

John Langhorne (1735-1779) Divine, poet, and translator of Plutarch. It was his lines from a poem "The Justice of the Peace" below a print of a soldier lying dead on the snow with his dog beside him, which so impressed Robert Burns at a party at Adam Ferguson's house in Edinburgh, in November, 1786. Walter Scott, then a boy of sixteen, was present and the only one there who knew the author of the lines. They were as follows:-

"Cold on Canadian hills or Minden's
plain
Perhaps that parent wept her soldier
slain;
Bent o'er her babe, her eye dissolved
in dew]
The big drops, mingling with the milk
he drew,
Gave the sad presage of his future
years,
The child of misery baptized in tears!"

Burns rewarded him with a look and a word.

Revd. and very dear Sir

London Decemb. 31. 1775

I cannot with any face attempt to justify my neglect in omitting writing for so long, but must confess you have had great reason to complain as I have not been careful to preserve as I ought such a valuable correspondent, but I hope my dear Freind will not look upon it in any such light as he seems to hint in the first part of his Letter - it has been partly owing to a Multiplicity of Business and partly to a long barren State of Soul, that if you will believe me I have not been able to Write, as I am at best such an uncommon Dunce that I can scarce write at all - The kind reception which my poor beggerly Scribble has mett with from my dear Freind encourages me to continue, may the Lord send by whom he will, & to him be all the Glory.

I would not have you think your case is peculiar to yourself I believe most of the Children of God, and eminent believers too (however everyone I have conversed with) have trodden the same path before, and been exercised in the same way, and that for a considerable time together. Would it not be ridiculous to argue because we did not live under the aequator where there is equal day and night, but near the North Pole where we have (especially in winter) but little Sun, that we have no Sun at all, & its just as absurd in a spiritual sence, we are not to judge by our Frames and Feelings, the Sun in the natural World is continually shining in the Firmament, tho frequently shaded by Cluds and Darkness, and so the Blessed Sun of Righteousness remains the same Yesterday to day and for ever, he will rest on his love which was from Everlasting & is to Everlasting; perhaps you will say its good talking for you that don't feel the Burthen as I do! I answd I know from sad experience what such a state is, and if you complain thus I am sure I ought to be confounded and never open my Mouth any more, but lay my hand upon my mouth and cry our Guilty, Guilty- I have lately had such discoverys of the Misery of Iniquity in my own Heart, as I never experienced before - from the Crown of the Head to the sole of the Foot I am nothing but Wounds & bruises, and putrifying sores, I do not mention this because I would affect something, but its really too true, and them words which you quoted, too much resemble my case - unstable as water, thou shalt not prevail, or as St James speaks - a Double Minded man unstable in all his ways - And yet I must own, notwithstanding I am toss'd about, there is a Hope which supports me under all these Troubles that I cannot give up, for if we come to examine the Scriptures from one end to the other there is not one word against a poor sensible Sinner, but its full of precious Promises of Free pardon and reconciliation, thro the Salvation that's in Christ Jesus, and there is a mystery of Goodness to answer the Mystery of Iniquity - and when we look into the sacred records we shall find it no new thing to be exercised with such Heavy Afflictions & St Peter exhorted those to whom he wrote to think it not strange concerning the Fiery Trials which were permitted to try them, and in another place he tells them there was a Needs be (for a season) to be in heaviness thro Manifold Temptation, - and St. Paul writing to the Hebrews speaks of resisting unto Blood striving against sin, & tells them it is the common lott of all God's own dear children to be thus exercised (and that it's a Mark of a child of God) and that they may not be discouraged in their Spiritual Warfare, he bids them look unto Jesus, and consider what contradiction of sinners (far more than they do of Lusts) he endured against himself which was to encourage them a gainst being weary and faint in their Minds, so that it's no new thing - and we read of Old Testament Saints walking in darkness and having no light - and heaviness enduring for a Night - and others in the midst of combatt crying out rejoice not against me O my Enemy, and being foil'd in the Battle too - tho I fall yett shall I rise again, all which Scriptures and thousands more are left on record as our expresses it - that we through patience

The Starbuck Family.

Samuel Starbuck of Nantucket, Mass., was born Jan. 15, 1727. He married 1st, 1749, Abigail Barney. With his family he removed to Milford Haven, Wales, (either direct or by way of Halifax) in 1795.

Among his children was:- Samuel Starbuck, Jr, born Sept. 29, 1762; married Nov. 22, 1783, Lucretia Folger. Samuel Jr removed to Milford Haven after the Revolution and helped to establish a whale fishery, which was a while very successful.

About the year 1793 a number of sea captains living in Nantucket, and engaged in whale fishing, were induced to go to Halifax, Nova Scotia, where the British government was attempting to set up a whale fishery center. When the enterprise failed to prosper, some of the Nantucket families moved to Milford Haven to engage in a similar industry. It was in this way that Samuel Starbuck migrated to Wales, either by way of Halifax, or direct to Milford Haven. His sons went with him, and it was his son Samuel, Jr, who was the recipient of the gifts from King Liholiho. It is not improbable that Captain Valentine Starbuck's parents were among those who left Nantucket to go to Halifax or Milford Haven. His mother was a Folger, and his father Reuben Starbuck, and he himself married a London woman; but his relationship to Samuel Starbuck, Jr, has not been determined.

[History of Nantucket by Alexander Starbuck, 1924]

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The Lord enable us to take courage - Lett our complaints
be what they will and our Wants be ever so great, there
is an infinite fullness of Grace and Salvation in Christ
Jesus to answer every charge that can possibly be brought
against us, and I am fully persuaded that our re-
ceiving and believing the Record God has given of his Son,
brings far more Honour to his Name than all our Sin-
can bring dishonour. At the Birth of our Blessed Sa-
vour the whole multitude of the Heavenly Host sang
Glory in the Highest to God, at same time Peace
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Blessed Good Man, and that God can be Eternally
Glorified in saving poor sensible Sinners - May the
Lord enable us instead of Poring over ourselves to look
unto Jesus, not to look at what he has done or
will do in us, but what he has done for us, and
as Mr Romain observed on Sunday by keeping

looking on we come to be happy partakers of all
the Blessings of his Salvation - I really believe under
a pretence of Humility and examining into the
condition of our State, the Devil cheats us, and
only intends to bring us into Darkness and un-
belief, and to murmur at the Dealings of God,
for I am sure I can see in Humbling times
a great deal of discontent, not as I ought to do
at my sins, but murmuring like David "what
has the Lord forgotten to be gracious, is his

Rev. and very dear Sir

London Decemb. 31. 1795

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infinite fulness of Grace and Salvation in Christ Jesus to answer every charge that can possibly be
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examining into the safety of your State, the Devil cheats us, and only intends to bring us
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Humbling times a great deal of discontent, not as I ought to do at my sins, but murmuring like Cain
"What has the Lord forgotten to be gracious, is his Mercy changed, for ever, and such like; which I believe
is very displeasing to God. We read much the same concerning the Israelites - it said they were discouraged
because of the Way, which when I had comments upon he calls it Complacency of Spirit - its calling his infinite
Wisdom in Distress, who ~~like~~ like a wise Mariner, Ballast's his Ship according to the loading
he takes in - and till this be remembered he that gather's little has no lack, and he that gather's much
has nothing to spare - "Tis thus the Sovereign Lord divides - Our Comforts and our cares; "The Lord
increasing, have his sides, and gives to each their Share - You ask in your former

letter what are the Evidences of the Spirit's Work upon the Heart, Mr. Homain says that its one of the
surest signs of Grace for a Soul to be made Willing to be saved by Jesus Christ in God's own Way
With your permission I will tell you what ^{as far as I have found} I take to be some
of these Evidences, which leave to your better Judgment. 1. It is in a hatred of all Sin, even the most
Secret and Closest Corruption which is not visible to the Eye of the World, and therefore might be indulg'd
in a State of Hypocrisy, without being discover'd as a Sto prejudicial our Character before Men, - that this
is the case our most Secret prayers will testify - but before I proceed Do not forget that my Heart is
Overfull, that if I have been so confident in saying (its what I have found in my own Heart)

only the Lord convince me - 2. I delighting in the ways of God's Commandments, loving
his Image wherever we see it, longing after a nearer Conformity to his Holy Will, and continually
praying that God would Circumcise the Heart to Love the Lord our God, - to this our Daily Complaints
and Mourning's because of our short Comings and the dullness of our Love, bear Witness that its our
Hearts Cry and prayer to be wholly Circumcise unto the Lord. - 3. Love to the People of God, as

John says by this we know we are pass'd from Death unto Life - we love the Brethren - This
relying upon the Word and Promises of God, however ~~we may~~ at times be shaken and try'd
yet in the worst of times, I believe there is a Hope in the ~~Heart~~ ^{Heart} withstanding every thing
in appearance seems to make against them) he would not ~~be~~ ^{be} the Word, which is
quite opposite to many honest Men's for in times of Temptation they fall away - And the
last that I shall mention - He delights in bringing his Heart to the Southstone of God's Word
and to Appeal to the Author of Hearts, and its his comfort that the Lord looketh on the Heart

These ^{among} many more are ~~the~~ what I take to be the Evidences of the Spirit's Work upon the Heart
but what may be an evidence to one may not to another, & therefore its a very Difficult Matter to
Determine. - My Paper admonishes me not to Overpass any longer on your Patience
but conclude in the Words of a Hymn - Your Tempers may Vary - Your Comforts Decline,
- You cannot Miscarry - Your Aid is Divine. - Yours Most Sincerely
I have

MS. 2. 3. said the poems about a month ago. I was written down and so on. I have



To
M^r Deaethogon
at Marden
near Maidstone
Kent

Post Paid

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