

bring forth frute to his glorie, to whome be prayses for euer,
we^{ch} is the desier of him who is Caled by y^e worlde

THOMAS CURTIS.

3 month 1655
from Readinge

[Endorsed] ffor Marie ffisher prisnor/in the Goale at
/Alseburie/thes/dd/

Copied from the original letter in the possession of J. Ernest Grubb,
of Carrick-on-Suir, Ireland, 1919.

A Pease Celebration

The following is taken from *The Larchfield Diary. Extracts from the Diary of the late Mr. Mewburn, first Railway Solicitor* (Darlington: Bailey, 1876, pp. 224). Francis Mewburn (d. 1867, aet. 81) was solicitor to the Pease family. His advent to Darlington was about the year 1809. The original Diary (1825-1867) consisted of ten closely-written quarto volumes.

"This day (June 23, 1849) Joseph Whitwell Pease, eldest son of Joseph Pease, Southend [Darlington], came of age. About 6 o'clock a.m. a band of music played divers airs at the north gate of Southend, and the church bells rang a merry peal in honour of the occasion! Music and church-bell ringing did seem to me singular for a Quaker celebration.

"On Monday (25th) all the pitmen in the employ of Joseph Pease were entertained at dinner in a field adjoining the Adelaide Colliery, 1600 sat down. Mr and Mrs. Joseph Pease and all their eleven children sat down also. After dinner there were speeches, but what was so curious—they had bands of music; and yet these Quakers will not allow music at our horticultural shows and other gatherings! The dinner consisted of bread, beef, and ale—13 cwt. each of the bread and beef, and 32 half barrels of ale. There were 500 mugs of which only 70 remained whole. When the ale was all drunk the pitmen amused themselves in shying the mugs at each other. But not a plate was broken."

A somewhat divergent account is given by Joseph Pease in his Diary for 1849: ". . . Above 1600 sat down to dinner conducted with the greatest order and propriety—men most civil and happy—multitudes of spectators—a fine sight—victuals rapidly disappeared—luncheon for visitors and countinghouse at colliery—then my speech to men.—J. W. Pease followed—then Charles Fox from Falmouth made an excellent speech—hearty cheering from time to time."

Copied by Sir Alfred Pease, Pinchinthorpe House, Guisbrough, Yorkshire, 1928, from Joseph Pease's Diary in his possession. The Diary gives the date as "Tuesday, 26th."