

Letter from John Abraham to his Grandmother,  
Margaret Fox.<sup>1</sup>

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D[ear] H[onoured] G[randmother]

the R[emembrance] of thee is uery much vpon my mind & thy Kinden to mee Euery way boeth when J had y<sup>e</sup> hapnes to bee with & since J am sencabel of to bee greatt & J Desier J may allwayes Rightly vallue it & wall [walk] worth in Som Degree of it & J hope as J groe in yeares Shall more & more sttudy to performe my Duty & Due Respects to thee J R[eceived] by L[eonard] ff[ell] thy uery Kind token & all so yesterday my Sadell & brydell came safe which J was uery glad of & Returns my thangfull acknowlidments: J hope to lener [?learn] now consta[n]tly if J haue my helth: for J know it is thy minde J should bee agood Scoller & J often thinks of thy good aduice to mee consarning it: Dear Grandmot thou art oftener in my mind then J can menshon & my loue & Repect for thee is great J hope to see thee next Springe att Swarth wh J shall bee Exceed glad of: this being moest at present but my Dearest Duty to thee & my Respects to all my Vnkell antts & Cosen

from Duttifull Granch

John Abn

J must bedge thy Excuse for bad writing for J am moestly kep[?] to my Laten

<sup>1</sup> The original letter, preserved at Devonshire House, is written on the same sheet as a letter from James Park to Margaret Fox, dated "horsleydown 30 of 9<sup>th</sup> m<sup>th</sup> 95." John Abraham has endorsed it "James Park an Antient ffriend att or near London his Letter to my Dear and Honoured Grand Mother." He makes no allusion to his own youthful handwriting on the same sheet.

John Abraham was son of Daniel Abraham and of Rachel, seventh daughter of Judge and Margaret Fell. He was born in 1687, married Sarah Forster in 1722, and died in 1771. Margaret Fox constantly refers to this grandson in her correspondence, and as he stood at her deathbed she addressed the following words to him, "John, the Lord loves thee, and will love thee for my sake. My tears and my prayers for thee that I have put up many times have been seen and heard."

John Abraham lived on at Swarthmore Hall until its enforced sale in 1759, and it is probably due to his zealous care that hundreds of letters to and from the Swarthmore family are still extant. Many of these letters bear endorsements in his neat handwriting, similar to that quoted above.