

BOWNE HOUSE ARCHIVES



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BOWNE FAMILY PAPERS - TRANSCRIPTIONS

Document ID: #2018.1.3-08B

Document Title: Letter from Joan Brocksopp to Ann Easton at Rhode Island, c/o John and Hannah Bowne

Date: 23rd day of 6th month, 1677.

(August 23, 1677 - Old Style) / September 2, 1677 - New Style)

Note on dates: Early Quakers used the numbers, not the names, of the months and days of the week. Prior to 1752, English people mostly used the Julian ("Old Style") calendar, which was 10 days behind the modern ("New Style") calendar and began the New Year on March 25th.

This transcription retains the spelling and punctuation of the original document.

Transcribed by Kate Lynch; reviewed by Charlotte Jackson

Last revised: 3/2024

Letter, Joan Brocksopp to Ann Easton at Rhode Island (c/o John and Hannah Bowne)

23rd of 6th mo. 1677

#2018.1.3-8B

Deare Ann Esson¹ my deare and unfained love doth dearly salut thee and all deare frends with thee de[ar] An[n] thou hast beene often in my remembrance since I saw thy face in the outward but I can truly say thou art very neare and deare unto mee and when I call to mind the days and years – by you and how the lord hath preserved a litle remnant when we was but yong in years and tender in the truth then did the lord apeare for to [plant] his one cause in the face of all his and our enemise yee hee plot with all our fose {foes} both within and without allsoo hee made the way pla[in]e beefore us therefore deare hart let the true considiration of this puer love of our god never bee forgo[ttten by] us but let it bee as a seale upon our hart and as braslets about our armes never to bee for gotten by any of us that truly fears the living lord god of life and youer deare an {Ann} remember my deare love unto Christifor holder and his wife.² my deare love doth dearly salute them both in that love which never changeth doe I reach unto you all my deare frends in thos parts as though I named them one by one my love doth reach unto you all my dearely beloved frends in the lord Jesus wheare our eunytie {unity} stands not in words but in power and in the demonstration of the holy spirit of our god which he hath given unto every one [] to prophit it with all glory unto the lord our god for ever more who hath made one in Christ Jesus our lord and onely – saviour in whom wee have beleaved and in whom all the upright ones doth trust and one whom the doe rely fo[r] preservation

¹ Anne Coggeshall Easton (1626-1687) Quaker and wife of Peter Easton (1622-1694), son of Nicholas Easton, a founder of Newport, Rhode Island.

² Christopher Holder (1631-1688), a Quaker missionary whose right ear was cut off by the Boston authorities c.1659, married Hope Clifton (1644-1681) after his first wife Mary Scott (1640-1665), a niece of Anne Hutchinson, died.

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these few days wee have one {on} this side the grave that sed wee
may all lay down our heds in peace with our maker which is the
desier of your sister and the braying of my spirit for you all
as for my one {own} soule that god may bee glorified in you all and by
you all and soe fare well your frend in the eternall truth of our
god Joan Brocksopp³

Little Normanton

the 23: day of :6: month 77: This for Ann Esen in Road Iland

[ON REVERSE]

To her Lo: [loving] frend

John Bowne⁴ at the

Peele in Sen [St.] John street

London⁵

[possible symbol for pence]

[paid 3]

³ Joan Brocksopp (died 1681) of Little Normanton, Derbyshire was the "yokemate" or traveling companion of the first female Quaker missionary Elizabeth Hooten (1600-1672) on her mission in New England.

⁴ John and Hannah Bowne were to carry this letter home to New England when they returned from their preaching tour and religious visit in England, along with Joan's remonstrance to the rulers of Boston (BFP #2018.1.3-08A).

⁵ The Sign of the Peele in London was the location of a Quaker meeting held at the home of John and Mary Elson.

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