

111
East Bradford 3rd 26th 1851.

Dear Brother,

Thy last acceptable letter announced the removal of dear Ruth Ely; well, our loss will no doubt be her great gain, I can rejoice on her behalf, that the shackles are removed and the spirit freed from its house of clay. She was a Mother in the Church, an upright Pillar, bearing weights and burdens and shrank not in the hour of trial, but was steadfast unto the end. Oh the blessedness of such a state. We have nothing to fear so long as our confidence remains immovable, and our obedience keeps pace with knowledge. The Great Head of the Church is still mindful of his suffering seed, His wresting Israel, and will keep them as the Apple of his eye, and suffer nothing to draw them aside, If their allegiance is pure. Oh how he cares for his poor flock and family, watching over them by day and by night, keeping them safe in his Pavilion whilst the blasts of Temptation and affliction are sweeping around them; and when in his inscrutable wisdom He is pleased to take Home a Disciple whose days work is accomplished, others have been under preparing to step in and fill up the ranks, so that no vacancy is known, no lack of living stones or Pillars in the House. I have often remembered the account left upon record of Aaron who when about to put off the Body of flesh, the command was given Strip Aaron of his garments and put them on Eleazar his Son. So I firmly believe in the present day a succession will be raised up. And the garments of Aaron or Elijah will descend upon the willing hearted and obedient children.

~~The prospect~~ of that little visit to Jersey was trying
in the prospect, and now in looking at it, it almost
seems as tho I had gone to make my emptiness visible.

As I rode to the City on third day afternoon after that
most favoured meeting, I felt a calmness cover my spirit
more precious than the increase of corn wine or oil
'Thy name is as ointment poured forth, therefore do the
Virgins love thee'. After reaching Haddonfield and
hearing William and Elizabeth Coans announced, I
instantly thought of the language of David Hall
when Samuel Bownep was in London, 'That it was
not worth while to light a fatting candle in the
Sun shine?' I desire always to esteem myself as the
least servant in the Household, but also not to fear
or shrink from duty, because of man whose breath is
in his nostrils. My chief business seemed suffering
and deep baptism, after meeting dear Margaret Maton
turned to me and said 'Mary thou wilt have to come
again?' I only ask clearness of vision, and right
direction, and am made at times in the Heat and
bitterness of my spirit to say, 'any when Oh Father
if thou wilt only go with me, be mouth and
wisdom tongue and utterance, and guide and conduct
safely? Those who are blessed as I am, with a
comfortable home and kind friends, find it no easy
matter to resign them all up, especially if a Thorn
in the flesh, a lame leg is added. But a cloud is
sometimes spreads over the whole face of Creation, and
nothing bright visible, and the poor crippled member is
brought to view as a great barrier in the way.

But I have cause to speak well of my Lord and
Master, who hath hitherto helped me, and enabled
me at times to set up my Ebenezer.

With much affection to dear Rebecca and the children
I remain thy sister Mary Kite.

On the return of James Kite

Joseph Kite

Phila

care of
W. Kite