

It was his forming period. She felt anxious, as a tender mother always feels, that a right direction should be given to his thoughts and pursuits. It was her daily prayer, that he might escape the temptations which bring thousands to ruin.

8. The life of John Ledyard is one of the most extraordinary ever recorded. He proved to be a singular man—singular for his love of adventure, and singular for his courage and fortitude. Few men ever passed over so many regions of the globe; few ever met with more crosses and disappointments, or endured more suffering. Yet, be it recorded to his praise, he seems ever to have remembered his mother with an uncommon tenderness and filial affection. Her image always came to him with a beam of joy. It lightened his heavy heart, where ever he was, whether wading amidst the frozen snow of Siberia, or panting amidst the burning sands of Africa.

