

A Graveyard Grievance

frinds J am concernd to answer Joseph Worth Letter which I know nothing of sending which I was much surprised at when the frind said it was the mind of the meeting he should have all the benifets of the burialls Except them brought into the meeting which is very sildom I did make answer if it ware the mind of the meeting I would be contented but I spok without consideashon to make any defence for my self frinds aboue twenty eight years agoe I was taken a seruant Jnto this meeting and the meeting told me thir was a purqus for me which the graue maker John Coll was to have one shiling to dig a graue and I was to haue Six pence to give my Attendance at the gate to keep the Rude children out and shut the gates and that was what we could demand but when frinds please to give vs any more we ware to deuide the money the graue maker was to haue tow thirds my selfe one John Coll and William patrick ware graue makers pritty many years and J belieue wee did honostly by each other we did neuer quarell but since Joseph came he hath been vneasey to give me any thing so J do not quarell with him and he gos and get the mony but he will not deuide any to me so that J haue not had one farthing for a great many burialls some brought Jn the meeting and had the meeting to wash a boue stair and had nothing and J have been vnwilling to Lay any complant before the meeting nor neuer did since J haue Liued heer but my being so Easey with him he now couitts all Jnto his hands and writs he is willing to saue something to keep him when he is old but frinds J think it vncharitable to couet part of my bread now J am Anchant and Jnfirm after so many years seruis to Lay by mony now he is young and strong an Jn good buisnes and no chary frinds J hope will consider it and order Me something J may demand for J give the same Attendances to the poorests corps that comes but When sick and then my daughter stands Jn my plase J am obligd to pay for the meeting cleaning aboue stairs for J am not Able to carry the water vp and down

J haue writ brokenly and where I haue mised I desire to be Excused from

ELISABETH GREENE

From Ratcliff Monthly Meeting Papers in D.

“ Capt. Tho. Taylor, of Brighthouse, died Apr. 27 [1684], a rich Quaker, aged 63.”

“ Capt. Taylors wife, of Brighthouse, died Oct. 28. Buried in their Garden with head upwards standing upright by her Husband, Daughter, &c. Quakers. Aged 60.”

Nonconformist Register, compiled by Oliver Heywood, printed 1881, pp. 69, 70. See vi. 23ff; *Camb. Jnl.* i. 422, *Tercent. Supp.* p. 286.