

A. R. Barclay MSS

Extracts. Continued from vol. xlvii, p. 87

Notes are not supplied to Friends respecting whom notes appear in "The Journal of George Fox," Cambridge edition, 1911, or "The Short and Itinerary Journals," 1925. The use of capital letters has been reduced and the punctuation and paragraphing adapted where necessary in the interest of clarity. The A.R.B. MSS. are in the Library at Friends House, and also available on microfilm.

CXIII & CXXI¹

THOMAS ALDAM to GEORGE FOX. *York*, v.1654.

This was ye order which came from London to Bowles of Yorke concerning Busines & order ye notes of ye rest as nere as I can.

Beeinge present at my Lord Protecktors when the Master of Requests was deliveringe petitions, there was one paper presented which had an [?un]usuall direcktion yet his highnes was pleased to passe by that formallitie & take notice of the paper. It did concerne one Tho. Aldam prisoner in Yorke Castle. It seemes hee was committed first of all uppon A pretence of disturbinge a Minister in the Church; afterwards hee was fined forty pounds by Judge Parker² for not puttinge of his hatt, for non payment of which fine hee hath allreadye endured about two yeares imprisonment as it is informed. & as to his charge concerneing the Minister; it is moved on his beehalfe yt hee have a fare tryall.

His highnes was pleased to enferre uppon the petitioner's sufferings, & commanded mee to send you this enclosed paper, with his desire yt you would speake with some of ye Justices, as allsoe ye Judges at the next Assizes, yt hee bee brought unto & have a fare & legall tryall for yt offence for which hee was committed, without the standinge uppon the fine, which his highnesse expressed on purpose to remitt. & allsoe hee desired yt you would give him an account of the proceedinge of ye whole business with your opinion uppon the same paper.

¹ These two MSS. are parts of a single paper, CXXI coming before CXIII.

² John Parker; *Dict. Nat. Biog.* There is a letter from Thomas Aldam to him, 23.i.1655, Swarthmore MSS. I, 90.

From London

July 13th 1654 This is a Coppie of the order which came from ye Lord Protector soe called sent to Edward Bowles¹ of Yorke Highe Preist & sent from Edward Bowles of Yorke to mee.
July: 24: 1654

[a line is drawn across the page at this point]

Tho Aldam

Edward Bowles Highe Preist of Yorke did keepe this order close & did not lett mee heare of it till towarde ye end of the Assize. But I had notice of it & at ye beegining of the Assize, by meanes as was procured from London, which came to my hand yt what was done at London was knowne to mee as much as in this order to Bowles doth expresse. My sister Joan Killam beeing moved to come over to Yorke; wee did condesend to send backe to Warmesworth for some wittnesses that ye lyeinge Preist might have beene leyd open, expectinge to have had a tryall & heareinge beefore the contry. But my adversaries did not come in. Soe my sister Joan went to the men called Judges with a letter from mee; & shee spoke to the Judges yt I might have my tryall & they told her that for ye first ofence I was quitt. But shee said there was an order which was comed from the Lord Protecktor which did give order that I should have a legall tryall, yt it might bee knowne whether the Preist or I ware ye first breakers of the peace. Soe towards ye end of the Assize my Bro: William Aldam & my sister Joan went to the Highe Preist Bowles of Yorke; it was uppon the 22th day of the fift month now present & they told him yt they did heare yt there was an order comed to London for my haveinge a tryall at this Assize, concerneinge my first Imprisonment, & about takeinge of the fine which Judge Parker leyd uppon mee.

Soe ye 23 day in the morneinge Edward Bowles came to the Assizes & did geve the paper or order to ye Judges & then hee came downe to the Gaoler & sent one [to desire me to] [*the MS. is defective at this point*] come to speake to him at the dore in the garth. Soe to the Highe Preist I went, & my sister Joan Killam, & some words was given mee to speake to ye Light of Christ in his conscience. . . . But hee sayd Frend

¹ Edward Bowles, d. 1662; preacher at York cathedral, 1646-60; A. G. Mathews: *Calamy Revised*, 1934, pp. 67-68.

wee shall not despute here, & away hee would have beene gone. But hee did promisse much, & sayd hee would speake to the Judges & Justices to quit mee for ye prisoninge by ye Preist & to see the fine taken of[f]. Now sayd I "Frend dost thou owne such a law as is now practised uppon mee who have beene two yeares & two months in prison & never come to a tryall; & now I have wittnesses here, to wittnesse the truth, & here is an order yt I should have a legall tryall, & is this an equall thinge yt I must bee putt out with a pap[er] & not have my accusers brought face to face, & my wittnesses heard, yt ye deceite may bee known where it is standinge." [But Bowles s]ayd "The law is open, if hee have falsely imprisoned thee thou mayst take a course with him at law. The law is, if any transgresse ye law of ye Commonwealth ye plantiffe against thee may give over when hee will, hee hath noe more to doe with it, Thou mayst aske this lawyer if it bee not soe." "Frend art thou a minister of Christ & ownes this law to be equall & accordinge to that is the conscience to cast one in prison above two yeares & when ye time is past, to put ye man out of prison without haveinge any tryall beefore ye contry?" But he sayd hee was not to pleade the law. But away hee went from me, & some words I spoke to his practise to the Light in his conscience, & then hee fledd.

I was returned of a jury, & a baliffe came & gave mee notice, & told mee if I did not serve I should bee fined, soe to the Gaoler I went & told them yt I was commanded by authoritie from ye powres of ye nation to doe service of a Jurye if not of more causes then one & I was returned foreman as they sayd, & I desired beeinge free in my spirit to god throughe them to doe service. But their answeere was they would not suffer mee. Soe I writt to the Judge yt I might receive Justice from him in this thinge, beeinge in outward bonds & nighe them yt hee would give order to the Gaoler to let mee come to serve, or free mee from issues. But his answeere was: If I would petition in their forme hee would, but to that I had written hee would not. Hee stumbled much at the word Frend which was the first word & hee did often repeate it; thy brother writes the first word Frend is this to bee spoken to a Judge, goe thy way. Uppon the 22th day I was called & it was soe yt the prisens dore was open & they was cryeing my name at the Crosse in the Castle garth, & soe I stepped to the jurye, & cryde & made my appearance

& went to the Gaoler declareing I might goe on with the jurye & I should take a souldier with mee. It was granted, & comeinge to the Bench I spoke to the Judge:

¹ Frend I require justice of thee. I am here returned of a jury & am free to doe service, either suffer mee to goe on in service or quitt mee from issues. But his mouth was stopped yt I did not heare him speake. But the baliffes cryed, take of[f] his hatt, & take him away cryed others, & soe they tooke my hat of[f] with one of their staves, others layd hands of mee. But the Judge Newdigate² did not gainsay yt I heard, soe I did stepp up as nighe as I could gett to ye place where ye Judge satt, & spoke to the under sherriffe³; hee beeinge frendly owneinge ye truth in the judgement in many thinges I sayd Frend, what was ye Judge answere didst thou heare him speake; hee sayd yes the Judge sayd hee could fine ye Gaoler for lettinge mee come out of prison & justices should proceede against mee. Then I came away. & after [*torn*] did write to him againe to ley open to him ye abuse of ye courts & to lett him know I had made my appearance. But his answere was justices should proceed agaynst mee. But at the end of the Assize they caused proclamation yt noe justice should proceede against any which appeared. Soe as farre as it is knowne to mee ye frends are freed; & these other two frends, my deare hearts, who stand valiant with mee in the life & poure of truth, to wittnesse against the doctrine of Anti Christ which leades into sweareinge which causes the land to mo[u]rne because of their oath[es]. But noe tryall nor examination of wittnesses of my part concerneing ye abomination of the Priest would bee heard; but denyed, soe as they came they left me; in bonds with seaven other my fellowe prisoners. My Bro: John Killam is brought to prison for speakeing to the Preist of doncaster, in his preachinge as they call it, & is with mee, & there is five in prison at Owse Bridge in the cittie; Bosswell Middleton,⁴ Hen Fowler,⁵ Agnes Wilkin-

¹ A.R.B. CXIII begins here.

² Sir Richard Newdigate, 1st bart (1602-78), *Dict. Nat. Biog.*

³ Probably George Mancklin, skinner; mayor of York in 1666; d. 27 Dec., 1683, aged 74.

⁴ There is an account of his examination at York assizes in Portfolio 4, 20, at Friends House.

⁵ Henry Fowler, of York, buried 7.viii.1681.

son, Annas Nichelson¹ & another yonge woeman imprisoned for speakinge to the people in the streets in Yorke. Another they cast into prison for throwinge bookes into their coatches; but he is turned out again.

The heathen is in greate rage, but shame & confusion is coveringe their faces. There was none sett free out of the Cittie Prison, but here was three sent forth here, but never called beefore them, but cryed in the court, to see if any could wittnesse any thing against them, but none appeared. My Bro: Will: Dewsburrie, Mary Fisher & John Snowden are gone forth of prison & Mary Fisher, & Mary Howgill are gone up towards London as farre as I knowe; they did say had moveings to goe thither the Lord guide them in his wisdome.

Deare Bro: Geor. Fox, my love & life is with thee. Salute mee to my deare sister Margeret Fell with all ye familie who are of ye houshold of faith, & all Friends who love not their lifes unto death. My deare Bro: John Killam hath his deare love remembred to thee & to Margeret Fell & that houshold; my love salutes thee in the eternall unitie. Let Margeret see these passages.

Frend[s] growe verye bold & valiant & ye liveinge growes in the heate of persecution. Our Friends at London are well. I heard latly from them, but they have greate encounteringe there. Many are convinced of the truth, but fewe owne the Crosse. My fellowe prisoners salutes you, & ye Lord god of powre bee with you all, my dearly beeloved brethren & sisters in the Lord with whome is my life

Tho. Aldam

[address]

For G: F: this to to bee delivered
 Passages concerneing Tho: Aldam who am still in
 out ward bonds but free in the Lord, praises bee unto
 his Name for ever. Looke not out my longe
 continuance of imprisonment, for it is the will of
 god to suffer it soe to bee. The devill was
 permitted to cast mee into prison, & ever
 since hee cryes & roares yt I am come to torment
 him beefore the time. But lift up your heades
 & bee valiant for ye Eternall truth of god;

¹ There is an account of Anna Nicholson and Agnes Wilkinson in York jail in Friends House MS. (Box P), "A Booke of Letters which were sent to G.F. from John Audland and John Camm", pp. 1-2, dated 1653.

& by his wisdome bee you guided; & bow not to ye
Beast. to receive his marke least you be defiled.

[endorsed by G.F.] thomas aldam
 suferinges to
 g F

[A.R.B. CXXI endorsed by G.F.] olyfr Cromell

CXIV

FRANCIS HOWGILL & JOHN AUDLAND to EDWARD
BURROUGH. *Bristol, 2.vi.1656.*

E b:

our deare & wellbeloved Brother, in the Covenante of god,
unto thee our soule is knitte, & united in the bond of pure
love & true unity: dearly doe wee in the bowells of love &
tendernesse, sallute thee. . . .

Deare bro: thinges heare are pretty well as could be
expected at presentte: friends are still & Quiette, & turnes
Inward to search & try as in themselves. Wee write by the last
post: of those people passeing out of the towne: as it apeared
they would have gone unknowne: but did not: some friends
followed: & the other in hasting lost one an other: soe they
weare parted in three, the two men was together & the other
each alone: & the two men was found next day & went to a
Inne: & soe yesterday N.J. [James Nayler] went towards
F: g: [George Fox] west[wards] & Jo: Bo: [John Bowron?] &
Nic. Gan: [Nich. Gannicliffe] with him: & Stringer said he
would come for london. Han: [Stringer] came to us 5 day &
had lost all the reste; & said she would goe to g: & she paste
that way, but Martha [Simmonds] wee have not heard on
since: a mighty thinge was in it that they should be soe
parted: even by noething, as to the outward; & they were
disappointed, what ever they intended. Wee went with n J.
yesterday aboute 15: mille hee said little to us but hee did one
whilles weepe exceedingly soe wee returned, & they rode one.¹
Wee weare glad that hee wente.

Our love dearely to all friends there as thou art free,
blesed & happy are they that endure to the end, & stands
single in the day of tryall, & all friends waiteing in their
owne, nether turneing to the right hand nor to the lefte:
there is ther safty: in the Lord alone. Thyne wee did recave

¹ *i.e.* on.

& deare harte with thee wee are bound up & in the lord is our peace. & pretious it is to dwell in that which turnes rownd & keeps the wicked out.

For F.H: its like after first day hee may bee at some meeteings & passe as the lord orders & see thee. T. Burden^r is now returened from gF: he tould him passeiges (for Joen. d: was turned backe before by the waches which tooke them & carryed them to ofesicers) the substance of his answer was that they should come to him & be gott to him by any meanes. g: writ to N.J: & Tho: b. meeteing him gave it to him: but g. wrote noething to us: he made not much of it: & bad that noe friends should bee discourshed [discouraged]. Hee said the wrong in them was got above & N.J. had lost his doeminion, but there was something in it. This is the substance of what we can gather.

Soe deare brother fare well (g said it was well that some went to London) wee are they deare bretheren

F: H. J.A.

Brestoll 2d of the 6th mo. 56

My dear bro: keep it out and dwell above and bid freinds be quiate, and lett it cease & die In the power of the lord we have dominion over it. the power of the lord preserve the

[the last in another hand]

[address] For the hands of	[endorsed] F h & J. A
Girratte Robertts at th[e]	to E.B.
Flower deluce Thomas	1656
apostles for E: b:	
These dd	
in London	

CXV

MARY HOWGILL to GEORGE FOX, 1656

Der & eternall beloved my life is to thee & my soule breaths after thee. The tyme shall come when noe bonds shall keepe deliverance I see comeing & I know I shall see thy face with ioy. One day when I was wayting upon the Lord the word of the lord came unto mee, 3 dayes & thou shall meete with him whome thou had seeked fourteene yeares, & at the 3 dayes end I entred into the land of rest where pleasant melodie was h[e]ard & met with my beloved & dranke

^r Thomas Burden, nephew of Anne Burden, is identified in G. F. Nuttall's *Early Quaker Letters*.

abondantly of the water of life & about a day afterwards
goeing to John Lawsons shopp when I saw him my life was
sore opressed & a burden came upon mee, & I wayted that
day & upon the evening the words came to mee, goe & write
& upon obedience to the lord soe I did, & I send thee a coppie
of the lynes yt I gave to him¹ & as thou sees thou may write
a line or 2 to mee

Mary Howgill

Margret Cleaton & Ann Cleaton remember their love to thee
[address] For g: F. these [endorsed] From Mary
to be delivered. Howgill to

G: Fox 1656

CXVI

JOHN AUDLAND to EDWARD BURROUGH. *Olveston,*
26.ii.1656

E.B.

My deare & eternally beloved brother in the pure unitey of
the Spirit & in the bond of love, doe I dearely sallutt thee, &
my deare brother F: h: [Francis Howgill] unto whom my
soule is knitte: & by you I remaine to be read in the record
of life which god hath given us of the sonn.

My deare bro: I recaved thy letter datted London the 22th
& as touchinge the maids I have waited and Enquired for
places: & I know little yett. I have lookte for milles² Comeinge
this way out of Cornewell: which made mee stay a little, as
touching writteinge, but this I Judge at present to be beste,
let them be sente for, one or both: & heare are friends enough
to recave them for presente: and when they are heare, it will be
seene what places they are fitt for & soe they may be provided
for, now I leave it to thee to send if thou know of a place for
one of them there thou may, or let them both come hither
first. & when thou writts remember my deare love to them:
for truely Care lies on mee for them, & I doe not forgitt them.

Deare harte tell F.H. that hee may send mee a relation of
the womon which lives at or aboute tauton [Taunton?]: how
one may enquire her out: he knows the bisenes. I have beene
in Walles, and had some genereall meeteings there, but a
dampe is over, the sarvise is hurte. Friends this ways are well.
I am now at Oulstone, the truth spreads & prospers & in the

¹ A copy endorsed by George Fox is to be found in Swarthmore MSS.,
iii, 107.

² Probably Miles Bateman.

worke of the lord I am refreshed. My deare love to all faithfull frinds & bretheren: to deare J.N: [James Nayler] & to all the tender babs of your fould. I am one with thee in the life niver dyeing, J.A.

I have heard that R.F. & A.A.¹ is let out of bonds at Banbury: but passeiges I cannot relatte. Faithfull & true, let mee heare from thee as thou art free: & how thou sends for those maids that I may provide accordingly if I should not bee this way.

Deare bro: Inclose mee this to Kendalle by the nexte poste to some one that will deliver it, as its derected.

oulstone the 26 of 2d month 56

[address] For my deare brother [endorsement] e bora
Edward Burrough 1656
These with care dd.
in London.

CXVII

FRANCIS HOWGILL to GEORGE FOX, 1655²

Dearely Beloved one in whome my soule del[i]ghtes . . .

The fame & renowne of the lord is great over all the regons wheare we pase as our beloved J.P.³ will acquent the: Deare & welbeloved it weare life to se the one hore [hour] face to face but in the will of god I stand over all out of time whear is my Joy. At thy comaund we have Cast our nettes in to the sea & have catched fish our nett is like to breake. Glory for evermor, I am melted I amelted with thy love It is not lawfull to uter, pray for me thy deare son begoten to an inheratance incoruptable: that I may with power & bouldnesse be led to declare his trueth to the finishing of my testemony. Farwell for evermor my well beloved one

F. H.

[address] To him who is invisable
out of time

[endorsed] From Francis How
gill to G.F.
1655

¹ For an account of the imprisonment of Richard Farnworth and Anne Audland at Banbury, see W. C. Braithwaite, *Beginnings of Quakerism*, 199-200.

² If the endorsement date can be accepted, this letter was probably written in Ireland at the end of 1655.

³ John Perrot?