginners in that exercise) & indulged myself over the Fireside, but I found so inactive a life did not agree with my constitution, I therefore boldly engag'd the congeal'd element, & after many easy falls (render'd so by fear) I at length got the master of it & can now perform with tolerable ease to myself; tho' the pleasure was acquir'd with much labour & industry, so eager are we after the pursuit of enjoyment, that our resolution never flags notwithstanding the pains & labour we pass thro' to acquire it, which if forc'd upon us

wou'd be the greatest punishment, so perverse is the inclination that it seldom can conform itself to the rules of necessity. . . .

I understand Jaber McFisher is return'd from his western expedition highly delighted he is to come down Norwich to invite me to take a journey with him in the spring, as it is my full intention to go somewhere at that time. . . . I cannot with any face refuse him as he has been so solicitous for me to accompany him heretofore. I confess it would be much more agreeable to me to embrace thy proposition of our being Companions; however as I cannot see how that can be without Jaber being of the party, I hope thee will condescend to make a third, as nothing will contribute to make such a Journey agreeable so much as thy Company. . . .

Thy affectionate

JOS GURNEY.

NOTES

<sup>28</sup> Thomas Kett (1746-1820) married Hannah Gurney, as his second wife, in 1780, she being then about twenty years old. See Note 20.

The Ketts were an old Norfolk family, to which belonged the leader of the rebellion in the reign of King Edward the Sixth. Richard Kett, of Norwich, who was born in the last decade of the seventeenth century, married Martha Hopes, of Amsterdam, whose family was Quaker. This Richard's daughter, Elizabeth, married, c. 1739, John Gurney, of Keswick, our writer's father (*Family Chronicles*, by Lilian Clarke, 1910, pedigree at end).

<sup>29</sup> Hudson Gurney, born 19 January, 1775. See note 4.

<sup>30</sup> A letter from J. G. Bevan, printed among his *Letters* in 1821, dated 1775, 2mo. 23, is, doubtless, a reply to his cousin's letter of 20th February.—“To begin with thy letter at the end, I must take notice of thy comparison between a mind highly susceptible of pleasure and pain and one almost callous to either . . . .”

<sup>31</sup> Priscilla and Christiana were the daughters of the uncle of the writer, Joseph Gurney (1729-1761), of Norwich, who married Christiana Barclay. Christiana (Barclay) Gurney married, secondly, in 1767, John Freame (1729-1770). They were first cousins, so could not be married in Meeting. Her third husband, whom she married, c. 1772, was Sir William Watson, a deeply religious man. The family settled at Bath. The burial registers for Bristol and Somerset contain the entry: Christiana Watson, d. 1796 xii. 25, of Dawlish in Devon, late wife of William, buried at Exeter.

Despite her out of meeting marriages Lady Watson remained a Friend to the end.

Priscilla Hannah Gurney (1757-1828) became, after many fluctuating religious views, a well-known Quaker Minister. She is described as

"small in person, beautiful in countenance, elegant in manner, delicate in health and almost fastidiously refined in habit." Her relative, Mary Anne Schimmelpenninck, *form.* Galton (1778-1856), wrote of her:

"Her costume was that of the strictest Friends of that day. How well I remember her coarse stuff gown, contrasted with the exquisite beauty and delicacy of her hands and arms; her snow-white handkerchief and her little grey shawl; her brown hair divided after the manner of a Gothic arch over her fair forehead. Then she wore a black silk hood over her cap and over all a black beaver bonnet, in the shape of a pewter plate, which was then esteemed the official dress of the [Ministers'] gallery. Her voice was most musical and enchanting. . . . It was a common observation with those who cursorily saw her that she wanted but wings to be an angel" (*Life*, 1858).

*The Memoir of the Life and Religious Experience of Priscilla Hannah Gurney*, edited by Sarah Allen, appeared in 1834. It is a very striking autobiographical record of a soul tossed to and fro and carried about with many winds of doctrine and finally reaching a harbour of peace. P. H. Gurney was a great help to her cousin, Elizabeth Gurney, *aft.* Fry. The latter wrote in her Journal, under date of September 3rd, 1798: "Prissy Gurney I feel my constant little friend—dearly do I love her indeed."

Christiana Gurney is frequently mentioned in her sister's *Memoirs*. She lived at Bath and died there in 1837, aged 80.

<sup>32</sup> This tour receives a brief notice in Priscilla's *Memoirs*:

"My sister and myself, with our mother's approbation, made a visit to our numerous relations in Norfolk. We enjoyed a long course of innocent recreation in making the tour of Norfolk" (p. 30).

<sup>33</sup> Caroline, daughter of David Barclay, of Cheapside, married John Lindoe.

<sup>34</sup> Priscilla Wakefield (1750/51-1832) was the eldest daughter of John and Katharine Bell, of Stamford Hill. Her husband was Edward Wakefield (1750-1826), a London merchant, living at Tottenham. They were married in 1771. P. Wakefield was the instigator and establisher of savings-banks, 1798. She and her husband lived in later life at Ipswich. She was a prolific writer of books for young persons on travel, natural history and mental improvement generally.

<sup>35</sup> Henry Kett (1744- ) was a brother of Thomas Kett. They were sons of Henry and Anna Maria Kett.

<sup>36</sup> There was a family of Woodrow resident at Yarmouth, with a branch at Norwich.

<sup>37</sup> *The History of Pompey the Little; or the Life and Adventures of a Lap Dog*, London, 1751, 1761, 1773, was by Rev. Francis Coventry, M.A., incumbent of Edgware, writer of verses and satires, 1750-1753. Several characters were intended for ladies well-known in contemporary Society. In the 1799 edition, chap. 5, book 2, "A Description of a Drum," we read: "Lady Frippery, in imitation of other ladies of rank and quality, was ambitious of having a drum, though the smallness of her lodgings might well have excused her from attempting that modish piece of vanity." "Lady Bab Frightful" is invited to the Drum, but her coming was delayed—"at last she came and it is impossible to express the joy they felt on her appearance." "Sir Thomas Frippery" was the "Noble Knight."

The reading of young Quakers of the period was wide!

<sup>38</sup> Probably, Elizabeth Bell (c. 1756-1846), daughter of Daniel Bell. She married, in 1781, John Hanbury (1751-1801), brewer, of London. Her brother, Jonathan, describes her as "a very remarkable person, elegant and stately, very handsome and graceful . . . ever taking the strongest interest in everyone's affairs and pursuits" (*The Family of Hanbury*, 1916, vol. ii., p. 290, where a portrait is reproduced).

<sup>39</sup> This proposal is referred to in Priscilla's *Memoirs*, p. 30: "I was now in the nineteenth year of my age, and had another subject of importance to decide upon—that of admitting or rejecting a proposal of marriage with a member of our Society, whose attachment had more to recommend him than his religious attainments or the superiority of his natural endowments." Later the suitor re-appeared having followed Priscilla into the Anglican Church in the hope of winning her but she would not see him. By this time she had become dissatisfied with the Church of her choice (p. 49). Unfortunately the name of the "poor young man" does not appear. Priscilla died single.

<sup>40</sup> Probably, Daniel Bell (note 17), and his daughter, Elizabeth (note 38).

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## On the Way to London N.M., 1783

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Left Leeds 29th 5 mo. in company with Joseph Garrett from Ireland—Sheffield, attended marriage of my cousin Tabitha Hoyland with Benj<sup>n</sup> Middleton, of Wellingborough, 30th 5 mo.—Chesterfield—Castle Donington, first day meeting, George Follows and son, wife Ruth being in Ireland; Thos Bakewell and daughters and many other Friends—Ashby de la Zouch—Hartshill, John and Hannah Atkins school, the old Friend a widow, herself and son with an usher carry on the business—Coventry, Joseph Heath, John Cash, Edward Gulson, "last Friend quite unwilling we should leave his house, it being y<sup>e</sup> Priests Visitation" left with addition of J. Heath and Thomas Cash—Towcester, that night at the Saracens Head where I had a damp bed and so was obliged to get up and put on some of my clothes—Hogstye End, joined Friends at their M.M.—Wooburn, Briggins How—Albans—Barnet—Islington, where we left our horses and come by coach to Town.

5 mo. 29 to 6 mo. 5.—209 miles.

*From a MS. in the possession of Charles J. Holdsworth, 1924.*

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1776. August 17. The last letters from London bring advice of the death of Capel Hanbury, Merchant. The business is carried on by Osgood Hanbury, the surviving partner.

From the *Maryland Gazette* as quoted in the *Maryland Historical Magazine*, vol. 18 (1923), p. 274.