

handwriting. This is additional evidence of the fact that George Fox knew something of Hebrew. On this subject see Braithwaite, *Beginnings of Quakerism*, pp. 301-2.

A. NEAVE BRAYSHAW.

P.S.—William Charles Braithwaite on seeing the proof of this article draws my attention to a letter of George Fox in which Hebrew words occur, Swarth. Coll. vii. 80 in D. Like most of Fox's letters, it is not written with his own hand, not even the signature, but at the top he has written "ffor the poep" [Pope] and he has endorsed it "for the pope g. ff." The letter contains two Hebrew words, the English letters being also given. The two words are a good way apart from one another, not together, and they show several mistakes. A.N.B.

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*Letter from a Young Man, a Quaker, in  
Pennsylvania, to the late William Cowper,  
the Poet*

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Philadelphia,

3rd mo. 4th, 1796

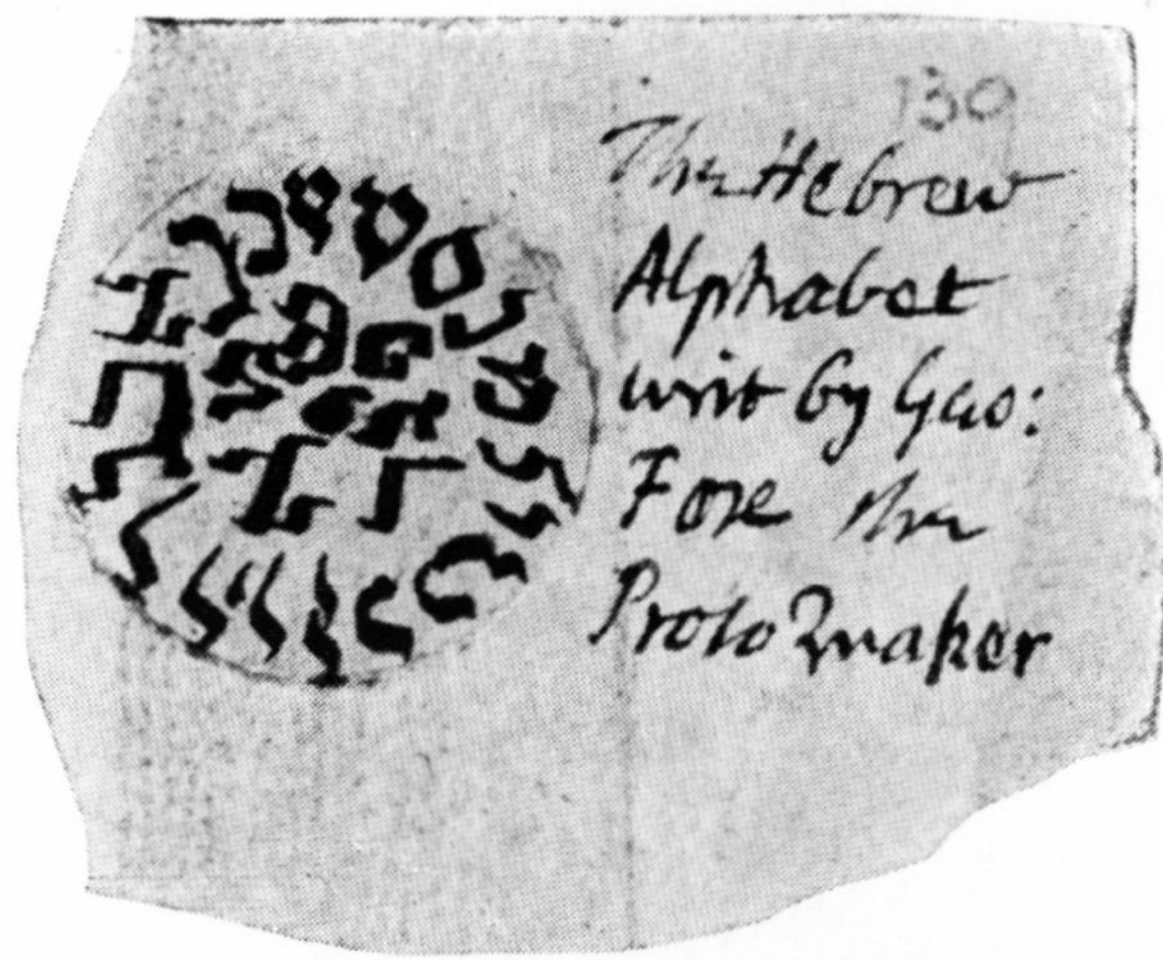
MY ESTEEMED FRIEND,

Perhaps thou art surprised by this salutation, written by an unknown hand; and thy curiosity may be cited to know the character of the person, a stranger, who presumes to call thee his friend.

He is a youth, a native of this city, whose name hath never been sounded by the tongue of fame; a few years past fortune shed her smiles upon his commercial employments, and promised him a profusion of her stores; but adversity commissioned by Heaven, was sent to blast his hopes and visit him with the blessings of poverty. In the school of affliction, he has been taught wisdom; he has been compelled to meditate on those things which truly belong to his nature, and he now returns, with sincerity of heart, his gratitude to that greatly good and wise Being, who has over-ruled his designs. He is by birth and principle a Quaker, wilt thou permit such a youth to call thee his friend?

I have been a frequent reader of thy *Task*, and essays in verse; I admire thy poetical talents, but the efforts of thy mind in the cause of true virtue, have gained thee my love, and my veneration.—When my heart has been oppressed by deep sorrow, I have derived sweet consolation from the sublime truths, so beautifully illustrated and elegantly enforced in thy works; my love of thy virtue, and my admiration of thy talents, have led to frequent enquiries after thee.

About a year ago, I heard thou wast afflicted with a painful lingering illness; my heart wept for thee—my concern for thy happiness and health has been continually alive—with the tenderest solicitude for thy



HEBREW ALPHABET WRITTEN BY GEORGE FOX. See page 31.

John Estough  
Elizabeth Estough

SIGNATURES OF JOHN AND ELIZABETH ESTAUGH,  
from a deed of 1722 in the possession of Lewis M. Pascall,  
of West Grove, Pa. (1917). See page 43



welfare, I have endeavoured to discover thy condition, but my enquiries were fruitless ; and I am left in painful uncertainty of thy state—to know thou art well and happy will give joy to my heart !—

There are in this city, and within the circle of my acquaintance, many amiable and some great minds, who love thee with true affection ; their interest in thy happiness, make them desirous of a satisfactory account of thy present condition ;—be assured none but worthy motives have produced this letter, the heart by which it was dictated, breathes a prayer to Heaven, that thou mayest be blessed with peace on earth and with that wisdom, which shall finally lead thy soul into the world of eternal joy.

I am truly with respect  
and affection, thy friend,  
JOSEPH BRINGHURST,  
29, Union Street,  
Philadelphia.

A female who is alone in her room, at an hour almost approaching midnight, adds her testimony to the above lines—and with a grateful heart acknowledges the pleasure thy writings have given her ; may that Power that has heretofore enlightened thy understanding continue to be with thee and bless thee.—May thou be preserved from evil, and know thy evening sun to be set in brightness, and when thy journey through life is at an end, may thy immortal spirit, which hath so sweetly sang the praises of thy Maker on earth be admitted to join that assembly, whose harps are attuned to His praise, in a region where sorrow cannot enter !

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The above letter was printed in Chester, Pa., in 1800 (copy in D), without the name of the writer. Name, address and date have been supplied from a ms. of the letter in D.

Is anything known of the receipt of the letter ?

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## William Crotch and the Poet Cowper

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“ **T**HE incident to which I refer is the account of a visit paid by William Crotch to Cowper, the poet. William Crotch was a man . . . of a deeply religious character, and possessed in an extraordinary degree the gift of spiritual discernment. Being once in the neighbourhood of Cowper, he felt a religious concern to pay him a visit. He accordingly went to the house. A man-servant came to the door. William Crotch requested to be introduced to his master, but the servant replied that his master saw no one, and he had strict injunctions not to admit anybody. William Crotch was rather disconcerted at this refusal, and he continued to urge his request ; but still in vain. At length he said, ‘ Go and tell thy master that a poor creature like himself wishes to