

Thirbeck Manuscripts.

I.

MARGARET FELL TO FRIENDS, 1654.

This epistle is printed in Margaret Fell's works, 1710, pp. 56-59, with certain omissions relating to local and temporary circumstances. The letter is referred to in Maria Webb's *Fells of Swarthmoor Hall*, 1865, p. 84, where some of the above-mentioned omitted passages are given. See also Braithwaite, *Beginnings of Quakerism*, p. 135.

It is an earnest appeal to Friends, based upon a common brotherhood in Christ, to contribute towards the expenses of "those y^t haue bine sent forth into y^e ministry, & for them y^t haue suffered Imprisonm^t & for bookes & seu^rall other things, y^t haue bine needfull."

This letter is certainly not in the handwriting of M. Fell, if the facsimile given in *Fells* represents her hand. It occupies about three-quarters of a folio page, and is in a neat, clear hand. The endorsement reads, "to ffrinds Consarning a Colecshon from M. ff 1654." These words, with variation in spelling, are repeated elsewhere on the back of the sheet.

II.

JOHN LILBURNE¹ TO MARGARET FELL, 1657.

The writer is in trouble in consequence of that which he considers the unjust treatment meted out to him by

¹ John Lilburne (1614?-1657) was a son of Richard Lilburne, of Thicklely, Co. Durham; he was born at Greenwich. "His life is a mirror in which the turbulent condition of the times may be seen. He championed the rights of the people in opposition to government, and was fined, whipped, pilloried, and imprisoned. He served some years as a soldier, and rose to the rank of Lieutenant-general" (*F.P.T.* 144n). From an imprisonment in the Channel Islands, Lilburne was transferred to Dover Castle, in October, 1655. Here, principally under the influence of Luke Howard, he embraced the tenets of Quakerism, and here he wrote several letters, one of which is subscribed, "From my innocent, and every-way causeless captivity in *Dover-castle* (the place of my souls delightful and contentful abode, where I have really and substantially found that which my soul many yeers hath sought diligently after, and with unsatisfied longingness, thirsted to enjoy, this present first day of the week, being the 4th of the 3d [? should be 10th] moneth, 1655." He died at Eltham, 29 vi. 1657, and was buried in London.

See his *Resurrection of John Lilburne, Now a Prisoner in Dover-Castle*,

Anthony Pearson, of Co. Durham, relative to some land in that county, and he is glad that the case is claiming the attention of Margaret Fell. He begs of her to promote an early settlement by persuading Pearson to meet him in London. Other Friends are taking up the matter on his behalf.

dearely beloued freind margret ffell,

The savour of that precious oyntment that the ffather in the cleare manifestation of his loue, bounty & goodwill to thy soule, hath richly & plentifully annoynted the withall, giues asweet fragrent, & precious smell in the nostrills of all those that in the light haue truly giuen vp there names to the Lord of light & life; amongst whome numbring my selfe as one of the meanest & vnworthiest of them, but yit hath through rich mercy attained to acleare vnderstanding, to reed & feale thy stature & growth, in my serious pvseall & transcribing ouer of those savory and sperituall lines of thine, that haue gone through my hands.

And thy clearely Judged by me preciousnes & clearenes of vnderstanding, hath in noe small measer filled me with desires at this present tyme to acquent the:

That when my very faithfull & dearely beloued freind Henry Clarke,² at the Sugerlofe neare horsepherie ally, one the bankesid in Southworke, acquainted me that by our freind Thomas Rawlinson,³ he had sent some papers downe to the, about the present deference betwixt Anthony pson³ & my selfe, that J truly avver he hath wilfully & vnrightiously begot betwixt him selfe & me; J was not alittell glad at his soe doing, & when yisterday he acquainted me that by our freind Steuen Hubberstie,³ he vnderstood that thou thy selfe, hadst vpon the receipt of the forsaid [paps] sent for Anthony Pearson to thy howse to conferr with him about them, And as J vnderstand by Humphey No[rton's]³ information to

etc., 1656, and second and enlarged edition in same year; *F.P.T.*; Smith's *Catalogue of Friends' Books*; *D.N.B.*; Robson MSS. in *D.*; and much other literature.

² For Henry Clarke, see *Camb. Jnl.* We here learn his exact address, at the Sugar Loaf, near Horseferry Alley, Bankside, Southwark.

³ For these Friends, see *Camb. Jnl.*

him, found Anthony at least to put glosses vpon his said dealing with me, & in shew to lay [*paper torn*] vpon me for indeavoring to disposes Haselridgs⁴ tennants vpon my lands, that he hath without anyth [*paper torn*] pretence of law or Justice [?] me of. At the hearing of which & seriously meditating in the meas[er of light] injoyed by me, J was pressed in my sperit with strong desires by my owne hand writing to acquent the :

1. ffirst, that my forsaid deare & faithfull freind Henry Clarke haueing bene much conversent about 4 yeares agoe, at the sessions of old baly in London, when J was there tried for my life, & hearing from my owne mouth there, & alsoe reeding in print, much of my plea, or pleas for my life, came thereby to acleare vnderstanding of the reall danger of my very life, by that laite most wicked & sinfull conuaance procured by Anthony psons wilfull, wicked, headstrong & plainely treacherous to me will, without my authoritie, priuity, or consent, to conuay my lands that his master haselridge hath robd me of by meere force & violence, backe to my wife & children, as things that he hath areall true & vnquestionably legall right in: Therefor laitely as J vnderstand write to Anthony pson something a sharp reproofe, for his said [?] vnrightious dealing with me: which Anthony Answered with an avoued in words (say J now lying abominably wicked & false) Justification of himselfe, the reeding of w^{ch} seriously compelled me in an extraordinary manner to waite vpon my deuine councellor & leader, the measer of light dwelling in me, for a Just & cleare direction what to doe in the case; by w^{ch} J was in ye

2. Second place, clearely directed to draw vp against Anthony Pearson, a sollemne Appeale to the strong measur of god dwelling in G ffox, W Dusbery,³ R Hubberthorne,³ E Burrow,³ H Clarke, J Bolton,³ A Stoddart,³ & G Roberts,³ or any three of them, as it is contaned in the said Appeale: Which said Appeale after J had fairely ingrossed it (as it were) J in plainenes

⁴ Sir Arthur Haselrig (d. 1661), second baronet, lived in Co. Durham, on confiscated lands which he purchased from the Government. At the Restoration he was tried and imprisoned. He died in the Tower. See *Extracts from State Papers*; *Camb. Jnl.*; *D.N.B.*

at Douer reed to my three deare & precious freinds John Stubbs,³ Luke Howard,³ & John Higgins⁵ his servant, & soe haistened towards London with it : And neare there vnto in the

3. Third place, J plainely reed it to Henry Clarke twice ouer, against the rightiousnes, Justice and truth of which J found him not abell to maike one objection against it, after which he tooke it to carry to Edward Burrow, who with Amos Stoddart that day comming to me where then J was, J reed it to them alsoe, before whose de^ptur came in John Bolton, amongst which foure it was concluded, that John, Henry, & Amos should write to Anthony p^{er}son, to desire him to come spedily vp to London, that soe he & J might speeke face to face about it, w^{ch} J vnderstand they haue done.

4. ffourthly, vpon the 14: of this present month J write aletter to my old & now dearely beloued freinds and neighbours Roger Harper⁶ & Marten Richmond,³ & inclosed to them atranscript of my said appeale, for them seriously to p^{ro}vse & then communicate to Anthony p^{er}son, that soe he might be thoroughly fitted to the vtmost that he can, befor he depart out of the county of Durham, to maike the best defence for himselfe that posably he can, befor our said freinds against my said complaining appeale against him.

5. ffiftly, vpon the last 7th day our freind John Slee³ of Cumberland, comming downe to my presen lodging at Wolladge (about 7 myles from London) there, the next day to declare truth, he & J had much talke of the busines betwixt Anthony & my selfe, & he was exceeding free to heare me at large about it ; vnto whome J reed atranscript of my said Appeale, the staite of my case mentioned in it, & my 9 letters to Anthony p^{er}son,

⁵ John Higgins (c. 1633-1667) is here as elsewhere connected with the county of Kent, but in what way he was "servant" to Luke Howard, of Dover, is not evident. He travelled much in Holland (Camb. *Jnl.* ; C. Fell Smith, *Steven Crisp*). He signed the Fox-Fell marriage certificate at Bristol in 1669. For letters written by him see *Collectitia* ; Smith, *Cata.* ; *Steven Crisp* ; MSS. in D. He died at Hertford, and was buried at Dover.

⁶ Roger Harper lived, probably, in Co. Durham. He signed, with others, an epistle sent out from Scalehouse, 24 iv. 1658.

& 5 of his to me : which maid Anthonys wicked & vnrightious dealling with me appeare soe plaine to John Slee, that he sufficiently declared to me his detestation of it, & promised me that as he went shortly to his outward home (if the Lord will) to call at thy howse, & plainely acquaint the with it ; by whome as J remember J desired to send the atranscript of the said Appeale, but he Judged it needlesse the case to him being soe plaine : But now since J spooke as aforsaid with Henry Clarke, J haue bene much pressed in my sperit thus to write to the, & in it to inclose atranscript of my letter or complaint sent to London, the last yeare to 8 : of our freinds against Anthony pson, forsaid wicked dealling with me, & J haue earnestly intreated him at his comming to London to find out John Slee, & from me deliuer him this letter, to bring to thee as alsoe atranscript of my saide Appeale, & the said staite of my case, & transcripts of 7 of my first letters to Anthony pson, my 8 & 9th to him thou haueing alredy by the, as J Judge, all which as thy fredome and laysur serues the, J earnestly intreate & beseech the, seriously to pvse, & when thou haist soe done, that thou wilt in a few lins acquaint Anthony spedily with the substance heareof, & prese him to haisten vp to London: where J doe expect my said freinds, to whome J haue appealed, will indeliberation, truth, & Justice, & without the least respect of psons, heare vs both face to face to the full, & to the very bottome of the busines, & as they are sharp reprovuers of sin in men of the world, soe much more sharply to reprove it in one of vs two, in whome after a full & plaine hearing of vs face to face they really & truly about the premises find guilt & wickednes in. J can not at the p^rsent send the, the copys of his wicked, foolish, false, rediculous & contradicting letters to me, though J intend the Lord assisting now with all the speed J can, to copy them out & send them at least vnto some of those that in this case are now like to be his & my Judges.

Soe freely leueing the to thy owne fredome, as the rich measur of god dwelling in the, shall direct the, further to doe in the p^rmises what thou Judgeth to be Just & righteous, & of reall service to the truth, earnestly desiring a few lins from the, to be wrote by the as spedily as well thou canst to henry Clarke in Answere heare too,

with my dearest salutation in the fountaine of loue & life p^resented vnto the J rest

Thy deare & faithfull freind according to the measur of grace receiued & revealed in, & vnto,

JOHN LILBURNE.

ffrom my p^resent lodging at John Cocks at Wolladge (in Kent) neare London this 27 : of the 3^d month, 1657.

Postcript, I beseech the if my deare freind George ffox come neare the, p^resent my dearest salutation to him, & reed this [?] to him, by which J truly let him knowe that Arther Haselridge about 5 or 6 yeares agoe, haueing by meere force & violence without the least shaddow of any Just pretence of law, robd me of my lands: Jn the yeare 1655 sent, or sued to me to treat with him to taikethem againe, w^{ch} J refused to doe, vnlesse J might haue them restored to me as athing he had vnjustly robd me of, or with violence taiken from me, & sent my said answeare (sufficiently as J Judge contaned in the said staite of my case) to Anthony p^rson, to deliuer to him (to the vtmost of my memory) & to know of him (his laite master) if vpon those tearms he would giue them me againe in actuall and quiet posession, which are the only tearms, J expect them from him if euer he surrender them of himselfe to me, notwithstanding Anthony p^rson hath actually & wilfully as J Judge as an instrument⁷ treacherously betrayed to his vtmost my very life in to his mercillesse mercy, & my other bloody enimys, & alsoe set my wife,⁸ my ffather [?] to his vtmost power together by the eares with me in such atormenting contest as J neuer with any of my aduersaries went through in all my life tyme. J intreat the preserue my page from being lost.

JOHN LILBURNE.

This is an autograph letter. It occupiesslightly over one page of a folio sheet, finely and clearly written. The sheet is weak in the folds, and a small portion of the fore-edge is worn away. It is addressed by the writer,

⁷ Pearson's defence would probably be that he acted as Haselrig's agent in this matter.

⁸ Lilburne married Elizabeth Dewell and had several young children (*D.N.B.*). His family lodged near him while he was in Dover Castle.

“ffor my dearely beloued freind Margret ffell, in Lankishere this with care and speed dd,” and more fully directed in another hand (with folds to suit this latter address), “This into the handes of his derely beloued frend Margeret the wife of Judge: ffell at his howse at Swart more nere ouston [Ulverston] dd with speed and faile not—Lanckeshire.” George Fox endorsed the letter, “j liborn to mff douer presen 1656 read over.”

III.

JOHN ROUS TO MARGARET FELL, 1664.

A spirit of filial affection and reverence is evident throughout these letters, and also an earnest desire on the part of John Rous to be helpful to his mother-in-law, whose faithfulness to conviction he warmly applauds and whose example he desires her children may follow.

The circumstances of the imprisonment of George Fox and Margaret Fell in Lancaster Castle, and the sentence of *premunire* passed upon the latter by Judge Turner at the close of Sixth Month (Aug.), 1664, are detailed in the *Camb. Jnl.* M. Fell was doubtless in Lancaster Castle at the receipt of this letter.—The Conventicle Act came into force on the 1st of Fifth Month (July), 1664, a month prior to the date of this letter. “For a third offence against this Act elaborate provisions for transportation were devised” (*F.P.T.* 357; *Camb. Jnl.*)—The details of the Hertford case may be read in Besse’s *Sufferings* (i. 249), and Webb’s *Fells* (p. 228).

The second letter illustrates in a most enlightening manner some of the difficulties into which the persecuting legislation of the day brought Friends. On the one hand is evident their desire to stand firm to their convictions and to take the consequences, even to transportation, and on the other hand there were many considerations to be weighed—personal and family ties, and various responsibilities towards others. There was need of much wisdom to direct, and of advice from trusted friends and counsellors.

Mile End,⁹ ye 6th of ye $\frac{6^{\text{th}}}{\text{m}}$ 64.

Dear Mother

In the vnalterable & vnchangable truth, w^{ch} is more precious then all changable things is my dear & entire love to thee, to whom my love is beyond what here J can expresse, who art honourable in the truth, & to be honoured by all y^t live in the truth, who hast not accounted any thing to dear to thee to be parted with for the Lord & for his truths sake, but hath stood to the hazard & lose of all rather then in the least to submit or come vnder any thing y^t is contrary to the Lord or his blessed truth manifested in thy heart, Oh how happy are we thy children who have such a mother, who with such boldnes in the power & spirit of the Lord stands vp agst the powers of Darknes, & spirituall wickednes in high places, my desires are y^t as through thy faithfulness in the losse of all, thou hast obtained an everlasting honour & renowne soe we thy children in our severall places may be found faithfull in all triales y^t we meet with for the truths sake, may adde comfort to thy afflictions & may be noe cause of greife or sorrow, for w^{ch} cause we desire the helpe of thy prayers w^{ch} we know are heard & accepted by him who is mighty to save all those y^t trust in him ;

Dear Mother by a letter from my sister Sarah w^{ch} yesterday we rec^d, we vnderstand what hard & vniust dealings thou hast mett with in thy triall at the assizes, but w^t can be expected from those who have not ye fear of God before their eyes, nor have any regard to Just or Righteous Judgment, but set vp iniquity & make a prey of them y^t depart from it, but these afflictions are to be gone through & the measure w^{ch} is be hinde is to be filled vp for the bodies sake w^{ch} is the church, whose portion it now is in many places to suffer, but though the enimie come like a flood, yet the spirit of the Lord lifts a standard & we know y^t that though the sea doe roar & the billows thereof are lifted vp even as if it would overthrow all before it, yet its appointed bounds it shall not passe, but the Lord by his power will restraine it :

⁹ Several letters written about this time by members of the Rous family or visitors are addressed from "Mile End," or "Mile End Green." See Webb, *Fells*, 1865, pp. 214, 222. This was presumably the home of John Rous before taking up his residence at Kingston-on-Thames.

As concerning passages much J might write more then time will now permit, but J shall give thee as breife & plaine an acc^t as J can, last fifth day 7 freinds were brought from Hertford to London to be transported according to y^e sentence passed on them by Judge Bridgeman,¹⁰ the Jailour some daies before came vp to London, & met with a master of a ship who was bound to Barbados & Jemaica, wth whom the Jalour agreed covertly (not letting the M^r know vpon w^t acc^t they went) to carry 4 of them to Barbados & 3 to Jemaica, & was to put them aboard last fifth day, but wⁿ the M^r heard vpon what acc^t they went, he was very sorry, & said he would not carry them if he could any way avoide it, & the cheife owner said y^t he would set the ship on fire before it should carry them, the Jalour next day after he came to towne put them into A boat & carried them to the ships side, but the M^r had ordered the seamen y^t if such came, except they were willing to goe, they should not take them aboard, & told y^e Jalour y^t his agreement was to have them sent aboard y^e day before, w^{ch} he not doing, he had other wise disposed of his ship, & now would not carry them if he might have 100 pounds a man, soe the Jalour was forced to carry them backe, & that day went to Judge Bridgman to tell him what y^e m^r said, who advised him to arest y^e M^r for his bargaine, but on last 7th day y^e King & his Counsell sat about it & Judge Bridgman was with them, to consider what to doe with y^e M^r, & in the afternoon two messengers were sent for the M^r to white-hall where he was brought before one of y^e Kings secretaries, who committed him close prisoner to the Gatehouse not to be bailed, for refusing to carry them, J hear y^e M^r of the ship was very bold & answered very vndantedly, there is none of the ship masters y^t are going to Barbados, y^t I hear of, but are resolved they will not carry freinds except they are willing to goe; the sessions was last weeke at the Old Baily, but nothing was done with freinds, though J hear there was 17 in prison vpon y^e 3 acc^t, but they adiourned till tomorrow, w^{ch} its thought was done of out of pollicy, for there was many freinds w^{ch} had been in twice, & they thought to have a great

¹⁰ Sir Orlando Bridgeman (1606?-1674) presided at the trial of the Regicides, 1660; Lord Keeper of the Great Seal, 1667-72. (D.N.B.)

many in this weeke vpon the third acct, soe last first day in the morning they tooke from the bull & mouth as J hear 199 men & women freinds w^{ch} they committed to Newgate & bridewell, in the afternoon they tooke from Mile End 12 men, amongst whom was Gerrard¹¹ on his first acct & 6 women among whom was Anne Gould¹² on her second acct from y^e peeple meeting they tooke about three score as J heard & from wheelers street meeting a great many, soe that there is now a great many freinds both men & women in vpon the third acct, but what they will doe with them is not yet knowne, but their actions doe manifest as if they intended to prosecute their law to the highest if the Lord doe not restraine them, we were yesterday to see freinds in Newgate, who are mightily thronged but were generally well, except one lad who was in a very high feaver & much vnsencible, that it is thought there is much danger of his life, J was last first day to see George Whitehead (not having seen him in a pretty while) & he was well & his dear love is remembred to thee & G ff: J had a letter lately from T Salthouse from Plimouth who was well & at liberty, & writ y^t things were very quiet & well in those parts, only y^e Mayor of a towne called Smithick neer falmouth in Cornewall, wished he might rot & perish if he did not make freinds conforme to this new act, w^{ch} he intended to doe on a first day, but on the 7th day before at night going to bed well was found dead in the morning, which strick some dread vpon the Justices & caused their Moderation towards freinds; J hear there is 3 or 4 freinds dead at Bristoll, one being a woman with child of her first child, & another a maide who being very sick was carried out of the prison, but being dead freinds carried her to the prison intending to carry her from them to y^e ground,

¹¹ For Gerard Roberts, see *Camb. Jnl.*

¹² Anne Gould (Gold), of London, was among the early Ministers in the Metropolis, c. 1655 (*Crouch*, p. 16; *Latey*, p. 10). She travelled in Ireland, where Julian Wastwood and she went "on foot in Winter time, wading Rivers and Dirty Miry Ways; so that Ann Gould, being a tender Woman, was much spent, and staid at Clough; the enemy perswading her that God had forsaken her and that she was there to be destroyed, so that she fell into Despair" (*Edmondson, Journal*, 1715, p. 18). She was also in East Anglia (*F.P.T.* 97). The London Registers record the death of an Ann Gould, of Pauls, Shadwell, 16 x. 1699, at about ninety years of age. See Besse, *Suff.*, i. 482, 484.

& in the prison she bled two hours, one hour out of one nostrill & another hour out of the other, this was mentioned in a letter from Dennis Hollister to A : Parker w^{ch} a freind y^t read it told me of but J did not read the letter my selfe.

the love of divers freind is remembred to G ff and thee, we are all well & our very dear love is remembred to thee & to dear G ff & our dear sisters Sarah, Susanna & Rachell, J doe not question but thou wilt let G ff know how things are, whom J honour in my heart, & Dear Mother if in any thing we may be servicable to thee, in speaking to any body, or if at any time thou may have occasion for mony J desire thou would not spare to command any thing y^t we are able to doe, for J looke vpon it as mine & our duty to be as much assistant to thee in this time of thy suffering as may be, & in soe doing to bear part of thy burden with thee.

J have something in my minde concerning which J desire thy advice, w^{ch} J intend to write on y^e other side, which J desire if thou cannot read, thou would reserve it till Sarah be with thee or some one whom thou art willing shall read it to thee, & J desire to know whether thou can read it thy selfe¹³; And soe in dear & fervent love J rest

Thy Obedient & truly loving son,
JOHN ROUS.

I was with sister ffell last night but hear nothing of my brother ffell.

Dear Mother

They proceeding here very high in prosecuting the new act, w^{ch} ends in banishment, w^{ch} its like if the Lord doe not restraine them they will bring freinds to, which J doe not know how soon may be my portion from them, having been once in present already, my desire is to know thy minde, whether in case J should be sentenced & come to be transported thou would be willing, my wife (being as she is) should goe along with me, J am not vnsencible,

¹³ We have for some time held the opinion, and expressed it, that Margaret Fell suffered from deficient eyesight (*Camb. Jnl.*, i. 408). Above seems to confirm our opinion, but we must wait till M. Fell's reply comes to light before the matter can be definitely settled.

of the sicknes & illnes she hath allready gone through at sea,¹⁴ w^{ch} hath been very hard to her to goe through, yet J beleive the first time she was with child, if it had pleased y^e Lord she had missed the fall of y^e horse, she might have done very well, & in all probality might have gone out her time, & now dear Mother considering how hard it wilbe to vs to part, & for me to goe to sea & leave her to follow with a young child, if it please God it live,¹⁵ & to want me who was soe great a helpe to her when she was sick, wilbe a thing that wilbe very hard to her, & if she goes to meetings in the meane time she wilbe in dang^r of being banished soe well as J, w^{ch} considerations with others & som[e] in conveniencies w^{ch} may attend her not going with me, put me to a stand, y^t J doe not know what to thinke, whether it may be bett[er] for her if I should be sent away to run the hazard of the seas & goe with me, or to settle not to goe with me, but stay behinde, & run all the hazards & inconveniencies w^{ch} may attend her soe doing; Dear Mother J am given vp freely in my selfe to bear my testimony amongst other freinds agst this vniust law, & before J am imprisoned on the third acc^t J would settle all as one y^t is ready to be transported that if J doe goe J may goe with clearnes, or if J stay it may be wth the same, & soe desire that thou would seriously consider this, & let me know what thou thinkes may be best for me to doe, that soe J may know how to order things; My wife hath been asking me whether J could not shun going to meetings where freinds are taken, till such time as she might be vp & in a condition to goe with me, w^{ch} J doe not know at present J could with freedome doe, & that would bring me vnder y^e Judgment of freinds w^{ch} J would willingly avoide; this is the substance of what J have at present to write in relation to thys matter, thy answer to which J desire as soon as opportunity will permit; J am care full to avoide

¹⁴ As mentioned in *Camb. Jnl.* (ii. 421), there is a statement in Fox's *Spirit of Envy* (1663, p. 10),—"As for M.F. . . . there was her Son in law and her daughter passing to beyond Seas"—which might refer to John and Margaret Rous; this mention of M. Rous's "sicknes & illnes at sea" tends to confirm this inference.

¹⁵ A daughter, Lydia, was born 5 i. 1664/5, and died the following year.

being imprisoned againe as yet, my father having sent for divers things for his plantation w^{ch} he cannot be without, w^{ch} J intend to ship by a ship y^t may goe away the latter end of this Month, & till those things are sent away, J am not willing to goe to prison, because the want of y^m wilbe a great preiudice to him, & he depends vpon my sending them, ffarewell,

Thy dear son,

JOHN ROUS.

[Direction] ffor Marg^t ffell
this

The letters are in the handwriting of John Rous. The first occupys two full folio pages, and the second, one full page. The sheet is endorsed "ffor Marg^t ffell this." On the outer margin of page 2 there are a few strokes made by George Fox, but that which they were intended to indicate is not apparent.

To be continued.

Obituary.

William Gregory Norris, J.P., of Coalbrookdale and Weston-super-Mare, died on the eighth of Twelfth Month, aged eighty-two years. W. G. Norris took a deep interest in historical subjects and was a member of the F.H.S. from the commencement. He bore the entire cost of issuing Journal Supplement No. 6, "John ap John, and Early Records of Friends in Wales," 1907.

Friends, what is right is always safe ; but our human minds are so constituted that if we let them dwell first on the dangers of an undertaking, they are less able to judge whether it is right or not.—ANNA RHOADS LADD, at a Conference in Philadelphia, Tenth Month, 1909.

In the *Journal of the Cork Historical and Archæological Society* for 1908, there is an illustrated article on "Admiral Penn, William Penn, and their Descendants in the Co. Cork."