

THE  
LARGE AND SMALL  
NOTEBOOKS  
OF  
JOSEPH WOOD

A YORKSHIRE QUAKER  
1750-1821

A TRANSCRIPTION  
by  
Pamela Cooksey

Volume 2

Large Notebooks 19-37

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## INTRODUCTION

## A Note on the Transcription

In order to make the writings of Joseph Wood readily accessible to modern readers it was decided to make a transcription. (The nature and condition of the Notebooks made it impossible to scan them.) The transcription is as faithful as possible to the original text. Spelling, punctuation, the use of capital letters and written style are unaltered and are as adopted by Joseph Wood and by the authors of the material he copied.

Written in a firm consistent hand, the Notebooks demonstrate the uncertainties that existed in the grammar of written English in the late 1700s and early 1800s. Variable spelling, inconsistent use of capital letters and irregularities in the tenses of verbs occur throughout. Punctuation is often absent or limited. Every effort has been made to ensure that these inconsistencies and omissions are retained. Where there is no or little punctuation, reading the passage aloud will frequently clarify the sense.

At some time in the past the Notebooks were renumbered. It is this later numbering which has been used in the Transcription. The original numbers are, however, still visible on many of the covers and, where applicable, are shown in italics at the top of the Contents page.

Wood included Contents pages in the Large Notebooks, placing these on the inside of either the front or back covers. For the Small Notebooks, a Contents page has been created, giving the dates of the entries, if these are known. In the Transcription the Contents pages appear at the beginning of each Notebook.

Only the pages of the Large Notebooks were numbered. Page numbers have therefore been introduced into the printed text of the Transcription to facilitate referencing and the compilation of the Name and Place Indexes for each Notebook.

This significant archival material is available in print in four volumes, each with a supporting searchable CD, as follows:

- Volume 1 - Large Notebooks 1 - 18
- Volume 2 - Large Notebooks 19 - 37
- Volume 3 - Small Notebooks 1 - 25
- Volume 4 - Small Notebooks 26 - 47 (Notebook 31 is missing)
- Volume 5 - Small Notebooks 48 - 63 (Notebook 56 is missing)

## A Note on the Indexes

The Indexes have been compiled as a research tool for those with an interest in Quaker family history, the history of Meeting Houses and Quaker settlements, Strangers and Public Friends and routes taken when travelling in Georgian England. The following points may be useful when consulting them.

There are inconsistencies in the spelling of personal names and the names of places – for instance, Hague / Haigh, Morehouse / Moorhouse, Baildon / Bayldon and Tottys / Tottis / Totties, Gisbrough / Gisbro' / Gisborough, Meltomhouse / Melthomhouse / Melthamhouse.

Where there are two versions, it is the first that appears in the Index. Where there are multiple spellings, the one that occurs most frequently is used.

There are occasions when printing can result in a name lying on the first or last line of a page appearing at the bottom of the previous page or at the top of the following page.

There are many instances where a place-name has two or more parts. The first letter of the second word is written as a capital or in lower case. Frequently there is a space, a dash or a dot introduced between the words e.g. Jacksonbridge / Jackson bridge / Jackson.bridge / Jackson-bridge, Dykeside / Dyke.side. These insertions do not appear in the Indexes. For this reason, it is advisable to make an initial search with the first part of the name and, if this fails, then with the second.

When searching for a name it should be noted that first names do not always appear with the surname, but are often to be found later in the sentence or in a following one.

A compilation of the Indexes of People and Place names will appear in 2012.

N.B. For the full Introduction to the Transcription see Volume 1

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Newhouse 7 mo. 25<sup>th</sup>. 1802

Respected Friend

John Bottomley

Advice is only profitable unto those who are disposed to receive it, but when we feel anything laid upon us as a duty, if we discharge it, let the event be what it may, we preserve our own Peace, and certainly we who at times apprehend it our duty to advise others, ought at all times to stand open to the communications of our friends, remembering the language of Solomon, "Faithful are the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful." The latter may appear more pleasant to us, but the former ever was and will be more profitable; If we are mercifully preserved in that situation of mind which goes before honour. "Before destruction the heart of man is haughty, and before honour is humility." and the truly humble are so diffident of themselves, that they stand open to the advice of others, and tho' it may seem to wound, yet they find it to be as precious Ointment that will not break their heads; and many times the abundant cause for thankfulness that they have been favoured with such friends as have given them a word in season. Now it is laid upon me to tell thee, that I believe it was thy proper place to have been at thy own meeting to day. Many Ministers have suffered loss, by going abroad in the freedom, and have thereby been drawn to Minister in the freedom, without having their offerings rightly prepared; or kindled by the fire from the Lords holy Altar. And such is the low state of our Society in a most places, that there is very great danger of that Ministry being encouraged, which proceeds from the Wind the

earthquake or the fire, which may appear to rend the Rocks, shake nature, and affect the natural part in others, but not reach the understanding, because the Lord is not in it, but in the still small voice; which is not heard until these dispensations are passed over. And however our minds may be concerned for the cause, and for the good of others, let us ever remember "Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it." I thought I felt most easy to throw these remarks before thee for thy solid consideration, and instruction; they are nothing more than what I desire diligently to attend unto myself, and our preservation depends upon it. Thou knows I would not hurt the least tender budings of Life in any. but the contrary; I wish the preservation of all with myself upon that foundation which will stand, and this hath engaged me in the present communication, earnestly desiring thou may be careful of going abroad barely in the freedom, but try the fleece both wet and dry; and whensoever thou feels an offering rightly prepared, be careful not to add thereto, but when the Life stops, stop also. It is not a multitude of words; but the Power which accompanies, that makes Ministry acceptable, profitable, and truly edifying. For want of this care some have grown in the branches, but not in the root, and are become like those described by the Apostle Jude "These are spots in your feasts of charity, when they feast with you, feeding themselves without fear; clouds they are without water, carried about with winds; trees whose fruits withereth, without fruit, twice dead, plucked up by the roots." I conclude with earnest desires for thy preservation of all the Lords children in their proper places; that they maybe "Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith." and remain thy sincere friend

Joseph Wood

For John Bottomley  
of Newhouse

Newhouse 7 mo. 26<sup>th</sup>. 1802

Respected Friend  
Elias Armitage

It was the positive injunction of our blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus.Christ, "What I say unto you, I say unto all, Watch." and it is for want of deeply attending to this, that some visited minds fall in the hour of temptation, and cause the way of Truth to be evil spoken of. The enemy of mans happiness who continually watches our unwatchfulness; when he finds any off their guard lays his baits and snares so subtilly, first by drawing up the mind after little things, and so as these are given way unto, they make room for greater temptations to enter until some are overtaken with those evils they would once have abhorr'd, and been ready to say with one formerly "But what, is thy servant, a dog that he should do this great thing." Thy fall my friend is great, and by it thou has caused the way of Truth, which was once precious to thee to suffer reproach, and what is worse, plunged thine own poor soul as into a gulph of misery; and perhaps now he who hath by his temptations drawn thee aside may be ready to vaunt over thee, and make thee believe that he is now sure of thee, for it will now be in vain to look unto the Lord for mercy, for thou hast committed of the unpardonable sin against the Holy.Ghost, and Hell inevitably must be thy portion; therefore thou might as well indulge thyself in all the gratifications of thy sensual appetite. I say perhaps this may be the way in which he may now work. But O for thy poor never dying souls sake, I beseech let this godly resolution prevail in thy mind. If I perish I will perish at thy footstool; wait with thy mouth as in the dust, that so if haply the Lord may be pleased to favour of thee with Repentance. "If we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the Truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins; But a certain fearful looking for of judgement, and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries." The flaming sword turns every way, and there is no other way for thee to experience restoration than by coming under it; and patiently bearing the indignation of the Lord, until he be pleased to arise and plead thy cause. O I wish thou may be rightly sensible how thou has crucified the Lord of Life and glory afresh, and put

him to open shame; and then thou wilt do all in thy Power to remove the reproach thou has brought upon that pure Principle, which if thou had kept close to it, would have been thy preservation in the very hour of temptation. And now let not shame cover thee to neglect thy duty; thou had much more need to double thy diligence. Whilst I am writing that instructive passage comes before me which we have left upon record. "A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead." Look at this and see how far it answers thy case. Now the Priest saw him and passed by on the other side; The Levite came and looked at him and passed by, "But a certain Samaritan as he journeyed came where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion on him, and went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring in Oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an Inn and took care of him." O that thou may be brought into such a situation of mind, as that the Good Samaritan may graciously condescend to have compassion on thee; and heal thy deep and bleeding wounds and take care of thee blessing thee for the time to come with the blessing of preservation, thro' thy steady watchfulness unto Prayer; That so thy last days may be thy best days; having to praise and magnifying the unmerited mercies of the Almighty that he did not cut thee off in thy disobedience, but gave thee space to repent, Is the earnest desire of one who according to my measure travails for the real welfare of the whole human race and remains thy sincere friend

Joseph Wood  
For Elias Armitage  
of Busher

Newhouse 8 mo. 11<sup>th</sup>. 1802.

Beloved Friend  
John Pickford

When I consider the mercy of the Almighty to thee in plucking thee even as a brand out of the burning; and bringing thee to the knowledge of the pure Truth; and by the renewed Baptisms of his holy spirit preparing and qualify in thee for usefulness in his Church, and amongst his People; all within me is desirous that thou may be favoured with the blessing of preservation and that nothing may be cherish'd in thee that may have a tendency to hinder or frustrate the Lords work in thee, and by thee; and whilst I am writing as well as before I began the language of the Apostle hath opened before me, with fervent desires that it may be thy experience "Be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord." Dear Friend my mind is many times ready to sink under discouragement, in beholding many, who have begun well, and run well for a season; fall in the hour of temptation; which makes me frequently jealous over myself, lest the common enemy should by any means deceive me, and draw me aside from the simplicity of the pure Truth; and having been favoured at times clearly to see the mysterious workings of this subtil enemy, and feeling it weightily upon my mind in that love which breathes for thy welfare to recommend thee to the solid perusal of the last Letter I wrote thee, which thou has in thy possession, that so he who may not prevail over thee to draw thee into gross evils, may not be suffered to draw thy mind into a state of unsettledness, and so frustrate the work which I believe if thou art preserved stedfast unmoveable; the Lord has for thee to do in this part of his vineyard: For I do believe he has a work in thee and for thee upon the wheel and it matters not which way he prevails, if he can but marr this work he gains his end; and brings the poor soul into a state of bondage again; but I would willingly hope this will not be the case with thee, but tho' thou maybe try'd, yet thou wilt be preserved always abounding in the way and work of the Lord, knowing thy labour not to be in vain; For the Lord is a rich rewarder of those who faithfully serve him. I was pleased with the remark thou made in the meeting last first day, and wish thee encouragement in every pointing of

duty; and earnestly desire the Lord may bless the labour with the other friends are about to engage in, that many thereby may have to praise the Lord, that he drew you forth in that service from the real benefit they have been favoured with. I conclude not feignedly, but in reality thy sincere friend

Joseph Wood

For John Pickford  
of Birdsedge

Newhouse 8 mo. 29<sup>th</sup>. 1802.

Respected Friend  
Jane Burrow

I think it right to inform thee that our last conference attended much to the relief of my oppressed spirit; and the more so as I thought we parted mutually satisfied O how did my peace flow as a river in my returning home and how strong were my desires that thou might be preserved in such a state of watchfulness that the gilded baits of the enemy may be clearly discovered. My mind in the coolest moments of retirement is not in the least changed respecting the affair our conference was upon; I yet believe a closer union would be attended with sorrow and disappointment. But I feel thankful that I am now relieved, and, I hope no friendship broken. May he who sleepeth not by day nor slumbereth by night guard and protect thee, and may his power preserve thee, in heights, and depths; in sufferings and rejoicings to hold fast thy confidence in him and not lean to thine own understanding; that so thou may be kept as a pillar in the house of God, that those who are not watching over thee for evil may never find any occasion. O may the guardian Angel of the Lords presence keep and preserve thee from every hurtful thing whilst here, and in the conclusion of thy time conduct thy immortal spirit into the realms of bliss, is the sincere desire of thy real friend

Joseph Wood

For Jane Burrow  
of Shepley

An Epistle to those who are under convincement of the Truth in Rochdale Lancashire.

For James and Mary Midgley, John Milns and William Taylor  
Beloved friends

The day spring from on high hath visited you, for a glorious purpose, "To give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus.Christ." and my earnest desire for you is that the end of his thus visiting you maybe answered; which will no doubt be the case, if you are concerned to wait in that which hath convinced you, that you may experience those things you are convinced of to be wrong, removed out of the way; and that which by the Light is manifested to be your duty, you may be strengthened to come up in a faithful obedience to the same; and that so your heavenly Father may be glorified, in that ye bring forth much fruit; and ye may be as lights in the world, and as a city set upon an hill that cannot be hid; that others seeing your good works; your circumspect Lives, and conversation; coupled with the pure holy fear of the Lord, may be engaged for themselves to seek after the same pure and eternal principle of Light and Life by which alone they can obtain a victory over every hurtful thing. But O the Baptisms there is to pass through in the way to this attainment, how doth the soul experience a being in Deaths often. Yet in the states are at times encouraged in remembrance of the Language of our dear Lord and Saviour to his disciples. "Verily verily I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die it abideth alone; but if it die it bringeth forth much fruit." Also the experience of that great and eminent

Apostle Paul who declares, "I protest by your rejoicing which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily." and in a another place, "I am crucified with Christ; nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in the me; and the life which I now live in the the flesh, I live by the faith of the son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." Thus my friends we may see that it is through death that we must live; by being crucified with him, that we must reign with him; and be enabled to bring forth acceptable fruit. This was the experience of the primitive believers, and the faithful down to the present day; may you therefore be encouraged under every trying dispensation which he who is perfect in Wisdom may see meet to overtake you; remembering the Apostles Language, "Wherefore, seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us; Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him, endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners, against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds." I thought friends there was encouragement for you, in the opening of these things and my soul desireth; that in the time of deep tryals, ye may not be weary nor faint in your minds, nor let go your faith in the allsufficiency of that Power which hath visited you; for in due season ye shall reap if ye faint not. Keep your eye therefore in your holy head, and patiently run the race he points out to you; thus will you be blessed with the blessing of preservation, in heights and depths; in sufferings and rejoicings; and experience all things to work together for your good, even to establishing you upon that foundation which can never be removed. Then will you delight to wait upon, and Worship God, in Spirit and in Truth; your minds will be wean'd from the teachings of Men, and your delight will be to sit at your Lords feet hearing the gracious words that proceed out of his mouth, for his words they are Spirit and Life. I would conclude with recommending you unto him who is able to speak to your varied states, and support you under all your exercises, and remain with dear Love to you all your truly affectionate friend

Joseph Wood

Newhouse 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 2<sup>nd</sup>. 1802

Newhouse 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 3<sup>rd</sup>. 1802

Beloved friend  
William Taylor

Enclosed is an Epistle to you who are under convincement of the Truth in Rochdale; which I desire thee to read, or to get read unto those to whom it is directed, when you are collected together at James Midgleys. and dearly beloved friend as my mind has oftens felt anxiously concerned for thy welfare from the first of our acquaintance; being favoured with a prospect on my first seeing thee; That the Master was come, and his call was extended to thee: So I have oftens earnestly desired that thy obedience may keep pace with the knowledge he is pleased to favour thee with; and then I believe thou will experience preservation in the hour of temptation; for when the Lord works, the enemy works also, if possible to lay waste his work; and when he cannot draw into gross evils, he trieth others, for it matters not if he can but prevail, to keep the poor soul in a state of bondage; and therefore he uses all his efforts, and tries all his skill; and many young People who have been favoured with precious visitations, have suffered unspeakable Loss by letting out their minds, in this infant state after Marriage; a thing honourable in itself, and under divine direction a Blessing to man; but not otherwise; and for want of watchfulness hath proved a snare to many. That I thought a caution of this sort seemed to rest with me, to communicate to thee; not to let out thy mind this way in thy present situation, lest like one formerly thou should lose thy strengths thereby; But keep close upon by guard, be watchful, and then the various snares of the unwearied enemy will be discovered, and with his temptations a way will open for thy

escape. Thus my friend will thou grow in Wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and good men; and will know the Truth, and the Truth will set thee free. I conclude with the Salutation of dear Love to thee my beloved friend, sincerely desiring that Grace mercy and Peace from God the Father and his beloved Son Jesus.Christ, may be shed abroad abundantly upon thee; and remain thy well wishing friend

Joseph Wood

For William Taylor  
of Rochdale

Newhouse 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 11<sup>th</sup>. 1802

Beloved Friend  
William Midgley

I have oftens cause to remember the Language of the Psalmist in the course of my experience, when he declares "I am poor and needy; yet the Lord thinketh upon me." and certainly my friend the Lords People, have been in every age and dispensation a poor suffering People, either inwardly or outwardly; yet in these seasons his regard hath been towards them, and his everlasting arm hath supported them; and in his own time as they have been preserved in the faith and patience, his Blessings hath been poured forth abundantly upon them; he hath brought them out of the Prison house and caused them renewedly to sing Praise to his great and excellent Name: Thus are a small remnant encouraged to put their trust in the Lord Jehovah; and not lean to their own understanding. But Ah! my friend the low state of our Zion is almost continually before me. How many amongst us, are sitting down at ease in the traditions of their Forefathers, without coming to know the Truth for themselves: and how many are there who have been eminently visited, when the time comes, that they should leave all, like the young Man in the Gospel, turn away sorrowful; and what is still more lamentable, some who have been even as stars in the firmament, for want of watching unto Prayer, have been brought down to the earth by the tail of the great red dragon which stands ready to devour the man child as soon as it is born. Under a mournful consideration of these things, I am at times drawn to petition the Father of Spirits, that he may be graciously pleased to preserve a remnant of his People, who are engaged to make war with the Beast; and not give up his heritage to reproach; and that the language in the Lords Name may be proclaimed. "Arise, shine, for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee." and I am sometimes comforted with a belief, that the stakes in Zion will be strengthened, her cords lengthened, and her seed break forth as on the right hand, and on the left, and inherit places which are now desolate. Under a feeling sense of that love, which ardently desireth the welfare of all, and in a more especial manner of the household of faith, am I engaged to encourage thee my friend to come forward, remembering the language of the Apostle, "This one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before. I press towards the mark, for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ.Jesus." O my friend, be concerned to get deep; and dwell deep; where divine counsel will be plentifully administered; where thou will be weaned from all dependence upon others; having bread in thine own house and water in thine own cistern; where thou will be favoured to try the spirits that may present; and see the necessity of the Apostles advice, "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God." and afterwards adds, "Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus.Christ is come in the flesh is of God." Now I do not believe that this is barely confessing him with our mouth, for many deceivers do this; but in ourselves and conversations; In our subjection to his divine power, and moving under the precious influence thereof; and those who may have been thus favoured, if they depart therefrom; instead of confessing him before men; they are denying him, and crucifying him afresh, putting him to open shame. O my beloved friend, may thy mind be centred upon that Principle which will instruct thee in every religious duty, and strengthen thee to follow the

Lord faithfully in the way of his leadings, that so thou may be favoured to attain that desirable state described by the Apostle. "But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of Angels. To the general Assembly and church of the first-born which are written in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect, and to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than the blood of Abel." I now conclude with earnest desires for thy preservation and establishment in the ever blessed and unchangeable Truth, and remain thy Poor but real friend

Joseph Wood

For William Midgley of  
Buersall near Rochdale

Newhouse 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 24<sup>th</sup>. 1802

Beloved Friend  
Thomas Dixon Walton

Agreeable to thy request, I am now set down to inform thee of the report of the friends who paid thee a visit, on thy application to unite in membership with our Society; which report was in substance as follows "That the visit was very satisfactory to them, believing that there was desires in thee to experience a growth in the Truth but as regeneration is a gradual work they thought it best to try thee a little longer." After a solemn pause, and I hope seeking for best wisdom, the meeting concurred in judgement therewith. Now my friend, whom I think I oftens feel near to my best Life; Let not this discourage thee in the least; believe not the enemy if he should endeavour to tempt thee, that because thou art not immediately accepted into membership thou art not right in making application, for I have the most unshaken evidence attending my mind, that thou was in the way of thy duty in taking this step. Our Society hath been, and I hope ever will be careful. "To lay hands suddenly on no man." Yet I believe without a doubt if thou art preserved in an humble watchful growing state, It will not be long before thou be united in outward fellowship with us; and have to bear a part in the burden and exercise of the family. Indeed they have need to experience their feet firmly established, that when united, they may be enabled to fill up that place in the body; which Providence intends for them, with propriety. Be not thou therefore discouraged either from the present circumstance, or any Tryals that may be permitted to overtake thee, of what kind so ever; for I believe if thou art faithful the God of Jacob will preserve thee; remember how he appeared unto him when he left his Fathers house with this encouragingly language. "Behold I am with thee, and will keep thee, in all places wither thou goest." and then when his mind was thus favoured with an unshaken evidence that the Lord was pleased to own him, he was enabled to make covenant with him saying. "If God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat, and raiment to put on; then shall the Lord be my God." Now I believe thou has been made willing for the pure Truths sake, to leave thy kindred after the flesh; the honours, pleasures and profits, of a world that lieth in wickedness; and if thou keep the Covenants thou has made, he will be with thee, in all places whithersoever he may lead thee; and preserve thee in heights and depths, in sufferings and rejoicings, in tryals and deep Baptisms; which may be many for his sake, but all will be experienced to work together for good, as thou art concerned to keep the word of his patience; and he will bless thee with the blessing of preservation. I am with dear Love to thee, and the other visited children of the Lord in Barnsley, thy assured Friend

Joseph Wood

For Thomas Dixon Walton  
of Barnsley

Newhouse 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 29<sup>th</sup>. 1802

Beloved Friend

Thomas Walker Haigh

Altho' we are distant in body, yet I think I can truly say, I am many times lead in spirit to visit to thee; accompanied with earnest desires for thy preservation, growth and establishment, in the ever blessed and unchangeable Truth. I believe the Lord hath wonderfully manifested his Love to thee, by revealing his beloved son the Light and Life of man unto thee: To open thy blind eyes, and set to the imprisoned seed at Liberty to serve him. I have oftens remembered when I have thought of the great and marvellous condescension of the Almighty unto thee, of the language of Ananias unto Saul afterwards Paul. "Brother Saul, the Lord even Jesus that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy.Ghost." Thus did the Lord favour thee, immediately and instrumentally for the same glorious purpose, that thro' thine obedience to his requirings, he may bless thee, agreeable to the testimony of the Apostle. "Who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in Love." mark well the choice is in Christ, not out of him; and those who have put of the old man with his deeds which are corrupt, have known a putting on the new man Christ.Jesus; and these are chosen in him to be a peculiar People zealous of good works. I long my friend for thy encouragement, and that thou may be strengthened to come forward faithfully in the line of thy duty; altho' thou may have many deep Baptisms to pass through, yet remember the language we have left upon record, and may it be a means of keeping thy head above the waters under these preparatory dispensations. "We are buried with him by Baptism into death, that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of Life." I conclude thy truly affectionate friend

Joseph Wood

For Thomas Walker Haigh  
of Barnsley

Newhouse 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 7<sup>th</sup>. 1802

Respected Friend

Susanna Dickinson

I have had it on my mind for sometime to write unto thee, hoping that thou art possessed of too much good sense, to take anything amiss from one whom I believe thou knows has nothing in view but thy present and future welfare; There is nothing that manifests the sincerity of anyones friendship more, than if we see anything approaching, that our friend may be likely to suffer loss by; than faithfully warning them of the danger: Now I have observed of late a deviation in thee, from that plainness of speech and Apparel which the Truth lead our faithful Predecessors into, and which I believe would preserve their descendants in, if they were concerned to cleave to it with full purpose of heart. Having frequently heard thee call People Masters and Mistresses to whom thou never was in the station of a Servant, which is giving flattering titles to men, and borders much upon an untruth. One formerly saith, "Let me not, I pray you, accept any mans person neither let me give flattering titles to man." and our Lord and Saviour Jesus.Christ, whose followers we profess to be and by whom we shall wish to be acknowledged, when the world and the glory thereof will be stained in our view, saith, "Be not ye called Rabbi, for one is your Master even Christ; and all ye are Brethren." and thou knows I doubt not that the Apostle Paul adviseth the believers in this Pathetick language. "Be not conformed to this world but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God." This conformity to the world relates not only to our Language, but also to our behaviour and Apparel; and hinders those who are so foolish to be

captivated thereby, from knowing what is the will of God concerning them; and from living under the influence of that divine Power, which can alone renew and change the mind, and restore poor lost fallen and degenerated man, into the Image of Christ; whose whole Life was one continued scene of humility and self-denial; directly opposite to the customs, manners, language and Fashions of a world that lieth in wickedness; and who is calling unto the children of men in this wooing inviting language. "Follow me." I would have thee read these lines in stillness and composure of mind, and solidly weigh the importance of the Truths contained therein; and then a hope attends my mind thou may profit thereby, and become a good example to others; do not say these are little things; but consider that such little things make way for greater temptations to enter; and on the contrary, being faithful in the little, makes way for being made ruler over more. I oftens look with concern and pity, over the youth of both Sexes in our meeting; too many of whom appear more disposed to be sowing unto the flesh; tho' the crop is dismal these will have to reap; than unto the spirit, tho' life eternal is to be the portion of these: Yet at times am made humbly thankful that the Almighty is pleased to visit and revisit these; immediately and instrumentally; in order that they might come under his refining hand, be preserved out of the evils of the world, and that he might form them a People unto himself to shew forth his Praise. Solemn saith, "Righteousness exalteth a Nation; but sin is a reproach unto any People." It is the same which exalteth an individual; whilst sin let it be of what kind it may is a reproach unto them. Let virtue therefore be thy choice, and may thy concern be to excel others therein; thus will thou be beloved of God, and gain the esteem of his People; and by thy example may be made a blessing unto others. "They that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever." I am sincerely thy well wishing Friend

Joseph Wood

For Susanna Dickinson  
of Highflatts

Newhouse 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 24<sup>th</sup>. 1802

Beloved Friend  
William Taylor

Yesterday evening I received thy acceptable Letter, the reading of which afforded me solid comfort and satisfaction, feeling a renewal of that Love to flow in my heart towards thee, which earnestly breathes for thy growth, preservation, and establishment in the ever blessed and unchangeable Truth: that so the blessing that one formerly was blessed with; who had a tribulated path to tread, the experience of all Zions travellers, may be thine. "Joseph is a fruitful bough, even a fruitful bough by a well; whose branches run over the wall. The archers have sorely grieved him, and shot at him, and hated him. But his bow abode in strength, and the arms of his hands were made strong by the hands of the mighty God of Jacob." O my dearly beloved friend, I do believe if thou art but faithful and obedient to divine manifestation of duty, thy bow will abide in strength, and the Power of the mighty God of Jacob will preserve thee, and deliver thee from inward and outward enemies; tho' thy tryals may be many for his sake both inwardly and outwardly; for those that will live Godly in Christ.Jesus, must expect to meet with similar tryals to their Lord and Master, who was hated and persecuted of the World, tempted and proved by the common adversary, yet without Sin. But remember for thy encouragement, after nobly withstanding his varied snares, the tempter withdrew; and Angels came and Ministered unto him. Fear not therefore, altho' the Power of the enemy be strong; the Power of him who remains our advocate is stronger. "Resist the Devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will drawn nigh to you." was the language of the Apostle, and I doubt not is verified in the experience of many in the present day, who are at times ready to cry out, I fear I shall one day or another fall by the hands of this unwearied Enemy who seeks my Life, and I am so poor, so weak, and feeble; I fear I shall

not be able to withstand him, but remember my friend the gracious Promise we have left upon record. "He giveth Power to the faint; and to him that have no might he increaseth strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as Eagles; they shall run and not be weary, and they shall walk, and not faint." Here is the preservation of the Lords poor humble depending children, In their waiting upon him under a sense of their own nothingness, he renews their strength, and enables them to persevere in the path which he points out to them. I hope thou art diligent in waiting, and watching unto Prayer, in private; and also diligent in thy attendance of Meetings, both on First and Week.days. It was comfortable to me when I last saw thee in being favoured with a belief that thou was nearer the Kingdom than thou first believed. Well my beloved Friend, may thou still be concerned to press forward, thro' every difficulty; Thou wisely remarks it is not sufficient with Many to choose the one thing needful, but there must be a daily setting low at the feet of Jesus, to hear his words and come up in obedience to his requirings, I know it is not sufficient to know a being broke off from the wild Ollive tree, and engrafted into Christ the true and living vine, but we must know our abiding to be in him, otherwise we shall wither, and if our abiding in him we shall be enabled to bring forth acceptable fruit; yet these must experience their purging seasons, and thus they become as fruitful boughs, whose branches spread over the wall of all opposition and are enabled to bring forth fruit to the praise of the great husbandman. I oftens remember the exercise attending my mind about coming to Rochdale the first time that I saw thee; but when we sat down together, I saw it was in part for thy sake and have since many times been thankful that I was not disobedient to the manifestation of duty, For I felt my heavenly Fathers Love to flow plentifully in my heart to wards thee, and was favoured with a most clear and unshaken experience, that he who was graciously pleased at that time through a poor week Instrument to open thine eyes; would if thou was not disobedient to the heavenly vision make thee a chosen Vessel unto himself, which hath since been many times confirm'd to me. For I believe his Love is towards thee, I feel it flow in my heart whilst I am writing, and can Salute thee therein; desiring that thou may be made to partake largely thereof, so as to experience it to break the bands of Death asunder, and set thy soul at liberty to praise him; encourage in thee to persevere in the path of obedience to all the Lords requirings, not looking at others to thy own hurt, but minding thine own business, and then thou may become useful unto others, and have to tell what great things he hath done for thy Soul. I feel my mind drawn towards you and apprehend if health permit, the time is approaching when I may stop a night or two with you in Rochdale; where my beloved friend I hope to meet with thee pressing forward through inward and outward difficulties, in that strait and narrow way into which thou art measurably turn'd; and in the mean time, I remain thy truly Loving and affectionate Friend

Joseph Wood

For William Taylor of Wardleworth  
in Rochdale Lancashire

Newhouse 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 1<sup>st</sup> 1803

Beloved Friend  
Henry Marsden

As the Monthly Meeting hath thought proper to admit that request and accept thee a member of our Society; I have felt an earnest solicitude to attend my mind that thou might keep in remembrance the advice of the Apostle. "Walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise: redeeming the time because the days are evil. O that thou may be concerned to Watch daily unto Prayer for preservation, out of the snares of the unwearied enemy; that so thou may never bring a reproach upon the pure Truth; a dishonour upon myself, nor wound the spirits of those, who have no greater joy than that all may be preserved walking in the Truth. Keep to

thine own proper exercise in the divine gift, feeling after that baptizing Power, by which alone thou can be rendered useful in the Body, and preserved a living member thereof. This is what I sincerely desire may be thy experience who am thy well wishing Friend

Joseph Wood

For Henry Marsden  
of Newhouse

Newhouse 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 2<sup>nd</sup>. 1803

Respected Friend  
Samuel Laver

I am sometimes led to visit the visited Children of mine heavenly Father, when far separated from them and as such thou hast been much in my remembrance, since I last saw thee; and tho' I have no disposition to draw People from one Profession of Religion to another, yet I have an earnest desire that all might be gathered to the knowledge of the Truth and be saved, and this must be by coming up in faithful obedience to the manifestations they are favoured with, Now if I am favoured with a right sense of thy state, thou has apprehended it to be thy duty to attend friends meetings, and if this be the case, my earnest desire for thee is, that thou may give up faithfully, take up thy cross, and despise the Shame, and be willing to become a fool for Christs sake, for there is not another way to become truly wise, nor to be favoured with that Peace which the world cannot give, neither can it take away. O that thou may be faithful and diligent in thy attendance of Religious meetings, and other manifestations of duty, not only for thine own sake, but for the sake of others; For there are many Professors in the present day, who are weary with the forms and inventions of men, and who are sensible they have been long feeding upon husks, which cannot satisfy, and in their secret bemoanings are ready to adapt the Language we have left upon record in the Scriptures of Truth. "Tell me O thou whom my soul loveth, where thou feedest, where thou makest thy flock to rest at noon for why should I be as one that turneth aside by the flocks of thy companions." O if thou, and such as thee who are eminently visited; and see your duty, are but faithful, you may be instrumental to say unto these in your own experience. "By night on my Bed I sought him whom my soul loveth, I sought him, but I found him not. I will rise now, and go about the city in the street, and in the broadways I will seek him whom my soul loveth; I sought him but I found him not. The watchmen that go about the city found me; to whom I said saw ye him whom my soul loveth? It was but a little that I passed from them, but I found him whom my soul loveth. I held him and would not let him go; until I had brought him into my Mothers house, and into the chamber of her that conceived me." O the ignorance of these blind Watchmen, and the hurt their unskilful feeding of the People does, keeping them always learning, but never able to come to the knowledge of the Truth; most of whom are looking for their gain from their Quarter. For as they receive not their Ministry from Christ, but gather it from men and Books, so are they not willing to give it freely, but make a trade thereof, to the great hurt of many honest enquirers. But as I believe thou has known a passing by these Watchmen, I hope thou will find him, whom thou has sought upon thy Bed, and in the streets and broadways, and amongst the teachings of Men, even him who is come to teach his People himself, and lead them in the way everlasting, and then as thou comes forward in faithfulness, thou will I believe be instrumental of good to many others in your parts who are enquiring the way to Zion with their faces thitherward, having by the Powerful Language of Example to call unto them, to come from the many Low heres and Low theres, to Christ within the hope of Glory, the true teacher of his People, and the alone way to God. I Salute thee in that Love which sincerely desires thy welfare, and remain thy affectionate friend

Joseph Wood

For Samuel Laver  
of Woodnook near Cudworth

Newhouse 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 23<sup>rd</sup>. 1803

Respected Friend  
William Gant

As I fully believe in the Testimony we have left upon record in the Scriptures of Truth, "I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth saith the Lord God." So I believe the visitations of the Almighty are extended unto all, in order that they might experience a being redeemed from all Iniquity; and prepared for an admittance into that Kingdom into which it is declared, "There shall in no wise enter into it anything that defileth neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a Lye." and in order that he might bring manner out of this state which all are in, in a greater or less degree; whilst in a state of nature, walking according to the Prince of the Power of the air, the spirit that worketh in the children of disobedience; he at certain times and seasons calls unto these by the Spirit of his Son, to turn from the evil of their ways and live; and those who in this the day of his Power are willing and obedient, come to experience their sins altho' they may be of the deepest dye to be forgiven, and their iniquity pardoned through the blood of Jesus.Christ; and then not living unto themselves but unto him who died for them, experience a preparation meet for the Kingdom. Now I have no doubt but his call has been powerfully extended unto thee, his Light have shone into thy heart, and let thee see thy sinful state, and the necessity there is for thee to Repent and Amend thy ways, yea I believe thou has had desires to experience a victory over the evil which keeps thee in bondage. So that I believe thy state at present, to be something similar to that described by the Apostle, "The good that I would I do not, but the evil that I would not, that I do." and again "When I would do good evil is present with me." Well keep close to thy inward exercise, and in time thou may be made also to cry, "O wretched man that I am, who shall deliver me from the body of this death." and not only so, but as thou art concerned to cease from doing evil, and forsake the company of those who walk in the broad way which leads unto destruction, and take up thy daily cross and follow Christ, thou may have to acknowledge in thy experience a deliverer. "I thank God through Jesus.Christ our Lord." Here help is laid upon one that is stronger than the strong Man armed who is able to cast him out and spoil his goods, and bring poor fall'n man into a very different state, even into that state in which there is no condemnation, for, "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ.Jesus, who walk not after the Flesh, but after the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of Life in Christ.Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death." May this be thy experience, and in order thereunto may thou take diligent heed unto that Law which is light, and which if thou art faithful and obedient to its manifestations will direct thy steps into the path of Peace, Is the earnest desire of thy affectionate Friend

Joseph Wood

For William Gant  
of Barnsley

Newhouse 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 23<sup>rd</sup>. 1803

Beloved Friend  
Thomas Dixon Walton

The day before yesterday I received thine and may acknowledge, I was truly glad to hear from thee; there needs no excuse for incorrectness or any other thing betwixt us, I hope we may always communicate with freedom which I look upon to be a mark of the truest friendship. In regard to the Testimony delivered at Burton, I believe when a Minister speaks from the Spirit, the same spirit will apply the proper portion thereof to those to whom it may belong if they stand open to receive it. But I believe the latter part of that Testimony belonged to a very different state than the former. In regard to thy business, I know of no unlawfulness in any part of it, but have oftens thought it as pure a business as can be followed; and I see no impropriety in a true Christian pursuing any lawful employment in

moderation; and if they are blessed therein, to do good in their day therewith "As good stewards of the manifold Grace of God." And if any part of that Testimony was made a Blessing to thee, and had a tendency for thy instruction caution, or encouragement, Let the Lord have the Glory who is the puter forth of his messengers and who alone can qualify them to be useful unto others. Dear Friend the whole contents of thy Letter was truly acceptable to me, conveying the language of one who is desirous above all things to be what the Lord would have them to be. I sincerely wish thee well on thy way and that in seasons of withdrawing thou may never lose thy confidence in him who has been thy morning light, and who I humbly hope will be thy evening song as thou art concerned to keep the word of his Patience in these seasons which are very proving to those who have tasted of the Lords goodness, but no doubt are profitable to his children whom he loveth otherwise he would not try them therewith. I have remembered the Language of one formerly, "Behold I go forward, but he is not there, and backward but I cannot perceive him: On the left hand where he doth work, but I cannot behold him, he hideth himself on the right hand, that I cannot see him: But he knows the way that I take when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as Gold. My foot hath held his steps, his way have I kept, and not declined." I hope this will be thy experience, In these seasons not to decline from his way and thus will thou know more and more a living by faith the mystery of which is held in a pure Conscience. I conclude in much nearness of affection, thy truly well wishing Friend

Joseph Wood

For Thomas Dixon Walton  
of Barnsley

Newhouse 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mo. 12<sup>th</sup>. 1803

Beloved Friend  
William Midgley

I thought I felt a liberty to acquaint thee that I got home on fourth day evening, and found my family all well; which with the Blessing of peace in my own mind; was cause of humble thankfulness to him who is the preserver of his People. On sixth day I went to see Leah Kinsley, whom I found very poorly, and had been for some time, of a complaint in her finger, so that they was obliged to have a Woman to do her work. I found her in want of many necessaries, but as free as usual from complaint, so that thy kind Benefaction, came at a very acceptable time, and to as worthy an Object as I know. I thought it must be kind Providence who put it into thy heart, who causeth his Children to feel and sympathize with, one for another when far separated. Dear friend I do believe it is thy earnest desire to be a good steward, of the outward Blessings thou art favoured with, and the Language of the Angel to Cornelius, opens before the view of my mind as applicable to thee, "Thy Prayers and thine Alms art come up for a memorial before God." and I oftens think it is a favour thou art so disposed, and believe thou will not lose thy reward. Remember my dear Love to thy Wife, her kindness to me is oftens gratefully remembered; accompanied with an earnest desire that ye may be like Zacharias and Elizabeth concerning whom we have this Testimony, "They were both righteous before God walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless." And dear friends as next to the welfare of your own souls is that of your childrens, be watchful over them I beseech you, and careful to nip in the bud, every thing that may be as the little foxes, that spoil the tender buddings of the vine of Life, by winking at these little things, room for greater temptations to enter is made; until the minds of many dearly beloved youth, who have been once tender and hopeful, get into such a state of intoxication; as it is very difficult to make them sensible of the danger they are in. It was a complaint that was taken up against an highly favoured People formerly when he declared he had raised up of their Sons for Prophets, and their young men for Nazarites. "But ye gave the Nazarites wine to drink, and commanded the Prophets saying Prophecy not." I write not this

as charging you therewith, but from a mournful prospect that it is too much the case amongst us as a People, as well as others; and with desires that you may be very cautious in indulging your children in anything that may have a tendency to frustrate the design of the Almighty concerning them. Persons in your situation are much fawned upon by the rich of this world, who may be under the profession but not in the possession of Truth, and if there is a giving way to a familiarity with such, children are too apt to imbibe their customs and manners, and thus have many visited youth lost the dew with which their tender minds was early favoured, departed from the innocency and simplicity of the pure Truth; and become as salt which hath lost its savour; I hope better things of yours, and things which accompany salvation, and desire your hands may be strengthened in every duty for their present and future welfare, and that they may be obedient to your commands. Give my kind Love to them, tell them my earnest desire is, that they may chuse the Lord for their Portion, and the God of Jacob for the lot of their inheritance; that as they advance in years they may grow in the Truth, and so be a comfort to you who I hope have no greater joy than to see them walking in the footsteps of the faithful. I am with dear Love to you all your affectionate friend

Joseph Wood

For William Midgley of Buersall  
near Rochdale Lancashire

Newhouse 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mo. 15<sup>th</sup>. 1803

Dear Cousin  
Joshua Smith

As I have no doubt upon my mind that thou has been fully convinced of the fundamental principle of our profession viz. That the light of Christ which enlightenth every man that cometh into the world, is not only sufficient to lead and guide into all Truth, but also to preserve all who will believe in it, out of all evil; but for want of coming up in obedience to the discoveries thereof, thy growth in the Truth hath been much retarded, and I have oftens lamented the ease and Indifferency that hath prevailed over thee for many years in neglecting the due attendance of religious meetings; which must have proceeded for want of thy walking in the Light, or coming up in obedience to the discoveries thou was favoured with it. Now disobedience causeth darkness, agreeable to the Testimony of Christ. "Yet a little while is the light with you; walk while ye have the light, lest darkness come upon you; for he that walketh in darkness knoweth not whither he goeth." Now it appears plain to me if our obedience keep not pace with the Light we are favoured with, the Lord causeth it to cease shining in us, and then we are left in a state of darkness, and neither see, nor are able to withstand the temptations of the wicked one, being brought into that state described by the Prophet. "Wherefore their way shall be unto them as slippery ways in the darkness; they shall be driven on and fall therein." Is this applicable to thy state; If not what is the cause that I hear of thy giving away to the sin of Intemperance in drinking, and also of fornication. Thou must not fail to write to me, and let me know; was it the force of a sudden temptation, or was thou in liquor, or has it been a practice thou has gradually slidden into by dallying with the temptation; rather than looking unto him who was tempted in all things like unto us yet without sin, and who I believe will enable all to know an overcoming, who sincerely seek unto him for strength. Be it which way soever it was, I look upon it to be a crime of the greatest magnitude, against thy own Soul, against thy Wife, and the Almighty. The Apostle saith, "Flee fornication; every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committed the fornication sinneth against his own body." But for a married Person to be criminally concerned with another Woman is not only committing fornication but Adultery. A deep crime indeed, such a one as under the time of the Law was to be punished with death; but under the Gospel dispensation time is lengthened out unto these to Repent of this their great wickedness accompanied with this Promise "All manner of sin and Blasphemy shall be

forgiven unto Men." That is upon their sincere Repentance and Amendment for the time to come: But O these must know a coming under the flaming sword which turns every way, so that there is no escaping if they are favoured to experience restoration; and these they dare not seek to hide their sins, but are made to confess them, and acknowledged that the Lords judgments altho' heavy; are just, and they love them; because it is through them that they are favoured with a hope of being made partakers of his mercy. "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness." O do not add sin to sin by denying what thou knows to be true, and must be sensible thou cannot hide from the Almighty, before whom thou must shortly appear to give an account of the deeds done in the body, but humbly confess the Truth, as with thy mouth in the dust, bearing patiently the indignation of the Lord, until he is pleased to arise for thy help. And thus will thou be made willing to do all in thy power, to wipe away the reproach thou has brought upon the ever blessed and unchangeable Truth. For altho' thou was not a member of our Society, yet I believe thou was convinced of the Truth, and made profession of it; and as such was look'd upon as one by the World. But O profession nor former experience will not preserve in the hour of temptation; It is the faithful only that have strength to say with Power and divine Authority, "Get thee behind me Satan." I am thy wellwishing Cousin

Joseph Wood

For Joshua Smith  
of Bradford

Newhouse 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mo. 25<sup>th</sup>. 1803

Beloved Friend  
William Taylor

We read in the Scriptures, "That the soul of Jonathon was knit with the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul." and surely my friend the love which I have felt for thee, must be that which unites the Lords children together as the soul of one man; and therefore cannot fail of feeling a renewal thereof, when I hear from thee, which was the case when I read thy acceptable Letter, which I received, yet felt affected with thy information that thou had had another attack of thy complaint, and since felt thyself weakly; yet thankful that there appeared a good degree of resignation to the divine will, and a concern to be prepared for the solemn summons which is the very end of our being here, whether our time may be long or short; and it is only those who are prepared to die, that are fit to live. That I would not have thee my beloved friend to relax in thy concern, if thou should be restored to health again, which I would gladly flatter myself with a hope may be the case, and that we may be permitted to rejoice together in this vale of tears. But if not O that we may be prepared to meet where all sorrows are wiped away, where there is no pain nor sighing; but one continued scene of uninterrupted joy; never more to part. Thou said nothing whether thou had got over thy exercise, which I believe has hurt thee both in thy outward and spiritual health; yet I have no doubt of thy obtaining a victory, if faithful and resigned to the divine will; through the power of him who loved thee and gave himself for thee when thou was polluted in thy blood, and said unto thee Live. O what shall we render unto him for all his mercies and favours to us, but perfect obedience to his will, and the sacrifice of thanksgiving and praise. Well dear friend, when thou feels disposed to write do not omit it, for I shall long to hear from thee; but if thou should be worse in health let me have early information; for I trust I sorrow with thee in thy sorrows, and at times feel with thee in thy inward exercises; and hope more and more if time is lengthened to partake With thee in thy joys, as thou art concerned to press after the attainment of that state described by the Apostle. "I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor Angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come; Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ. Jesus our Lord. and though in the way to this attainment thou may meet with many

deep Baptisms, yet look not back, but follow on; for the Lamb and his followers will have the victory "And them that had got the victory over the Beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God." I conclude with dear Love to friends in and near Rochdale as if particularly named; and accept dear friend Benjamins, a double portion thyself, from thy sincerely affectionate Friend

Joseph Wood

For William Taylor, Wardleworth  
in Rochdale, Lancashire

Newhouse 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mo. 28<sup>th</sup>. 1803

Respected Friend  
Elizabeth Moorhouse

I apprehend before this thou has heard that our last Monthly meeting accepted thee into membership, an event which I sincerely desire may be productive of good to thee, and that thou may be a reputation to the Society; which I doubt not will be the case, if thou art kept up humbly watchful unto prayer for preservation, out of the evils that are in the world, which are many and mans propensity thereunto at times very strong, but as thou art desirous not only to be a member, but a living member, thy love for the Truth, and the cause thereof will increase, so that in the hour of temptation, thou will be concerned to seek unto one that is stronger than all the combined forces of the wicked one, thus will thou be enabled to know an overcoming of one thing after another until thou come to an establishment in the Truth, and in due time to have the promise sealed unto thee, "Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the Temple of my God, and he shall go no more out." Now this is a state I wish thou may be concerned to press after the attainment of; it will have a tendency to make thee comfortable here, far beyond what all the enjoyments of this world can afford thee, and when thou looks towards futurity, thou will be favoured with a well grounded hope, that there is an habitation prepared for the immortal part, eternal in the heavens which fadeth not all way. I thot. I felt a liberty to communicate a few remarks of this kind, accompanied with an earnest desire that as thou art now a member of a religious Society professing to be led and guided by the Spirit of Truth, thou might be weightily concerned never to bring any reproach thereupon, but on the contrary, by a diligent attention and faithful obedience to the dictates of this unerring spirit thou may grow in Grace; that so by an increase of number, the community may be made sensible of an increase of strength, and this will cause an increase of joy. But if thou art not thus concerned, the language formerly uttered may be applicable, "Thou hast multiplied the nation, and not increased the joy." This drops as a tender caution hoping it will not be the case; but that thou wilt take heed to the advice of Christ, "What I say unto you, I say unto all, Watch." I conclude thy affectionate friend

Joseph Wood

For Elizabeth Moorhouse  
of Royd

Newhouse 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. 2<sup>nd</sup>. 1803

Dear Jane

Thy Uncle expects by the time thou receives this, thou will be safely arrived at home, and feels thankful in having the opportunity to congratulate thee upon, and thy recovery from a sickness nigh unto Death. It is the Lord who bringeth low, and raiseth up again, who is worthy to be served, Worshipped, honoured and obeyed. May an humbling sense of his mercies to thee, in raising thee up again, be ever gratefully remembered; and may the language of thy soul be with one formerly. "What shall I render unto the Lord, for all his

benefits towards me? I will take the cup of salvation and call upon the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows unto the Lord now in the presence of his People." O how ardently do I desire that this humbling visitation of the Almighty may never be forgot by thee, and that thou may be enabled to pay thy vows made in the day of deep distress; by entirely dedicating the residue of thy days to his service, giving up thy whole heart unto him without any reserve, who will not accept of a part for the whole. This is the earnest engagement, and travail of spirit of thy Affectionate Uncle on thy account

Joseph Wood

For Jane Wood  
of Haddenley

Newhouse 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. 2<sup>nd</sup>. 1803

Beloved Friend  
Charles Blackburn

The sincere regard I have had for thee, from the time of our first acquaintance with each other, hath oftens raised anxious desires in my mind; that thou might be favoured to attain to that glorious liberty there is in the pure Truth, and experience a being made free from every yolk of bondage. "If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed." This is most assuredly the gracious intention of the Almighty in visiting the Sons and daughters of men, opening unto them their states and conditions, and convincing their understandings of the way in which they ought to walk to attain unto this state of freedom; and I have no doubt at all attending my mind but that mankind in an universal manner, have the opportunity put into their hands in which they might experience a being set free; altho' not in their own wills, way or time, but at certain times and seasons, in the day of the Lords power, but if man are not willing in this day to submit to the means appointed by God, the end cannot be obtained, and it is possible to resist, or not submit to the will of God, until he leaves striving with them, and his righteous decree go forth. "He that is unjust, let him be unjust still; and he that is filthy let him be filthy still." This was typified under the dispensation of the Law, as we lately heard revived in our meeting, by that worthy servant and Minister of the Gospel, Joseph Cloud from North Carolina in America, when the People had an opportunity put into their hands to be made free, but refused; loving all their old master better and his service, the law was, "Then his master shall bring him to the Judges; he shall also bring him to a door or unto the doorpost, and his Master shall bore his ear through with an awl; and he shall serve him for ever." O the beautiful harmony there is betwixt the Old and new Testament and the two dispensations of God to mankind, and to those whose minds are truly enlightened by the pure Truth, the one outward and typical, the other inward and spiritual. The one a shadow of good things to come, the other the substance of those things typified. I have often seen cause to be thankful that we are favoured with those excellent records, preserved through the many dark ages, in the state of purity in which they are, and fully believe with the Apostle, that they "Are able to make wise unto salvation, through faith which is in Christ.Jesus." and also that it is our indispensable duty to be diligent in the reading of them, as well as to keep them in their proper place, and not to think of them more highly than we ought, as some formerly did who expected to find eternal Life in them, having their eye to the Letter that killeth instead of the Spirit that giveth Life; which quickeneth and openeth the understanding, "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life; and they are they which testify of me. And ye will not come to me that ye might have Life." Now it is for want of coming to him, and following him faithfully in the way of his leadings, that so many visited minds remain in a state of captivity, and do not experience a being set free by the Son the Light of the world, and the Life in man. I have oftens remembered with humble admiration the time when the most high so eminently made himself known unto thee, by the overshadowing of his Almighty Power, opening thine understanding into thine own

state, and clearly pointing out unto thee the way in which thou ought to walk, and the People with whom thou ought to unite. A remnant of whom thou was convinced, Worshipped him according to his own appointment, in Spirit and in Truth. But O my Beloved Friend how hath thy spiritual Journey been retarded; disobedience hath caused thee a long wilderness, for want of being faithful to small manifestations of duty, thou has not been found worthy to be favoured with greater. I write not these things to upbraid thee, far from it; I am sensible of the frailty of human nature, and the many baits and snares of that unwearied enemy we have all to war with, who uses all his skill to keep us in the land of bondage. I am also sensible that there is one who is stronger than the strong man armed; who is able to cast him out and spoil his goods and set the oppressed seed at liberty to serve him. It is under a sense of this, and a desire that it may be thy experience accompanied with a feeling of Gospel Love and an apprehension of duty, that I am engaged in this communication: Sincerely desiring that thou may not seek to comprehend those things which are not revealed to thee in the earthly Wisdom; nor converse with others about them to thy hurt. I have sometimes thought loss hath been sustained this way. Had Paul been disobedient to the heavenly Vision, and suffered his natural reasoning to prevail, he might easily have brought himself to dispute whether that remarkable manifestation of Light and Life he was favoured with, was of God or no: And this I believe has been the case with too many. But instead thereof his cry was "Who art thou Lord?" and he was affectionately answered, "I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: It is hard for thee to kick against the pricks." And he trembling and astonished said "Lord what wilt thou have for me to do." I do believe had thou been preserved in the like humble situation of mind; thou would not only have ask'd but have seen what the Lord would have had thee to do, and received ability from him to perform the same; thus might thou have grown from the state of a Child to a young man, and from a young man to a strong man in the Lord; and have been enabled to fill up thy proper portion of Labour in the body, which is the Church; under the immediate direction of Christ the holy head thereof I believe he who hath visited thee is still waiting to be gracious to thee, and will strengthen thee to do thy first works; If thou art but sufficiently resigned to his divine will. Under a sense thereof, I conclude and remain thy truly loving and affectionate Friend

Joseph Wood

For Charles Blackburn  
of Skelmanthorp

Newhouse 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. 5<sup>th</sup>. 1803

Respected Friend  
Joshua Dyson

"Elijah said unto Elisha, Ask what I shall do for thee, before I be taken away from thee, and Elisha said, I pray thee let a double portion of thy spirit to be upon me. And he said thou hast asked a hard thing; nevertheless if thou see me when I am taken away from thee, it shall be so unto thee; but if not it shall not be so." Thou art the son of a friend, for whom I have had a particular value, for the Love I believe he hath had for the pure Truth; and have been thankful for his sake, believing he hath no greater joy than to see his children walk in the footsteps of the faithful; as well as thine; that thou appears disposed to be useful in thy day age and generation, by uniting with the tribulated followers of Christ, in the arduous labour of the present day, in which most are seeking their own, and not the things which are Gods; and I hope art concerned that thou may experience a right preparation to be enabled to fill up by portion of Labour in the body, which must be by the assistance of his Holy spirit, for as the work is the Lords, so the ability to perform it through his spirit; and therefore have earnestly desired that a double portion of his spirit name rest upon thee, which I doubt not will be the case, if thou art earnest in thy petitions, and humbly watchful; For we are not only to pray but to Watch . "If thou see me when I am taken away from thee." How instructive is the

passage, how clearly it implies that whatever may have been our former experience, we must keep in a watchful state, if we receive those divine Blessings which can alone make us grow in Wisdom and stature; and I thought I felt a desire to attend my mind that thou might not only be blessed with the blessing of preservation, but that thou might more and more witness a growth in the Truth, being a good example to the young and rising generation in every respect, and willing when the Lord puts thee forth, and prepares the way to follow him to the Battle, "When thou shalt hear a sound of going in the tops of the mulberry trees, that then thou shalt go out to Battle, for God is gone forth before thee." And as the ability to go forth is of the Lord, so must our armour also. "Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: I come to thee in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied." And the event proved the certainty of the divine mission, and that the Lords Power is above all the powers of Men. May thou therefore trust in him, with thine whole heart, and never lean to thine own understanding; thus may thou experience him, to clothe and arm thee and go before thee in all thy services; for him, and his cause; who I believe will bless and prosper his own work, and the Labour of all those whom rightly engage therein I am thy affectionate friend.

Joseph Wood

For Joshua Dyson  
of Shelley Woodhouse

Newhouse 5<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 6<sup>th</sup>. 1803

Respected Friend  
Joseph Cloud

Altho' I am pretty much a stranger to thee as to the outward, not having been favoured to be much in thy company, save in our own and the Quarterly Meeting; wherein according to my small measure, I united with thy service, and Gospel Labours; feeling thankful that the great Master continues to send forth his servants to plant and water his heritage. Yet at the request of John Bottomley (who got well home the fourth day evening after he parted with thee) and several other friends, I am willing to give thee some information concerning him. He came from a neighbouring Meeting to reside within the compass of ours, I think about 13 years ago, and dwelt in some apartments alone, but being in a very poor state of health attended with strong convulsions, which many times confined him for several weeks together, some friends applied to me to take him to my house, which I consented to; and have been fully satisfied it was in the ordering of best wisdom; his health being in a wonderful manner restored, and never had been but one slight attack of the convulsion since. He hath now lived about 12 Years with me, during which time he hath demean'd himself so in such a manner as to gain the general esteem of both friends and others in our neighbourhood. In the course thereof, he hath frequently dropt a few words in our meetings, and appeared to grow in his Gift, which hath been as far as I have ever heard generally satisfactory to the friends of our Monthly Meeting. It is not improbable but he may at times have exceeded his commission, like some others; but believe there has always been a good degree of sincerity about him. Some friends of the Quarterly meeting have not appeared altogether so well satisfied with his appearances; whether it may have arisen from misrepresentations; which is too apt to prejudice the mind; or from a clearer Judgment than we have been favoured with; I leave; However this hath been the only reason our Monthly meeting have not recommended him as a Minister in Unity believing if he is preserved faithful his Gift will in time make way for itself. Many who have been entire Strangers have been dipped into his state, express'd their Unity with him, and encouraged him to faithfulness; one of this number not very long ago, travelling in our parts, sat long in the meeting in silence, and at length arose with a few words to this effect that something obstructed his moving which he apprehended was some not giving up to the clear manifestations of duty.

After which John Bottomley dropt a few words, and the Stranger had afterwards a very open favoured time. At the close of the meeting he took John aside, and told him he had obstructed his way for want of giving up, and encouraged him to faithfulness. I have no doubt if he had spread his concern to accompany thee to London before our Monthly meeting but it would have met with the full approbation of the friends thereof; but as this was not the case, we are glad that he took the advice of the Friends and return'd home. And tho' the beforementioned with other tryals of a similar kind, may be permitted to overtake us in our passing along through this vale of tears, yet if we are but mercifully preserved to keep close to our own respective exercises, all things will work together for good; and if we can but honestly appeal to him who searcheth the heart and trieth the reins, and in humble confidence say, "Doubtless thou art our Father, though Abraham be ignorant of us, and Israel acknowledge us not; thou O Lord, art our Father, our redeemer, thy name is from everlasting."

It is enough. Thus my dear Friend, I have you given thee as honest and account as I can, in the narrow compass of a Letter concerning him; purely for thy own information, and believe it may be safest, for thee to keep it pretty much to thyself, only if thou art free thou may shew it to Frederick Smith. Pleased to give our united dear love to him, and accept the same thyself. If either of you should find freedom to write to us it would be truly acceptable to hear from you, Direct, To Robert Firth Huddersfield Yorkshire, For Joseph Wood of Newhouse. I am thy affectionate Friend

Joseph Wood

For Joseph Cloud from North Carolina in America at London

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Memorandum       John Bottomley apprehending he had a concern on his mind to have a religious opportunity with John Mallinson and his Wife, their children, and servants; imparted the same to me, when after duly weighing it for the most part of a year, he supposed the time was fully come to perform the same, if no objections appeared; and desiring me to communicate his concern to John and his Wife which I did in writing; and received for answer That they was truly thankful to the Allwise Being for putting it into the heart of their friend to pay them such a visit, and that they would endeavour to have their family in readiness to receive him at the time proposed which was the 4<sup>th</sup>. of the 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1803 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week at 7 o'clock in the evening. John Bottomley having previously desired me to accompany him, I felt something more than an inclination to join in therewith having believed for some time there was some stirrings of good in some of their children; for whom I had many times felt a tender regard; and had a long time been rather particularly attach'd unto Joseph Grayham their servant in husbandry, betwixt whom and me there had been a growing friendship as far as our differing situations would admit, I believe there is a seed of God in him which the Lord is at times and seasons visiting, in order for its deliverance, and am sometimes favoured with a ray of hope that this may in time bring forth an heavenly birth, If in the day of the Lords Power, he is mercifully brought into a disposition of mind to cease from doing evil and cleave to that which is good, with full purpose of heart. We went up to

Birdsedge and sat down at the time appointed with John Mallinson and his wife, and George, Susanna, John, Sarah and Hannah their children (the four youngest being too young to sit to advantage were gone to rest) and Joseph Grayham and Hannah Armitage their Servants who did not profess with us. John Bottomley was first concerned therein a pretty long time in Testimony from Psalms 119. v. 1, 2. Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the Lord. Blessed are they did keep his Testimonies, and that seek him with their whole heart. I had a very long time next from Ex: C: 3. v. 7, 8. I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows. And I am come down to deliver out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, and to a land flowing with milk and honey. John Bottomley had a short time next from John C: 11. v: 28. The Master is come, and calling for thee. I had a long time next from 1 Chron: C: 4. v: 10. Oh that thou wouldest blessed me indeed, and enlarge my coast, and that thine hand might be with me, and that thou wouldest keep me from evil, that it may not grieve me and God granted him that which he requested. John Bottomley was next concerned in Prayer and Praises to Almighty God, on behalf of the various states in this family. After which, I acknowledged our obligation to all for so readily and willingly sitting down with us, and as the Lord had been pleased to open a door of utterance, so I believed he had also a door of entrance in the minds of divers, and a lively hope attended my mind that the labour at this time bestowed, would prove as bread cast upon the waters the effects of which would be seen in some many days hence; concluding with an affectionate address and exhortation to the children to obey God and their Parents; and to the servants to attend diligently to the gift of God in the secret of their own hearts which would teach them what they ought to do, and what they ought to leave undone; and felt they were deprived of the privilege many others were favoured with in that they could not read the Scriptures of Truth, yet they were not beneath our heavenly Fathers notice; and if they were careful to improve the Talent recieved they would not miss of their reward. It was indeed a time of memorable favour, The way of Life and salvation was clearly opened, the Power of the Lord eminently manifested for our help and the encouragement of others to serve him with a perfect heart and a willing mind. The opportunity held 2 hours, after which we tarried supper, and then return'd home, with humble and thankful hearts to him who yet remains to be to his dependent ones, strength in weakness, riches in poverty, and a present help in every needful time, yea he is all in all unto them who trust in him and lean not to their own understanding. We got home at about half past 10 o'clock.

Memorandum            On this 6<sup>th</sup>. day of ye. 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1803 died Cousin George Stead Son of Joseph Stead of Toppett aged near 20 Years and was buried in friends Burying.ground at Highflatts ye. 11<sup>th</sup>. of the same and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, He had lived servant in a Shop with a friend of Sunderland in the County of Durham where he was taken suddenly with spitting of Blood, which increasing upon him, he parted with considerable quantities, which reduced him very low so that it was thought he would scarcely have lived until his Father could have got there, but the bleeding being stopp'd, after being confined there some weeks he recovered so much strength as to get to his Fathers where he much desire to be just three weeks before he died. I set out to attend his Burial, about 6 o'clock in the morning in company with cousin George Mallinson of Birdsedge and dear William Taylor, there was many invited and it being the first.day of the week a great concourse of People of other Societies attended so that the Meetinghouse was much crowded and many up the stairs, An awakening call was renewedly extended, the way of Life and salvation clearly opened; and the Truths of the Gospel largely declared; and the People exhorted to make a right preparation for their final change. It was a time of high favour and I believe many minds were humbled under a feeling sense of that Power which yet remains to be the crown and glory of our Assemblies and his humble

depending children were renewedly encouraged to trust in the Lord Jehovah in whom is everlasting strength. John Bottomley had a pretty long time in testimony therein first from Matt: C: 24. v: 44. Be ye also ready; for in such an hour as ye think not the son of man cometh. I had a very long time next from Acts C: 17. v. 30, 31. The times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent: Because he hath appointed a day in which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead. John Bottomley was next concerned in Prayer. I had a pretty long time in Testimony next from the Apostles mission Acts C: 26. v. 18. To turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God. afterwards John Bottomley had a short time from Rev: C: 15. v. 3. Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of Saints. After meeting cousin Joseph Stead was very desirous for me to go with them to dine but I excused myself, having been very unwell all the day so that I much doubted my being able to sit the meeting and feeling much spent with the exercise thereof I came home and felt I thought as I sat very poorly and weak but after dinner Joseph Grayham came and spent the afternoon with me of whose company I was glad, he had been at Meeting to day, and I thought I could clearly perceive the good effects that memorable opportunity of last first day evening had had upon his mind, there appears to be a growing nearness towards each other, and an increase of pure love and unfeigned friendship; He stop'd until near bed time and sat with us in our reading which proved another season of renewed favour in which I was strengthened to bear a pretty long testimony from Tit: C: 3. v. 3, 4, 5. We were ourselves also sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful and hating one another. But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared, Not by works of righteous which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost. After supper I set dear Joseph Grayham a little on his way towards home were we parted in much nearness of affection feeling secret supplications that God who hath graciously visited him and called him by his Grace, may be pleased to keep him from evil and lead him in the way everlasting. I believe he is favoured with a good capacity, and understanding, considering his education as about the last year at this time he scarce could read a word. But having endeavoured to instruct him as well as I could I had the pleasure to find him improve in reading beyond any I had ever any concern teaching before considering the little leisure time he has, This afternoon he read a chapter from the Testament for the first time and perform'd it to my admiration. At my return home I felt humbly thankful for the extraordinary favours of this day but remembered that altho' Mordicai was honoured before the People with being cloathed with the Royal robes and having it proclaimed before him That this is the man whom the King delighteth to honour, yet he was to be again stripped, and returned to his humble station of sitting at the Kings Gate, and so must all the Lords servants.

Memorandum            On ye. 27<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1801, I wrote a Letter to Joseph Grayham servant in husbandry with cousin John Mallinson of Birdsedge. My mind was much exercised about it before I was brought into a state of willingness to set pen to paper on that occasion. and the more so as at that time I had no acquaintance with him, and had understood that he could neither read nor write, but thought I might probably get some friend to read it to him; But after I had wrote it I could not feel liberty to get any body to do it neither could I find a way open to do it myself, yet my concern for his welfare rather increased than abated. The winter following I encouraged him to endeavour to learn to read, and I would lend him all the instruction in my Power, which he appeared very willing to do, and made considerable progress for the time therein this began an acquaintance, and brought us into the way of more familiarity with each other, by more frequent opportunities of being together and sometimes alone, yet no way seemed to opened to read the Letter which sometimes brought me very low

in my mind respecting it, not understanding the cause why it should be thus. This winter I again resumed my care of instructing him in reading and attended pretty diligently to it with pleasure finding him not only desirous to learn, but to improve therein far beyond my expectation, I also felt an increase of Love to him and concern for his welfare both in this world and in that which is to come; and being made sensible at times in our communication together that Jesus drew near, and that the visitation of Gods Love was many times renewedly extended towards him. I endeavoured to improve these opportunities to his advantage as the Lord was pleased to open my way, and one evening in our conversation I felt Liberty to inform him that I wrote a letter to him upwards of two years ago, which he had never yet seen nor heard of the contents thereof. On ye. 11<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1803, after the burial of Cousin George Stead, Joseph Grayham came to my house and spent the remainder of the day with me, my family being most of them from home, In the course of our conversation I mentioned something again of the Letter, when he signified he had oftens thought since I mentioned it to him that he could like to hear it read, upon which I fetched it and read it to him being now fully satisfied that this was the right time. and under the exercise I have had to pass through respecting this, I have remembered the language of the Prophet, "O Lord, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps." Also, "The vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not Lye: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry." I thought I felt most easy to commit this to writing having oftens had to admire the varied ways the Almighty makes use of in order to bring poor lost man to the knowledge of himself.

12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 14<sup>th</sup>. 1803.

#### Joseph Grayhams Register

Joseph Grayham, formerly of Kirkburton but now of Birdsedge servant in husbandry to John Mallinson at the writing of this the 18<sup>th</sup>. day of the 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1803; was born ye 1<sup>st</sup>. of ye 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. commonly called January 1779.

Memorandum            On the 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 1804, and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week John Yeardley of Blacker near Worsbrough came to my house on purpose to see me, he got here betwixt 10 and 11 o'clock in the forenoon, attended our meeting, and tarried with us until after Tea, and then return'd home, He is a hopeful youth, tender in spirit, and of a sweet natural disposition was convinced in the truth in an opportunity I had at his Fathers house, and I hope is likely to do well; I love him much, and much desire his preservation, growth and establishment upon the everlasting foundation against which the gates of Hell is not able to prevail. The same day after dinner did Joseph Grayham came to my house and tarried until nearly 10 o'clock in the evening; he was this day 25 years of age. I have for 4 weeks passed gone every night on the week.days to their Shop at Birdsedge to instruct him in reading, and on first.days he hath mostly attended at my house, and I think I can truly say I have never found more satisfaction in anything I have ever undertook for the good of my fellow creatures. His diligence in endeavouring to learn and considerable improvements therein, made me give up my time to attend on him with abundance of pleasure, and also to purchase him at my own expense every thing that was necessary for his improvement, and the more we were together the more our Love and respect to, and for each other increased; and I could plainly perceive that his mind became not only more and more weaned from unprofitable company, but the visitations of the Love of God being frequently renewed to him, there became more and more a willingness to bow under them which afforded me a comfortable

hope at times that he may not only be the called but the saved of the Lord. On the 21<sup>st</sup>. of the 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1803 after much exercise of mind I was made willing to give up to write to him (see my Letter Book Page 30) which Letter I read him last first day evening, he was much affected during my reading of it and after I had done we were so humbled together under a feeling sense of the cementing love of Truth, that I believe it was a time that will not soon be forgot, Altho' no words were spoken. This evening George and John Mallinson sons of cousin John Mallinson of Birdsedge attended our reading, which proved to be a time of eminent favour to us all. I had a pretty long time in testimony therein being first opened from Psalms 119. v: 32. I will run the way of thy commandments, when thou shalt enlarge my heart. First shewing the necessity there was for Ministers as well as others to wait for the arising of that divine Power which enlargeth the heart before they could run the ways of the Lord commands, and then had to open the way of Life and salvation in very plain and clear manner from Rom: C: 6. v: 4. We are buried with him by baptism into death; that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the Glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. Afterwards I had a short testimony from Luke C: 12. v: 48. Unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall much be required. Having the language of encouragement to some state who might at times be ready to think they were not so eminently favoured as some others desiring that these might not be discouraged but be faithful in a little and they would not lose their reward. As we are not accountable for what we have not received, but for our improvement with what we have recieved, instancing the Parable of the Talents. This opportunity greatly relieved my mind having had this day a painful distressing meeting at Highflatts in which I had hard labour in a short plain testimony. Joseph Grayham and me spend most of our time this afternoon in the Parlour by ourselves, in reading, spelling retirement and sweet conversation; and at parting had to acknowledge our mutual satisfaction therewith to each other.

Memorandum            On the 29<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 1804 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, Joseph Grayham and me went to Kirkburton to see his Mother and having a desire to go privately, we had before agreed to meet in a certain place in the fields about half a mile from our places of residence, and to leave home as soon as we could after meeting and dinner was over, I set out a little after 2 o'clock, and he was got to the place appointed for our meeting a little before me, We had a very pleasant walk it being one of the most remarkable fine days I ever knew at the time of year, being clear, warm and without frost much more like a day in that the 6<sup>th</sup>. than the 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. We took Tea and everything with us, except water necessary for our drinking, got there before 4 o'clock, were we met with a very kind of reception not only from his Mother but Father in Law. My dear friend having taken his books with him, we went thro' our course of learning as usual on other first.day afternoons, viz. read three chapters in the Testament twice over the first time he read alone I looking over him, the latter time we read verse for verse; and said two spelling Lessons. His Parents were much surprized at his improvement, and encouraged him therein. They insisted on us stopping supper which we did. The moon arose about 8 o'clock and we set out betwixt 8 and 9, It was a charming evening, and loving each others company made the way appear short and pleasant to us, got home about 10 o'clock, being both of us are very well satisfied with our Journey. Since I began to instruct him in reading there hath been a particular Love and friendship for each other which I believe is not only firm but I hope will be lasting. There being a visible alteration in him. For altho' he was always a particular good servant, and remarkable quiet, good natured man, yet he has been too much attach'd to vain and unprofitable company, and thereby drawn to the unnecessary frequenting of Alehouses and drinking, with perhaps other temptations the natural product of such a course of Life. But he hath now forsook all his former companions, and I believe is earnestly desirous to experience the forgiveness of his sins, and deliverance from all evil. He told me one evening last week he hoped he should be favoured to attain this state but no man knew the conflict of spirit he had had to pass through within the last year,

adding what is past cannot be again undone, but he believed it would make him more careful in future. I hope he who hath been graciously pleased to visit his soul, and favour him with the gift of repentance, and strength to forsake those things which had formerly captivated him, will carry on the work he hath began and in his own time favour him with the knowledge of the remission of his sins through the name of Christ, and enable him to walk before him in newness of Life the remainder of his days. For sometime past he has not attended any place of Publick Worship except occasionally our Meetings, only the religious opportunity usually held in my family on first day evenings, which I believe hath been made truly profitable unto him; being rather of a backward than forward disposition, I believe he will be careful of his steps, yet I have no doubt but if his obedience keep pace with the knowledge he is and will be favoured with; but in time he will be strengthened to confess to the Truth, by coming up faithfully in the various branches of those testimonies we as a People are called to bear, thus manifesting to others that he is on the Lords side. So be it, saith my soul.

Memorandum          Having had it on my mind has for some time to visit the Meeting at Lumbroyd near Penistone, and my beloved friend and Scholar Joseph Grayham inclining to accompany me I was glad thereof, having spent much time this winter in instructing him in reading, very much to my own as well as his satisfaction, having very much improv'd therein; and I believe his mind hath also been benefitted in the best respect by the religious opportunities we have had together, so that a very near Love and friendship hath been begotten between us, which if we are both of us concerned to keep in our proper places, I believe nothing but death will be able to dissolve. We purposed setting out on this Journey ye. 3<sup>rd</sup>. of ye. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. 1804, and 7<sup>th</sup>. day of the week after my beloved companion had done his work But it being very cold and Snowy, he knew not whether I should go or no, and about 5 o'clock in the afternoon came down to my house to see, I was got ready, and at Tea; he stopp'd and got Tea with us, and then went home and prepared himself immediately. I set out about 6 o'clock and we met together at the top of the hill above our house and tho' the night continued rough, the near friendship which subsisted betwixt us and the love we had for each other's company made us think little either at the weather or the way. We went by Ing. Birchworth to Penistone were we just called to see George Chapmans whose family had been for a long time in a very poor state of health, his son appeared to be better, and his daughter not worse, but very weak and I think her recovery very doubtful; We stopt whilst we drunk a pint of Beer, and then proceeded to Thomas Earnshaws of Judfield got there a little before 8 o'clock were we lodg'd. On 4<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of the week we went with Thomas Earnshaw and his Apprentice Job Jepson to their meeting at Lumbroyd; Joseph Grayham my beloved companion had not been at one before to day since the burial of George Stead nor at any other place of Worship except the religious opportunities on first day evenings at my house. The meeting began as usual at 11 o'clock and held 2 hours, It was smaller than usual owing to the Snow. But soon after I sat me down I was fully convinced that my being there was in the right time and the young man who accompanied me was the right Person. It proved to be a time of high favour, the Power of the Almighty eminently overshadowing us, and I had a long and encouraging testimony to bear therein from Heb: C: 9. v. 27, 28. As it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many: and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation. After which I had a few words in exhortation to some particular state from 1 Thes: C: 5. v. 19. Quench not the spirit.

The Yearly Meeting Epistle was afterwards read and then this solemn satisfactory meeting closed, with a hope that the impressions made on some minds will not easily be erased. We came with George Chapman to his house to dine, and after dinner, cousin George Mallinson and my Nephew Robert Wood came to see them As we sat together a weighty exercise came over my mind, I sat under it for a considerable time; but at length had a pretty long

exhortation to drop principally to the youth which tendered much to the relief of my oppressed spirit. After Tea we set out immediately for home were we got just in time to our reading at 7 o'clock. After we had read as usual, our minds were sweetly comforted with a solemn quietude and towards the close of the opportunity I had a pretty long testimony to bear from Gen: C: 4. v: 7. If thou dost well, shalt thou not be accepted? And if thou dost not well, sin lieth at thy door. Afterwards my dear friend Joseph Grayham read a Lesson, as he had done several whilst we had been away being desirous not to neglect his improvement of this kind; and after supper he went home as usual about 10 o'clock.

The exercise of John Yeardley of Blacker near Worsbro' wrote down 9<sup>th</sup>. of 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mo. 1804.

As I quickly rode along pursuing these earthly enjoyments, It pleased the Lord in the riches of his mercy, to turn me back in the bloom of my youth; and favoured me with the overshadowing of his Love, to see the splendid pleasures that so easily detain'd my precious time: He was graciously pleased to call me to that important work, which must be done in all our hearts; which appears to be no small cross to my own will, and attended with many discouragements; yet I am made to believe it is the way wherein I ought to go, and I trust thou O Lord! who has called, will enable me to give up, and come forward in perfect obedience to the manifestations of thy divine Light, so as a thorough change maybe wrought, that I may be fitted and prepared for a place in thy everlasting kingdom. Tho' at times I am led into great discouragement, and almost ready to faint by the way, fearing in my mind I shall never be made conqueror over those potent enemies who so much oppose my happiness. But O! be thou found near in these needful times and underneath to support and bear me up through all the difficulties which is necessary I should pass thro' for my further refinement, whilst I have a being on this earthly pilgrimage. Strong are the ties that seem to attach me to the earth; but O! I have cause to believe from a known sense, that stronger are the ties of thy overshadowing spirit, than all the ties of natural affection. Great and frequent are the tryals and temptations, and narrow is the way wherein we ought to walk Alass too narrow for many; O may I ever be preserved faithfully pressing forward to the land of eternal rest. Dear Lord who knows the secrets of all hearts, thou knows I am at times under a sense of great weakness: But thou who art always waiting to gather the tender youth into thy flock and family, has mercifully reached over me with thy gathering arm; may thou ever be near to enable and strengthen me in all weakness, and make me willing to leave all, and take up my daily cross and follow thee in the denial of self, not fearing to confess thee before men. Always give me strength to perform whatsoever thou may require at my hands, wean my affections more and more, and draw me nearer to thyself; and lead me through this world as a stranger, never to be known unto it more but by the Name of

John Yeardley about 18 years of age

Memorandum            On the 11<sup>th</sup>. day of ye 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. 1804 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week of my beloved friend and companion Joseph Grayham being in want to have a Box to put his Books in his Mother and Aunt came this day to Birdsedge to see him, and brought one with them for him. After dinner they came with him to my house, I was pleased to see them for my dear friends sake whom I much love and esteem his company being very acceptable to me, and since the commencement of a particular acquaintance with each other there is a very visible change for the better in him, I sincerely desire he may be strengthened to persevere in the path into which his feet hath been measurably turned, and that he may experience everything removed out of the way that may have a tendency to hinder his growth and establishment in the pure Truth. I invited them to stop all night, they accepted the invitation; which gave them

an opportunity, of sitting with us at our Reading; and I believe neither of them had ever been at a friends meeting before. It proved a remarkable favoured time the Power of the Truth eminently overshadowing us; The way of Life and salvation was clearly opened, and all encouraged to come forward in the line of perfect obedience, not regarding the reproaches and revilings of men nor the tryals they might have to meet with from within or from without, for then the Lord would be their support. After me and my family had each of us read a chapter in the Testament, a solemn silence ensued; after which I had a long testimony to bear from Eph: C: 2. v. 8, 9, 10. By grace are ye saved, through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God: not of works lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ.Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them. John Bottomley next from John C: 3. v: 3. Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. I was next concerned in Prayer, and afterwards had a pretty long time in the testimony from Luke C; 9. v: 57, 58. Lord I will follow thee withersoever thou goest. And Jesus said unto him, Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head. After supper I set dear Joseph Grayham on his way a little towards home and had reason to believe the opportunity this evening had been particularly profitable to him. May he who hath been pleased to favour him much, continue to renew his favours, until he rule and reign, and sway his righteous sceptre in his heart is the sincere desire of my mind.

On Thomas Ross (an American)

An honoured Father, and a faithful friend  
 Let those that read excuse the lines I've penn'd  
 The tongues of Infants cannot express his praise  
 Their sounds too weak, too simple are their lays  
 His Love so great he crost the dangerous seas  
 To rouse the carnal minds that are at ease  
 His Sufferings great yet was he not dismay'd  
 His thoughts on heaven and heavenly things were stay'd  
 But time shall come when he shall have release  
 And sing triumphant in the realms of peace  
 Ah! happy man how greatly is he Blessed  
 Who when he dies shall go to endless rest.

On the Death of Thomas Ross of Salisbury Township Bucks County Pennsylvania in America who died when on a religious visit to this Nation at the house of Lindley Murray at Holgate, near York ye. 13<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mo.1786 and was interred in Friends Burial.ground in that city ye. 16 of the same aged 78 years

He's gone the hoary saint to take his flight  
 To endless glory, and celestial light;  
 With kindred Saints and Angels to adore  
 The blest Effulgence uncreated Power  
 In full Ecstatic bliss for ever more  
 This veteran Soldier in the Captains cause  
 Ne'er sought for Grandeur or the Worlds applause  
 But nobly gave up all he had most dear,  
 To cross the vast Atlantic; void of fear;

He Boldly Preached experimental Truth,  
 To rouse the careless and to draw the youth  
 From errors mazes - Satan's artful Toils  
 Which to Perdition lead unwary souls;  
 What boundless love has form'd Redemption's plan  
 To snatch from Torment poor degenerate man;  
 'Twas Love Divine, Omnipotence alone  
 Commissioned the Messiah to atone  
 For sin. Mysterious Gift to mortals given  
 To change mans lot from Hell to glorious heaven  
 May then each Soul obey the mystic call,  
 That Heaven has sent to counteract the fall;  
 The still small voice that points the certain Road  
 To Peace, to Piety, to Bliss, to God.  
 Obedience the condition on our part,  
 In purity and singleness of heart,  
 Then we like him may joy in Seraphic strains  
 And sing high Praises in celestial Plains.

York

N: Bell

## On Providence

1

In all the works of Providence  
 Appears a God Supreme  
 Who dares to call on vain pretence  
 This Truth an idle dream

2

Let the Proud Atheist look around  
 And natures frame survey  
 'Twill all his airy schemes confound  
 And all the God display.

3

The Beasts that tread the wide domain  
 The Fish that skim the sea  
 One mighty ruling Power proclaim  
 And proves a Deity.

4

Each Plant and Flower that grows below,  
 Their attestations bring,  
 The joyous Birds from Bough to Bough,  
 Their grateful Anthems sing.

5

Then let not man supreme of all  
 That's underneath the sun  
 Reject the inward powerful call  
 But saved thy will be done.

6

Thy Will O Lord! that reigns on high,  
 And every heart surveys  
 And with thy penetrating eye,

Views all our hidden ways.

7

With awful reverence make us Bow,  
To thy all wise decree  
Oh take our thought from things below,  
And fix them all on thee.

Jane Shipley Sen.

### On a Friend

The name of a man who his Master belied  
The good Prophets Name who did bad ones deride  
The worthy old man who the Ark did receive  
And the beautiful damsel that veil'd in the eve  
The Seer who bad David his Punishment chuse  
And her who requested the Life of the Jews  
His Mother who most did in Wisdom abound  
The Sister of her who for Gleaning's renown'd  
His Grandsire who oft the Philistines did spoil  
And an Israelite indeed in whom is no Guile  
The Initials hereof composing a Name  
Speaks a Man in pursuit of the only true Fame  
Whose actions and Lifes untainted with Blame  
Whose Love to mankind flows in Precepts sublime  
So clear none can question his mission divine.

Gehaze, Elisha, Obededum, Ruth, Gad, Esther, Bathsheba, Orpha, Oreb. Nathaniel

George Boon of Birmingham an eminent Preacher amongst the People called Quakers.

Memorandum      On ye. 14<sup>th</sup>. day of ye. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. 1804 Jonathan Bashforth of Barnsley departed this Life aged about 39 Years and was buried in friends Burial ground at Burton ye 17<sup>th</sup>. of the same and 7<sup>th</sup>. day of the week. He was convinced of Truth when young, and after his marriage his Wife being convinced also, and both endeavouring to be faithful to the discoveries they were favoured with They became good examples to others, and when it pleased the Lord to visit divers in that Town and bring them to the knowledge of the Truth, they opened their house for them to meet in on first.day afternoons, and I believe were singularly serviceable to them. He was never admitted a member of our Society; But I believe united in that which is beyond outward Fellowship, and tho' in low circumstances in the world his heart and house were open to receive and entertain Friends, with which his Wife cordially united. In a word he was generally beloved by all ranks of People who knew him, and his death much lamented; and being gone hath left a good savour behind him. Being invited to his Burial, I set out from home ye. 17<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. 1804 and 7<sup>th</sup>. of the week when betwixt 6 and 7 o'clock in the morning and went by Denby and Cawthorne to Barnsley were I got to Isabella Bashforths betwixt 9 and 10 o'clock, Tea and Coffee were provided for friends and Neighbours and most friends and Relatives were invited to return from meeting to dinner. John Bottomley went the day before to assist them. After all had got necessary refreshment, we proceeded with the corps to Burton The Meeting began about 11 and held near 2 hours. It was pretty large and I thought eminently favoured. John Bottomley had a pretty long

testimony therein first from the Parable of the Talents. I next from 2 Kin: C: 20. v. 1, 2, 3. Thus saith the Lord, Set thine house in order; for thou shalt die and not live. Then he turned his face to the wall and prayed unto Lord, saying, I beseech thee, Oh Lord, remember now how I have walked before thee in Truth, and with a perfect heart, and have done that which is good in thy sight, and Hezekiah wept sore. John Bottomley was next concerned in Prayer. It was a solemn occasion, and an awful solemnity, mercifully covered many minds. After meeting John Bottomley set out towards Pontefract intending for that meeting next day. But it being the Preparative Meeting at Burton I inclined to stop, accordingly return'd with others to dine, and after dinner went to Joel Yeardeleys of Blacker to Tea in company with his Son Thomas were I lodg'd. On 18<sup>th</sup>. of 1<sup>st</sup>. of week, set out for Burton in company with Frances Yeardley and her son John, in our way stopp'd a little at Barnsley with the very sorrowful widow of the deceased; and then proceeded. The meeting at Burton was larger than usual, and I hope it was a profitable encouraging time to some I had a long testimony to bear therein from Jer: C: 46. v: 28. Fear thou not, O Jacob my servant, saith the Lord; for I am with thee; for I will make a full end of all the nations whither I have driven thee; but I will not make a full end of thee. At the close of the meeting for Worship was their Preparative meeting. Of the committee appointed to attend here there was John Pickford and myself. The Queries were read and answered, and the other business gone thro'. Both meetings held 2 hours and a half. Samuel Laver waited for me until the close of the Preparative meeting, and took me with him to his house at Woodnook near Cudworth to dine were I tarried all night. After the meeting at Barnsley, Thomas Dixon Walton came here to sleep with me and accompany me the next day to our Monthly meeting to be held at Ackworth. In the evening we had a religious opportunity in the family which was mercifully overshadowed with divine regard when we had sat about half an hour together five sober young People two men and three Women came in from the village and sat down with us, after which I had a pretty long testimony to bear from Deut: C: 18. v: 15. The Lord thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; and to him ye shall hearken. Afterwards I was concerned in Prayer On 19<sup>th</sup>. of 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week about 8 o'clock in the morning we set out and went by Cudworth, Brierley and Hemsworth to Ackworth, got there about 10 were we got Tea at the School. The meeting for worship began at 11 and it was the smallest I ever remember there owing perhaps to the weather which was severe a day or two before. John Bottomley had a short testimony to bear the therein from Isia: C: 40. v. 31. They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength. At the close of this meeting was the meeting for discipline. The Queries were read and answers received from all our Preparative meetings viz. Pontefract, Highflatts, Ackworth, Wakefield, Wooldale and Burton. In answer to the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Query it appeared that the state of our meetings were generally low, yet several sober People attended divers of them who appeared to be under convincement; and four had been accepted into membership since last year viz. 3 in Wakefield and 1 in Burton meetings. A General Answer was drawn up approved and Signed in order to be laid before our ensuing Quarterly meeting. A great deal more business was gone thro' and the whole was satisfactorily conducted. Both meetings held 4 hours and a half. After which I din'd at James Bucks, and drank Tea at Joseph Johnson's, Supp'd and slept at the School. On 20<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week I breakfasted at Robert Whitaker's, and betwixt 10 and 11 o'clock set out for home in company with John Bottomley we came by Hazle and Havercroft to Notton were we din'd, paid 10d a piece eating and 3d Liquor stopp'd about an hour and a half, and then came by Woolley, Haigh and Hoyland to cousin Joseph Steads of Toppet were we stopp'd about 1 hour and a half and drank Tea, then came by Denby home were we got betwixt 6 and 7 o'clock. In the evening my beloved friend Joseph Grayham came to see me and stopt to sleep with me I was pleased with his company, altho' I perceive he was in trouble and sympathized with him. I found upon enquiry it preceded from some uncivil treatment and behaviour towards him in their own family, Many are strangers to the exercise of visited minds, and for want of living up to what they do profess are, instead of being helpful to such, cause of stumbling, and sometimes turn the feet of the weak out of the way or cause them to continue long in the wilderness.

Memorandum Our worthy friend Isabella Harris being under appointment of the Monthly Meeting with some other friends to visit Sarah Firth now Ives who was married by a Priest to a person of another persuasion. And Hannah Haigh who was entangling herself by keeping company with one not a member of our society, performed the said visits and was at our meeting at Highflatts on the 25<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. 1804 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, which proving a very stormy day caused the meeting to be smaller than usual altho' several People of other Societies came in. It proved a season of remarkable favour Isabella Harris had a long testimony to bear therein being largely opened to set forth the nature of true spiritual Worship, the baptizing Power which accompanies Gospel ministry, and the nature and effects of the one essential and saving Baptism of Christ with the emptiness of all outward and typical observations Concluding with recommending all of us to the word placed in the secret of each heart. After a short time in silence she had a pretty long time in testimony again from Heb: C: 4. v: 12. The Word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow; and is a discerner of the thoughts and intentions of the heart. After dinner my dearly beloved friend Joseph Grayham came to my house as usual spent the afternoon, and tarried all night and slept with me. It being the last night of our reading for this winter we were favoured with a comfortable refreshing opportunity together altho' I was very poor and low in the forepart thereof But when God is pleased to arise, his and our souls enemies are scattered; and sometimes after stripping seasons, Truth is experienced to reign over all. After we had read and been sometime collected in silence, I had been long and encouraging testimony to bear from Isia: C: 40. v. 29, 30, 31. He giveth Power to the faint: and to them that have no might he increases strength, Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall. But they that wait upon the Lord they shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary; and they shall walk and not faint. Afterwards John Bottomley had a short testimony chiefly by way of caution to those who had experienced the Lord to bring them as out of Egypts land, and seen his wonders which he had wrought for their deliverance in the wilderness, to keep watchful and not look back, nor lust after those things which were left behind.

Memorandum On the 29<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. 1804 Thomas the son of Joseph Ingram departed this Life at Dakinbrook in Cawthorne the place of the familys residence, aged about seven months. His Father having been disown'd for marrying by a Priest but continuing to attend meetings obtained leave to bury it on 1<sup>st</sup>. of 4<sup>th</sup>. Mo. and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week in friends Burial.ground at Highflatts, which enlarged our meeting several accompanying the corps who had never been at one of our meetings before altho' several were prevented attending by the Storminess of the morning. It proved a satisfactory opportunity, I had to set forth the peaceable reign of the Messiah, and the way and means by which all might experience a being brought under his peaceable Government in a long testimony from John C: 11. v: 48. If we let him thus alone, all men will believe on him, and the Romans shall come and take away both our place and nation.

Memorandum Our valuable and much esteemed friend William Jackson from Pennsylvania in America in the course of his religious visit to friends in these parts was at Lumbroyd meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 4<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1804 and 7<sup>th</sup>. day of the week and I feeling my mind disposed to attend there, set out from home the same morning, when I had got a little on my way I overtook cousin George Mallinson of Birdsedge who was also going thither whose company was acceptable to me we got there just in time to the meeting which began at 10 and held about two hours and a half, It was mostly select of friends, held long in silence and in the

forepart thereof was attended with heavy labour, in which time a little matter opened before me and remained with considerable weight upon my mind for some time it to deliver to the meeting, which is thro' fear I omitted, during the time I was under this exercise William Jackson stood up and said, "There is such a thing as scattering and yet increasing; and there may be a withholding more than is meet, and it tendeth to Poverty." and then sat down again. This rather encouraged me, but letting in the reasoner, the concern in time left me, and tho' I believe I suffered loss and perhaps hurt others by this omission, yet as it was thro' fear and not wilful disobedience, I was not chastened with many stripes. After some time in silence William Jackson had a pretty long testimony from Amos C: 6. v: 1. Wo to them that are at ease in Zion, and trust in the mountain of Samaria. After a short time in silence he had a long testimony again and I thought it was upon the whole a satisfactory meeting. The danger of continuing to sit down at ease in a profession, and neglecting the due attendance of religious meetings, as well as unfaithfulness to manifestations of duty were pointed out the last of which he said brought weakness; The youth were tenderly called upon to close in it with defining Visitations and then some would have to acknowledge, The Lord was their Shepherd and they should not want. After meeting I went with William Jackson and other friends to dine at George Chapmans of Penistone. After dinner William Jackson a proposed setting out for Sheffield to be at their meeting the next day and the guide came to accompany him. He felt a stop in his mind and a concern to go from hence to Burton meeting; so concluded to tarry here all night; The friends leaving, and George Chapman being engaged; I stopt and kept him company, and being mostly by ourselves I spent a very comfortable afternoon with him, his free open solid and weighty conversation being both instructive and edifying to me One passage he related I think is well worthy of being preserved which as near as I can recollect was thus. Being many years ago on a religious visit to friends of Rhode. Island, he was several times at one meeting, where deep Suffering was his lot and very little good could he find amongst them; the last time he was there he got a little liberty to ease his mind and after meeting several young men standing, as he shook hands with them, he had a few words to drop to each of them as it immediately arose in his mind. Sometime after this one of these young men became a well approved Minister and travelling in the work thereof into the parts where William lived, asked him if he remembered being at their meeting and after meeting dropping some expressions to him as he shook hands with him, William replied he remembered something of it, but had forgot the particulars. The other then said, If ever words were spoke by the spirit of God and those were, and added. That at that time there was a difference between him and another friend and that the words which he spoke, made so deep an impression upon his mind, and stuck so close to him, that at length they caused him to dream, that he was in conversation with a friend with whom he was at different, and fully confident that he was in the right and the other wrong, but in this state he put forth his hand towards the other friend, when looking at it, it appeared as the Paw of a great black Bear; he was exceedingly shocked with the appearance, to think that an human being instead of a hand should have the Paw of a Bear which is of a rending tearing and devouring nature, and so awoke. His understanding was hereby open to see that notwithstanding his former confidence of being right he himself was in an error. and the difference was made up, and put an end to. I left Penistone betwixt 6 and 7 o'clock in the evening, and came directly to Birdsedge, were I harkened my dearly beloved friend and scholar Joseph Grayham his Lessons in the Shop, and then came home, were I got betwixt 9 and 10 o'clock.

Memorandum            On ye. 8<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 4<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1804 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week my beloved friend Joseph Grayham came to my house as usual on those days to be instructed in learning, and tarried all night and slept with me. In the latter part of the evening John Bottomley came into the Parlour and sat with us whilst he had finished his last Lesson. When we dropped into silence, and was eminently overshadowed with the heavenly wing. John Bottomley had a

pretty long testimony to bear from Ex: C: 20. v. 2, 3. I am the Lord thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. Thou shalt have no other Gods before me. And afterwards myself from Isia: C: 65. v. 1. I am sought of them that asked not for me; I am found of them that sought me not. This unexpected time of divine favour filled my heart with gratitude to the divine Being accompanied with an earnest desire that we may be strengthened to walk worthy of his manifold mercies, counting nothing too near or dear to part with, that he requires at our hands.

Memorandum            On ye. 6<sup>th</sup>. day of the 5<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1804 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week our friend Leah Kinsley came to dine with us, and stopt the afternoon, and my beloved friend Joseph Grayham coming as usual to be instructed in his learning, After Tea we closed into silence, when we was favoured with I hope a profitable opportunity in which I was first concerned a long time in testimony from Psalms 116. v. 7, 8. Return unto thy rest, O my Soul; for the Lord hath dealt bountifully with thee. For thou hast delivered my soul from death, mine eyes from tears, and my feet from falling. Leah Kinsley had a pretty long and encouraging time next from Mar: C: 8. v. 23, 24, 25. He took the blind man by the hand, and led him out of the town; and when he had spit on his eyes, and put his hands upon him, he asked him if he saw ought. And he looked up and said I see men as trees walking. After that he put his hands again upon his eyes, and made him look up; and he was restored and saw every man clearly. Afterwards I had a short time from Psalms 84. v: 11. The Lord will give grace and glory; no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.

#### An extraordinary account respecting David Sands etc of the state of New York in North America.

During the American war an encampment of about five hundred Men were stationed near the dwelling of David Sands in North America; and during their stay, David Sands and his Wife became very uneasy, particularly his Wife, who felt an intimation that some trial was approaching. In a short time afterwards she was alarmed by a noise that she heard in the house after they were gone to Bed, which her Husband apprehended might be only the wind rustling amongst the trees; In a few minutes they were certain by finding some Persons near their Room, and distinctly hearing some of them say; "Some of the family are awake we will shoot them." In this alarming situation, Personal safety seemed the first object, and they soon attempted to escape, which was easily effected by their room being on the ground floor. On getting out through the window, one of the company stationed on the outside, discharged a piece at them, the ball whereof gras'd the forehead of David Sands, however they did escape but with very thin cloathing; Being a very cold night and remaining in the open air 'till break of day, rendered it, together with their painful anxiety, a most suffering time; when they return'd to their dwelling they found it plundered of all their Cash about £50 most of their bedding and much of their furniture. A servant and two children who slept in another part of the house were not disturbed. After considering what was best to be done, David was most easy to ride to the encampment, on his arrival he saw several officers conversing together, who said to him, Mr Sands we have heard of the depredation committed at your house, and desire to know what you think can be done to discover the offenders. After solid consideration he inform'd them, that he had on the road felt a belief that if he followed best direction, if the men were called up Rank and File 50 in a company he might be able in passing through them to detect those concerned in the robbery. The officers wondered at his Proposal, thinking it were impossible he should discover them in such a manner, without any knowledge of their Persons. But they complied and gave the necessary orders. On passing down the first rank he

made a stop near the bottom, but went on to the next, when he soon made a stand at one of the Men and looking him full in the face, said to him, where was thou last tonight? he answered keeping guard Sir, and a very cold night it was? Did'st thou find it so in my house replied David? At which the man trembled much and showed evidence signs of guilt, on which he was ordered out of the Rank; and in the like manner four others were discovered. Then he went to a young Officer whom he asked how he came to aid and accompany his men in pillaging his house; he positively denied the charge, but David Sands further interrogated him, by saying; Let me feel thy heart and see if that does not accuse thee, on putting his hand to it, it throbb'd up to his neck, and so loud that David called to the other Officers to come and hear and see how it accused him, therefore he was considered guilty; two others which made up eight concerned deserted before the search commenced, and which accounted for the stop he made in the first Rank. The Officers now desired to know, what further could be done for him; he said he should like to have a his furniture and bedding etc return'd as he wanted it, bedding in particular, on which they brought the greatest part; with half the money assuring him of the rest was lost. They were brought to tryal before the civil Power, but David Sands declined appearing at the stated time, they were of course acquitted. But this not exempting them from the tryal by martial Law, and their guilt appearing beyond a doubt; the Officers had them bound together, and taken to David Sands house, informing him their lives were at his mercy, and that he was to determine their sentence. Upon which he gave them suitable advice, and then forgave them. And they being weary with travelling he ordered them suitable refreshment; At this time his Wife observing one of the men said to him, Art thou the man that shot at us; her husband made answer he hath been told of it before. David Sands was informed that the Officer could not to be pardoned as it was death to him who should have been an example to his men. But David being very solicitous to preserve his Life, asked if nothing could be done to relieve him from that Punishment; they told him there was only one way, which was for him to desert the regiment, which was permitted. They likewise said some punishment must be inflicted upon the other men, to deter others from the like practices, therefore some of them underwent a slight flogging. Several years after this occurrence David Sands was travelling upon a religious visit; and after a Publick meeting being appointed on his account, a person came to him, begged his Pardon, and was going upon his knees, which David Sands prevented, by saying he was not the Person he meant as he had no knowledge of him, but the man confessed he was one of those who was concerned in pillaging his house; and was one of the two that deserted to avoid discovery; and that he had not been easy in his mind since, but he hoped he should with his forgiveness: David told him it was out of his Power to forgive sin, but he hoped the Almighty would, as he had done long. He inform'd him that the other man liv'd at a short distance off; who soon came to David attired as a friend, asking his excuse, and confessing his crime; desiring him as a confirmation of his entire forgiveness to go with him to his house, told him he had married a Woman of the Society, but said he had not had the true peace of mind since they had done him that injury. David Sands consented to his request, and found it true as he had said, his Wife reinstated into membership in the Society, and himself on the point of being received into membership.

Rebusses by R: W: of Long Island.

1<sup>st</sup>.

The Type of Messiah that great and good King,  
 His Brother who many from Egypt did bring;  
 The Queen who a King, once refused to obey,  
 That name which to Jacob was given they say;  
 The Prophet who solv'd the King's dreams at desire,  
 And the first of the three, who were cast in the fire;

A young man, who vainly usurped the throne,  
 And he who it made to the King and Queen known;  
 The Prophetess who did deliverance bring,  
 And he who anointed young David for King.

The Initials of these will exhibit the Name,  
 Of a Man who is worthy of honour and Fame ;  
 Influenced by vigour deriv'd from above,  
 He preaches with energy, power, and Love;  
 Consistent with wisdom he's to and fro sent,  
 The good of mankind is his noble intent;  
 He cross'd the Atlantic where billows do roll,  
 In Love that would gather from north to south Pole.

David, Aaron, Vashti, Israel, Daniel, Shadrach, Adonijah, Nathan, Deborah, Samuel –  
 David Sands

2<sup>nd</sup>.

The first man appointed High Priest of the Jews,  
 And he to whom Philip did carry good news;  
 The man who by night came to Jesus we're told,  
 And the Father of Moses and Aaron of old;  
 A man who by Jesus was raised from the dead,  
 And Woman whose son was bereav'd of his head;  
 A man who with weeping his army survey'd,  
 And King who the wish of a Queen once obey'd;  
 The man who by dipping in Jordan was cured,  
 And a King of the Jews who to war was inured;  
 The man who in famine by Ravens was fed,  
 And woman in Ramah who wept for the dead.

The Initials of these arranged will spell,  
 The Name of a Woman esteem'd very well;  
 She left her connections and Britain's lov'd shore,  
 And cross'd the Atlantic full rapidly o'er  
 She's truly influenced with wisdom to teach,  
 And the gospel of peace and salvation to preach  
 America, pay the attention thats due,  
 And the glorious path of Religion pursue.

Aaron, Nathaniel, Nicodemus, Amram, Lazarus, Elizabeth, Xerxes, Ahasuerus,  
 Naaman, David, Elijah, Rachel. - Ann Alexander

3<sup>rd</sup>.

The person who most for long life was renown'd,  
 And the man who was King of Amalek crown'd;  
 The Damsel who listen'd when Peter did knock,  
 And he who gave Midians host a dire shock,  
 The Person from whom mankind did descend,  
 And the darling of Isaac his dear bosom friend;  
 With her who of old was by Satan deceiv'd,  
 And he who was slow, yet his Master believ'd;  
 The Name of the Fish at the Prophet did save,

And the Queen who the Jews from destruction did crave;  
 The Prophet renowned who did Baal oppose,  
 And one who against Moses in mutiny rose;  
 The worthy who first was translated of old,  
 And a King who in Wisdom abounded we're told.  
 The initials of these arranged, rightly, spells,  
 The Name of a friend who on Long Island dwells;  
 A kind tender Mother, affectionate Wife,  
 A lover of good, a hater of strife;  
 The muse might enlarge, and speak but the Truth,  
 The joy of my heart is the Wife of my youth;

Methuselah, Agag, Rhoda, Gideon, Adam, Rebecca, Eve, Thomas, Whale, Esther, Elijah,  
 Horah, Enoch, Solomon. - Margaret Weekes

4<sup>th</sup>.

The Man who for teaching than Gentiles was fam'd,  
 And Woman whose husband Elhanah was nam'd;  
 The Man most sublime of the Prophets in style  
 And Woman to Jacob espoused to by guile;  
 The man who took virtuous Sarah to Wife,  
 And woman whom Peter did raise unto Life  
 The man by whose valour King Eglon did fall,  
 And woman convinced by the Preaching of Paul;  
 The man who was chief when they took Jesus's life,  
 And woman whom Herod had taken to Wife;  
 The man whose beloved Rebecca well pleas'd,  
 A woman who once a bold warrior appeas'd.

By the Initials of these arrang'd will be shown,  
 The Name of a Populous city well-known.

Paul, Hanna, Isaiah, Leah, Abraham, Dorcas, Ehud, Lydia, Pilate, Herodias, Isaac, Abigail -  
 Philadelphia

Refine Weekes

Memorandum        On the 31<sup>st</sup>. of ye. 5<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1804 Joshua Broadhead of Newmill departed this Life aged about 31 years, and was buried in friends Burial ground at Wooldale ye. 3<sup>rd</sup>. of ye. 6<sup>th</sup>. Mo. and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, I being invited attended the burial but did not go to the house feeling most easy to go directly to the meeting. I set out from home betwixt 8 and 9 o'clock in the morning and meeting my beloved friend John Pickford coming to our house he concluded to accompany me, which was very acceptable, we called at my Brother Samuel Woods of Haddenley were we stopt about an hour and then proceeded, overtook the corps a little behind Newmill and accompanied it to the Graveyard. The day being very fine and the People at liberty from their work The meeting was very large a good concourse of People of other Societies attending, the Meetinghouse being very full and many upstairs, and I trust it may be said it was a favoured time, things opening suitably to the various states of the People, the way of Life and salvation being opened by Christ; in the Power and authority of the Gospel, and the people intreated to prize this renewed visitation of Gods Love to their souls. John Bottomley had a short testimony therein first from Prov: C: 16. v: 1. The preparations of the heart in man, and the answer of the tongue is from the Lord. I had a very long time next

from Isai: C: 55. v. 6, 7. Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near. Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteousness man his thoughts; and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. After which John Bottomley was concerned in Prayer and Praises to the Almighty for this renewed mark of his continued regard, and the meeting closed under a good degree of an awful solemnity having continued near 2 hours. We proposed returning directly home but at the pressing invitation of the relations of the deceased we called at his house at Newmill and din'd, stopt there upwards of an hour and then came home were I got betwixt 3 and 4 o'clock in the afternoon, and found my beloved companion Joseph Grayham there, busy in his Books; he stopp'd all night and slept with me, wrote a copy this afternoon being the second time he hath set Pen to Paper, and I may acknowledge I was surprized how well he offers. George Chapman my dear and worthy friend called at my house in his return from the Burial and drank Tea with us, stopping betwixt 2 and 3 hours, his company was truly acceptable and his conversation profitable instructive and edifying

Memorandum            On ye 17<sup>th</sup>. of ye 6<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1804 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, my beloved friend and companion Joseph Grayham was at our meeting at Highflatts, for the first time except on some Publick occasion; I did not know he was there until after the meeting but when I did know, I felt thankful, being a young man for whom I have for a considerable time past, had a very particular regard, and have been many times made sensible he hath suffered great loss for want of coming up faithfully in this respect, yet never found liberty to say anything to him by the way of encouragement, hoping in time he would be strengthened to take up this, which I believe to him hath appeared a very great cross. The meeting was pretty large, several of other Societies attending. It held very long in silence, but towards the close thereof a door of utterance was opened, and a comfortable solemnity covered the minds of many. The meeting continued upwards of 3 hours. John Bottomley was first concerned therein in supplication. I had a long testimony to bear next from Matt: C: 7. v. 13, 14. Wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it. John Bottomley had a short time next from Cant: C: 6. v:11. I went down into the garden of nuts to see the fruits of the valley, and to see whether the vine flourished and the pomegranates budded. In the afternoon Joseph Grayham came to my house as usual on these days to learn to read and write, and tarried until bedtime, I thought I could perceive the good effects of that single act of obedience in giving up to attend the meeting to day he appearing pleasant and cheerful, whereas the week before he had appeared in a very low discourage state of mind having I believe neglected his duty in this respect on first day being the day but one after David Sands was this way under whose ministerial labour he had been renewedly favoured with an heavenly invitation. This evening we were favoured with the company of several friends to lodge with us, who were come to attend the Monthly Meeting viz. Joseph Johnson and James Wigham of Pontefract, Joel Yeardeley and Frances his Wife of Burton Mg. John Robinson of Wakefield, and Elizabeth Moorhouse of Wooldale Mo. Next day ye. 18<sup>th</sup>. The Monthly meeting at Highflatts, was the largest I ever remember there except on some particular occasion, the house and the chamber being very much crowded. John Bottomley had a short testimony therein first from Job. C: 17. v: 9. The righteous shall hold on their way, and he that hath clean hands shall be stronger and stronger. Isabella Harris had a pretty long time in next from Psalms 46. v: 10. Be still and know that I am God. And afterwards myself from Sam. C: 1. v: 16. For these things I weep; mine eye, mine eye runneth down with water, because the comforter that should relieve my soul is far from me. I thought upon the whole it was a satisfactory Meeting At the close of the meeting for Worship was the meeting for discipline. Joseph Johnson and Hannah Thistlethwaite of Pontefract meeting were cleared from all other engagements relating to marriage, and left at liberty to accomplish

theirs when they and Pontefract friends see meet. A great deal of business was before the meeting to day, and the whole was amicably conducted. Both meetings held about 5 hours. After which we din'd 26 beside our own family, but had only one friend stopp'd all night, viz. John King of Brighthouse meeting.

Memorandum        On ye. 28<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 6<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1804 and 5<sup>th</sup>. day of the week in the afternoon, I went to George Chapmans of Penistone about some business, when I got upon Hoyland.moor I was surprized to see the quantity of People that were collected; On enquiring the cause I understood there was four companies of Volunteers met to have a Sham fight; and the number of People who were collected on the occasion as observers were thought to be the most that ever was seen together in this part of the country, I pitied them very much, and passed by them as quietly as I could we just observing to some whom I met my surprize at seeing their folly. In my return in the evening They Baited a Bear at Bridgend, were the concourse of People was very great, I got through them without speaking a word to any; But my heart was filled with sorrowful reflections upon the too general depravity of the People in this highly favoured land. The Psalmist saith, "Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity." But I thought where must we look and not see it, For the People in general seem wholly devoted to it. I have many times mourn'd in secret; and oftens gone heavily bowed down in my mind. In considering the many fine youth that are drawn into the Volunteers, believing that many of them will thereby be drawn into drunkenness and many other evil habits which may have a tendency to cause the contagion of iniquity to spread more and more. One of the Officers who was this day engaged in the Sham fight, and particularly active in causing the People diversion was Joseph Wood of Denbydykeside a Preacher amongst the Methodists who hath accepted of a Captain's commission. How highly inconsistent it is for one who pretends to be a Minister of Christ, who declared "If my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight." to learn the use of carnal weapons, and draw others into the same Practice. May not the Lamentation of the Prophet with great propriety be adapted on this mournful occasion. "O my People, they which lead thee cause thee to err, and destroy the way of thy paths."

Memorandum        Understanding that our much esteemed friend Jonathan Binns, Superintendent of Ackworth.School had given the Committee notice of his intention of quitting the place in about three months time, and having in my opinion filled it with great propriety, and sustained with becoming patience the great opposition he had met with from too many who I believe were ignorant of his real value to the institution having suffered prejudice thro' harkening after reports; to blind their eyes; and he and his Wife having been useful active members of our Monthly Meeting and very justly and deservedly esteemed by the members thereof. And our worthy friend William Sowerby of Richmond Mo. Meeting being there on a visit I found my mind inclined to go and see them, and some other friends in that neighbourhood, and my servant in husbandry Benjamin Beaver, and my respected friend and Scholar Joseph Grayham being going to Knottingley for Lime, I concluded to go with them to Ackworth. Accordingly we set out from home at about 2 o'clock in the afternoon, On ye. 5<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 7<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1804 and 5<sup>th</sup>. day of the week, went by Denby to Tivydale, were they went to Banks coalpits to load coals, and I proposed stopping at the Inn at Darton until they came, But when I got to Cawthorne I met with Thomas West who kindly invited me to call at his house and drink Tea which I complied with and tarried there until the carts came. We left Cawthorne betwixt 6 and 7 o'clock and went to, Darton, Mapplewell, and Staincross to Royston were we stopp'd about half an hour and got some refreshment paid 9d, at the Horse and Jockey, and then proceeded by Havercroft to Ackworth.moortop were we got about 11

o'clock and lodg'd at the Boot and Shoe I paid 6d for my supper and 1s. 6d for our Liquor, Slept with Joseph Grayham whose behaviour to me in this journey very much increased my respect towards him. On 6<sup>th</sup>. and 6<sup>th</sup>. of week, we arose early, and after I had got 6 pennyworth of Rum and milk I accompanied the Carts as far as Ackworth.School and then taking leave of the men, they proceeded towards Knottingley, and I stopp'd at the School, Breakfasted with Jonathan Binns and his Wife and sat with them until about 10 o'clock then we went and spent some time very agreeably with William Sowerby in the housekeepers room, and afterwards with Cousin Ann Stead, Hannah Dumbleton, and Isabella Harris, Then I went to see Samuel Whalley and his family his Wife being removed the last fourth month dying soon after her delivery of two children who are now living with six more I felt a near sympathy with and for the widower and his poor Motherless children. About 1 o'clock I return'd and din'd with Jonathan Binns and his Wife; and sat with them until about 3 in the afternoon then left Ackworth having been very well satisfied with my visit there and went to Hardwick were I drank Tea at Ann Harrisons, and afterwards went to James Harrisons were I lodg'd. He had been in a low way for some time, we had some friendly conversation together he appeared more chearful, and I hope if he patiently bears the turnings and overturnings of the good hand upon him he will experience all things to work together for his good. On 7<sup>th</sup>. and 7<sup>th</sup>. of week I left Hardwick betwixt 6 and 7 o'clock in the morning and came by Ackworth and Havercroft to Royston, were I called at the Horse and Jockey got there a little before 10 o'clock in the forenoon After I had been about 20 minutes, Joseph Grayham and Benjamin Beever whom I had passed on the road, came up with their Teams we stopped until about 11 o'clock and got some refreshment, I paid 3d eating and 3d Liquor; and then came with them by Staincross to Mapplewell, when they came by the way of Cawthorne, and I by Darton and Kexbro' to Hoyland where I stopt near an hour with Mary Fisher and got some refreshment, then came to cousin Joseph Steads of Toppett were I stopp'd near 3 hours and drank Tea, and then came by Denbydykeside home were I got about 7 o'clock in the evening. In this Journey I had to feel much with and for the poor Lime Lads, the weather being sometimes hot they are under strong temptation to take more Liquor than is profitable. Besides being very much exposed to wicked company. O the need there is for those who are at times favoured with divine visitations to set a double watch, that they be not drawn aside by the temptations of the unwearied enemy; but may stand as monuments of Gods mercy, and to the praise and glory of his Grace manifested unto others, that it is sufficient for them.

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Newhouse 6. mo. 13<sup>th</sup>. 1803

Beloved Friend  
Thomas Yeardley

The cementing love which I felt to flow in my heart towards thee when at thy Father's house, hath many times since be renewed, accompanied with an anxious solicitude, that as the Lord in the riches of his mercy, hath been pleased in a peculiar manner to visit thee, thou may be enabled to walk worthy of his manifold favours, by giving up in perfect obedience to all his requirings. "He hath shewn thee, O man, what is good; and or what does the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God. The Lords voice crieth unto the city, and to the man of wisdom shall see thy name; hear ye the rod, and who hath appointed it." Now it is a peculiar favour to be so far convinced of the Truth, as to experience our expectations weaned from man, and our minds gathered to that divine manifestation of Light and Life in the secret of our own hearts, where our respective duties are clearly discovered, and strength and ability received, as we are stripped into a sense of our own weakness, and concerned to seek the Lord and his strength, to come up in obedience to the same: Thus a growth in religious experience will be witnessed, the voice which crieth unto the city will be heard, and more and more distinctly understood; and the man of Wisdom, who have been so wise as to chuse the strait and narrow way, and walk therein, which leadeth unto life; will see the Lords name, and know it to be a strong tower into which they flee in time of trouble and find safety. "The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous runneth into it, and is safe." and tho' these obedient ones may at times hear the rod, for we must not expect one continued scene of uninterrupted joy, in our passage thro' this vale of tears, neither would it be profitable for us, lest we should be full and deny him; yet these will know him that hath appointed it, and be made to acknowledge with one formerly. "Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me." Thus the rightly exercised minds, experience every dispensation of unerring wisdom to be sanctified to them, working together for their good even to the establishing them upon that foundation which cannot be moved. I feel whilst I am writing an earnest desire for thy preservation, growth and establishment in the Truth and

that nothing may hinder thee from coming forward in the line of manifest duty. Great were the Sufferings our Friends had to pass through, when they were first gathered to be a People, for the Truths sake, yet to the Lord was their support; O the beatings scoffings and mockings with the various other kind of cruel usage they met with, but they was enabled to stand their ground faithfully; and tho' when they went to their religious meetings they knew not but they might be sent from thence to prison yet they dare not neglect their duty, neither on first nor other days of the week; and tho' many of their descendants, are too much settle down at ease in the outward form, yet there are a remnant preserved, who are one in Faith, in principle and in practice according to their measure with them; and I believe the number of these is increasing, and I trust will increase; The Lords gathering arm being extended towards many up and down of other Societies, in order to gather them to the knowledge of the same divine Principle, that though there faithfulness to its manifestations, they may be acceptable in the Beloved. And O that thou my beloved friend who art one of the number who are thus favoured, may be encouraged to hold on thy way, that so the Creator of Jacob and former of Israel, may wash, and strip, cloathe and arm thee, and bring thee into the beautiful order of his flock and family where there is bread enough and to spare; Is the earnest desire of thy truly loving and affectionate friend

Joseph Wood

For Thomas Yeardley of  
Blacker near Worsbrough

Newhouse 6<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 18<sup>th</sup>. 1803

Dear Cousin  
George Mallinson

Since thy return into this meeting, according to the observation I have made; I have believed thee to be a youth of a good natural disposition, civil and obliging to thy friends; which have endeared thee in Love to me; and many times have I secretly desired that thou might be favoured with the saving knowledge of the Truth. "And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus.Christ whom thou has sent." I have no doubt at all upon my mind, but thou has been at certain times and seasons, favoured with the visitations of divine Grace, for his Love is universal and universally extended to the whole human race. "His lightnings enlightened the world; the earth saw, and trembled." It is in these seasons, that the world and all things therein appear of little moment in comparison of an inheritance in the pure Truth, but when these divine overshadowings are withdrawn, how apt are many to withdraw themselves from under the Yoke, and return to their old courses again, continuing in a state of forgetfulness of God; and thus one visitation after another passeth over their heads, and they still remain in an ungathered or unsaved state, as a "bullock unaccustomed to the yoke." But O when his light enlightens thy understanding, and favours thee with a discovery of the state, may thou bow unto that Power which causeth thee to tremble, and that so thou may be before him as clay in the hand of the Potter, Thus would he make his visitations effectual unto thee, in renewing and changing thy mind; weaning thee from the breast of this world, and the enjoyment thereof; and enabling thee to enter into covenant with him who will hath this graciously visited thee, in language similar to one formerly. "If God will be with me, and will keep me in the way that I go, and will give me bread to eat, and raiment to put on - then shall the Lord be my God." It is the state of mind that is acceptable unto him who made man for a purpose for his own glory, and that he might be glorified by him: and those who thro' their obedience to the manifestations they are favoured with, and continued watchfulness unto Prayer for preservation, are favoured to attain unto that state of Sonship which is promised to them that receive him in the way of his coming. "As many as received him, to them gave he Power to become the Sons of God, even to them that believe on his Name, Which were born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh,

nor of the will of man, but of God." These are they which alone are rightly qualified, to transact the weighty affairs of the Church, as the holy head from one time and season unto another is pleased renewedly to qualify them. Now there is a great want in our Society of such honest labourers as these, too many having neglected the day of their visitation by preferring other things, before those which make for their Peace, and so are not prepared to come up to the help of the Lord against the mighty But I believe he is turning his hand in a peculiar manner upon the youth of the present generation, and if they resist not the operation of his Power, and remember, "They that observe lying vanities forsake their own mercy." Those many things will which divert the mind from the pursuit of the one thing needful. I am fully convinced he will raise up from amongst them Judges as at the first and counsellors as at the beginning who will be favoured with the spirit of sound Judgment, and clear discerning that like Solomon formerly they will be able to divide betwixt the living and dead, or the left-handed Sons of Benjamin who could sling a stone to a hairs breath. I much desire thou may be one of this happy number, for tho' those who are concern'd to serve the Lord in the present day many be look'd upon as fools or madmen by the vain World, yet let not these things discourage thee, It was the language of Christ to his immediate followers, "these things have I spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace, in the world ye shall have tribulation; but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." It is in him that his followers find peace, tho' from the world they meet with mocking scoffings and tribulation, yet remember the testimony of an experienced servant. "I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness." I am thy affection cousin

Joseph Wood

For George Mallinson  
of Birdsedge

Newhouse 7<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1<sup>st</sup>. 1803

Respected Friend  
David Brearey

An earnest desire for the welfare of my fellow creatures, accompanied with an apprehension of duty; at times engages me in communications of this kind; and altho' thou art pretty much a stranger to me, yet since I last saw thee at the Meeting at Dewsbury, thou has very frequently been in my remembrance, accompanied with an anxious solicitude that as enquiry hath been raised in thy mind similar to that of the young man in the Gospel, " What shall I do that I may inherit eternal Life." when hard things are required of thee, thou may not turn away sorrowful; but remember for thy encouragement, that being faithful in the little, is the way to be made ruler over more. I have oftens thought it a peculiar favour that a small remnant experimentally know the declaration of the Prophet to be fulfilled. "He hath showed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee; but to do justly and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God. Sacrifices and offerings in the will of the creature, though they may have been commanded by the Almighty, on not acceptable to him, further than they are the renewed manifestations of his will to us. But as we are weaned from every outward dependence, or expectation of help from man, and our minds staid upon the divine Principle of Light and Life which comes by Jesus.Christ; and is placed in the secret of every heart for our teacher and instructor, It will be shewed unto us what is good, what is our duty, what we ought to do, and what we ought to leave undone, and our obedience to the manifestations of this divine Principle placed in the secret of the heart, is not a Legal, but evangelical obedience, being through faith in the divine Gift and consequently acceptable unto God the giver thereof. Wherefore the Apostle forwarns us lest any should undervalue this precious Gift. "Do not err my beloved Brethren. Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. Of his own will begat he us with the word of Truth, that we should

be a kind of first fruits of his creatures." And as it is the Light which manifests to us our duty so we are exalted by Christ himself. "While ye have the light, believe in the light, that ye may be the children of light." Now the way to become children is to turn our minds to the light, to believe in it which comprehends our obedience to its discoveries, for true faith worketh by love to the purifying of the heart; and the danger of neglecting is also plainly set forth, While ye have the Light, as much as to say, it is possible to resist or disobey, until the light cease shining in the heart, until the day of visitation pass over, until darkness overtake, and he that walketh in darkness knoweth not whither he goeth. That I have felt an earnest desire to attend my mind, that whilst thou art favoured with the light, thou may not only believe in it, as the Gift of God unto thee, but obey its manifestations, and not turn away sorrowful when hard things appear to be required, but tho' let it be as near as a right hand, or a right eye it may be given up, thus wilt thou know the Truth of what we have left upon record. "Hath the Lord as great a delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold to obey is better than sacrifice; and to hearken, than the fat of rams." O what a favour it is to be brought under the new Covenant dispensation in which none need to say unto their Neighbour or their Brethren know the Lord, the means of knowledge being placed so near as in the heart, so that all may know him from the least unto the greatest; and this knowledge is by, and through the Son; Christ in spirit is the leading way unto the Father, he is the door, and those who are climbing up any other way are thieves and robbers, but those who are stripped as to know an entering in by this door, they know him to be the Good Shepherd who laid down his Life for the sheep; they are acquainted with his voice, and favoured to distinguish betwixt it and the many strange voices which are in the world; and as they are concern'd to follow him in the path of obedience, he giveth unto them eternal Life, and none shall ever be able to pluck them out of his hand. The Prophet had a prospect of this glorious day when he broke forth in the Lords name and declared. "My righteousness is near; my salvation is gone forth, and mine arms shall judge the People; the isles shall wait upon me, and on mine arm shall they trust." Having just thrown these few remarks before thee for thy solid consideration, I feel at Liberty to conclude with earnest desires thou may profit by them, and let others do as they may thou may according to the best of thine understanding serve the Lord. I am with dear Love to thee, thy truly affectionate and well wishing friend

Joseph Wood

For David Brearey jun.  
of Hanging Heaton

Newhouse 7<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 16<sup>th</sup>. 1803

Beloved Friend  
William Taylor

Thy truly affectionate letter I received, which as usual gave me solid satisfaction in the reading thereof; and more especially as thou had been favoured with a more constant enjoyment of the Power and Presence of the Almighty since I last saw thee than heretofore; altho' thou appears sensible with the Apostle when he declared, "I know that in me, that is in my flesh, dwelleth no good thing." And it is necessary that we should be preserved under a sense of this, that so what we are, we may be by the Grace of God, and that his Grace may not be bestowed upon us in vain, but that all flesh may be silent, in order that this Grace may so operate in us, as to subdue every thing of a contrary nature; Christ saith, "Whereunto shall I liken the kingdom of God? It is like leaven which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened." This is typical of the gradual progressive work of Religion in man, carried on by a power which tho' placed so near as in the heart of man, is no part of him as he is constituted a rational being, but is the free Gift of God, being of a divine and leavening nature, and as the mind comes to be turned unto this precious gift, and a willingness wrought in the Creature not to resist the operation thereof, but come up in perfect

obedience to its discoveries; that state described by the Apostle comes to be experienced. "Walk in the spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. For the Flesh lusteth against the spirit, and the spirit against the flesh, and these are contrary the one to the other." Here is the warfare which I believe thou my dearly beloved friend art rightly engaged in, the weapons of which are spiritual not anything of thy own, or of thy own procuring. "For the weapons of our warfare on not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds; Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ. Thus as thou art concerned to walk in the spirit, though the flesh lust against it, in due time a victory will be experienced, so that the very thoughts of the heart, from whence actions proceed, will be subjected, and tho' thou may be tempted tryed and exceedingly proved; for the enemy will not easily let go his hold, yet in the very hour of temptation thou'll be enabled to say. "How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God." Thus resisting the enemy he will flee, and drawing nigh unto God he will draw nigh unto thee, and strengthen thine hands to make war in righteousness; and remember for thy encouragement it is no sin to be tempted. The Apostle saith, "Blessed is the man that endureth temptation; for when he is tryed he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him." and another Apostle observes, "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able, but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it." Let therefore thy trust and confidence be in the Lord Jehovah in whom is everlasting strength, coming boldly unto the throne of Grace, that thou may obtain mercy, and find Grace to help in time of need, remembering that he who gave himself a ransom for us to be testified in due time, "Is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them." How encouraging is the language; He who took upon him human nature, was tempted in all things like unto us yet without sin, after a life of deep tryal, suffered an ignominious death yet ever liveth to make intercession for his tribulated followers, being touched with a feeling of our own infirmities, he is able to succour in that time of tryal. Then there is also another passage revives for thy encouragement in the heavenly warfare "He that overcometh the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of Life, but I will confess him before my Father; and before his Angels." I now feel at liberty to conclude, after desiring thee to communicate my dear Love to friends in Rochdale, and accept the same thyself, accompanied with my warmest wishes for thy growth and prosperity in the Truth, who am thy assured real Friend

Joseph Wood

For William Taylor Wardleworth  
in Rochdale. Lancashire

Newhouse 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 2<sup>nd</sup>. 1803

Beloved Friend  
James Harrison

I have oftens had it on my mind to write few lines to thee, much desiring thy encouragement and perseverance in the Path into which the feet of thy mind hath been measurably and mercifully turned; but have been many times discouraged from the frequent low state of my own mind, and a fear of moving before my guide; and so doing thee harm, instead of good; knowing that the Almighty is altogether sufficient for his own work, and as the Creature is brought into and preserved in a state of true passiveness as clay in the hand of the Potter, that they will most assuredly experience the truth of the Prophets declaration fulfilled in them, by Christ, in whose name or Power alone is salvation, which was also revived when he was in that prepared body of flesh given him to do his Fathers will in, viz. "A bruised reed shall he not break, a smoking flax shall he not quench, till he send for the

judgment unto victory. And in his name shall the Gentiles trust." But in my retirement this morning, feeling my mind renewedly covered with love for towards thee; I considered the Apostle without offence did some things by permission, as well as by commandment; and feeling at least a liberty, I have set pen to paper, apprehending I may shortly meet with a suitable conveyance for it, as I expect our mutual friend John Bottomley is coming your way; and it may let thee know that thou art remembered by thy friend, even in those seasons which I doubt not at all thou experiences at times, when thou art ready to conclude thou art deserted of all good, and not worthy of the notice of any man. Well dear friend, if this humbling situation, be at times the situation of thy mind, thou has the sympathy therein of one, who have oftens been reduced into a similar state; in which I have been at times ready to say with one formerly. "Our fathers trusted in thee; they trusted, and thou didst deliver them. They cried unto thee, and were delivered; they trusted in thee and were not confounded. But I am a worm, and no man; a reproach of man, and despised of the People." It is in this reduce state of mind, in which self is subjected, and the creature thoroughly abased, that the language of the spirit is sometimes renewed. "Fear not, thou worm Jacob, and ye men of Israel; I will help thee, saith the Lord, and thy redeemer, the Holy One of Israel. Behold, I will make thee a new sharp threshing instrument having teeth, thou shalt thresh the mountains, and beat them small, and shalt make the hills as chaff. Thou shalt fan them, and the wind shall carry them away, and the whirlwind shall scatter them; and thou shalt rejoice in the Lord, and shall glory in the Holy One of Israel." Thus hath the Lord from one time and season unto another mercy upon the dust of Zion he bringeth low, and by his own power raiseth up; and through these humbling dispensations; prepares and qualifies for service in his Church and amongst his People. And O that none who are brought in any measure under the operation of his humbling hand, may ever seek to deliver themselves, but patiently bear the turnings and over turnings thereof, until he hath made them just what he would have them to be, then will these know in their own experience, "It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body." And by this mighty change be rightly prepared to fill up their portion of labour under the immediate direction of the holy head in the Church militant, and at the winding up of time join the glorious Church triumphant. This is what I have sincerely desired for thee my dearly beloved friend, as well as for myself: That let others do as they may we may according to the best of our understandings serve the Lord, and obtain this glorious resurrection and eternal life. With dear Love to thy Wife and Mother. I remain thy truly affectionate Friend

Joseph Wood

For James Harrison  
of East Hardwick

Newhouse 18<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 5<sup>th</sup>. 1803

Beloved Friend  
George Brearey

Under a renewed sense of the manifestation of that Power which humble the mind, and bringeth the creature into willingness to give up to every apprehension of duty, am I set down to write unto thee, sincerely desiring that the good in all may be encouraged; and having oftens remembered thee, since we visited thee by appointment from the Monthly Meeting believing thou was measurably convinced of the Truth; and tho' the meeting united with our feelings on the visit, and suspended accepting thee into membership at present; yet there is no cause for thee to be discouraged; for if thou art but preserved faithful, and concerned to get deeper and deeper; I doubt not but in the right time way will open to pay thee another visit. We have amongst us many formal traditional members; whose states too much resembles that of a Church formally, unto whom the language of the spirit was. "I know thy works that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead." yet there was in the said

Church unto whom the language was. "Thou hast a few names even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white for they are worthy." And I believe there are a remnant of this class in most meetings, the travail of whose spirits are that those who come amongst us by conviction may be so purified; as that with an increase of number, there may be an increase of religious weight; and O my friend how do I long that as the Lord hath been mercifully pleased to gather many in your town and neighbourhood, from the outward forms and shadows of Religion, the husks upon which ye had long fed, that you may be made partakers of the pure living and eternal substance; May ye who are as it may be called the first fruits, be concerned to keep your habitations in the Truth, growing in the life that so the Lords Power and Presence may crown your Assemblies. There is no want of words amongst the Professors of the Christian name, but it is the Power which was before words, that can alone enable you to present your bodies as living sacrifices holy and acceptable in Gods sight. As this is your concern, and your eye kept single unto him you will experience a growing up together. "In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord; In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the spirit." Thus will he from one time and season unto another delight to favour you; and care for you as a man careth for his only son that serveth him, so that this language may be applicable unto you. "A vineyard of red wine, I the Lord do keep it; I will water it every moment; lest any hurt it, I will keep it night and day." I firmly believe he who gathered our predecessors as a People, that were not a People; is at work by the same Power, in the present day; in the hearts of many up and down, to gather them from every outward dependence, under his own immediate teaching, and if faithfulness is but kept to; this language may be applicable. "Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitations; spare not, lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes; For thou shalt break fourth on the right hand and on the left; and thy seed shall inherit the Gentiles; and make the desolate cities to be inhabited." I conclude with earnest desires that thou may be blessed with the blessing of preservation, and strengthened to come forward in the line of thy duty; and remain thy affectionate Friend

Joseph Wood

For George Brearey  
of Dewsbury

Newhouse 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 22<sup>nd</sup>. 1803

Respected Friend  
William Newton

The Apostles as we have it left upon record, went about in their day; no doubt as they were immediately moved by the holy spirit, the only sure guide and director in all religious duties. "Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith; and that we must through much tribulation enter into the Kingdom of God." And altho' I have many times believed that thou has had a tribulated path to tread, that afflictions both inwardly and outwardly have attended thee; in which I trust I have at times secretly sympathized, yet never felt my way fully clear before now, to communicate anything to thee after this manner. Believing with one formerly. "Although affliction cometh not forth of the dust, neither doth trouble spring out of the ground: Yet man is born unto trouble; as the sparks fly upward." And he who thus tries mankind, is able to support his humble depending children, under their varied exercises, and cause all things to work together for their good, for he hath promised. "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of Life." This I have oftens looked at in a twofold sense not only a cessation of the natural Life but the death of our own wills, in which state all the willings and runnings of the creature are silenced and man brought into that poor depending state as clearly to see we are nothing nor can do nothing acceptable unto God but as his Holy spirit renewedly influences us. "The wind

bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound of thereof, but can'st not tell whence it cometh, or wither it goeth, so is everyone that is born of the spirit." It is no small attainment especially for those who may have been active in what they had apprehended to be religious duties to experience a death unto all these things, to know the loss of all that Wisdom which have been gathered, and in which we have been exercised in the will of the creature; and to become truly fools for his sake: The Apostle declares, and I think the passage very instructive, shewing clearly the great difference betwixt the works of law which are informed in the will of the creatures; and the works of faith which are wrought by the immediate movings of the spirit of God; and the necessity there is to experience the loss of the first, in order that we may be favoured to obtain the other. "What things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. Ye doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ. Jesus My Lord; for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung that I may win Christ. And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness which is of the law; but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith; That I may know him, and the Power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made comfortable unto his death." and the same Apostle in another place sets forth the advantage the soul is made partaker of, by being rightly exercised under tribulation, being so far from sinking down the mind below hope, that they looked upon it to be a favour that they were found worthy to suffer for Christs sake. "We glory in tribulation also, knowing that tribulation worketh patience; And patience experience; and experience, hope; And hope maketh not ashamed because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy. Ghost which is given unto us." It is the shedding abroad of this love in the heart which sweetens the many bitter cups which we have to drink in our passing along thro' this vale of tears; and enables us to say with humble resignation of mind. "The cup which my father hath given me shall I not drink it." It is in this state of mind that all our afflictions comes to be sanctified to us, and we truly profit by them, being more and more confirm'd in the faith which is the Saints victory, and humbly confiding in the promises of God. "Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings; and not one of them is forgotten before God? But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. fear not therefore: ye are more value than many sparrows." In the deepest tryals his children have to pass through, he who numbered the hairs of our heads is mindful of them, they are not forgotten by him; and when these trying dispensations have had their designed effect in reducing the minds as ashes, then will these experience the promise. To give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, and the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness." I much desire that whatsoever thou may have to pass through it may have a tendency to center thy mind more and more upon the foundation which cannot be moved; having this seal the Lord knoweth them that our his. I remain thy affectionate Friend

Joseph Wood

For William Newton  
of Cuttlehirst

Newhouse 10 Mo. 24<sup>th</sup>. 1803

Beloved Friend  
Thomas Walker Haigh

Did thou but know the sorrow thou hast brought over the minds of thy real friends, by letting out thy mind at so unsuitable a time after Marriage, and seeking to draw out the affections of a young Woman, whom it would have been much more profitable for you both to have been more deeply centering to the root of Life in yourselves, that you might be enabled to stand, the many winter blasts which are permitted to overtake; to destroy the weeds which otherwise would choak the seed, and prevent it from bringing forth fruit in due season. I cannot but hope thou would be sorry thou had acted so foolishly. It certainly is a

temptation of the unwearied enemy to overthrow you both, and if possible marr the Lords work. I was glad I did not hear a word of it during my stay in your parts, but when I got into the neighbourhood of Pontefract I received the information. At first it appeared to me as a dream. I could scarcely think it was so, I thought thy dwelling had been so near the Light, that the most curious gilded bait of the enemy would have been discovered. But when I was fully convinced it was true; I was indeed struck with silent astonishment, my state cannot be more clearly expressed than in the Language of the Prophet, "For the hurt of the daughter of my People am I hurt; I am black; astonishment hath taken hold of me." and I said in the secret of my heart. "Tell it not in Gath, publish it not in the streets of Ashelon; lest the daughters of the Philistines rejoice, lest the daughters of the uncircumcised triumph." But ah my friend, it is not only known amongst friends who sorrow for it, but is publick amongst the inhabitants of your Town who no doubt rejoice at it. Solomon saith, "Dead flies cause the ointment of the apothecary to send forth a stinking savour; so doth a little folly him that is in reputation for wisdom and honour." Had thou kept close to thy guide, I am convinced, thou might have been as eyes to the blind; and have been favoured to give an alarm to others at the approach of the enemy. But ah giving way to a little folly, how doth it blind the eye, stain the reputation, hurt their future service, and cause the way of Truth to be evil spoken of; dead actions having always have a stinking savour. O that thou had lookst to the Lord, instead of dallying with the temptation; It is by dallying with temptations that man lose their strength; this was the case formerly, and when he had lost his strength he was so ignorant thereof that he said, "I will go out as at other times before, and shake myself, and he wist not that the Lord was departed from him." and remember what followed; his enemies put out his eyes, and bound him and caused him to grind in the prison house, and made sport of him. O that thou may read and understand. It was the Lords arm that gathered you, and which alone can preserve you, and if some thro' unwatchfulness render them unfit for the Lords service, and so are cast back again into the sea of confusion, my faith is strengthened that there are that will be preserved a People that will shew forth his praise. O that religious young People who are frequently in company together might guard against every inordinate affection; Marriage is an ordinance of God, and it is he alone by his spirit that can point out the way, and if youth were concerned to advise with some experienced friends, before they make known their inclinations to any, they would find it profitable to them; and it would be a means of preserving them out of many snares. I conclude with earnest desires thou may rightly comprehend the Truths at this time communicated, and truly profit by them; thy sincere friend

Joseph Wood

For Thomas Walker Haigh  
of Barnsley

Newhouse 10<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 24<sup>th</sup>. 1803

Beloved Friend  
John Yeardley

Thou has oftens been in my remembrance since I last saw thee, accompanied with an earnest desire, that the seed sown may prosper, and bring forth fruit in its season, to the praise and glory of the great husbandman; who I believe is calling thee to glory, honour, immortality and eternal life, and O may thou be willing in this day of his Power to leave all and follow him who hath declared, "Everyone who hath forsaken houses or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my names sake, shall receive an hundred fold, and inherit eternal life." Not that we should be found wanting in our duty to our near connections, for true religion does not destroy the natural affection; but brings and preserves it in its proper place; and when our earthly Parents commands one thing, and the Almighty another; It is better for us to obey God than man, and herein is our love manifested unto him by our obedience to his commands, tho' it may sometimes clash against our Parents

minds. At the same time it is our duty to endeavour to convince them that we are willing to obey all their lawful commands where they do not interfere with our duty to him who hath given us life, breath and being; and mercifully visited us by his Grace. I thought a remark of this kind appeared to be required of me, apprehending if thou art faithful unto the Lord, thou will find it to be thy duty at times to leave thy worldly concerns to attend religious meetings, which may cause thee deep and heavy tryals, but remember for thy encouragement the promise of the hundredfold in this world, and in that which is to come to eternal life. Thou art favoured with a pious tho' afflicted Mother, and a religiously exercised elder Brother; who I doubt not will rejoice to see thee grow in the Truth. May you all be blessed with the blessing of preservation, and strengthened to keep your ranks in righteousness, and may you be a strength and comfort to each other, and hold up a standard of Truth and righteousness in the neighbourhood where your lot is cast. Do not flinch my beloved friend, be not ashamed to become a true follower of Christ, when little things are required of thee, be faithful; thus shalt thou be made for ruler over more; When greater things are manifested to be thy duty, remember the Lord is able to support; who declared by the mouth of his Prophet formerly. "Mine heritage is unto me as a speckled bird; the birds around about are against her." But if the Lord be on our side it matters little who May be permitted to rise against us; for his Power is above all the combined powers of the wicked one, and he will bless and preserve those who above all things are concerned to serve him faithfully, which that thou may be is the sincere desire of thy truly loving and affectionate Friend

Joseph Wood

John Yeardley  
of Blacker near Worsbro'

Newhouse 10<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 28<sup>th</sup>. 1803

Esteemed Friend  
Henry Tuke

A little matter having as I apprehended been required of me to add; in addition to what was spoken at our last Quarterly meeting, on the subject of having the further consideration of the new arrangement taken of the Books at present; which I omitted thro' diffidence, and which hath caused me much sorrow and exercise of mind ever since; and of late have thought if I wrote to thee it might perhaps afford me some little relief. I fully believed if it was at present discharg'd the Book, it would be to general advantage, for tho' I have never made it the subject of conversation, but have always avoided it as much as I could; yet from what I have heard of the sentiments of friends in the three Monthly meetings; I believe they are generally against it except a few individuals; and from what was said in the meeting it evidently appeared their principle view in it was their own ease, a thing in my opinion the least to be looked at in matters of this importance. Now as friends are so generally against it, whilst it remains upon the Book, they are kept in an unprofitable state of suspense, and I am afraid it is hurtful to many minds, and as the Monthly meetings in their own individual capacity when they had time deliberately to consider it, had expressed their desire that it might be dropp'd, even the Monthly meeting from whence the proposition first came, I think the Quarterly meeting need not object dismissing it; more especially as many friends in the Quarterly meeting are sensible the alteration would have a tendency to weakness, which I firmly believe would be the case in every meeting. There are many valuable friends in Sheffield yet I believe it would be hurtful to them to be left alone; for there is a great declension amongst many others, and much labour is necessary, and we frequently find labour more effectual from friends of other meetings, than from those of the same meeting; and I know of none so likely to be as useful to them as those with whom they are already joined. In respect to us and the meetings proposed to be joined with us, I fully believe with the observation made by Charles Parker than we should not be able to hold a Monthly meeting

with reputation to the Society: either one or both of every family in Paddock meeting except two, have gone out of our meeting; this is the case likewise with some in Brighouse meeting, and most part of the friends are pretty near Relations, and I think it is much better when Mo. meetings are otherwise. Besides the difficulty in attending would be greater, the weather being much more rapid pouring down from the mountains than the way we have at present to go. and in respect to Leeds and the meetings proposed to be joined with them I think from what was observed we may conclude they are better as they are, altho' there is no want of numbers. But if active members are so indifferent as not to attend Monthly meetings diligently but minutes of a former meeting are altered thro' their negligence, I think we may safely conclude they are far, very far from a situation to divide; and if People in health and good circumstances complain of Riding 10 or 12 miles to a Monthly meeting, what can they think of others coming the same and a greater distance to them, in very different circumstances, will there not be a danger of these being negligent if it was always held at their own meeting. Indeed I did not hear one word spoken for the new arrangement, but what I thought directly mutilated against it. In respect to the proposal thou made of joining Todmorden meeting to Lancashire, and letting the others remain as they are, I think there might be a service in it, and I believe it met with pretty general approbation, having since heard the friends of that meeting have not much objections to it. The most distant meetings then in Brighouse Monthly meeting would but be about 15 miles asunder, which I think would be but a little way. They complain of the length of time their meetings hold, but I have my doubts whether they would be shortened if the proposed arrangement took place; It is not always the multiplicity of business which causeth meetings to hold long, business being more frequently prolong'd for want of the spirits of those who engage therein being duly baptised into the work. But I have many times attended that Monthly meeting within these few years, and was always at the friends house were I dined by 2 o'clock or before, and once very soon after one, that I thought the complaint was more imaginary than real, altho' I doubt not but like others it may hold longer at times. Thus friend have I simply thrown these remarks before thee measurably to the relief of mine own mind, and I hope no misconstruction will be put upon them; I have no desire to Bias the judgment of any; nor anyways if it was in my power to prevent that which is right for going forward. In respect to my own situation I do not wish to say much, "The heart knoweth his own bitterness", and I believe those who rightly know themselves, and are dipp'd into the present low state of things amongst us, see abundant cause to be oftens introduced into the house of mourning, yet have sometimes to remember for the reviving of the spirit which appears ready to faint, the language of Christ, "Blessed are they that mourn:" with the annexed promise, "for they shall be comforted." I conclude with earnest desires that whatsoever I may have to pass thro' for my further refinement, I may be preserved in that state of true passiveness as to be willing to be anything or nothing as he who is perfect in wisdom sees meet, and remain respectfully thy affectionate friend

Joseph Wood

For Henry Tuke  
of York

Newhouse 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 23<sup>rd</sup>. 1803

Respected Friend  
Martha Dickinson

Sarah Haigh inform'd me last sixth day as I was going to meeting that thou wish'd to speak with me, and my not complying with thy request I feel a liberty to inform thee; did not proceed from want of due regard to thee, but from a fear of indulging that in thee, which ought to die upon the cross; having oftens painfully observed that thou has much more Life in giving advice to others, than in communing with thine own heart and being still; tho' this I believe would be the most profitable dispensation to thee, and might be a means of

preventing thee from going forth in the vanity of thine own imaginations, and stamping it with the high appellation of divine duty. Since then at thy husbands request John Bottomley sent a Bed cord of your own home, by a neighbour; when thy conduct clearly manifested, that though thou may cover and hide at times, and by fair speeches deceive the simple, yet an evil tree cannot bring forth good fruit. Instead of receiving it in a manner consistent with thy great and high pretensions, Thou bade her carry it back to John and tell him to put it about his neck and hang himself with it. Ah Martha is this conduct and Language the fruit of the spirit, the fruit of the Gospel thou so much talks of; is this the Christian Life thou in words exhorts others to live; may not the Language of Christ be fitly applied to thee. "Thou hypocrite first cast the beam out of thine own eye, and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy Brothers eye." This is the work in which thou ought to engage, to have the root removed, from whence all this evil fruit which so frequently manifest itself in thy conduct proceeds. Oh that thou might be favoured to see the exact resemblance thou bears unto a people formerly; unto whom our Saviour said. "Wo unto you scribes, and Pharisees, hypocrites; for ye pay Tithes of mint, annise, and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the Law, judgment, mercy, and faith; these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone. Ye blind guides which strain at a gnat, and swallow a camel." Thou art very exact in somethings, but O my friend be willing to be search'd and then I believe thou will find the weightier matters are too much neglected by thee, that whilst thou has been straining at gnats, thou has easily swallowed camels, and whilst thou has been pretending to guide others, thou thyself art blind. We have lately had an awful instance of the final exit of one whom thou has appeared to follow step by step, and who like thee rejected all the counsel and advice of those who wished him well, and instead of receiving it in that love in which it was given, filled his mind with prejudice and envy. But his own conduct in time became a burden to him too heavy to bear; The judgments of the Almighty as he said overtook him, of which he had been before faithfully warn'd, but like thee was too whole heart to receive it, or believe it until it was too late. Now I do desire as I have nothing in view but thy real welfare that thou may be warn'd in time, and endeavour to get into a state of true humility of mind, be not in effect saying. "I sit a queen, and am no widow, and shall see no sorrow." lest the annexed language should be applied unto thee. "Therefore shall her plagues come in one day, death and mourning and famine, and she shall be utterly burned with fire. for strong is the Lord God who judgeth her." My friend I do earnestly desire that thy ear may be opened to hear; and thine heart to understand, the things which make for thy peace, before they be for ever hid from thine eyes. With unfeigned love to thee, I conclude thy real Friend

Joseph Wood

For Martha Dickinson  
of Highflatts

Newhouse 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 3<sup>rd</sup>. 1803

Respected Cousins  
John and Mary Mallinson

Whilst we are in this uncertain stage of existence, it highly behoves every individual of us to endeavour to be faithful to every manifestation of duty, remembering for our encouragement the language we have left upon record, "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom in the grave, whither thou goest." and tho' the cup which the Master may appoint us to drink, may at times be so much in the cross to our own inclinations that we may be ready to petition. "O my Father; if it be possible let this cup pass from me." But there is no peace to be found to the rightly exercised mind until we are so reduced as to be made willing to bear the cross, and despise the shame; faithfully following the Master in the path of obedience, surrendering our own wills to his divine will, so as in effect to say, "Nevertheless not as I will, but as thou

wilt." The way in which I am at times lead, appears to me so singular, that I do not wonder if some are ready to conclude me beside myself; but am comforted at times in the remembrance of the Apostles language on the behalf of himself and his fellow labourers, in his appeal to the People - "For whether we be beside ourselves it is to God; or whether we be sober it is for your sake." Having made these unexpected remarks, I shall now come to the matter which induced me to take up my pen and write to you at this time; John Bottomley informed me near a year ago that he had an apprehension it would be right for him to propose having a religious opportunity with you, your children and servants collectively, but being desirous to try the fleece before both wet and dry, I heard no more of it until this week, when apprehending his concern was fully ripe, he desired me to communicate the same to you, requesting you solidly to weigh it, and return me your sentiment thereupon; he thought of next first day evening at 7 o'clock, if all the family could make it convenient; but apprehends it would not answer his prospect if any one was absent except the four youngest children. If on weighing the proposal you feel any objections either to the thing itself, or the time; be not afraid freely to communicate it, for to be honest is the way to be truly helpful one to another. Shall expect your answer this afternoon; I am respectfully your affectionate kinsman

Joseph Wood

for John and Mary Mallinson  
of Birdsedge

Newhouse 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 21<sup>st</sup>. 1803

Beloved Friend  
Joseph Grayham

Under the pure influence of divine Love do I at this time tenderly salute thee; renewedly feeling a concern upon my mind for thy present and future welfare accompanied with an apprehension of duty to impart a few remarks to thee, and tho' from the frequent opportunities we have together, I at first thought I might do it verbally; but as I attended to my exercise It appeared most easy to me to commit it to writing, and read it to thee whensoever the Lord might be pleased to open the way; knowing that no communications of this kind are profitable further than they are under the influence of the holy spirit of Truth. After thou had lived sometime in this neighbourhood, my mind was many times deeply exercised on thy account, which I oftens wondered at, as thou was at that time pretty much a stranger to me. In the course of last winter we became a little more acquainted, and having understood thou could not read; I oftens felt a sympathy with thee on that account, under a consideration source that thou was thereby deprived of that privilege of information which many others are favoured with; and remembering the Language of Christ, "All things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them." and as I had it in my power to assist thee in learning to read; my way opened to propose it to thee, and encourage thee therein; and was glad to find thee not only disposed to learn, but that thou made considerable improvements for the time therein, which very much increased my regard for thee. Some weeks ago, John Bottomley was concern to pay a religious visit to your family; and desiring me to accompany him therein, I complied with his request, and in the said visit was thankful to feel the visitation of Almighty God extended towards divers in the family, but in a particular manner unto thee, being at that time made sensible, that if thou was willing, fully to resign thyself into the Lords hand, thou would be favoured with power to withstand the temptations of the wicked one, and that the Lord would keep thee from all evil, and lead thee in the way everlasting; Blot out all thy transgressions whereby thou transgressed against him; and make thy life comfortable here, and thy latter end eternally happy. Since that time I have been more particularly engaged in thy improvement in Learning, and more diligent in lending affording thee every assistance in my Power; and have been truly thankful to find the good effects of our united labours; that thou has very far exceeded therein anything I could have expected for

the time; and in our communication together I have many times felt an increase of love towards thee and strong desires to accompany my mind; That as I believe the call of the Lord is unto thee, it may prove effectual to the delivering of thee from all evil; so as thou may be favoured to know in thine own experience the Salvation of God. The Apostle exhorts us, "Let love be without dissimulation." And surely my friend, my love to thee is sincere, We love not ourselves, if we love not God whom made us; and if we have love him, we cannot fail to love our Neighbour as ourselves. Now I not only love thee as a Neighbour, but thou art as a Brother beloved to me, and this engages me in the ability immediately received to labour with thee for thy good. I have oftens very much pitied, and felt much sympathy for thee when I have considered the disadvantages thou has laboured under; in the first stage of thy life being situated in a Town where iniquity of every kind abounded; and when thou came to more mature age was most of the time with a Master who was an entire Stranger to the fear of God, and indulged himself in cursing, swearing, vain conversation, and other wickedness, these are poor examples to the youth under their care; and most assuredly the Lord will sooner or later visits such Masters for these things, and reward them with inexpressible sorrow, and misery, if they repent not. After thou came into this neighbourhood, being I believe of a good natural disposition, thou was unhappily drawn into an acquaintance with vain wicked and unprofitable company, who I believe have been instrumental of much hurt to thee, not only in causing thee to spend part of thy precious time, but also thy money in Alehouses; and other vain and unprofitable ways; the natural product of such a course of life. But has not thou many times my dearly beloved friend, felt after thy return from these follies, a secret something within thee which hath made thee sorry for what thou has done, and said; and sometimes been ready to conclude thou would not do the like again; If this hath been the case, it was no other but the Spirit of Christ which he declared he would send in his Name, which should convince the World of sin; and this spirit strives with all mankind during the day of their visitation, and those who in this day close in with the convictions they are favoured with, and come up in obedience to its discoveries they come in due time through repentance to experience the remission of their sins through the Blood of Christ which was shed for the remission of sins that are past; But those who resist the spirit, and will not obey the dictates thereof, it in time ceases striving with them, the day of their visitation passes over their heads, and the things that belong to their peace come for ever to be hid from their eyes. Now under a serious consideration of these things, and a certain evidence that the Lord is waiting to be gracious unto thee, that he is striving with thee, both immediately and instrumentally, to cease from doing evil and learn to do well; I would in Bowels of tender compassion, in pure and unfeigned love intreat thee, to join freely with the offers of his Love, forsake all thy former vain companions, for these my dear friend I believe have been a great snare unto thee, and will be as long as thou continues to associate with them; But if thou turn thy back upon them, they will turn their back of thee; as saith the Prophet. "Can two walk together except they be agreed" Be faithful to everything which the Lord by his spirit manifests to thee to be right; fear not the reproaches of men, be not afraid of their revilings; the Lord will strengthen thine hands to war, and thy fingers to fight, and tho' thou may experience as the Apostle declares, "The flesh lusteth against the spirit, and the spirit against the flesh, and these are contrary the one to the other; so that ye cannot do the things that ye would." and in another place, "When I would do good, evil is present within me." This is the state of all in the warfare, for when any poor soul is determined in his mind by the powerful convictions of the holy spirit of Truth, to forsake sin if happily he may be favoured to obtain salvation; then the unwearied enemy of mans happiness, strives with all his power to counteract the Lords work in them, and if possible to draw them into one temptation or another, and when he cannot prevail one way he tries another. This surely is the day spoken of by the Prophet. "Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it; it is even the time of Jacobs trouble; but he shall be saved out of it." Yet there is no occasion to be discouraged, only keep close to the Light, look out at the temptation to desire after it, but keep thy eye single unto that which discovers it, and which will enable to resist it, and give Power to say Get thee behind me Satan I'll resist until I die, before I yield.

Thus walking in the spirit, thou will be strengthened not to fulfil the lusts of the flesh, and in due time experience Jacobs God to deliver thee out of all thy troubles, attaining through watchfulness and Prayer unto that state in which. "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ. Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the spirit." and have to acknowledge, "The Law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus, hath made me free from the law of sin and death." Having penn'd these things as they have opened for thy solid consideration my dearly beloved friend for whose welfare every way my spirit hath been many times particularly engaged. I would now recommend thee when thou goest to Bed, and as often as thou can at other times, endeavour to get into true stillness and quietude of mind; thus will thou be favoured to feel the spirit to help thine infirmities, enabling thee to petition the Almighty for such things as thou stands in need of; and thus will thou be enabled to cease from doing evil, and know a learning to do well. I am dear friend thy truly loving, sincere, and affectionate Friend

Joseph Wood

For Joseph Grayham  
of Birdsedge

Newhouse 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 28<sup>th</sup>. 1803

Esteemed Friend  
Ellin Spenceley

I believe it right to acknowledge for thy encouragement in the path of virtue, the satisfaction we had with thy company, during thy stay at my house, in thy way to thy new habitation; being comforted under a feeling sense of a degree of that precious unity which according to our several measures, cements the Lords children together, as described by the Psalmist. "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity, It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aarons beard; that went down to the skirts of his garment; As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion; for there the Lord commanded the blessing even Life for evermore." It gave me no small concern thy leaving Barnsley, having sometimes seen the hurt that hath arisen from removing in that Infant state; But of two evils I believe it best to chuse the least; and as there was a connection forming which I never could see to be in the life; and which I greatly feared was likely to be hurtful to you both: and what tended greatly to confirm me in a belief of its being wrong, was his over confidence that he was right; for in matters of less moment, such have been my doubts and fears, that I have not only seen it necessary to try the fleece both wet and dry; but also to ask the advice of experienced friends, before I durst proceed at all therein. And as God is a God of order and not of confusion, I do believe that none who keep their habitations, according to their growth in the Truth, dare entangle themselves in relation to Marriage, before they are united with the body, whose principles they are professing to espouse; finding they have work enough to do of another kind. However as friends in general thought as things were as they was, it might have a tendency for thy preservation if thou was to remove, I was glad to find thee disposed to take the advice of those who sincerely wish thee well; Altho' no doubt but it may be a great cross to thee to be separated from those, of whom thou may say. "We took sweet counsel together, and walked unto the house of God in company." Yet there is no cause for thee to be discouraged, as thou art concerned to serve the Lord faithfully, for he who filleth heaven and earth is everywhere, no place so obscure but his Light at times shines into it; and tho' he is a God who at times for wise purposes best known unto himself sees meet to hide his face from the house of Israel, yet as these are concerned to wrestle all the night long the day will again break, and they will be favoured to obtain the blessing; and tho' thou my friend may sometimes be tried with deep poverty, and sometimes with bitter morsels, yet as thou art concerned to keep to thine exercise in thine own gift, and not cast of thy confidence, he will in

his own time appear, and when he Appears his reward is with him and his work before him, thus will thou be favoured with preservation, and experience renewed instructions in the deeps, and thus will thou witness a growth and establishment in the unchangable Truth; and the blessing applyed to one formerly will be thine. "Joseph is a fruitful bough, even a fruitful bough by a well; whose branches run over the wall. The Archers have sorely grieved him, and shot at him, and hated him. But his bow abode in strength, and the arms of his hands were made strong by the hands of the mighty God of Jacob; from thence is the Shepherd the stone of Israel; Even by the God of the Father, who shall help thee, and by the Almighty, who shall bless thee with blessings of heaven above, blessings of the deep that lieth under, blessings of the breast, and of the womb; The blessings of thy father have prevailed above the blessings of my progenitors, unto the utmost bound of the everlasting hills; they shall be on the head of Joseph, and on the crown of the head of him that was separate from his brethren." I shall now conclude after desiring thee not to fail to write to me, and let me know how thou likes thy situation, thy Master will take care to get it me by some neighbour. In the meantime I remain thy sincere affectionate friend

Joseph Wood

For Ellin Spenceley  
of Lane.end near Huddersfield

Newhouse 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 24<sup>th</sup>. 1804

Beloved Friend  
Joseph Grayham

In that love which changeth not but remains invariably the same in prosperity, and in adversity; do I at this time, tenderly and affectionately salute thee; sincerely desiring that God who separated thee from thy Mothers womb, and hath called thee by his Grace, name mercifully be pleased to vouchsafe to continue the visitations of his love to thee, until thou art favoured to experience a deliverance from all evil. Thy diligence in thy Books, and very considerable improvement in learning; hath evidently manifested that the Lord hath been thus pleased to bless and prosper our united endeavours, which hath been great satisfaction to my mind: But much more that thro' the assistance of divine Grace thou has been strengthened to forsake thy former companions in vanity, which I am sensible had been instruments of much hurt to thee; and thus far to deny thyself, and take up thy cross; I hope never more to return to them again. Well my dearly beloved friend as the Lord hath been pleased to help thee over this temptation be not faithless but believing that he will also enable thee to know an overcoming of all evil, as thou art concerned sincerely to seek unto him in the hour of temptation; for tho' the Power of the enemy, and our natural propensities to evil, are very strong; so that thou may be at times ready to say in the language of one formerly, "When I would do good, evil is present with me." Yet the power of the most High God is stronger, for he is able to break the chains, and set the captive soul at liberty, causing thee experimentally to acknowledge. "The law of the spirit of Life in Christ. Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death." Long before I had any particular acquaintance with thee, I thought I sensibly felt many times, the love of God extended towards thee, which begot a love in mine heart to thee more than to many other men, and since we have been more intimately connected, I hope I may say in the bonds of firm and lasting friendship my love hath exceedingly increased towards thee, so that without flattery, I think I can say as was said of Jonathans love to David. "He loved him as his own soul." And O it is this love that engages me to do all in my Power that may have a tendency for thy real welfare both in this world and in that which is to come. And as thou knows my dear friend when thou has been of thy Watch, where alone thy preservation is; and fallen a little into the temptation of the enemy, what an unsettled, discomposed state, thy poor mind hath afterwards been in; yea I have felt with thee the sorrow and anguish of thy soul in these seasons; and been thankful that the Lord

hath corrected thee in mercy with his rod, knowing that sin must not go unpunished either in this world or in that which is to come, as saith the Apostle. "Some mens sins are open beforehand, going before to Judgement; and some men they follow after." But it is well for those who experience Judgment for transgression whilst here, and know the Lords rod and staff to comfort them. O the boundless mercy of the Almighty towards man, and towards thee; may an humbling sense thereof ever remain upon thy spirit; and may thou be encouraged to pray without ceasing for strength to withstand all the temptations of the wicked one, taking the Apostles advice, "Submit yourselves therefore unto God; resist the Devil and he will flee from you; drawn nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you." Bow unto that divine Power which thou art favoured to feel at times, in the secret of thine own heart; and be willing to submit to its operation; it is of an leavening nature, and as thou art brought into a state of true passiveness, it will leaven thee into its own nature. But in the way to this attainment, thou will find the enemy of thy poor never dying soul exceeding busy to draw thee into evil; but as thou art concerned to resist him, and draw nigh to God; he will favoured thee with strength to petitioned him in a language similar to that of one formerly. "O that thou wouldest bless me indeed, and enlarge my coast, and that thine hand might be with me, and that thou wouldest keep me from evil, that it may not grief me. And god granted him that which he requested." Thus may thou be favoured to know an overcoming of all evil, and be made partaker of the promise. "He that overcometh the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but! I will confess his name before my Father, and before his Angels." O my dearly beloved friend, the awful solemnity which I have felt to cover my mind, as we sat together the last evening, just before we separated, I trust will not easily be forgot by me. I renewedly knew that the Lord is good, because I felt his love shed abroad in my heart; and was truly made sensible that his goodness was towards thee, and that he was waiting to be gracious unto thee even to fulfil his promise, "Where sin abounded, Grace did much more abound." How was my heart tendered as we sat and my spirit contrited even into tears of joy; and after I got home, I was favoured in my silent retirement, with a renewal of the like precious favour; in which thou was brought near in spirit unto me; accompanied with a concern to write to thee for thy encouragement to faithfulness in all the Lords requirings; for it is and will be; as thou art faithful in the little, more and more will be manifested unto thee of what is good, and what the Lord thy God requires of thee; and as thou art thus daily exercised to follow him in the way of his leadings, thou will experience the promise we have left upon record in the Scriptures of Truth fulfilled unto thee. "I will bring the blind by a way that they knew not; I will lead them in paths that they have not known; I will make darkness light before them, and crooked things straight. These things will I do unto them, and not for sake them." Now my truly near and dear friend, having penned these things as they have simply opened, if thou art but sufficiently concerned to come up in the experimental knowledge of them, thou will reap the blessed effect thereof; For if the tree be made good, the fruit will naturally be good also, and if thou been made clean, thy conduct and conversation will be pure; So that altho' in thy passing along thro' this vale of tears thou cannot fail at times being cast into the course of thy worldly concerns, amongst vain and ungodly company; yet thou will be concerned to leave them as quietly as thou can; and whilst with them will be very cautious of thy words and actions. The Psalmist saith, "I will take heed to my ways, that I offend not with my tongue; I will keep my mouth with a bridle while the wicked is before me." This I have found to be a safe state for myself, and therefore can recommend it to thee my friend; and tho' it may subject thee to the scorn and contempt of the wicked, regard it not but be willing it to become a fool for Christ sake, and then thou will be truly wise; and like the wise virgins formerly have Oil in thy Lamp, when the solemn summons of death may be sent to thy door, and being thus ready will enter into the joy of thy Lord, where the wicked will for ever cease troubling, and the weary soul will be at rest. I am dear friend thy truly Loving and sympathizing friend

Joseph Wood

For Joseph Grayham of Birdsedge

Newhouse 2 mo. 11<sup>th</sup>. 1804

Beloved Friend  
William Midgley

It is a favour when we cannot have the opportunity of personally conversing together, that there is a way of intercourse one with another by Letter; and tho' this channel hath with me been for sometime stopped; being ready at times to cry out with the Prophet. "My leanness, my leanness, wo unto me." Yet in this state I have not forgot thee, tho' every spring of communication have seemed at times dried-up. I write not this by way of complaint, for he is who is perfect in Wisdom knows best how to deal with his depending children, and my desire is to be so perfectly resigned to his divine will as to say with the Apostle. "I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound; every where and in all thing I am instructed, both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need." and then adds, " I can do all things through Christ which strengthen me." Thus are the seasons of great self abasement, and deep poverty of spirit, made truly profitable to us, by bringing us into that state of true humility of mind, as to be willing to do anything that appears to be required of us, altho' it may be ever so much in the cross to our own wills, I know experimentally what I say. For he who said unto Philip formerly, "Go near and join thyself unto this chariot." in which the eunuch was, called he was made eminently instrumental of God unto; I believe it required me to draw near unto a certain young man a neighbour of mine. But O my friend how did I consult with flesh and Blood, and reason what People would say, until I was brought into such a state; as made me very willing to bear a similar language with the Master, "He was gone to be guest with a man that is a sinner." If I might but be favoured with Peace to my poor distressed mind. Well my friend, I at length after much conflict gave up to throw myself in the way of his company, no more knowing what I was to do than poor Philip when it was said unto him "Arise and go toward the south , unto the way that goeth from Jerusalem unto Gaza, which is desert." and was several times in his company before I felt any liberty to say much to him; But having understood he could not read at all, I entered at length into conversation with him upon that subject; he appeared sensible of the loss he had sustained thereby, and I encouraged him to try to learn, and I would do my best to instruct him, and procure him Books without any expense to him, he was very willing, and being a servant in husbandry, I have attended on him pretty constantly six nights in the week for about three months past, and on first day afternoons he comes to my house; Is now got as he can read pretty well in the testament, and I find him to be a man of a good understanding. And in our communication together, we oftens feel the master to draw near. He hath entirely forsaken his former companions, and for two months past hath attended no place for worship except the religious opportunity in my family on first day evenings, which hath been many times eminently overshadowed. There is a visible alteration in him, and one time he told me, No man knew the exercise he had had to pass through for a year past; which was a confirmation to me of the deep travail of spirit, I had passed through on his account being right. May the Lord bless the work, and favour him with the knowledge of the forgiveness of his sins, and lead him in the way everlasting is the earnest Prayer of my spirit. Thou art the first I have communicated this to, and desire thee to keep it pretty much to thyself. Let me hear from thee as soon as leisure and freedom unite. My dear Love to thy family and friends in Rochdale particularly dear William Taylor and accept a large share thyself, from thy truly affectionate friend

Joseph Wood

For William Midgley  
of Buersall near Rochdale

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Newhouse 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. 23<sup>rd</sup>. 1804

Esteemed Friend  
Isabella Bashforth

"Daughters of Jerusalem, weep not, for me, but weep for yourselves, and for your children." was the language of our Lord and Saviour unto those who followed him weeping when he was going to be separated from them, in respect to his bodily appearance. And it was the language that opened before the view of my mind as we sat together, after the reading of thy Husband's last Will; accompanied with a lively hope, that he was placed out of the reach of all sorrows, and enjoying the blessed reward of a Life devoted according to the measure he was favoured with to the cause of Truth; having evidently manifested his Love to God, by loving his brethren, his heart and house being open unto those, in whom any degree of sincerity did appear. That I thought there was no cause to weep for him, but for ourselves and others, that we might be favoured with the blessing of preservation, and a right preparation for the like solemn summons. Under a consideration of these things I have desired that thou my friend may endeavour to moderate thy sorrows; I know that nature is binding, and the dissolution of those near ties is exceeding trying. When Lazarus died, "Jesus wept. Then said the Jews, "Behold how he loved him." From hence I conclude that nature may have a little vent without offence to the Almighty. Nay, I have oftens sensibly experienced that Religion does not destroy natural affection, but keeps it in its proper place; and makes mankind truly feeling and sympathizing one with another, and therefore when those who have been nearly united comes to be separated it is a proving time. But when we consider it is not possible for the Almighty to do wrong, but whatsoever he doth is for best, it wonderfully helps to alleviate sorrow, and in time to bring into that state of resignation as to be enabled to say " Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven." The Prophet saith, "Leave thy fatherless children, I will preserve them alive, and let thy widows trust in me." His regard is still in a peculiar manner towards the poor fatherless, and desolate Widows who trust in him. His ear is

open unto their secret cries, and his arm which is not shortened that it cannot save, is made bare for their help, and he will in his own time wipe away all tears from their eyes, and give unto them the Oil of joy for mourning, and the garment of Praise for the spirit of heaviness. I feel much tender sympathy with thee under thy present affliction; and desire I may always be preserved in such a state of feeling, as to mourn with those who mourn, helping to bear one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ. But may thou guard against immoderate sorrow, lest it should hurt thy health, and endeavour after such a state as thou can say. The Lord giveth, and he taketh away, I will bless his name. I am with much tendered sympathy and regard thy affectionate friend

Joseph Wood

For Isabella Bashforth  
of Barnsley

Newhouse 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. 24<sup>th</sup>. 1804

Beloved Friend  
Joseph Grayham

Feeling my mind favoured this morning with the sheddings abroad of divine Love accompanied with a renewed concern for thy welfare. I was made willing once more to address thee after this manner. Having not only nearly sympathized but been exceeding sorry for the conduct thou met with from your family in the forepart of the week; believing it was a deep laid snare of the enemy if possible to lay waste the work which I am fully persuaded the Lord hath in his abundant mercy and loving kindness to thee begun in thy soul. For I believe thou has been made in some measure sensible that the call of the Lord hath been graciously extended unto thee, not only to "Cease to do evil." which is the first step in the work of reformation, to refrain from every thing let it be of what kind it may which the spirit of Truth manifests to be evil, such as vain and unprofitable company, ungodly conversation, foolish jesting, Singing of songs, taking more Liquor than is useful for the support of the body, which very much unfits the mind for that religious exercise, and devotion we ought at all times as much as possible to be engaged in, with many other things which are made manifest by the light to be evil; all which I wish thou may be carefully concerned to seek unto the Lord for strength to avoid; more especially as it is now a time of the year in which husbandmen in going for Lime are more particularly exposed to these and similar temptations. But the wise man saith. "The fear of the Lord is a fountain of Life, to depart from the snares of death." Oh may this fear be continually before thine eyes that so thou may be preserved from the snares, which lead to death that when temptations may strongly and powerfully beset thee thou may be able to cry unto him upon whom help is laid to enable thee to say with Joseph formerly when he was strongly beset. "How then can I do this great evil, and sin against my God." Thus my dearly beloved friend will thou experience not only a ceasing from doing evil, but thou will also be concerned to "Learn to do well." to come forward in the line of thy duty to Almighty God; for the same light which manifests evil, and enables us to overcome it; also points out unto us our duty, what we ought to do, and the way in which we ought to walk; and strengthens us to come up in obedience to the discoveries we are favoured with; and those who are thus exercised daily in faithfulness, will experience the annexed promise fulfilled unto them. "If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land." These will have bread to eat which the world know not of, For their meat will be to do the will of their heavenly father, and finish the work he hath appointed them to do. Thus may thou experience an eating of the flesh and drinking of the Blood of Christ, by which thy poor never dying soul may be nourished up unto everlasting Life. But to return to the trouble thou hath lately met with in your house, I have earnestly desired thou may not be in any wise hurt thereby: For tho' it is right for thee to do thy duty faithfully as a servant to them, yet not for them to hinder thee, from doing thy duty unto thyself, and to Almighty God; for it is unto him we must either stand or fall, and no man can answer for us in the great and awful day of account. Therefore

let not the tryals thou has and may meet with, hinder thee from coming forward in the way of thy duty; and may thou be strengthened so to demean thyself, that those who may be watching over thee for evil, may never be able to find any occasion against thee. The Scriptures declare. "When a Mans ways please the Lord, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with them." This I comfortably hope will in time be thy blessed experience, and if thou art but desirous just to be what the Lord would have thee to be; which that thou may is the sincere desire of thy truly loving and affectionate Friend

Joseph Wood

For Joseph Grayham  
of Birdsedge

Newhouse 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. 31<sup>st</sup>. 1804

Beloved Friend  
John Yeardley

Has thou as frequently been the companion of my thoughts since I last saw thee, accompanied with an anxious solicitude of mind, that thou may well so near the precious Gift of God in the secret of thine own heart, unto which thy mind hath been mercifully turned, as that thou may by thy obedience to the discoveries thou art, and will from one time unto another be favoured with; experience a growth perseverance and establishment in the ever blessed and unchangeable Truth. What a favour it is that the most High hath been graciously pleased to call thee in the very bloom of thy Life, and flower of thine age, out of the follies and vanities of a world which lieth in wickedness, and incline thine heart to seek after the knowledge of him whom savingly to know is life eternal. Well my beloved friend, may an humbling sense of his unmeritted mercies never be forgotten by thee; but as he hath called, and will be pleased to lead by his holy and blessed spirit; may thou be concerned to follow him, tho' he may see meet to lead as through the valley of the shadow of death; for his followers must not expect one continued joyous scene; altho' there is no joy like unto the joy of Gods salvation, yet we must all partake of this cup of mixture, during our stay in this world, which may well be compared unto a vale of tears, or a sea of glass, mingled with fire; upon which none can stand but those who have got the victory, have turned their back of sin, and followed the Lamb in the regeneration; agreeable to what John the divine saw in his revelations, "I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire; and them that had got the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God. And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints! Who shall not fear thee, O Lord, and glorify thy Name? for thou only art holy; for all nation shall come and worship before thee; for thy judgments are made manifest." But in order to be favoured to attain unto this state, which is most assuredly the duty of every visited mind to press after, there must be a persevering in inward watchfulness unto prayer: For the enemy of mans happiness will attempt, and seek to allure and draw the mind out after his temptations; and will gild his baits so artfully that they cannot be discovered, but as our abiding is in the light; its here his temptations are discovered, and way made to escape; and it is no small encouragement to poor Zions travellers, to remember the Apostles testimony. "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it." Therefore in these trying seasons, which all are tryed with, cast not of thy confidence; for tho' the power of the enemy is very strong, and the flesh is weak; yet the spirit is willing, and the Lords Power is stronger than all the combined powers of the wicked one; and those who trust in him, and him alone; and dare not lean to their own understandings, but cry unto him for help, and under a sense of their own weakness, seek his strength; these will obtain the victory, for the Lamb and his followers shall have the victory. They will be made at

times to acknowledge with a deeply tried servant of the Lord formerly. "Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me, thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; thou annointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in house of the Lord forever." Oh my beloved friend I am made to believe that if thou art but concerned with thy whole heart to follow the Lord faithfully in the way of his leadings, and not turn aside in the days of the tryal, either on the right hand or on the left; his works will appear marvellous in thine eyes, his wonders will be seen by thee in the deeps, his rod and his staff will comfort and support thee under all thine exercises; he will spread his table for thee in the wilderness, and feed thee with the choicest dainties in the very face of thine enemies; he will give thee the oil of joy for mourning, and the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness, thy cup will be made to overflow with his goodness, thy faith will be strengthened in his promises, and thou will be encouraged to serve him with a perfect heart and a willing mind; being favoured with an humble confidence that thou must dwell in the Lords house for ever. Give my dear love to thy worthy Brother Thomas and thy poor afflicted Mother; I cannot but feel with and for you in your troubles, but there is a deliverer, the Lord is able in his own time to deliver, and many times makes way for us when we can see no way. It was he that sweetened the bitter waters of Marah and made them sweet and he is not unmindful of his People in the present day, and I believe as they are preserved faithful will sweeten their bitter cups. O how ardently do I desire under a sense of the great value of the poor never dying soul that the Lord may be pleased powerfully to visit thy poor Father, and incline his heart to seek after reconciliation with him, before the things that belong to his peace be for ever hid from his eyes; that submitting patiently under his judgments he may be favoured to obtain mercy; So wisheth, so prayeth thy poor but sincerely affectionate friend

Joseph Wood

For John Yeardley  
of Blacker near Worsbro'

Newhouse 5<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 2<sup>nd</sup>. 1804

Esteemed Friend  
Susanna Clark

The kind entertainment I met with at thy house when last at Doncaster hath oftens been gratefully remembered by me, and have been troubled that I had not the opportunity of speaking to thee when we met together at the Monthly Meeting near Oldham in Lancashire; but the reason was I did not know thou was there until I heard of it afterwards. Since I got home my mind hath been so much impress'd with an apprehension of duty to write unto thee that I cannot find that I can be favoured with Peace if I should omit it; upon a subject which is very unpleasant to me, but which I think is deeply interesting to thee, and that is the liberty thou took whilst there with mine and the character of others, without any other foundation than the bear report of unthinking youth; and which if thou had first taken the trouble of examining into, thou would have found to be wholly without foundation. But had it been true is not right to speak first to the accused, before such reports are handed to others. Is not this one mark by which the disciples of Christ are to be known, even of that pure disinterested love which seeks not its own but the real welfare of all. We are advised to do unto others as we would they should do unto us; In spreading reports, or more especially those that have no foundation at all, doing so. We have the Query oftens to answer; Do we avoid and discourage talebearing and detraction. With what weight can active members of our Society discourage that in others which they practise themselves. Had I been disposed to do the like by thee, I might have circulated things equally prejudicial to thy character from the report of unguarded youth; but I durst not even believe it from such spirits, and found it to be my duty to discourage the spreading thereof. I mention this to let thee know that thou thyself

no more than others art not free from the censure of tongues. O that this pernicious practice might be laid aside especially amongst the active members of our Society; I do not know of anything that hath had a greater tendency to lay waste the work of the Lord, and prevent the spreading of the glorious cause of Truth in the earth; The little ones have been wounded thereby, and the Woe still remains against those who offend one of these. Yea I have been made to believe at times that the dignified servants of the Lord, who hath been entrusted with a gift in the Ministry, by giving way to the hearing of reports have departed from this precious gift, and have been very much misled in their services, so that instead of the body being edified the living members thereof have been exceedingly oppress'd, That I have very much desired that all might be favoured to see and avoid the practice. My friend I am far yea very far from desiring to give thee any offence; No one knows of my writing nor I believe no one will if thou keep it to thyself; which I believe will be most profitable, many having suffered loss by handing such things as these about, and conversing upon them. I'm sure I have nothing but love in making these remarks, and can truly say if I know myself I would rather have sat quietly under the report, than have vindicated my cause, If I could have apprehended I might have been favoured with Peace. For I would not willingly offend any, either Jew or Gentile or the church of christ, being rather desirous to pass through evil report as well as good, yea to be counted a deceiver, if so be I may but be found true. I know my esteemed friend the way in which I have been led must appear singular to others, because it does so to myself, but thou knows it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps aright; where then must we look for direction but unto the Lord alone; and if our brethren and sisters think we miss our way what a mark of kindness it is under the influence of the Spirit of Truth to lend us an helping hand; what an increase of harmony would there be were this generally the case, instead of reporting things to others, many of which when examined into, would be found to be entirely without foundation. I hope I shall ever stand open to the advice of my friends, I'm sure I feel as if I often stood in need thereof, being a very poor Creature; oftens ready to compare myself as to a worm and no man, and when I apprehend a little matter required of me, am ready to adapt the language of one formerly. "Ah, Lord God; behold, I cannot speak; for I am a child." and I do not know that I have ever suffered much for being too forward but many times deeply for omissions of apprehended duty; and why it should be suffered that I am wounded as in the houses of my friends; and at times by such from whom better things are expected, I know not except it be permitted to preserve me in that state of true humility which leadeth unto Prayer for preservation. But tho' Abraham may be ignorant of me, some of the Lords faithful servant may be strangers to the deep exercises I have to pass through; yet my faith is at times strengthened that all things will work together for good; and I have sometimes thought it is a time in which that ancient Prophecy is fulfilled. "In that day there shall be a great mourning in Jerusalem, as the mourning of Hadadrimmon in the valley of and Megiddon. And the land shall mourn every family apart, the family of the house of David apart, and their wives apart; and the family of the house of Nathan apart, and their wives apart; the family of the house of Levi apart and their wives apart; the family of Shimei apart, and their wives apart; All the families that remain every family apart, and their wives apart." But this my friend I may say that he who in his abundant mercy was pleased to pluck me even as a brand out of the fire, hath hitherto borne up and supported under all mine exercises: had not this been the case, I had long ago been overwhelmed, being one of a sorrowful spirit and not able to bear troubles like some. Therefore I cannot but speak well of his name, which remains to be as precious Ointment and poured forth, therefore do the virgins love him; and my earnest desire is that I may ever be kept in a state of willingness to be anything or nothing as he who is perfect in Wisdom may see meet. With warmest wishes for thy welfare every way, and my preservation from right hand and left hand errors, I conclude and remain thy loving and affectionate friend

Joseph Wood

For Susanna Clark  
of Doncaster

Newhouse 5<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 5<sup>th</sup>. 1804

Beloved Friend  
John Beaumont

My mind is oftens affected, and my spirit contrited before the most High God; when I consider his gracious and merciful dealings with the children of men; in visiting and revisiting them, in order that they may turn from the evil of their ways, and be brought to the saving knowledge of the Truth; agreeable to his declaration by the mouth of his Prophet. "If the wicked will turn from all the sins which he hath committed, and keep all my statutes, and do that which is lawful, and right, he shall surely live, he shall not die." And many in the day of humbling visitation, have been made willing to turn their faces zionwards, and desirous above all other things whatsoever that they might be enabled to follow the Lord faithfully in the way of his leadings, and hath been made willing to part with many things for Truths sake, and whilst they have been preserved in this situation of mind, they have experienced this declaration fulfilled unto them, "His going forth is prepared as the morning; and he shall come unto us as the rain, as the latter and former rain on to the earth." But in process of time some who have been thus favoured, for want of keeping little and low in their own eyes, and humbly watching unto Prayer, have suffered the enemy of their poor souls by one temptation or another to prevail against them; and this he does by endeavouring to insinuate into the mind, that there can be no great hurt in this thing or the other, and it may very well suit their outward convenience, this and such like schemes he tries, and if he can but get the poor creature to lend an ear to him, instead of keeping their eye single to the light, which discovereth his snares; he is almost sure to gain his end. O how well he will gild his baits and snares, how plausible will he make them appear, and if he can but prevail with them to dally with his temptations their strength with which they have been favoured gradually diminishes, the eye which hath been opened to see clearly gradually becomes dim. This was the case with Sampson the strongest man, and is the case with many in the present day, and when their friends are favoured to see it, and in love to point out to them their danger, then the enemy tells them they are not their friends as formerly; and so instead of receiving their counsel and advise, they reject it, and let in prejudice into their minds, both against their advice and them, and he makes them believe because they may have been preserved hitherto pretty orderly in their lives and conversations that those who thus labour with them are not right, and therefore they will not take their advice, being now got into the situation of one formerly when he declared, "I will go out as at other times before, and shake myself and he wist not that the Lord was departed from him." Thus my friend have many gone on until they have become like the sow that was washed returned to wallow in the mire and filth. Under an awful consideration of these things, I have felt an engagement and exercise of mind on thy account, That as the Sun of Righteousness did I believe arise gloriously in thee, even as a morning without clouds, but by giving way to the temptations of the enemy, hath for sometime appeared to be Eclipsed; O that it may not be a Total one; but that thou may stand open to the advice of thy friends, and the convictions of the holy Spirit of Truth in the secret of thine own heart, that so indeed thou may experience a repenting and doing thy first works that the sun may again shine upon thee in its former Lustre and grow brighter and brighter until the perfect day. This my beloved friend is the end of the labour which friends have been concerned to extend towards thee, in our late visit; where we should have been glad to have found thee advancing on thy way, instead of halting behind, and turning aside into by paths, but as this did not appear to us to be the case, but that thou had too much harkened to the voice of the enemy until thou was become weak as other men, and what was more lamentable knew it not. I thought it was a favour that ability was afforded to labour with thee for thy restoration, and from the real regard I have for thee, I sincerely desire it may prove effectual to the gathering of thee unto thy first love, that so thou may manifest to others; That thou art loving the Lord thy God more than all, by forsaking all to follow him, and so be his disciple indeed. I am with much affection and real goodwill thy sincere friend

Joseph Wood

To John Beaumont of Moorroyd

Newhouse 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 22<sup>nd</sup>. 1804

Beloved Friend  
James Harrison

Since my return from the Monthly meeting thou has been much in my remembrance; and remembering the language of the Prophet, "Who is there even among you that would shut the doors for nought? neither do ye kindle fire on mine altar for nought?" I have wish'd thou may be encouraged to devote thy time and talents to the promotion of the cause of Truth and righteousness upon earth as much as in thee lieth; and as I believe the smaller service arising from a pure motive is acceptable, so those who are employed in opening or shutting a door, or kindling a fire will not lose their reward. We may remember that under the time of the law those who offered a pair of Turtle doves, or two young Pigeons were as acceptable as those who offered their bullocks or their rams; that it is not the magnitude of the offering or service which the Lord looks at but the sincerity of the heart, and willingness of the mind. The language of one formerly was, "My heart is towards the governors of Israel that offered themselves willingly among the People." And I believe the Lord will be with those who willingly dedicate themselves to his service; and the hearts of those who are bound to the law and to the testimony will be towards them. Having just dropp'd these few hints for thy encouragement; I now proceed to inform thee, that as Isabella Harris and Frances Thompson propose coming by Wakefield meeting on their way to visit Sarah the daughter of Charles Stead, we desire thou may be so kind as accompany them and convey the former in thy carriage by the way of Wakefield meeting, and John Bottomley and John Pickford propose meeting you about Emley and conduct you to house; and as there is two families there who will be to visit for not duly attending meetings for Worship, and they have convenience of lodging, we have thought it may be a suitable opportunity for that service; as they live several miles from any others that will be to visit on that account. John Bottomley therefore desired me to inform thee thereof as you might get there as soon as you could. I am with love to thee and thy Wife thy affectionate Friend

Joseph Wood

For James Harrison  
of East.Hardwick

Newhouse 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 3<sup>rd</sup>. 1804

Beloved Friend  
Alice Midgley

In point of gratitude I can do no less than acknowledge the receiving of thy very kind present by the hand of John Bottomley, (who got well home on fifth-day evening) for which I feel myself very much obliged to thee; and cannot but esteem it a renewed mark of that pure disinterested friendship which hath subsisted betwixt us from our first acquaintance, and which I hope will ever remain undiminished during our stay on this side the silent grave. And now dear friend, altho' I may say with one formerly, "I am poor and needy." this is indeed oftens my lot, and under various discouragements from within and without; for it is I believe to poor Zions travellers "a day of trouble, and treading down, and of perplexity by the Lord God of hosts in the valley of vision;" yet I may also acknowledge with him, that "the Lord thinketh upon me," and at times causeth my cup to overflow, so that I can sing of his Judgments and of his mercies. In these seasons, thou with many of my beloved friends scattered up and down, are oftens brought into my remembrance accompanied with earnest desires that they may continue to be favoured in their habitations with the like precious enjoyment. The Lord has blessed thee with the fatness of the earth, and what is abundantly more valuable with the dew of heaven, to the tendering of thy spirit before him: Wait, my friend for the renewings thereof, oftner than the morning, or the morning light; then will thou be favoured to experience the truth of what we have left upon record, "My doctrine shall drop as the rain, my speech shall distil as the dew as the small rain upon the tender herb, and as the

showers upon the grass." And thus will thou experience that small seed unto which the promise of God is, to grow and increase, until it become the greatest of trees, so that the fowls of the air may lodge in the branches thereof. With dear love to thee and thine I remain thy affectionate friend

Joseph Wood

For Alice Midgley of Buersall  
near Rochdale Lancashire

Newhouse 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 26<sup>th</sup>. 1805

Respected Friend  
John Beatson

Thy kindness to me and my friends, when in your parts, hath very oftens been gratefully remembered by me. We were strangers and thou took us in, and tho' it may never be in our power to make thee an adequate compensation, yet I trust thou will be rewarded by him who declared, "Whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you he shall in no wise lose his reward." And altho' I firmly believe that the true Gospel ministry is free, that those who received the gift, receive it freely; and ought freely to communicate it without any view of pecuniary reward whatsoever; yet when put forth by him, who putteth forth his own Sheep, and goeth before them, and prepareth their way, engaging them in Gospel Labours in different parts as he who is the head of the Church may see meet. Then I believe it right to receive of such things as may be necessary for the present accommodation of the body (but no further) from those whose hearts the Lord may open to receive them into their houses. Agreeable to the command of Christ, "Into whatsoever city ye enter, and they receive you, eat such things as are set before you." I have oftens since my return home commemorated with humble thankfulness the unexpected kindness we received from many in your parts, and tho' I believe we might truly adapt a language similar to the Apostle. "I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling. And my speech and my Preaching was not with enticing words of mans wisdom, but in demonstration of the spirit and of Power: That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God." Yet as the Lord was pleased to open a door of utterance, thro' poor weak instruments, I cannot but also believe he opened a door of entrance in some minds; and the secret breathing of my spirit, unto the Father, and fountain of all our mercies, hath been: That the seed sown may prosper, and in due time bring forth fruit according to the favours received, to the praise of the great husbandman. For as saith the Apostle, "Neither is he that planteth anything, nor he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase." O that many may be brought to sit under the immediate teachings of Christ who came not to be ministered unto but to minister, then would they have experimentally to unite in the language of the spouse formerly. "I sat down under his shadow with great delight, and his fruit was sweet to my taste. He brought me to the banquetting house, and his banner over me was love." Herewith I send thee a few Pamphlets and Papers, one of each I desire thee to accept, and also to give one of each to Thomas West: the remainder I shall be obliged to thee to give to such of the Inhabitants in or near Cawthorne as thou may think proper not forgetting thy sister and Charles Marshall. With warmest wishes for thy present and future welfare, I remain thy sincerely affectionate friend

Joseph Wood

For John Beatson  
of Synderhill near Cawthorne

Newhouse 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mo. 6<sup>th</sup>. 1805

Beloved Friend  
Morritt Matthews

I thought it might not be altogether unacceptable to thee, to hear how I went on in the distribution of the Books, thou and William Wass put into my hands; and to which I received an addition of a considerable number of Hugh Turfords from Christopher Walker. The day after the Monthly Meeting I went by Notton to Royston gave two to one man in the former place, and distributed several in the latter; and sent one to a serious young man at Shafton. I lodg'd at Barnsley that night. Next morning it was very winterley which prevented my setting out as soon as I intended; however I got to Mapplewell in the forenoon; and called there at one George Pickerings a man whom I had particularly noticed in the Meeting there, for his usefulness, and solidarity of his countenance. He and his Wife received me very kindly, and insisted on me stoping dinner with them, it being very stormy. I left a considerable number with him to distribute amongst his Neighbours. After dinner I came to Kexbrough, and went to an Inn, were I got a Girl to carry two of each sort to all the houses were friends lodg'd at, when the meeting was there. As soon as the Widow Hudson received hers, She came to the Inn and kindly invited me to her house, but I excused as well as I could being desirous to get forward towards home, on account of the weather being so very Stormy, otherwise I felt no want of freedom; however nothing I could say would prevent her from fetching drink and a Pye from her own house to the Inn, and as I had got necessary refreshment; she insisted on putting the latter into my Pocket. She told me the Books were far more acceptable to her than Gold, and the latter she said she wanted not but the former she felt very desirous to see some. Indeed she expressed more of her satisfaction with the meeting and our company than I am free to mention: But I do believe she is not far from the kingdom. I gave another in my way to a Religious Woman at Hoyland. From hence the Snow was so deep that I found it very difficult getting on my way and was very much fatigued when I got home about 6 o'clock in the evening, but can assure thee I found the kind Motherly Womans pye which she put in my pocket very useful preserving me from fainting in the Snow. The remainder of the Books with some others of different kinds I had by me, I sent to John Beatson, requesting him to distribute them as he thought proper amongst the inhabitants of Cawthorne and its vicinity. Thus thou will perceive that I have none left for the inhabitants of Silkstone and Emley. Methinks I now feel at least a liberty to add, That I oftens feel an engagement of the Spirit that thou my beloved friend may be mercifully preserved, preserving in the path of obedience, according to the renewed manifestations thou may be favoured with. "Blessed are your eyes for they see." was the language of Christ to his immediate followers, and it remains so to the present day, and tho' the prospects we are oftens favoured with, are such as is cause of mourning, yet let us remember there is also a Blessing to those that mourn with a promise annexed, that they shall be comforted. and tho' we may be oftens drawn forth into our little services in much weakness, yet strength will be administered in proportion to the day. Indeed I believe the rightly exercised minds frequently have to labour almost without hope save peace to their own minds. Yet I have sometimes been encouraged by the language left upon record. "Cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shalt find it after many days." Also, "Verily there is a reward for the righteous; verily he is a God that judgeth in the earth." and tho' for wise purposes only known to himself, he may hide his face from Israel, from his wrestling seed for a season; yet will he again appear with great Loving kindness; and when he appears his reward is with him, and his work before him. Thus poor Zions travellers are encouraged to trust in him, and persevere in the line of obedience, which is the path of safety, were I sincerely desire thou and I may be kept with all others of the Lords peculiarly visited children in the present day. I am sincerely thy affectionate friend

Joseph Wood

For Morritt Matthews  
of Dewsbury

Newhouse 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mo. 16<sup>th</sup>. 1805

Respected Friend  
Jonathan Dickinson

As my mind is frequently concerned for the welfare of the youth of our Society, accompanied with earnest desires that they may not content themselves with a profession, but seek after a possession in the Truth; those durable riches which moth and rust cannot corrupt nor thieves Steal. So I have more especially of late, felt an exercise upon my spirit on thy account; accompanied with a belief that at times and seasons the day spring from on high is visiting thee, in order to wean thy mind from the vanities of time, and fix it upon the attainment of that state of purity and holiness which prepares the immortal part to unite with the heavenly host in singing their Redeemers praise to all eternity, when time to them here shall be no more. And therefore found my mind engaged to write to thee, sincerely desiring thou may be concerned to dwell much alone, retiring not only from all vain, but all unprofitable company, into a state of solemn awful silence, where the voice of the great Shepherd and Bishop of Souls is clearly heard and understood; thus will thou be favoured with a clear discovery of thy state, and altho' thou may be made to mourn over him whom thou has pierced with thy sins; and from a sense of thy deplorable state have to cry who shall deliver me, yet as thou art brought into a state of willingness patiently to bear the indignation of the Lord, because thou hast sinned against him, he will through repentance cast thy sins behind thy back, and blot out thy iniquities, not through any merits of thy own, but by and through the virtue of the Blood of Christ which was shed for the remission of sins that are past, through Repentance and faith in his name; who was the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world, neither is there any other Name given under heaven or amongst men by which any can be saved, but by the Name which is the power of Jesus revealed in every mind to save them from their sins, and prepare them for an inheritance amongst them that are sanctified. Thus I believe would the Lord work for thy deliverance if above all things thou art desirous to be just what he would have thee, so that thou would be favoured to acknowledge "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus who walk not after the flesh but after the Spirit." and also to feel the sheddings abroad of that love which far exceeds all worldly enjoyments, and that Peace which is surpassing the understanding of the unregenerate, having to acknowledge with the Apostle, that " Being justified by faith we have Peace with God through our Lord Jesus.Christ: By whom we also have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand and rejoice in hope of the glory of God." Now as I do feel a desire for thy welfare, I have wish'd thou may seriously ponder the foregoing remarks, keep them to thyself, treasure them up in thine own heart; but above all diligently attend to that inward and divine Monitor, cease from everything that it manifests to thee to be evil, come up faithfully in whatsoever it discovers to thee to be thy duty; thou will reap the advantage thereof thyself; It will be a comfort to those, who have no greater joy than to see the youth in the bloom of life dedicating themselves to the cause of Truth; and tho' thou may have to adapt the language of one formerly, "For thy sake I have born reproach; shame hath covered my face. I am become a stranger unto my brethren, and an alien unto my mothers children." Yet remember he who hath called is able to support under every tryal from within and without; those who fully put their trust in God and faithfully follow him in the way of his leadings; These can rejoice that they are found worthy to suffer reproach for his sake, even when they may have to say. "They that sit in the gate speak against me; and I was the song of the drunkards." With earnest desires that thou may not only be the called of the Lord, but his faithful dedicated servant, I remain thy real friend

Joseph Wood

For Jonathan Dickinson  
of Strines

Newhouse 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mo. 26<sup>th</sup>. 1805

Beloved Friend

Thomas Dixon Walton

Notwithstanding I am oftens reduced into a very low stripped state of mind, so as to be ready to adapt the language of the Prophet "My leanness my leanness wo unto me." Yet in the lowest seasons I have had to wade through, I have never been wholly divested of one distinguishing mark of a disciple of Christ, viz. that of an unfeigned love of the Brethren; In which love I do at this time renewedly salute thee, sincerely desiring that the hands of thine arms may be strengthened by the Power of the mighty God of Jacob; that so thou may be enabled to stand nobly for the glorious cause of Truth in the part where thy lot is cast. "The light of the body is the eye; if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light." It is a favour to be preserved in this state, and not think that the Lord will be served by halves, or because we may have experienced his love shed abroad in our hearts, that we may grow more lax in our zeal, for the promotion of his cause; we must still be concerned to follow on to know the Lord, to preserve the eye single, and the heart undivided; If we would be cloathed with the Sun, and have the Moon under our feet, the changeable things of this fading and perishing world: Those who are thus daily exercised and love the Lord their God more than all, will have one service or other appointed them in the Church of Christ; for it is not his design that any member of his body, should sit down in an inactive useless state, but that each should fill up their proper station, under the direction of him who is the head. Now having been led after this manner, altogether contrary to my own expectation when I sat me down to write; I shall come more immediately to that which was the moving cause of my setting pen to paper at this time. I was glad that our last Monthly Meeting came to the conclusion it did respecting your Preparative meeting; believing it to be under the direction of best Wisdom, and hoping it will prove of advantage to you; by bringing the work more weightily upon you. I hope thou will take care to prepare a waste Book against your next Preparative meeting, and bring pen and ink and half a sheet of paper for to write the Answers to the Queries upon, and if the said Meeting should make a choice of thee for Clerk thereto; I would not have thee to object to it; for I do believe thou art the man designed by Providence to fill up that place at present, and remember what we have left upon record, and may it have a tendency for thy encouragement. "My heart is towards the governors of Israel that offered themselves willingly among the People." Therefore may thou be of the number of the willing, not daring to consult with flesh and blood, reasoning of thine own unfitness, or want of qualifications. "For when I am weak, then am I strong." Was the language of an eminent Apostle; and I doubt not but it is the language of many in the present day, that so what we are we may not be of ourselves; but by and through the Power of Christ, his strength being perfected in our weakness. And I am persuaded were many willing to use the little strength they are favoured with; they would grow in Wisdom and stature, in favour with God, and usefulness to man. May thou therefore be encouraged by these few remarks, and may the secret Breathing of thy spirit be. "Give unto thy servant an understanding heart." from a sense of the need thereof, being oftens ready to adapt the language. "I am but a little child; I know not how to go out or come in." With earnest desires for thy preservation, growth and establishment in the ever blessed and unchangeable Truth; I remain my dearly beloved friend; thy truly sympathizing and affectionate Brother and fellow labourer according to my measure in the Gospel of Christ

Joseph Wood

For Thomas Dixon Walton  
of Barnsley

Beloved Friend

Thomas Walker Haigh

As I had to write to Barnsley, I thought I felt a liberty to inclose a few lines to thee; as small token of my real respect for one who I believe has been favoured with a clear convincement of the Truth; desiring that thou may not take up thy rest here, but keep under a daily exercise of spirit, that so thou may be favoured to persevere in the just mans path which the wise man declares "Is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day." O that none of the Lords visited children, might be prevailed upon by the subtilty of him who lives in wait to deceive, to take up a rest in what they have formerly experienced, short of that which the Lord hath prepared for his People; But that they may be daily concerned to follow on to know the Lord, agreeable to the testimony in sacred writ; "Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the Lord, his going forth is prepared as the morning, and he shall come unto us as the rain, as the latter and former rain unto the earth." Thus will the snares and temptations of him, who not only goeth about as a roaring Lion seeking whom he may devour, but as a cunning wily serpent seeking whom he may betray, and in anywise draw from the simplicity of the pure Truth, be clearly discovered, and strength experienced to withstand them: Thus will these exercised minds know experimentally. "The righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith;" and that the just lives by that faith which overcomes the world. I know not that I have much more to add at present save one thing which I lately had from the mouth of a choice young man, which he delivered to me in a very solemn manner. Some time ago he made application to be admitted a member of our society, in consequence whereof the Monthly meeting appointed three friends to pay him a visit; who were fully satisfied with the sincerity of his convincement, and also understood his conduct so far as appeared was very exemplary; yet when he was withdrawn, and they compared their feelings on the occasion together, they were unanimous in their opinion that it would be safest not to accept him into membership at present, and accordingly reported the same to the Monthly meeting, who coincided in judgement therewith. Soon after it appeared, that he had let out his affections in relation to Marriage after a young Woman of the said Meeting: Upon the hearing of which, two rightly exercised friends paid him a visit in a private manner; and one of whom related to him that when he was young in experience, he found his mind very closely attach'd to a young Woman, and ventured to impart it unto her; but soon found that he suffered loss thereby and was obliged to give it up. Yet at a more proper time, he found a right liberty to renew his application; and she became his Wife and proved a very suitable help meet to him. This with what more they had to communicate proved a Blessing to him; being made instrumental to open his understanding, whereby he saw the loss he had sustained; and entirely dropt the connexion; a visible alteration soon appeared in the weightiness of his spirit; a second visit was paid him by friends, and he was admitted a member of our Society; but now believed as he said that she was not the person designed by providence for him: and added that God was a God of order and not of confusion; and that he was fully convinced it was an unspeakable loss to any who were under convincement, to let out their mind after this manner, until they were united with friends. I thought a solid consideration of this communication might not be unprofitable to thee; having frequently known in the course of my experience, a having to give up things which have appeared to me as hard as parting with a right hand or a right eye; but as I have been brought into a state of perfect resignation to part with all for his sake; Perhaps in the right time, the very things thus given up; hath been given to me again. With earnest desires for thy preservation in the line of faithful and unreserved obedience, I remain thy truly loving and affectionate friend

Joseph Wood

For Thomas Walker Haigh  
of Barnsley

Newhouse 6<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 13<sup>th</sup>. 1805

Respected Friend  
John Beardsell

Since I last saw thee, thou has been very frequently the companion of my thoughts; accompanied with earnest desires that the many precious visitations thou has been favoured with, may prove effectual to the redeeming of thy mind, from every thing that obstructs the progress of the Lords work in thee; and hinders thee from taking up thy daily cross, and living in the denial of Self; without which none can be truly the disciples of Christ agreeable to his own declaration, "Whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple." Now it is plain that every thing the Lord calls for must be given up. Amalek or the first nature in man, must be wholly slain, the best of the things must not be kept alive, even under the plausible pretence of doing sacrifice therewith unto God. Remember the language uttered by the Lords Prophet to one formerly. Hath the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold to obey is better than sacrifice; and to hearken than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft and stubbornness as Idolatry, because thou hast rejected the word of the Lord, he had also rejected thee from being king." Here we have an instance of the sorrowful consequence of disobeying the manifestation of the Lords will in one who had been highly favoured; and as our duty is clearly manifested to us, the way for us to grow in favour with God; and to increase in knowledge in those things pertaining to our present and future welfare, is our obedience to the manifestation of the divine will; agreeable to his declaration. "My doctrine is not mine but his that sent me. If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine." On the contrary if any instead of being faithful to what they see to be their duty, are substituting other things in the room thereof; things perhaps they will guard against being overtaken with the gross pollutions that are in the world; and demean themselves in an orderly and becoming manner amongst men; Like people formerly concerning whom our Saviour cried Wo against, and added. Ye pay tithes of mint, and anise, and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith; these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone." Thus ought we to be obedient, to what the light in us manifests to be our duty, and then in no doubt but there will be a consistency in all our actions, and thus many would become as lights in the world, and as preachers of righteousness unto others; their candle being lighted, for the wise man saith, "The spirit of a man is the candle of the Lord." And in another place, "The candle of the wicked shall be put out." thro' their disobedience to manifest duty, whatever may be substituted in the room thereof for sacrifice. Therefore it is those who are favoured to experience their candle lighted, and stand in Christ the candlestick, that gives light to all around them. Now this is what I desire may be thy situation and blessed experience; not only for thine own comfort in time, and happiness in eternity; but also for the sake of thy Neighbours, some of whom I believe are enquiring the way to Zion with their faces thitherward; and as I have no doubt but thou has been convinced of the Truth, so I believe many of these are looking towards thee for example, and O that thou may be so favoured to come forward in the line of faithful obedience, confessing of Christ before men, as that those who look towards thee, may read in legible characters; Follow me as ye see I follow Christ. Thus may thou be made instrumental in gathering many from the barren mountains, and desolate hills of a lifeless profession, unto Christ Jesus the true teacher of his People, and the alone way to God; consistent with his own testimony. "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. And I give unto them eternal life, and they shall never perish, neither shall any pluck them out of my hand." With warmest wishes that the hands of thine arms may be strengthened by the Power of the mighty God of Jacob, to stand nobly for the faith once delivered to the Saints; I rest and remain thy truly loving and affectionate friend

Joseph Wood

For John Beardsell jun  
of Holm

Newhouse 6<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 28<sup>th</sup>. 1805

Respected Friend  
Thomas Healey

I believe it right to acknowledge the receipt of thy letter which came safe to hand in due time and was acceptable to me to hear that the most high had so far opened the hearts of the People, as to be willing, nay even desirous to have another religious visit paid them: but O my respected, tho' unknown friend, I may inform thee; I am not mine own, nor of mine own disposing, neither dare I move in so weighty a concern, except he who came not to be ministered unto but to minister; be pleased to put me forth, and go before; and then I dare not disobey; altho' I find it many times as much in the cross, as the parting with a right hand, or a right eye; so true it is, whatsoever may be our growth in religious experience, without this daily cross we cannot be the disciples of Christ. Please give my kind love to thy two friends, who commissioned thee to make us an offer of their Chapel; I feel myself under an obligation to acknowledge their kindness; and if he whom I desire to serve faithfully, should be pleased to engage me to pay you another visit shall have no objections to accept thereof. I observe the hope thou expresses that conviction hath reached unto some: and I feel much for these accompanied with earnest desires, that they may not suffer loss by depending too much upon the teachings of men, but may know Christ. Jesus to be their teacher, and the alone way to God; Thus may they experience the Creator of Jacob and former of Israel, to wash and strip them, clothe and arm them; with his own beautiful robes of righteousness; and in due time bring them into the beautiful and comely order of his flock and family, where there is bread enough and to spare, whilst many are perishing with hunger. With earnest desires that thou may be as passive clay in hand of the Potter; willing that the Lord may fashion and form only into such a vessel as he who is perfect in Wisdom may see meet; that so thou may be rightly prepared to serve him not in unfeeling formality nor in the oldness of the Letter, but in the newness of the Spirit and of life; I conclude thy truly affectionate and well wishing friend

Joseph Wood

For Thomas Healey  
of Flockton

Newhouse 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 6<sup>th</sup>. 1805

- Friend  
George Taylor

In addressing myself to thee at this time, the language of the Apostle unto a People formerly who had departed from their first love, or in other words from their steadfastness in the faith of Christ; hath much impressed my mind. "Am I therefore become your enemy because I tell you the truth." It is a common thing with those who thro' unwatchfulness fall in the time of temptation, to look upon those as their enemies, who are in reality their best friends; because they tell them the Truth; not to upbraid them for their miscarriages, well knowing the weakness and frailty of human nature, and that none of us are able to preserve ourselves; yet his Grace is sufficient for us, if we humbly and diligently seek unto it. But from a pure love for the welfare of their souls, which prevails in their hearts, accompanied with a desire, arising from an apprehension of duty; if possible that they may be made instrumental for their restoration; that so they might repent and do their first works, lest the Lord should remove their Candlestick out of its place. I have not only oftens remembered the precious visitations thou hast been favoured with; but the hopes which many entertained, that thou might become a steady valuable member of the Church militant here on earth, and finally be found worthy to unite with the glorious Church triumphant in singing thy Redeemers praise. But O how oftens have I lamented in secret, that there should be caused to adapt the mournful language. "How is the gold become dim! The most fine gold changed." How is the lustre of that precious principle, unto which thy mind was mercifully turned, dim'd in thy sight! How is the value of thereof changed in my view! The word of religion is a

gradual progressive work, "The path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day." It is by this light that the way of the daily cross is discovered; and whilst we walk therein, by coming up faithfully to the manifestations we are favoured with; an advancement is experienced from faith to faith; from one degree of Grace to another; But the enemy who ever envies the happiness of man, seeks by all the means in his power to frustrate this work, and by his cunning craftiness wherein he lieth in wait to deceive, hath prevailed upon many to turn their backs of their own greatest Interest; to their own unspeakable loss; the sorrow of those who are favoured to retain a sense of the value of the immortal soul; and causing others to reproach the way of truth, by querying where is their God? Where is that Principle in which they professed to believe, and hold forth to the world as sufficient to redeem from all iniquity; as able to counteract all the propensities of fall'n nature, and preserve in the hour of temptation. And "Blessed is the man that endureth temptation; for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life which the Lord hath promised to them that love him." But those who do not retain their love to God, cannot stand in the hour of temptation; and gradually slide back from their religious attainments, as it were step, by step; until like the sow that was washed, they return to wallowing in the mire and filth of sin again; even to the committing of such evils as they would once have abhorred. I believe thou art not ignorant of these Truths, nor the way by which the enemy hath been enabled to attain his ends: That it has not been by presenting to thee gross evils at the first; but by drawing thee into a state of ease and indifferency of mind in the neglect of religious duties, and thus the light in thee becoming dim, way hath been made for other temptations to enter, until thou hath become again in love with those very things and such company as were once a burden to thee; and thus is that scripture testimony fulfilled. "Evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived." For when the light in man becomes darkness he still walketh, but knoweth not whither he goeth; he then becometh the willing slave of the enemy; being deceived himself, he is not content therewith; not willing to come to the situation described by the Prophet . "We lie down in our shame, and our confusion covereth us; for we have sinned against the Lord our God." No, the enemy hath other work for him to do, he must now seek to draw others aside. "The soul of the wicked desireth evil; his neighbour findeth no favour in his eyes." So that if he cannot prevail to deceive his neighbour by drawing him into the paths of folly with himself; he must seek some way or other to disturb the quiet of those, who are desirous to live in peace with God, and as much as in them lieth peaceably with all men. Thy late scandalous conduct in entering my house in the night hath fully manifested this to be the case. It hath been my concern ever since I was the head of a family, to endeavour to discharge the important trust committed to my care; and under a sense of my own inability for it, have many times besought the Lord in secret, that he would be pleased to favour me with wisdom and with strength; and oftens have I covenanted that let others do as they may, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." Not that it is in my Power, or any other mans to give Grace unto their servants; but it is our duty both by Example and Precept to point out unto them the way in which they ought to walk; and not only to advise, best endeavour to restrain them from evil; or every thing that may have a tendency to lead thereinto. We may remember it was not sufficient the reproof which one formerly gave to his sons, tho' I believe far more than many do in the present day, "Why do ye such things? For I hear of your evil dealings by all the people. Nay my sons; for it is no good report that I hear; ye make the Lords People to transgress." But the word of the Lord came concerning him to Samuel. "Because his sons have made themselves vile, and he restrained them not. And therefore I have sworn it to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be purged with sacrifice nor offering for ever." That it hath oftens appeared to me a very awful station to stand as the head of a family; and as my mind hath been exercised as beforementioned; The Lord hath been pleased to shew me many things as my duty to enjoin for the well governing thereof; among others; that of not suffering any of them to tarry up in the night after I am gone to Bed; under a pretence of contracting Marriage; clearly convincing me that it was not only an evil, but had a tendency to lead into many others of different kinds; and therefore before I hire them I always inform them of this, and they agree to it; of which

thou art not a stranger. What on a base and dishonourable thing then it is in thee, who had every Privilege by a long and familiar acquaintance in the family to proceed in an agreeable and honourable manner; thus to seek to seduce a young Woman from her duty to her Master, and cause her to break the solemn contract made with him. May not I adapt a language similar to that of this Psalmist "It was not an enemy that reproached me; then I could have borne it; neither was it he that hated me that did magnify himself against me; then I would have hid myself from him: but it was thou, a man, mine equal, my guide, and my acquaintance." It is not one whom I expected to injure me, by breaking in upon the peace and good order of my family, but it is thee! One who I might have reasonably expected, would have been the last to do such a thing, a familiar, an acquaintance; that has so far debased thyself even below the bounds of common friendship. I am sensible whilst I am writing that in thy present state it will appear trifling matter to thee; but I have not found it so, it appears to me a crime of the greatest magnitude; and I am satisfied would do so to thee if thou could see it in its true light. It is not only this itself, but it is opening a way for others; and many other things. And how those who make so light of people breaking their contracts, can expect the blessing of the Almighty to rest upon them, in one of the most weighty engagements in life; yet frequently the most likely and inconsiderately entered into I know not. I wish thou may consider these things, and be favoured to see them in their true light; that thy poor unsettled, unsteady, unstable mind may be brought to its proper centre; then will thou be favoured again to seek the necessity of asking counsel of God, and moving under his direction, who can either bless or blast all our undertakings, and who hath not put it in the power of man to direct his own steps aright, but a good mans steps are all ordered of the Lord, and thus in righteousness and Truth he comes to be established. I now conclude and remain thy greatly injured yet truly well wishing friend

Joseph Wood

For George Taylor  
of Cumberworth.Park

Newhouse 10<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 2<sup>nd</sup>. 1805

Dear Benjamin

As thou has for most part of the time thou has lived with me, demeaned thyself in such a manner, as to gain my respect, and sincere desire for thy welfare every way; and having with sorrow observ'd of late, that thou has manifested a disposition to get into such company, as I am fully persuaded will if thou continues to do so, prove thy utter ruin. I feel my mind engaged from an apprehension of duty; and a real desire for thy welfare, to warn thee in future to desist from absenting thyself from my house improperly, and associating thyself with such as are seeking to draw thee into vanity of any kind, which will in the end most assuredly terminate in vexation of spirit. The Apostle declares, "The wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Now I wish thou may consider this seriously, and the awful consequence of living in sin, the punishment of which is eternal death, to be for ever tormented with the Devil and his Angels in the lake that burneth with fire and Brimstone; and by turning my mind to the gift of God, so near thee as in the secret of thy own heart; thou may be enabled to take the advice of the wise man. "My son, if sinners entice thee; consent thou not." O my dear Lad, how has my mind been of late exercised on thy account, that thou might be preserved from the evils of the world. "I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil." This was the language of Christ; It hath been my petition for thee; that thou might not be removed from me by death, but that thou might be kept out of the evils which are in the world; and this must be by taking heed to the gift of God in thee which comes by Jesus Christ; which is a swift witness against every appearance of evil; I have no doubt that thou has felt its reproofs, and if thou art concerned to obey its dictates thou wilt experience it to be the way to life. It will teach thee to obey thy Master in all his lawful commands; and not absent thyself

from his house without his knowledge, or consent. It will make thee to abstain from every appearance of evil. It will teach thee thy duty unto God and man; and as thou submits unto the operation thereof will Create thee anew in Christ Jesus unto good works; and cause thee to acknowledge with the Apostle. "Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift." In that love which sincerely desireth that thou may be favoured with the real comforts of time, and the never fading joys of eternity; I remain thy truly affectionate friend and Master

Joseph Wood

For Benjamin Beaver  
of Newhouse

Newhouse 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 24<sup>th</sup>. 1805

Beloved Friend  
William Midgley

Under a renewed sense of thy manifold kindness to me, my heart is at this time filled with gratitude to so kind a Benefactor, and is desirous to return thee the deep obligation I feel for thy manifold favours; who am oftens ready to think myself not worthy of the notice of the least of the Lords servants. Thy acceptable Letter was read by me with good Pleasure; and the part thou seemed desirous for me not to take amiss, was truly acceptable; clearly manifesting the sincerity of thy friendship; and had it been by way of reproof, instead of the most tender advice, it would have been kindly received; I being of the Psalmist's mind. "Let the righteous smite me, it shall be a kindness; and let him reprove me, it shall be an excellent oil; which shall not break mine head." William Taylor, John Bottomley and Joseph Grayham desire their dear love to be remembered to thee. Joseph Grayham and me had intended setting out for thy house tomorrow, but are disappointed; he being in place, cannot have liberty when he would; and though I seem to want much to come, feel quite disposed to wait his time, which we hope will not be long, but cannot just tell when, so it must be left at present. Timothy Sykes the young man I mentioned to thee when at my house; who is a preacher among the Methodists, came and stopt with me four nights last week; his company was very acceptable, and reviving to my drooping spirits; being very apt to be cast down, sometimes I think too much so; For tho' my concern at present for Publick meetings seems over, yet I find much deep exercise to attend me on various kinds, and were it not that I am at times led to remember, that it is through much tribulation that the righteous enter the Kingdom; I fear I should sink below hope, which is the anchor of the soul. But blessed be the Lord, though it is my lot to pass as through deep waters, I am not yet overwhelmed; and many times to be cast as into the fiery furnace, yet I trust the presence of him whose countenance is like the son of God, hath been near to support, altho' in these seasons hid from me, so that nothing hath been consumed, but what was for the fire; neither has the smell of thereof been upon my garments: May I therefore be enabled to set up my Ebenezer and thankfully acknowledge, hitherto the Lord hath helped me and may I experience an increase of faith in his promise. "They that trust in the Lord shall be as mount Zion, which cannot be removed, but abideth forever." Yesterday I lost a Cow which we purchased about harvest purely for the support of the family with milk, until the others calved in the spring. It seems a great loss, and I was at first cast down therewith; but remembering in respect to outward things. "There is one event to the righteous, and to the wicked." also the declaration of Job, "Naked came I out of my mothers womb, and naked shall I return thither; the Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord." I was favoured with a good degree of resignation, and encouraged to seek after the state described by the Prophet. "Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be on the vine; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat, the flock shall be cut off from be fold, and they shall be no herd in the stalls; yet I will rejoice in the Lord, and will joy in the God of my salvation." Many with their lips can praise the Lord when all things go on prosperously, but I have many times thought it is a favour if we can resign ourselves, and our all into his hands; who numbereth the very hairs of our head, not

one of which fall to the ground without his permission; and with our hearts bless his name in times of adversity; knowing it to be unto us, as the savour of his good ointments. "Thy name is as ointment poured forth, and therefore do the virgins love thee." O this virgin state, this state in which the mind is preserved chaste unto the beloved of souls; That state in which we can say with the Apostle. "I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor Angels nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come; nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature shall be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." Please to give my kind love to thy Wife and Children: Thy Brother James and his Wife; she has I believe made Mary's choice, the one thing needful, the good part which shall never be taken from her. Also to dear William Taylor, let him know that altho' I have not wrote to him of late, I have oftens been led to visit him with earnest desires he may grow in the Truth, that having been willing to part with many near and dear things for the sake thereof, he may receive the hundredfold here; and in the world to come life everlasting. Tell him not to faint nor grow weary, but to run in the heavenly race, as in the end he may obtain the prize, the Crown immortal which fadeth not away. May the little newly settled Church in Rochdale, experience a building upon the everlasting foundation and Rock of ages; may you gather together in his Name which is his Power, and experience his presence in the midst of you. May you attain to the state of the Church of Philadelphia, unto whom the language of the Spirit was. "I know thy works, behold I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it; for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my Name. Behold I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews and are not, but do lye; behold I will then make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee. Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I will also keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world to try them that dwell upon the earth." Is the sincere desire of one who with unfeigned love to thee, can subscribe himself thy truly loving and well wishing friend

Joseph Wood

for William Midgley of Buersell  
near Rochdale Lancashire

Newhouse 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo 26<sup>th</sup>. 1805

Beloved Friend  
Robert Walker

Thou art not a stranger to the earnest desire I have for thy present and future welfare, and therefore I believe will excuse the freedom I take in addressing a few lines to thee, as my mind hath been many times much exercised on thy account; and altho' I am sensible thou has taken many liberties inconsistent with the pure Truth, yet as thou has always appeared to receive the visits of thy friends cordially, and what they have had to communicate in a becoming a manner many with myself have entertained hopes, that thou may be favoured to see the many gilded baits of the enemy, and by taking heed to the Grace of God, receive power to forsake the evil of thy ways, and become a useful valuable member of a Society whom the Lord has in a very eminent manner favoured. When our Lord and Saviour Jesus.Christ, first began his Ministry this was the testimony he had to bear "The time is fulfilled, and the Kingdom of God is at hand; repent ye, and believe the Gospel." The testimony was short but very instructive, and remains in full force to this day, as the only way by which fallen man can be restored into the image of God, which our first parents by disobeying his command, and harkening to the voice of the enemy, lost; and thus sin entered into the world, and since, mankind have been prone to evil, and by joining in therewith, are become the children of wrath, agreeable to the Apostles testimony to the Ephesians, "And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; Wherein in time past he walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience; Among whom also we all had our

conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath even as others." Thus the Apostle shows what manner of men they had been unto whom he was writing, as well as themselves, who were now the Ministers of Christ; and not only the possibility but the necessity of a change from the state of nature in order that we may be prepared for an admittance into that kingdom into which nothing that is unclean or unholy can enter, and all self sufficiency to effect this change is utterly disclaimed: It is Christ by his Spirit or Grace that quickens, that discovers man state, shews him the exceeding sinfulness of sin, and if he resist it not brings a godly sorrow over the mind which worketh true repentance and leadeth to believe the Gospel, which is the Power of God unto salvation. Now my friend as this is the case, I have earnestly desired that thou may prize the day of thy visitation, the day when the spirit of God moves upon thy mind, and then he who in the beginning said "let there be light; and there was light." will cause the light of the glorious Gospel of Christ to shine into thy heart, and divide the light from the darkness, thus will thy eye see thy teacher, and as thou art concerned to obey it, thou will be led in the path of true Judgement, and experience that Baptism which rightly initiates into the Church of Christ. "He that believeth and his baptized shall be saved." This is the Baptism which burneth as a fire, which separates betwixt the precious and the vile, which makes a man more pure than Gold seven times tried in the fire; and this is the Baptism which many of the youth in our Society stand in great need to be more fully acquainted with; Too many of whom are in a state of ease in the traditions of their forefathers, but are not enough concerned to know the Truth for themselves, that they might walk in their steps; like the Jews formerly, who valued themselves with being Abrahams children because lineally descended from him, saying unto Christ when he reasoned with them concerning the necessity of a change of heart, and knowing a being set free by the Truth. "Abraham is our Father." But he plainly told them, "If ye were Abrahams children ye would do the works of Abraham". and if our beloved youth walked in the steps of their pious predecessors, their faith would enable them to overcome the world; So that tho' the enemy might tempt they would be enabled to say with one formerly. "How can I do this great wickedness, and Sin against thy God." Thus there is a power that is able to preserve in the hour of temptation; if man instead of looking on the temptation with a lustful eye, was but concerned to feel after it; his grace would be experienced to be sufficient for mans preservation, and "Blessed is the man that endures temptation, for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him." Now having in abundance of love and goodwill thrown these few remarks before thee, for thy serious consideration, sincerely desiring thou may profit by them, that thou may indeed truly repent and be baptized, and experience the blessing of preservation from evil to attend thee, in thy future passing thro' the stage of this life, and in the end receive that Crown which is promised unto all those that love the appearance of our Lord and Saviour Jesus.Christ. So wisheth, so prayeth thy sincere friend

Joseph Wood

For Robert Walker  
of Dircar

Newhouse 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo 31<sup>st</sup>. 1805

Beloved Friend  
John Issott

"Unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake." Was the testimony of an Apostle to the believers formally; and which I believe the faithful servants of a crucified Saviour, find verified in the present day in the course of their Christian experience. It having been the lot of the righteous in every age, and under every dispensation, to pass through deep Sufferings inwardly or outwardly. Our friends in the beginning suffered many long and tedious imprisonments, with loss of property, cruel Whippings, Banishments, cutting off of ears, and some of them sealed their testimony with

their Blood; yet the Lord was their support under all their tryals; fulfilling his ancient promise to them, "Thy shoes shall be iron and brass; and as thy days so shall thy strength be." So that they flinched not in the day of tryal. The sufferings of the faithful in the present day are of a different kind, being inward; many of the professors of Truth sitting down at ease in the traditions of their forefathers, makes the work fall heavy upon the shoulders of a few, yet wither shall we go; Christ alone hath the words of eternal Life: May thou and I gather unto him, acknowledge him to be our teacher, our leader, the Shepherd and Bishop of our Souls; and may we follow him faithfully, not turning aside, when hard things are required, but remember he is able to support, nor despise the day of small things, for he that is faithful in a little shall experience a being made ruler over more: "I have yet many things to say unto you but ye cannot bear them now." How gently he leads his poor humble depending children along, not opening too much at once lest they should be lifted up above measure, or cast down below hope. O may we be strengthened faithfully to follow him, and not start aside in the time of Suffering; For it is those and those only who are crucified with Christ, that will be found worthy to reign with him; and O that there may not be a looking outward unto hurt, but that the eye may be kept single, then my friend will the whole body be full of Light thus may thou experience preservation in the just mans path, and the light to shine brighter and brighter in thee unto the perfect day; Which is the earnest desire of thy real friend

Joseph Wood

for John Issott  
of Stocksmoor top

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concerned in Prayer and Praises to Almighty God. The meeting held upwards of two hours. This afternoon my beloved friend Joseph Grayham came to my house as usual to improving learning, and tarried until Bed time. I had felt rather distant in my mind towards him, he having manifested some weakness of late; but when I came to be with him, O how I felt that love to flow which would heal all wounds and putrifying sores which sin hath made thro' mans watchfulness and disobedience: for it is through disobeying the command of the Lord that man is left to himself, and so becomes an easy Prey to the tempter. But O how unwilling the Lord is to give up his visited children, and make them as Adamah or set them as Zeboim but from one time and season unto another renews the visitations of his love in order that he may fulfil his ancient promise unto them. "I will heal their backsliding, I will love them freely; for mine anger is turned away from him." and O that mankind would but submit unto this divine Power which thus continues to visit them, and would preserve in the hour of temptation, and leading in the way everlasting. This I desire and sometimes hope will be the case with this my dearly beloved friend, unto whom all within me feels to be oftens nearly knit and united; and whilst I am favoured to feel this cementing love which breaks the bonds of death asunder, whatever may follow, I dare not but carry with the greatest tenderness towards him, knowing so much of my own weakness, having oftens had cause to say, The spirit is indeed willing but the flesh is weak. A sense of this makes me often feelingly to sympathize with those who are at times desirous above all things that they may be enabled to experience an overcoming of all evil, which I know to be the case with this young man; whose company this afternoon had been particularly pleasing to me, and in that love which maketh friends stick closer to each other than brothers we separated for the present betwixt 10 and 11 o'clock this evening. We had four friends came this afternoon and stopt with us all night, being on their way to our Monthly Meeting held at Wooldale viz. Robert Thompson of Pontefract Mg. Joseph Smith, Thomas Dixon Walton and John Yeardley of Burton Mg. The night before we had William Awmack of Wakefield Mg also stopt with us two nights after Mo. Mg. On 16<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, was at our Monthly Meeting at Wooldale which was large and satisfactory, John Bottomley had a short testimony therein first from Heb: C: 10 v: 35. Cast not away your confidence. Isabella Harris had a very long time next from Job: C : 1. v: 8. Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in all the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God and escheweth evil. They were led in a very encouraging manner to the afflicted and heavy hearted in Zion. John Bottomley was next concerned in Prayer. and afterwards Isabella Harris had a very suitable exhortation to those of other Societies, a pretty many having attended whose behaviour was commendable. At the close of this meeting was held the meeting for discipline a great deal of business was before it which was satisfactorily conducted. Both meetings held near 3 hours and a half; after which I got a little refreshment at Thomas Roberts's of Wooldale din'd and drunk tea at George Broadheads of Melthomhouse, and returned home in the evening.

Memorandum            On the 22<sup>nd</sup>. of the 7<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1804 and 1<sup>st</sup>.day of the week. This afternoon my beloved friend and Scholar Joseph Grayham began to read in the Bible having read the New Testament quite thro'. He hath made considerable improvement in his learning for the time he has had, and his situation; So that I think it may truly be said, Providence in this respect blessed our united labours. And O that he may be pleased to continue to him the visitations of his divine love until he be willing to bow under that divine Power, and follow christ fully in the way of his leadings. Children when they are learning to walk for want of being careful frequently get falls, and sometimes are hurt or wounded thereby; and this sometimes makes them more careful of their steps afterwards; so it is in a spiritual sense, and they who are appointed by the great Master as nurse to children, have need of patience and perseverance as well as watchfulness, that so they may give them their portion of meat in due season; And being able to bear with childish weaknesses. Our Meeting at Highflatts was this

day pretty large several sober People of other Societies who were strangers to me attending. I had a long close and laborious testimony to bear therein from Job: C: 21. v: 11, 12, 13, 14. They send forth their little ones like a flock, and their children dance. They take the timbrel and harp, and rejoice at the sound of the organ. They spend their days in wealth or mirth and in a moment go down to the grave. Therefore they say unto God, depart from us; for we desire not the knowledge of thy ways. Afterwards Leah Kinsley had a lively encouraging testimony to bear, to the rightly exercised; and affectionately intreated the careless and indifferent to rouse up and take their proper portion of labour. This morning I received a very acceptable letter from a Christopher Wray of Derby in answer to one I wrote him. I had never seen him but felt my mind drawn to write to him, which he informed me was truly acceptable having been for some time exercised about writing to me before he received it. He also informed me that 10 were accepted into membership in Derby, and that 8 applications was before their last Mo. meeting held at Nottingham; 3 of which were from Derby; and added it was a weighty meeting, and they were favoured thereat with the company of our valuable friend William Rickman from Rochester in Kent who was returning from our Quarterly Meeting at York where his service was truly acceptable. The said Christopher Wray had formerly been a Preacher among the Methodists; but being convinced of the Truth had joined our Society. I believe altho' he is an entire stranger to me as to the outward, that he is a sincere man, and justly and deservedly esteemed by faithful friends. Many are now called as out of the highways and hedges; may he who hath called be pleased to bless and preserve them, that the borders of our Zion may be enlarged, with such as are concerned to bring forth fruit to his Praise.

Memorandum            On the 3<sup>rd</sup>. day of ye. 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1804 and 6<sup>th</sup>. day of the week. We had a very heavy storm of Thunder and Lightning. It began betwixt 4 and 5 o'clock in the afternoon and continued heavy until about 2 o'clock next morning. It was a thick mist all the time, and indeed the prospect was truly awful many Balls of fire was seen to fly in different directions at a little above the ground yet through divine mercy me and mine were all preserved from harm, and I have not heard of much damage being done any where near us. On 5<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week I accompanied my dear friend Joseph Grayham on a visit to his Mothers at Kirkburton, We set out after dinner and had a pleasant walk and an agreeable visit, drunk Tea and supp'd there, and went to see Joshua Lee a very clean and I believe thoughtful old man, who seemed much pleased with our calling upon him, and would not suffer us to depart without breaking bread with him. We got to my house about 10 o'clock in the evening, my beloved companion Joseph Grayham stopt all night and slept with me.

#### A Dream

About the middle of the 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. 1802. A friend dreamed; That Robbers broke into my house with weapons of different kinds such as she never saw before, but exceeding sharp; some of them very long, and others shorter; that slew two of the family and wounded the rest: She awakened in a very agitated state of mind, and before she was well awake it run through her; what can be the cause of this in this peaceable family. The same week she related the dream to me, and altho' I seemed to take little notice of it; It very much affected me; there appearing something in it as if some heavy tryal was impending but how or after what manner was entirely hid from me. The week following I attended our Quarterly Meeting held at Leeds; and both before I left home and on my way there was very much exercised not knowing the cause: but endeavouring to get down low in my own mind; It appeared to me that something was stirring in the minds of some (whatever their intentions might be) that would be very

proving to me and some others. When I got to Leeds I went the same evening to the Select meeting exceedingly bowed down in my mind, where a friend moved something and was followed by some others which unfolded my exercise, and the dream came into my mind: Clearly perceiving there were weapons of different kinds that was very sharp which was not outward, and that there was a life which might be taken that was not natural; and that many might be sorely wounded when their bodies was not hurt. And a cry run through me after this manner O Lord preserve thy little ones in the patience whatever they may have to pass through; and keep them from thinking evil of those who may ignorantly suppose they are doing thee service. Open their understandings to see the Truth of thine declaration left upon record in the Scriptures of Truth "No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgement thou shalt condemn, this is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is of me saith the Lord" On 1<sup>st</sup>. of 4<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1802 I wrote the above, my mind being at the time covered with a sweet calm, and felt a degree of pure resignation to the divine will

Joseph Wood

I kept the beforementioned account entirely to myself upwards of 2 Years, being only wrote on a piece of loose paper when shewing it to a particular friend he remarked it was worthy of preservation, there appearing to him something very remarkable in it, and added; God had formerly at times spoke to men by dreams, and he believed consistent with the Prophecy of Joel continued to do so in the present day. Upon which I transcribed it into this Book ye. 13<sup>th</sup>. of the ye. 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1804

Memorandum. On ye. 12<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1804 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week I was at a meeting at Highflatts which was large, It being our Preparative meeting, when the friends of Lumbroyd Meeting unite with us and form one meeting on that day; and a pretty many people of other Societies came in to day, so that the house was nearly full. I had sat four or five meetings before in this place, as with my mouth in the dust, mine harp being hung as upon the willow, in a low suffering depressed state which was my situation in the forepart of this meeting, when I was led to remember the Prophet who lodg'd in the cave, a mournful hidden situation, but the word of the Lord came unto him in this state, after this manner, "What doest thou here Elijah?" and he answered "I have been very jealous for the Lord God of hosts; for the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thy altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away." But after the Lord had called him forth out of the cave and ordered him to stand upon the mount before him, where he beheld the various dispensations of the wind, the earthquake, and the fire; which passed by before the still small voice; which pointed out unto him his future service and let him see, that in that hid and suffering state his conclusions were not right. "I have left me seven thousand in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed unto Baal, and every mouth which hath not kissed him." And as I was thus exercised Light began to shine, and life spring up, and the language of the Prophet in the Lords name came before me. "Arise, Shine, for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee." And after some time apprehending I felt a concern to stand upon my feet I had a long testimony to bear being opened from Can: C: 2. v: 14. O my dove, that art in the cleft of the Rock, in the secret places of the stairs, let me see thy countenance, let be hear thy voice; for sweet is thy voice, and thy countenance is comely. As soon as I sat me down, and not feeling myself clear, I got up again and enlarged pretty considerably, by way of encouragement to the rightly exercised and deeply afflicted minds. At the close of this meeting when those who are not members of our Society were withdrawn, and the Women friends were separated into their apartment. The business of our Preparative meeting was entered upon and gone thro'. Both meetings held about two hours and a half. My truly valuable and much esteemed friend George Chapman

came and din'd with us after meeting, and stopped until after Tea. And after dinner my dearly beloved friend Joseph Grayham came to read and write; I being much relieved in mind enjoyed their company much; and I thought we had a comfortable afternoon together. My dear Scholar Joseph Grayham tarried all night and slept with me, which gave us an opportunity of private conversation to my satisfaction.

Memorandum            On the 20<sup>th</sup>. of ye 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1804, and 2<sup>nd</sup>. day of the week was our Monthly meeting held at Burton, which I attended as usual having ever since I was favoured with a religious turn of mind, apprehended it my duty to be diligent in the attendance of those meetings, where I have many times been refreshed with my Brethren and Sisters; and do not know that I have ever neglected this duty except thro' indisposition or some very particular cause, and tho' I have not kept accounts of these journies except they have been connected with some other Meetings yet I thought I felt most easy to make a few remarks on this; and for the encouragement of others to faithfulness may observe; that tho' I have nothing to boast of, yet have reason to believe that thro' my diligence in attending these meetings it hath been a means of stirring up others to the like duty; for at my first attendance, these meetings were very small been chiefly made up of a few elderly friends since that time they have been gradually increasing and in the general are now well attended. I set out this morning between 6 and 7 o'clock in company with my truly valuable and dearly beloved friends William Taylor and John Pickford we went by Denby and Cawthorne to Barnsley, John Kirk overtook us at Dakinbrook and accompanied us thither, I got Tea at Isabella Bashforths and then proceeded to Burton, The meeting began at 11 o'clock, was large of friends and a few of others Societies came in so that the Meetinghouse was well filled, and thro' divine Mercy it proved an highly favoured meeting; John Bottomley was first concerned there in a pretty long time in testimony from Isai: C: 55. v: 1, 2. Ho, everyone that thirsteth, come to the waters, and ye that hath no money; come ye buy and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money, and without price. Wherefore do you spend money for that which is not bread; and your labour for that which satisfieth not. Isabella Harris had a long time next from 2 Kings C: 5. v: 3. Would God my lord with the Prophet that is in Samaria; for he would recover him of his leprosy. I had a pretty long time next from 2 Kings C: 5. v: 11. Behold I thought, He will surely come out to me. and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God, and strike his hand over the place, and recover the leper. Isabella Harris had a long time next concerning many tryals the children of Israel had to meet with after their deliverance out of Egypt in their passing through the wilderness towards the promised land, which she spiritualized in a very beautiful and instructive manner. At the close of this meeting was our Monthly meeting for discipline, a great deal of business was before it and many cases of a painful nature, and some more pleasant but the whole was amicably conducted. Isabella Bashforth of Barnsley and Thomas Yeardley of Blacker near Worsbro' applications to be accepted members of our Society were laid before this meeting and appointments made to visit them. Also agreeable to the direction of the Quarterly meeting a Committee was appointed to visit all such as were negligent in the due attendance of meetings for Worship, to move therein as way might open; and the following friends were nominated for that service viz. Leonard West, John Bottomley, William Wass, Joseph Wood, James Harrison George Chapman and the Womens meeting appointed the following to unite therewith viz. Isabella Harris, Mary Cudworth, Frances Thompson, Mary Walker, Elizabeth Walker, and Mary Pickard. Both meetings held upwards of 4 hours. After which the said committee sat about 1 hour together when some gave up to move forward in this weighty service as their minds were drawn to the several Meetings. After which I din'd at John Wilsons Country house, and drunk Tea with Elizabeth Dunn of Barnsley. and then went to Joel Yeardleys of Blacker to lodge, dear Thomas Dixon Walton accompanying me nearly thither and then return'd.

On 21<sup>st</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, I left Blacker betwixt 9 and 10 o clock in the morning and came to Barnsley were I sat a little with Elizabeth Dunn and afterwards with Isabella Bashforth and Elin Spencerley who now live together being Partners in a narrow line of business; I got some refreshment there and betwixt 12 and 1 o clock left Barnsley in company with John Bottomley and came to Cawthorne where we stopt a while and rested us with an old neighbour who lives there and then came to Denby were I had to call upon my Taylor we stopp'd a good while there and got home betwixt 5 and 6 in the evening.

Memorandum            On ye. 26<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1804 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, was at our meeting at Highflatts which was very large a great many People of other Societies attending far more than usual except on some particular occasion so that the Meetinghouse was well filled. I sat in the forepart thereof in a very stripped state but feeling a little revival accompanied with a concern to stand upon my feet; I did in very great weakness, but Truth gradually arising for my help, I was enabled to bear a long testimony and before I had done I believe Truth measurably reigned over all from Eccle: C. 5. v: 1. Keep thy foot when thou goest to the House of God, and be more ready to hear than to give the sacrifice of fools; for they consider not that they do evil. John Bottomley was next concerned in Prayer. And afterwards I had a pretty long testimony from Luke C: 18. v. 25, 26, 27. It is easier for a camel to go through a needles eye, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God. And they that heard it said Who then can be saved. And he said, The things that are impossible with men are possible with God. The meeting held about two hours and a half.

Taken from the Leeds Mercury 9<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1804

On the 28<sup>th</sup>. of the 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1804. At Whitby Advertisements were dispersed throughout the Town, informing the Inhabitants that there would be a Publick meeting at the Theatre at 6 o clock in the evening when the company of those who were desirous of attending would be acceptable.

Accordingly at the appointed time, great numbers attended insomuch that the Gallery Pit and Boxes were crowded; and many came who could not get in. During the time of the Meeting a Female stood up and delivered a discourse which lasted three quarters of an hour on Christian and moral duties. After which her Sister went to Prayer which ended the Meeting. After the Meeting broke up the following lines were found upon the door of the Theatre.

If Reader! you have time to spare.  
Turn o'er St. Matthew's leaves;  
You'll find that once an house of Pray'r,  
Became a Den of thieves.  
But now the times are alter'd quite,  
O Reformation rare;  
This modern den of thieves to night,  
Becomes a house of Pray'r.

Memorandum            On ye. 17<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 9<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1804 and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of day of the week, Was our Monthly meeting held at Highflatts, the meeting for Worship began at 11 o clock. It was not as large as I have seen sometimes there, the house and chamber being not quite full but was indeed very eminently favoured. Before the meeting was fully gathered I was concerned to

stand upon my feet and had a pretty long testimony to bear from Heb: C: 6. v. 7, 8. The earth which drinketh in the rain that cometh oft upon it, and bringeth forth herbs meet for them by whom it is dressed, receiveth blessing from God: But that which beareth thorns and briers is rejected, and is nigh unto cursing; whose end is to be burned. Isabella Harris a had a very long time next from 1 Sam: C: 15. v: 22. Beheld to obey is better than sacrifice; and to harken, than the fat of Rams. John Bottomley had a short time next from Psalms 1. v. 1. 2. 3 Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the Lord: and in his Law doth he and meditate day and night. And he shall be as a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season: his leaf shall also not wither, and whatsoever he doth shall prosper. Afterwards myself and Isabella Harris had each of us a pretty long time. After which John Bottomley concluded a meeting in Prayer. At the close thereof the meeting for discipline was held, in which the Queries were read and Answers received from all our Preparative meetings viz. Pontefract, Highflatts, Ackworth, Wakefield, Wooldale, and Burton. Also we had two presentations of marriage viz. Thomas Taylor, and Rebecca Lynch of Ackworth Mg. and John Pickford of Wakefield Mg. with Elizabeth Marsden of Marsden Mg. in Lancashire. Also Isabella Bashforth and Thomas Yeardley of Burton meeting were both accepted into membership with us. A great deal more business was before the meeting to day which was amicably, conducted. Both meetings held near 6 hours. After which we din'd 20 friends and lodg'd 4 the night before viz. Joseph Johnson of Ackworth Mg. John Robinson of Wakefield Mg. and Thomas and John Yeardley of Burton Mg. and this night William Awmack of Wakefield Mg.

A short extract from a Sermon preached at York by George Dillwyn.

He shall feed his Flock like a Shepherd; and he shall gather the Lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom; and shall gently lead those that are with young. The Shepherd also employs a dog which is taught to gather the Sheep not to bark and bite them or one another; but to gather the sheep from the Fells, and bring them near to the fold, to the place of feeding in the fat vallies; and tho' some may have wandered upon the mountains, till they are become wild in nature, yet he suffers these to abide without, appoints them a place of feeding near to the fold till they become more tamed; and this is the work of the Shepherds dog, and this is an our work, but he shall feed his flock like a shepherd.

Memorandum            On ye. 17<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 10<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1804 and 4<sup>th</sup>. day of the week, Our friend Thomas Cash from Cheshire had a Publick meeting in our Meetinghouse at Highflatts at 6 o'clock in the evening, the previous notice having been given the day before to the inhabitants for many miles around, It was very large solemn and satisfactory, Friends mostly sat in the chamber except those who sat in the Gallery or under it and left the Meetinghouse for other People, which I believe had a tendency to keep the meeting quiet and still, and I thought it was remarkably so considering the great numbers which attended the whole being comfortably fitted but not crowded. Yet I believe the concourse of People would have been much greater had not the forepart of the evening been very wet; but it clearing up, and the moon being about full, the People had comfortable returning. Thomas Cash had a very long and highly favoured time therein in testimony from Isai: C: 26. v. 3, 4. And thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee; because he trusteth in thee. Trust ye in the Lord for ever; for in the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength. He was next concerned in Prayer and afterwards had a pretty long testimony from 1 Cor: C: 3. v. 6, 7. I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. So then neither is he that planteth anything,

neither he that watereth, but God who giveth the increase. He concluded the meeting with a commendatory speech to the People for their solid behaviour and a short but lively exhortation to them; which held 2 hours and a quarter towards the close of his ministerial labour he inform'd us that such was the enlargement of heart which he felt that he had doctrine opened before him, that he could continue his discourse until midnight, but found it difficult to express himself, from a severe cold which much affected his lungs.

Memorandum            On ye. 28<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 10<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1804 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week was the Annual meeting for Sufferings at Highflatts and Christopher Walker of Dircar, Morritt Matthews of Dewsbury and John Mallinson of Birdsedge being appointed by the Monthly meeting to call upon the respective members thereof for an account of their Sufferings, and enquire into friends faithfulness respecting our testimony against Tythes Priest demands, those called Church rates the Rate money, and the Militia and things of that nature. and advise those who were deficient to an annual inspection into the state of their affairs, were here in the course of their visit to day. The meeting was large, the friends of Lumbroyd Meeting uniting with us as usual on this occasion, and several sober people of other Societies attended; I had a pretty long time therein in testimony from Psalms 17. v. 7, 8. Shew thy marvellous loving kindness, O thou that savest by thy right hand them which put their trust in thee from those that rise up against them. Keep me as the apple of the eye, hide me under the shadow of thy wings. At the close of the meeting for Worship was held the meeting for Sufferings the Men and Women who were members of our Society as usual on these occasions sitting together. All who were liable to demands of the beforementioned nature were called for an account of their Sufferings and particular inquiry made of their faithfulness in the several particulars; and Answers were given or received from all our members who were liable to any of those demands and friends appeared to be all in the practice of annually inspecting into the state of their affairs. Friends being about purchasing a Meetinghouse in Wakefield for the use of our Society, a Subscription was opened in our last Monthly meeting, and most who were present subscribed, The people appointed for the beforementioned service were nominated to apply to others in the course of their visit, Who inform'd us that the purchase was now made; and the Subscription was preceded in, and gone thro' by those who were present; and John Mallinson and John Pickford appointed to apply to such in this Meeting as were absent, and bring the account of what was further done to the adjourn'd Preparative meeting and take the whole to the Monthly meeting. Both meetings held about 3 hours and a half. Morritt Matthews took up his quarters at my house, and Christopher Walker at John Mallinsons but came to Breakfast with us next morning. My dearly beloved Scholar Joseph Grayham came as usual and spent the afternoon, tarri'd all night, and slept with me. He inform'd me that he went to Highflatts with an intent to be at the meeting to day but fearing he was too late had not courage to come in, but return'd home. O that he may be strengthened to be faithful and then I believe he would be preserved from falling in the hour of temptation, and experience a growth in the Truth. We had the company of him, Morritt Matthews and John Pickford at our family sitting this evening; which held about 1 hour and a half; It was mercifully overshadowed with the heavenly wing to our mutual comfort. I had a pretty long testimony to bear therein from 1 Chron: C: 16. v: 11. and 11. Seek ye Lord and his strength. and afterwards had a short but very encouraging time from Isai: C: 43. v. 2. When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and when through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee; when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shalt the flame kindle upon thee. After which I had a few words more. In the forepart of the sitting me and all my family read each of us a chapter in that the New Testament as usual.

Memorandum. The 30<sup>th</sup>. day of ye. 10<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1804, Joseph Beaumont of Denby departed this Life aged about 68 years and was buried in friends Burial ground at Highflatts ye. 2<sup>nd</sup>. of ye. 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. and 6<sup>th</sup>. day of the week. He having been disowned his Relations obtained leave of friends to bury him in our burial ground and they ordered to get to the week day meeting which began at 10 o clock a few near Relations and several neighbours principally of other Societies accompanied the corps to the Grave The meeting held long in silence, which I thought was not an unprofitable time, having no desire either to speak or hear words, for what state is comparable to that of solemn silence, sitting as under our own vine and fig tree where none is able to make afraid; feeding upon him whose flesh is meat and blood drink indeed; and whose words are spirit and life. John Bottomley had a pretty long time in testimony first from Luke C: 12. v: 37. Blessed are those servants whom the Lord when he cometh shall find watching. I had a long time next from Matt: C: 7. v: 21. Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. John Bottomley was afterwards concerned in Prayer. The meeting held near 3 hours.

Memorandum On ye. 11<sup>th</sup>. day of the ye. 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1804 was our Preparative meeting at Highflatts, when the friends of Lumbroyd Mg. unite with us, and it being ordered by our Monthly meeting, that the Overseers in each Preparative meeting should meet together once in 3 months both men and Women to hold a conference, respecting the state of things and what might appear necessary to be done for the help of those who might be taking liberties inconsistent with our religious profession. This meeting had regularly complied with the said advice and held a conference every quarter at 10 o clock on the Preparative meeting day which falling in course to day. I thought I felt something more than an inclination to attend and sit with them. Accordingly I gave up thereto, and after sitting until then they had discussed the matters that came before them; I felt a concern to stand upon my feet, and had a pretty long testimony to bear amongst them principally tending to stir them up in their duty, To take heed to themselves and to the flock over the which the Holy Ghost had made them Overseers. After which my Spirit felt very much relieved, and I enjoyed a sweet calm, the reward of obedience. In which state I went into the meeting for Worship which was gathering when the conference broke up. It was pretty large of friends and a few others attended I had a long testimony to bear therein, altho I expected when I stood up to have had a very few words to drop but found a considerable enlargement from John C: 12. v: 24. Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die it abideth alone: but if it die it bringeth forth much fruit. At the close of this meeting the business of our Preparative meeting was gone thro' Both meetings held near 3 hours. This afternoon my beloved Scholar Joseph Grayham came to learn as usual and tarried all night and slept with me. He and John Pickford sat with us in our family sitting in the evening, After reading I had a short testimony to bear from Eccle: C: 12. v: 13, fear God, and keep his commandments; for this is the whole duty of man.

Memorandum On ye 5<sup>th</sup>. of ye 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1804, Being the night when the Bonfires are made under pretence of rejoicing for the deliverance from the Gunpowder Plot Abraham Fawcett a youth in the 18<sup>th</sup>. year of his age, Apprentice with John Roberts of Tottis went out of his Masters house in the evening in perfect health, to the Bonfire in the same village, where for some time he appeared very cheerful, and run about with fire upon a stick, when giving the stick to one of his companions said he would light no more upon which he went and stood with his hands in his Pocket betwixt two other Lads observing the fire, he had not stood long before he fell and never spoke more, nor made any motion except with his feet he was taken up and carried into his Mothers house who lived hard by, and was just heard to Sob once and

expired immediately, He had not left his Masters house a quarter of an hour. before news came of his death. How necessary it is for us to be at all times ready for our final change, seeing that we know not how soon or how suddenly he who hath given us Life Breath and being may call for us to resign the same. And what a pity it is, that these scenes of folly and dissipation are not put a stop to by a Nation professing so highly as we do, or if not that those who have youth under their care do not prevent them from attending, where so many misfortunes have frequently happened and where the Almighty hath evidently manifested his displeasure with such things. How the youth felt the evening before I cannot tell, but apprehend he was convicted in his own mind of the evil of such things, as he expressed to one of the family his determination not to go to the Bonfire, but when the company was collected he went and return'd no more. O that it may be a warning to others. I was in that part yesterday and received this authentic account which I put down in writing to day being ye. 14<sup>th</sup>. of 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1804

The People called Methodists having a large Meetinghouse to dispose of in Wakefield, 17 yards long and 12 wide, and friends Meetinghouse being out of the Town and very inconvenient not only for Publick meetings but also for our own Monthly Meeting; Friends on considering thereof agreed to purchase the same with a dwelling-house adjoining which was done for the sum of £500. The following is a List of the names of the Subscribers with what each subscribed in our own Monthly Meeting viz.

Pontefract Mg.				Brought forward			
	£	s	d		£	s	d
John Leatham	26	5	0	John Haigh	0	10	6
Benjamin Jowett	21	0	0	John Mallinson	2	2	0
Simeon Hunter	3	3	0	William Taylor	0	10	6
James Harrison	5	5	0	Joseph Walker	1	1	0
Ann Harrison	2	2	0	George Chapman	2	2	0
Joseph Johnson	3	3	0	Thos. Earnshaw Jud	1	1	0
John Thistlethwaite	2	2	0	John Brook	0	10	6
James Wigham	1	1	0	Samuel Wood	0	10	6
Joseph Johnson jun	2	2	0	Elihu Dickinson.	10	10	0
Robert Thompson	3	3	0	John Firth	3	3	0
Elizabeth Wainwright	2	2	0	Elihu Dickinson Tan.	5	5	0
Mary Johnson	1	1	0	Robert Wood	0	10	6
	£72	9	0	Richard Dickinson	1	1	0
	0	1	0	Joseph Haigh	0	2	6
Highflatts Mg.				John Aldam	4	4	0
Henry Dickinson	0	5	0	Joseph Dickinson Sen.	0	5	0
Jane Stead	0	1	0	John Dickinson	0	5	0
Phebe Haigh	0	2	6	William Aldam	0	10	6
Sarah Dickinson	0	10	6	Joseph Priest	1	1	0
Benjamin Stead	1	1	0	John Priest	0	10	6
Joseph Wood	2.	2	0	Joseph Priest jun.	0	5	0
John Bottomley	0	10	6	Joseph Stead	1	1	0
John Pickford	0	10	0	Samuel Haigh	0	5	0
Sarah Haigh Highflatts	1	0		Elihu Dickinson jun.	0	10	6
Charles Stead	0	10	6	Joseph Wood Haddenley	0	5	0
Joshua Dyson	0	5	0	Ellen Stead	0	1	0
James Arthington Wilson	10	6		Hannah Stead younger	0	1	0
William Dickinson	1	1	0	Jane Wood	0	2	6
Henry Marsden	0	10	6	Ann Stead	0	5	0

Brought forward				Wakefield Mg.	£	s	d
Benjamin Dickinson	0	10	6	Christopher Walker	7	7	0
Jonathan Dickinson	0	5	0	John Robinson	50	0	0
David Dickinson jun.	0	2	6	William Wass	10	0	0
Frances Field	0	2	0	Morrith Matthews	10	0	0
	£47	13	6	William Pickard	2	2	0
				George Earnshaw	0	10	6
Burton Mg.	£	s	d	Mary Cudworth	0	10	6
John Wilson	3	3	0	George Brearey	10	0	0
Thomas Dixon Walton	1	1	0		£91	0	0
	£4	4	0	Ackworth Mg.			
Wooldale Mg.				Leonard West	2	2	0
George Broadhead	1	1	0	Robert Whitaker	2	2	0
William Bottomley	1	1	0	Joseph Johnson	0	10	6
Henry Swire	1	1	0	Ann Haigh	0	10	0
Thomas Bottomley	4	4	0	Hannah Robinson	0	2	6
Joseph Bottomley				Isabella Harris	2	2	0
Royd	1	1	0	Elizabeth Gregory	0	10	6
Joseph Bottomley				Mary Pears	0	10	6
Woodend	0	5	0	Sarah White	1	1	0
Joseph Brook	1	1	0	Mary Taylor	0	10	6
John Brook	1	1	0	Samuel Goodwin	1	1	0
John Wood Broadhead		2	6	William Pickard	0	10	6
Godfrey Woodhead				Hannah Dumbleton	1	1	0
and sons	5	5	0		£12	14	6
Rachel Brook	0	5	0				
Thomas Roberts							
Daniel Archard							
Jonathan Bottomley							
	£16	7	6				

Additional brought in, in the 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1804. At which time was brought to the Monthly Mg. all the money Subscribed, an account of what was done the Monthly meeting was inform'd of the 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. by the Committee appointed to apply to friends for the same whose service extended to every Meeting in the course of the annual visit for the collecting of the account of Sufferings. The Monthly Meeting referring it to those friends who were appointed for that service this Year to be done in the several meetings as they went along. After what was done in the Monthly meeting at Burton in the 10<sup>th</sup>. Mo. the day friends concluded to purchase it. Those in Wooldale meeting against whose names nothing is set would not say whether they would do anything or not but would consider of it and it appears they considered to do nothing. Also Joseph Woodheads family of Wooldale Mg. and James Booths in Wakefield Mg. when application was made to them absolutely refused to unite with their Brethren. The following is the additional; Subscriptions brought in with the other which were done after the committee had gone thro' their service viz

Pontefract Mg.	£	s	d	Wakefield Mg.	£	s	d
Benjamin Jowett	5	5	0	Sarah and Ann Bland	0	10	6
Highflatts Mg.				John Pickard	1	1	0
Charles Blackburn							
Not a member but							
offered it freely	0	10	6				

Totals from each Mg.	£	s	d
Highflatts	48	4	0
Ackworth	12	14	6
Wakefield	92	11	6
Wooldale	16	7	6
Burton	4	4	0
Pontefract	77	14	0
Total done in Mo. Mg.	251	15	6

#### An Extract

It chills my blood to hear the blest Supreme  
 Rudely appeal'd to on each trifling Theme!  
 Maintain your ground, Vulgarity despise,  
 To swear, is neither brave, polite nor wise;  
 You would not swear upon a Bed of Death;  
 Reflect! your maker now can stop your Breath.

Be wise betimes. Shun darling crimes.

Memorandum. On ye. 25<sup>th</sup>. of ye 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1804, Sarah Priest Wife of Joseph Priest of Denby departed this Life and was Buried the 28<sup>th</sup>. of the same and 4<sup>th</sup>. day of the week in our Burial ground at Highflatts, aged about 69 years. The Meeting on the occasion was not large and chiefly consisted of People of other Societies, for there being to be a marriage the day following, and publick notice having been given thereof on first day, I suppose it made fewer friends attend to day than otherwise might have done as very few were invited except some Relations. I sat me down in the meeting in a very poor low discouraged state of mind but endeavouring to get into the place of true waiting after some time a little matter arose accompanied with a concern to stand up which I did in much weakness but increasing in strength as I endeavoured to keep close to my opening, I had a long testimony to bear from Rom: C: 6. v: 23. The wages of sin is death: but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Afterwards John Bottomley had a pretty long time from Psalms 37. v: 37. Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright: for the end of that man is Peace. I thought upon the whole it was a satisfactory meeting, and that we had abundant cause to be thankful for this renewed favour.

Memorandum On ye 29<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1804. John Pickford of Birdsedge and Frances Field my housekeeper were married at Highflatts our week day meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup>. day instead of the 6<sup>th</sup>. of the week on that occasion and a Publick notice thereof given at the close of the meeting first day before. She having lived with me many years and demean'd herself in her place to my satisfaction I gave them the entertainment on the day of Marriage on condition that I might have the liberty to invite whom I pleased and no other, Accordingly I invited my own Family viz. William Taylor, John Bottomley, Henry Marsden, and Benjamin Beever, and four other young persons viz. Joseph Grayham of Birdsedge, Thomas Field and his Sister Mary Field of Skelmanthorp and Jane Wood of Haddenly. The Monthly meeting appointed my Brother Samuel Wood, William Taylor, Hannah Stead of Toppett and Mary Walker of Shepley to see the orderly conducting thereof, All of whom attended. The meeting began at 10 o'clock and held about two hours and a half It was not large altho' a

pretty many of other Societies attended; But was mercifully crowned with the presence of him who attended the Marriage at Cana in Galilee were he wrought that miracle of turning water into wine. I had a long testimony to bear therein from Gen: C: 49. v: 6. O my soul, come not thou into their secret; unto their assembly, mine honour, be not thou united. After which they stood up and took each other in marriage speaking very audibly and distinctly. A solemn time of silence ensued, and then the Certificate was read and Signed. After which John Bottomley had a pretty long testimony to bear from Prov: C: 14. v: 27. The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life, to depart from the snares of death. Which concluded the meeting and the People departed in a solid manner, some of them I believe under a feeling sense of divine impressions on their minds. Susanna Taylor of Park and Mary the Wife of Luke Holmes of Highflatts had the care and management of the house today. The afternoon was spent solidly and comfortably in conversation together; and all the company left before supper except Joseph Grayham who stopped all night and slept with me, and my Brother and Niece, and Susanna Taylor who spent the evening with us. We all supp'd together being 11 in number with my own family and before we arose from the Table I had publickly to return thanks unto the Almighty for this days favour; and to petition him for a continuance of his blessings and that he might preserve us from the evils of the world, and enable those who had this day entered into the solemn covenant of marriage with each other to fulfil their engagements; and that his light and Truth might break forth, and the knowledge thereof spread and prevail in the earth, that so the number of those may increase who can livingly praise his adorable name under a sense of his manifold mercies to their souls.

Memorandum            In the fall of the year 1804 our Quarterly Meeting having previously directed the several Monthly meetings to make an appointment of a suitable number of friends to pay a religious visit in the love of the Gospel to such of their members as were deficient in the due attendance of our meetings; or inconsistent with a religious profession in Speech behaviour or Apparel. Our Monthly Meeting in compliance with the direction, appointed a large committee of Men and Women friends, a number of whom went through the said service. The following is a List of the families visited in the several Meetings, either all or some part of the family coming under that description. Also of several individuals, who was visited separately some of whom it was not suitable to go to their places of residence; and by whom they were visited in at the several Meetings Viz.

Pontefract Mg. by Leonard West, John Bottomley and part by Frances Thompson

Simeon Hunters	Joseph Johnsons	John Thistlethwaites
Ann Brown	John Leathams	Benjamin Jowetts
Thomas Haighs	Elizabeth Wainwright	

The last being from home was left under the care of Isabella Harris and Frances Thompson to visit when a suitable opportunity offered.

Highflatts Mg. by Isabella Harris, William Wass, and James Harrison, Lumbroyd division they were accompanied by George Chapman and in Highflatts in part by John Bottomley .

Thomas Earnshaws Langsett	Benjamin Dickinsons	William Dickinsons
James Dickinsons	John Firths	Benjamin Steads
Joseph Dickinson Highflatts	Charles Steads	James Arthington Wilson
William Dickinson	Henry Dickinsons	Elihu Dickinsons Tanner

Wakefield Mg. by George Chapman John Bottomley Isabella Harris and Frances Thompson

William Pickard	George Earnshaws	Widow Pemberton
Sarah and Ann Blands	James Booths	

Wooldale Mg. by Joseph Wood William Wass James Harrison and Isabella Harris  
 John Roberts children            John Wood Broadheads            Sarah Roberts  
 Samuel Woodheads                John Bottomleys Woodend        Jonathan Bottomley  
 Godfrey Woodheads                Joseph Woodheads                Joseph Bottomleys Royd  
 William Bottomleys                Thomas Bottomleys

Burton Mg. by Joseph Wood only  
 Joseph Smiths

The beforementioned religious movement was attended with close and hard labour yet I thought it was a favour that those who were forgetting the Lord days without number, and forsaking their own mercies by following after Lying vanities, were not yet forgotten of him, but that he was renewing his calls unto them immediately and Instrumentally. Turn ye, Turn ye; why will ye die, O house of Israel.

Memorandum            On ye. 9<sup>th</sup>. day of the ye. 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 1805 and 4<sup>th</sup>. day of the week, were married at Lumbroyd near Penistone, John Womersley of Rastrick Ann Earnshaw of Judfield Lanehead. I being invited to the marriage, attended, and set out from home, the same morning about 8 o clock in company with James Lees and John King of Brighthouse meeting who came to my house the night before and John Bottomley, we went by Ing Birchworth to Penistone were we stopt about half an hour at George Chapmans, and then proceeded to Lumbroyd. The meeting began at 10 o clock and held about two hours and a half; It was not large altho' several of other Societies attended. But I thought it was a solemn time to many minds more especially to some of the members of own Society who had been trifling with the many precious visitations they had been favoured with and not come forward in obedience to the mind and will of the Lord as it had been revealed unto them; unto whom a renewed visitation was extended and they were earnestly laboured with to use all diligence in making their calling and election sure. I had a long testimony to bear therein from Numb: C: 33. v: 55. If ye will not drive out the inhabitants of the land from before you, then it shall come to pass that those which ye let remain of them shall be pricks in your eyes, and thorns in your sides, and shall vex you in the land wherein ye dwell. The young People took each other in marriage next and afterwards the Certificate were read and Signed, after which John Bottomley had a pretty long testimony from Rev: C: 2. v: 7. To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which stands in the midst of Paradise of God. I went with them to dine at Judfield Lanehead. George Chapman, John Bottomley, Hannah Stead and Mary Walker were appointed by the Monthly to see the orderly conducting thereof, but Mary Walker did not attend. I set out for home pretty soon after dinner my beloved friend Joseph Grayham having contracted with his Master when he hired to have two weeks time to learn to improve in writing, and he not appearing willing to go to any other person for instruction but myself; I undertook to do my best for him and gave him his lodging and most of his victuals. This being the time when his Master set him at liberty, it made me desirous to return unto him as soon as I could knowing that time was precious to him, and therefore came to Penistone and drank Tea at George Chapmans and then came by Ing Birchworth home were I got betwixt 5 and 6 in the evening: and found Joseph Grayham had been engaged at home to day, but came again this evening to read, and stopt all night and slept with me.

Memorandum            On ye. 18<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 1805 and 6<sup>th</sup>. day of the week, I was at our Weekday meeting at Highflatts 30 Men and 15 Women attended. It was a remarkable time soon after I set me down, Light began to arise which gradually dispelled the darkness, until an

awful solemnity covered most minds, and that worship was experienced by many which needeth not the aid of words. towards the close of the meeting; I was concerned to stand up and bear a short testimony from Hos: C: 13. v: 14 O death I will be thy plagues. concluding with a tender and encouraging exhortation to the youth. After which Leah Kinsley had a pretty long time from Eccle: C: 12. and v: 1. Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them. The meeting held near 2 hours.

Memorandum            27<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 1805 It was 29 year this day since my dear Sister Mary Wood was buried, which was one of the coldest days I ever remember. This afternoon my esteemed friends Charles Blackburn and Joseph Grayham, and Esther Hirst my housekeeper went to Strines to see John and Frances Pickford and drunk Tea there for the first time since their Marriage. dear Joseph Grayham returned with my housekeeper and me home, and stopt our family sitting which I thought was a very solemn opportunity. After reading I had a pretty long testimony to bear from 2 Pet: C: 1. v: 10. Give diligence to make your calling and election sure. After supper Joseph Grayham return'd home I believe under a solemn covering, O that he may be concerned to wait for the renewings thereof, that so he may be strengthened to confess Christ before men.

Memorandum            On ye. 1<sup>st</sup>. of ye. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mo. 1805 and 6<sup>th</sup>. day of the week and towards evening my beloved friend John Yeardley late of Blacker came to see me and stopt several days with us; He is a choice young man, I was much pleased with his company and I hope it was not an unprofitable time to him. He was at our meeting at Highflatts the 1<sup>st</sup>. day following being ye. 3<sup>rd</sup>. of ye. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mo. It being a Snowy day and the Snow having lain some time deep upon the ground, The meeting was considerably smaller than usual, yet I thought measurably overshadowed by the heavenly wing. I had a long testimony to bear therein from 1 Cor C: 15. v: 45. The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit. The meeting held 2 hours. After which I invited John Issott to dine with me, he tarried until evening, and his company was very acceptable. He gave us an account of the Lords gracious dealings with his Soul in early life, his going amongst the Methodists and joining with them: the exercises he went thro' whilst amongst them which I think he said was up towards of 6 years; his conviction of the Truth, and leaving the Methodists, and attending friends meetings. All which he related in so solemn and weighty a manner as may not only be acceptable but I believe profitable and edifying to us. My dear Scholar Joseph Grayham came after dinner to his Books, and stopt all night and slept with me. Our family sitting at this evening altho' I felt low therein yet I hope it was a profitable time to some. After reading I had a pretty long testimony to bear from 2 Cor: C: 12. v: 9. My grace is sufficient for thee; for my strength is made perfect in weakness. The next morning John Yeardley set out towards home. the afternoon I went down to Dykeside to Joshua Morleys for Tea he being an intimate acquaintance, and one for whom I have a long time had a particular regard and not having visited him after this manner before since his marriage, altho' he had frequently invited me and the last time he was at my house fix't upon this day, when he would be at home; I was pleased with my visit, and glad to see that in all appearance he had met with an agreeable Wife and suitable helpmeet may they be like two formerly who were concerned to walk in all the commandments of the Lord blameless. For this must add much comfort to the married state. After my return I went as usual to instruct my worthy friend Joseph Grayham in reading in their Shop at Birdsedge. But I found myself very unwell both there and after I got home; yet thro' mercy was better the next morning.

Memorandum. On ye 8<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mo. 1805 and 6<sup>th</sup>. day of the week, was our Week day meeting at Highflatts which was larger than I expected being the break of a long storm 31 men and 13 women attended. It was a singularly favoured time, which is the cause of me making this memorandum thereof. Perhaps it may be encouragement to some poor drooping minds who may read it when I may be laid in the silent grave, not to faint in low seasons, but trust in the Lord, until he is pleased to rise and scatter all his enemies. Soon after the meeting was gathered, the minds of a remnant was divinely overshadowed, and under this solemn covering we were enabled to draw nigh unto God in full assurance of Faith; his divine Power prevailed and reached unto some of the youth; altho' others as well as some of those who were further advanced in years sat in such a state of insensibility as to resemble the heath in the desert which knoweth not when good comes. After sitting about an hour in this comfortable state of mind, I felt a concern to stand up and had a pretty long time to bear from 1 Cor: C: 15. v: 10. By the grace of God I am what I am: and his grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain. After which a time of solemn silence ensued, and then the meeting broke up having held upwards of 2 hours, and we return'd to our respective habitations, some of us with thankful hearts.

Memorandum On ye. 27<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mo. 1805 Martha Moorhouse daughter of Jonathan and Alice Moorhouse of Biggin departed this life aged about 15 years and was buried in friends Burial ground at Wooldale ye. 3<sup>rd</sup>. of ye. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week. I being invited attended the burial. She was not a member of our Society but was educated by her Parents in the attendance of meetings, and as far as I ever heard her conduct was orderly. As in the invitation they had desired me to call after meeting to dine, I did not go with others to Breakfast; but left home about 9 o'clock and went by Tottis to Henry Swires where I rested me a little and got some refreshment and then went to the meeting which was very large the Meetinghouse being well filled. For besides those invited to the Burial a great many of other Societies attended, being the first day of the week: The occasion was solemn and proved a remarkable solemn time. John Bottomley had a short testimony therein first from Mark C: 13. V: 37. What I say unto you, I say unto all Watch. I had afterwards a very long time from Psalms 51. v: 15. O Lord, opened thou my lips; and my mouth shall shew forth thy praise. The meeting held 2 hours. After which I came to Biggin in company with John Issott whose road home was by there I was pleased it happened so being one who I believe Fears God and is concerned to work righteousness. At parting he invited me to call at his house this afternoon. I told him I was obliged to get home as soon as I could and purposed leaving Biggin directly after dinner. Accordingly I set out about half past three o'clock, stopt a little at Godfrey Woodheads of Fulstone and got home a little past 5 o'clock; were I found my beloved friend and Scholar Joseph Grayham, come to learn as usual. Our family sitting this evening was small there being only myself, Joseph Grayham, Esther Hirst my housekeeper, and Benjamin Beever my servant in husbandry. The rest of my family being assisting at the Burial were not return'd. After reading I had a pretty long and open time in testimony from Eccle: C: 12. v: 1. Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh when thou shalt say. I have no pleasure in them.

Taken from the Leeds Mercury.

Died 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 1805 - Gervais Storr of Leeds, one of the People called Quakers, a truly pious and benevolent character. With an income of several hundreds per Annum, his personal expences we are credibly informed, have not exceeded thirty pounds a year; the Surplus he bestowed upon the Poor; not through the medium of Agents, but with his own hands

ministering to their necessities. For this purpose he performed weekly circuits of several miles extent through the adjacent villages, where he explored the wretched abodes of misery, investigated their various necessities, and administered advice, bedding, cloathing, and money, in the most judicious manner; and during his last illness he expressed his firm belief that the same divine Power which had stimulated him thus to alleviate the distress is of his fellow creatures, would raise up some others to supply his place. His spare habit, his venerable grey locks, his plain and rather coarse cloathing, with the sanctity of his countenance, and general appearance; produced in beholders the idea of one of the ancient Prophets. The period of his good deeds will be lamented, and most severely felt.

Taken from the Leeds Mercury of 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. 2<sup>nd</sup>. 1805

Court of Exchange, Saturday Feb: 3<sup>rd</sup>. Sittings at Guildhall before Lord Chief Baron Macdonald.

#### Disowned Quakers

Finch, v Badger, Cox, Sturges and others - In this cause the Plaintiff and defendants were of the Society of the People called Quakers, and the action was brought to recover a compensation in damages from the defendants for assaulting and falsely imprisoning the plaintiff on the 16<sup>th</sup>. day of January 1804 - When Serjeant Williams had preceded a short way in his opening the Lord Chief Baron interfered, and earnestly put it to the parties, whether they had not better submit all matters in dispute to a reference; than to expose what might turn out a trifling dispute as to forms, among men whose characteristic is that of peaceable and quiet demeanour. - The parties, however, differing as to the mode of adjustment, the cause preceded, and disclosed the following facts:

The plaintiff, Mr. Henry Finch, lives at Reading, in Berkshire; he was born and bred a Quaker, and from his early manhood until he was 60 years of age, filled the most honourable stations in that Society. In the Year 1797, at a Quarterly Meeting of the Society, two members were proposed to be expelled, as Serjeant Williams stated, having been found guilty by their Synod of the heinous crime of paying their tythes without a distress being levied. Mr Finch having undertaken to apologise for their conduct, so displeased the fanatical part of the friends, that they succeeded in prevailing on the majority to "disown him." Which is a kind of prescription, not from attending the religious part of their worship, but having any concern in the management of the temporal and charitable part of their economy. In this way matters stood until the Quarterly Meeting of Friends held in Bishopgate street, on the 16<sup>th</sup>. day of January, when Mr Finch presented himself at the Meeting door for admission. It should seem that his visit was not unexpected, as the six defendants were stationed, three at each door, to oppose him. It was in vain he was informed that the Quarterly Meeting being on discipline only, and not on worship, and he being disowned, had no right to enter; he still persisted until Mr Badger took him by the collar and pulled him from the door down the passage, where he held him for a minute or two, and then let him depart. This was the sum and substance of the assault and false imprisonment.

Sergeant Sellon, Mr Plomer, and Mr Dauncey were retained for the defendant. Mr Plomer conducted the defence and the whole resolved itself into one point, viz. Whether the society had a right to displace or to disown Mr Finch? And if they had, Were they warranted in keeping him out of their meeting by force? It was held they had, the meeting not being at that time for religious Worship, but for regulating the economy of their affairs, providing for the poor etc.

Mr Harrison an eminent merchant, in the course of his evidence, clearly defined every religious and moral principle on which the Society of Friends act, and that in a way so perspicuous and interesting as to call forth the highest compliments from the Bench.

His Lordship, on the plaintiffs own shewing, was of the opinion, that he had no right to force his way, that he was an intruder, and that therefore the action could not be maintained. He was accordingly nonsuited.

The court was crowded with Quakers, who all appeared highly interested in the event, and pleased with the decision.

Memorandum            3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. 10<sup>th</sup>. 1805 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, Being previously engaged to accompany my beloved friend Joseph Grayham on a visit to his Mothers at Kirkburton. I attended our meeting at Highflatts which was large being the Preparative Meeting and several of other Societies attended the Meeting for Worship. The Masters presence was near in the early part of the meeting I felt a concern to stand up and had a pretty long testimony to bear from Zech: C: 11.v: 1 Open thy doors, O Lebanon, that the fire may devour thy cedars. Towards the close of my testimony I felt the current of life obstructed and sat me down perhaps too hastily. After some time in silence, I apprehended I felt a concern to kneel down, but felt discouraged and did not give up, which I afterwards thought brought leanness over my own Soul, and was a hurt to the meeting. however he who knows all things, knew that I was not guilty of wilful disobedience, and was pleased renewedly to qualify me for service in the succeeding meeting, where amongst other business the usual Queries were read and answered, and divers remarks made upon the deficiencies which appeared, which I earnestly desire may be a means of stirring the deficient to come up more faithfully in the line of their duty. Both meetings held about 3 hours. Thomas Dixon Walton and Thomas Yeardley from Burton meeting was there who came home with me to dine. I was pleased with their company; but sorry that I was under the necessity of leaving them so soon. Joseph Grayham and me having appointed to meet at Sunnyside as soon as we could after dinner; Accordingly I left home about 3 o clock, and we nearly met together, went by Shepley to Kirkburton were we got to his mothers a little past 4, and tarried until betwixt 8 and 9 drunk Coffee and supp'd there; and return'd the way we went, having had an agreeable visit. and a pleasant and satisfactory journey. and got home betwixt 9 and 10 o clock.

William Harvey formerly a member of our Monthly and Burton particular Meeting, but was some time ago disowned, and at present resides in the County of Essex, sent the following acknowledgement of his misconduct and request to be reunited with friends to our Monthly Meeting in the 3<sup>rd</sup>. month 1805

To Friends of Pontefract Monthly Meeting.

Dear Friends

Want of attention to that divine Principle which the Almighty hath endowed mankind with, was I believe the cause of Remissness in the attendance of religious meetings and of that disregard I paid to your repeated advice, the result thereof disunited me from the Society. But having been enabled thro' divine assistance, to see the baneful influence of such conduct upon my own mind, and its inconsistency with the good order, and discipline established amongst friends, for their preservation and assistance thro' Life; am thereby induced to request to be received again into membership; hoping by a more strict attention to the dictates of Truth, I shall be enabled so to walk as not to prove a stumbling block in the way of others. I remain in Love your friend

William Harvey

Malden in Essex 13<sup>th</sup>. of 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo.

Memorandum            On 7<sup>th</sup>. of ye 4<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1805 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week. In the afternoon my beloved Scholar Joseph Grayham. came here as usual and tarried all night and slept with me. Also Jonathan Dickinson youngest son of Henry Dickinson of Strines a youth just turn'd of 20 years of age spent the afternoon with us. I had for some time observ'd, he had been more diligent in the attendance of our meetings, and his sitting therein indicated that the visitations of Truth were extended towards him, under a sense of which I had wrote him a Letter. I was much pleased with his company this afternoon yet scarcely durst rejoice having seen in my time so many buddings, and blossomings, yet so few who have endured the storms, and patiently waded through all, so as in due time to bring forth ripe fruit to the praise and glory of the Lords great and adorable name, yet some have been favoured not to leave their first Love, but so to run as to obtain, and if there is not a good beginning, there can be no hope of usefulness here, or a good end. After Tea our minds closing in silence, I had a pretty long testimony to bear from Prov: C: 1. v: 10. My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not. Our meeting at Highflatts was large to day altho' it was mostly select of friends. It being the time of our Preparative meeting when the friends of Lumbroyd meeting unite with us. It was a very exercising time to me, towards the close thereof I had a few words, briefly observing, That it was sin that was the cause of that hardness of heart which was felt so much to prevail over some; but would not have those who were of a broken heart and a contrite spirits be discouraged altho' they might be tryed with great poverty; for in his own time he would look down upon these. After a short time in silence I had rather more to communicate from Hos: C:11. v: 8. How shall I give thee up, Ephraim? how shall I deliver thee, Israel? how shall I make thee as Admah, how shall I set thee as Zeboim? At the close of the meeting for Worship was the Preparative meeting. Both meetings held near 3 hours.

Memorandum.            4<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 26<sup>th</sup>. 1805. It was 55 years this day since I entered upon the stage of this life. I have had many bitter cups to drink, have known a partaking of the Wormwood and the gall, but the hand of the Lord hath been underneath to bear up and support so that the fire hath not kindled upon me, nor deep waters overwhelmed me, that I may now humbly acknowledging in the decline of my life and at a time when surrounded with divers bodily infirmities. That the Lord hath not dealt with me according to my deservings but according to the multitude of his mercies has had the compassion upon me; and therefore may now set up my Ebenezer and say Hitherto the Lord hath helped me. And O that I may be enabled to walk worthy of his manifold mercies and favours to me a poor unworthy creature the remainder of my days for surely his mercies to me have been more than the number of the hairs of my head. It was a day of solemn retrospection to me, in which I had to look back and consider how I had been enabled to answer the great end of my creation, and saw abundant cause to beg for strength more fully to dedicate myself to the cause of Truth, the few uncertain days I had to spend. It being the 6<sup>th</sup>. day of the week and our Week day meeting, I was there in the forenoon, 43 persons attended it; I was largely opened therein from Chron: C: 4. v: 9,10. Jabez was more honourable than his brethren; and his mother called his name Jabez, saying, Because I bear him with sorrow. And Jabez called on the God of Israel, saying, Oh that thou wouldest bless me indeed, and enlarge my coast, and that thine hand might be with me, and that thou wouldest keep me from evil that it may not grieve me. and God granted him that which he requested. The meeting held upwards of 2 hours. Charles Blackburn came and din'd with me, spent the afternoon and drunk Tea, then set out for home. I had ordered a supper to be provided for those of mine own house, and invited my esteemed friends John Pickford and Frances his Wife and my beloved Scholar Joseph Grayham to spend the evening with us, At Table I look'd over my company not knowing we might ever sup together again Nay I was ready to believe it would not be the case with all of us; and as I looked I thought they felt as near to me as if they were my own children; indeed many of them were so by adoption, tho' none of them by creation. We had a solemn and I hope I may

say profitable opportunity in silence before we arose from the Table After which John Pickford and his Wife return'd home but Joseph Grayham stopt and slept with me.

Memorandum            On ye 3<sup>rd</sup>. day of the 5<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1805 and 6<sup>th</sup>. day of the week being a week day meeting and something singular attending it, It came into my mind to make a few remarks thereon to leave behind me, and more especially respecting the conduct of Martha Dickinson who had been for a long time past a very great exercise to faithful friends. That others may learn to fear, serving the Lord therein and when favoured to rejoice that it may be with trembling. She was the daughter of Abraham Beaumont of Deershaw a friend in lowish circumstances who gave her very little education and being the youngest child was very much indulged by her Father who always manifested a partiality towards her, which I believe was a great hurt to her, who was naturally of a high lofty and turbulent temper. When she grew up she went to place into several friends families where she was esteemed a good servant except for her disposition which would not bear controul and was generally submitted to an account of her other qualifications; and here I cannot but remark what a favour it is for youth to have their tempers broke and wills crossed in early in life. However she demeaned herself so, in other respects as to gain the esteem of friends, and in process of time married our friend Elihu Dickinson Clothier of Highflatts. Soon after her marriage she became very active in meetings for discipline, not from a real concern of heart but because she had married a man of great property in the world and had thereby a better opportunity of attending Meetings for discipline than many of her Sisters in this meeting had. This the faithful amongst us clearly saw was the first ground of her religious movements yet as she appeared desirous of doing good we were willing to hope for better things than have since appeared. She was frequently under appointments of diverse kinds, in which she always manifested so much activity as was painful to the sensible friends who were engaged with her, some of whom were at times concerned to give her suitable counsel and advice which she appeared to receive kindly; and appearing pretty sincere in her intentions we flattered ourselves with a hope that in time she might come to be truly useful. She was appointed an Overseer, and sometime after an Elder. Soon after which a friend who was in the Station of an Elder came to Superintendent the School at Ackworth, he not knowing her as well as us gave her very unsuitable encouragement, by which that part which ought to have been slain upon the cross was strengthened. How needful it is to attend to the Apostles Advice "Not to believe every spirit but to try the spirits whether they be of God." However in a short time the Lord was pleased to favour her with a precious visitation of his divine Love under which she was brought very low and saw all her own righteousness to be as filthy rags, her willings and runings were silenced and she laid as with her mouth in the dust acknowledging the loss she had sustained by and from her intimacy with the beforementioned friend. Soon after she was brought out of this low state she frequently dropt a few words in meetings, but whether she was ever upon the right foundation or no I shall not pretend to say, but if she was, She soon lost herself getting quite into a Self exalted, wild Ranting state mixed with a degree of derangement by seeking to comprehend things above her capacity which had always been weak. Thus she became very troublesome to friends and made much disturbance in our meetings. The Monthly meeting was under the necessity to discharge her from the offices of Overseer and Elder hoping that this step might be of use to her, as well as to relief to friends who suffered deeply from her forward active the Zeal without due knowledge. But she continued to grow worse and worse until she got to such an height of spiritual Pride there was no fastening the most weighty advice upon her, and had it not been that friends apprehended she had thrown herself into a degree of derangement she would no doubt have been disunited from friends, by their testifying against her extravagant and ridiculous behaviour under the cover of religious duties both in and out of Meetings. At length she became so exceeding troublesome both in meetings, and her own family as well as amongst her Neighbours, that her husband sent her to

the Retreat at York, were having her strong will more cross'd than ever it was a service to her, but not tarrying long enough, altho' she appeared considerably better for sometime after her return, she soon became as bad as ever and very much hurt the solemnity of our Meetings, being sport for the unthinking youth but causing much painful exercise to others. This day as I was going into the Meeting I heard her voice before I opened the door and understood afterwards that John Bottomley had been desiring her to behave in a becoming manner, she continued talking after I got in and all the way as I went to my seat in a wild enthusiastic manner. I shook my head at her, and spoke prettily to her desiring her to be still, but without effect Whereupon I took her by the arm and led her out of the meeting where I reasoned a little with her respecting her behaviour and desired her to stop at home, she promised she would and I return'd into the meeting were my mind was deeply humbled under a feeling sense of the continuation of divine regard towards us; It proved an highly favoured time I had two long testimonies to bear therein the first from Psalms 37 v: 25 I have been met young, and now an old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread. And the other from 2 Tim: C: 4. v: 7, 8 I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith; henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness which the Lord the righteous judge shall give me at that day; and not to me only but unto all them also that love his appearing.

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Memorandum       On ye. 12<sup>th</sup>. of ye 5<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1805, and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week. Was the Conference of Overseers of our Preparative Meeting which is held Quarterly at Highflatts at 10 o'clock in the forenoon on the Preparative meeting day when the friends of Lumbroyd and Highflatts Mgs. always meet together and form one Preparative meeting; no Mg. being held at Lumbroyd on that day. The Conference I thought was eminently favoured this morning, in the course of which I had a pretty long testimony to bear from 1 Tim: C: 3. v: 5 If a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the house of God. and afterwards John Bottomley from Matt: C: 6. v: 22. If therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light, The Meeting for Worship began at 11 o'clock which was pretty Select of such as usually attend our Meetings, but I thought it rather small for the united meeting, yet it

proved to be a time to be profitably remembered, the wing of ancient goodness eminently overshadowing us, to the strengthening of the weak, the comforting of the feeble-minded, and encouraging of those who were oftentimes ready to sink under various discouragements. I had a pretty long testimony to bear therein first from 2 Chron. C: 6. v: 41. Arise, O Lord God, into thy resting place, thou, and the ark of thy strength; let thy priests, O Lord God, be clothed with salvation, and let thy saints rejoice in Goodness. John Bottomley next from Psalms 1. v: 1, 2, 3. Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the Lord. and in his law doth he meditate day and night. and he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season: his leaf shall not wither, and whatsoever he doth shall prosper. Myself again next having very affectionately to address the beloved youth who were entangled as with briars and thorns from Job C: 22. v: 21. Acquaint now thyself with him, and be at peace; thereby good shall come unto thee. At the close of this meeting the business of our Preparative meeting was transacted, but there being but little to day it took not up much time, Both meetings held upwards of 2 hours. I return'd home with a thankful heart and with Sheaves of joy in my bosom. Had no friends to dine but Benjamin Chapman came after dinner and stopt Tea with us; also my beloved Scholar Joseph Grayham came as usual and stopt the afternoon and all night; and slept with me; My mind mercifully remaining under a solemn covering, I was engaged in secret supplication that the Lord might be graciously pleased to keep him from evil that it might not grieve him; for sin and sorrow are inseparable companions; and tho' in yielding to the temptations of the enemy, they may appear sweet in the mouth, yet they always prove bitter in the belly; and whilst any remain in a state of disobedience not coming up faithfully to manifest duty, altho' they may feel strong desires to know an overcoming the sins which beset them, yet they frequently become an easy prey to the enemy and so remain in a state of sinning and confessing without obtaining the victory. For it is only the Lamb and his followers that shall obtain the victory. In the evening just before we went to Bed, a Single horse Chaise came to the door; and was much surprized when I found it to be my kind friends Samuel Stonehewer from Macclesfield in Cheshire and John Foster from Leek in Staffordshire who had been at Ackworth and was returning, they stopt all night with us, and set out pretty early again the next morning, I was much pleased with their company.

Memorandum            On the 24<sup>th</sup>. of ye 5<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1805 and 6<sup>th</sup>. day of the week, were married at Wooldale Henry Marsden of Newhouse and Elizabeth Moorhouse of Biggin. He had lived with me upwards of 17 Years was convinced in the time of his Apprenticeship, had demeaned himself in an orderly manner since, so that I not only loved him as a Servant, but as a Brother; and watched over him with the tenderness and affection of a Parent for his good. She had also lived with me sometime back upwards of 6 years and also we had a great value of each other. Being invited I attended, and set out the same morning betwixt 7 and 8 o'clock in company with Henry Marsden, William Taylor, John Bottomley and Esther Hirst my housekeeper who went to assist them, called at Haddenley of my Nephew and Niece Robert and Jane Wood who went along with us; we went by Foulstone to Biggin where Jonathon and Alice Moorhouse the young Womans Parents lives and where the entertainment was. We stopt about half an hour and got Tea and then proceeded to Wooldale, The meeting began at 10 o'clock, It was not very large altho' several from other Societies attended, but, I thought it an open good Meeting. John Bottomley had a few words therein first from Psalms 46. v: 10. Be still and know that I am God. I had a pretty long time next from 2 Pet: C: 3. v: 14, 15, 16. Be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace without spot, and blameless. And account that the long suffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also, according to the wisdom given unto him, hath written unto you; as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned or

unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, to their own destruction. John Bottomley was next concerned in Prayer. And after they had taken each other in Marriage and the Certificate was read and Signed, John Bottomley had a short testimony to bear from Isai: C: 26. v: 3. Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on thee; because he trusteth in thee. After which I had a short commendatory speech to friends and others expressive of my satisfaction with them so generally keeping their seats without going out during the time of the Certificate Signing (having been at this place very much in the contrary practice to their own and the meetings hurt) and concluded with informing them the meeting was now over, which held 2 hours and a half. Many were invited whose behaviour at the house was satisfactory. The Monthly Meeting appointed Henry Swire, myself, Betty Woodhead, and Rachel Brook to see the orderly conduct thereof. The company generally stopt until after Tea and then set out to their respective habitations I tarri'd until all were gone; and then set out a little past 9 o'clock in company with George Taylor of Park whom I requested to stop for me, we came by Foulstone and Shepley Woodend, and I got home about 10 o'clock.

Memorandum            On ye. 27<sup>th</sup>. day of ye. 5<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1805 and and 2<sup>nd</sup>. day of the week were married at Highflatts John Bottomley of Newhouse and Phebe Haigh of Bankside, He having lived with me near 14 years, I was invited and attended the said Marriage, and he having taken a house at Wood and removed his goods thither, proposed the entertainment to be there and invited Joseph Grayham and me to go to our Breakfast at Phebe Haighs, and accompany her and his Brother Joseph Bottomley and Martha Radley who were to sit by them to Highflatts; but Joseph Grayham finding it would not be agreeable to his Masters, declined it he ordering him to go for Lime that day. I left home about 7 o'clock in the morning and went by Shepley to Bankside where I Breakfasted with the beforementioned friends; and about 9 o'clock we set out Joseph Haigh her Brother accompanying us and came by Shepley to Highflatts where we met with John Bottomley and several others who were invited to the Marriage at Jonas Hinchcliffes. The meeting began at 10 and held upwards of 2 hours, Many friends attended as well as many of other Societies so that it was a large open and favoured Meeting I had a very long testimony to bear therein to the Truth from 2 Chron: C: 15 v. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7. The spirit of God came upon Azariah the son of Oded. And he went out to meet Asa and said unto him, Hear ye me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin; the Lord is with you, while ye be with him; and if ye seek him he will be found to you; but if ye forsake him he will forsake you. Now for a long season Israel hath been without the true God, and without a teaching Priest, and without law. But when they in their trouble did turn unto the Lord God of Israel, and sort him, he was found of them. And in these times there was no peace to him that went out, nor to him that came in, but great vexations were upon all the inhabitants of the countries. And Nation was destroyed of nation, and city of city; for God did vex them with all adversity. Be strong therefore, and let not your hands be weak; for your work shall be rewarded. After they had taken each other in Marriage, and the Certificate was read, and Signed a solemn silence ensued then the Meeting broke up, and we proceeded to his house at Wood. The Monthly meeting appointed George Chapman, myself, Hannah Stead and Julia Stead to see the orderly conducting thereof; The company generally left awhile after Tea, but my beloved friend William Taylor and me stopt supper, and came home at after were we got betwixt nine and 10 o'clock.

Memorandum            The day before the aforesaid marriage being ye. 26. of ye. 5<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1805 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week was buried at Highflatts the daughter of Samuel Rusby of Bagden aged about 8 months who died the day before. He married Mary the daughter of

Cousin Joseph Stead of Toppett and since his marriage hath pretty duly attended friends meetings on 1<sup>st</sup>. days, and was desirous to bury it in our burial ground, which friends complied with and gave him leave. A pretty many Neighbours attended the meeting on the occasion many of whom I believe had never been at any of our meetings before, yet it pleased Providence entirely to shut up the spring of Ministry this day so that the meeting was held throughout in silence. Perhaps it might not be unprofitable to some to wean them from the teachings of men and gather them under the immediate teachings of him whose words remain to be spirit and Life. The meeting held upwards of two hours.

Memorandum        On ye. 16<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 6<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1805. and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week; our meeting at Highflatts was a laborious season, several of other Societies were there, towards the close thereof I had a pretty long testimony to bear from Jer: C: 2. v: 13. My people have committed two evils; they have forsaken me the fountain of living waters, and hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water. The meeting held near two hours and a half; and I was favoured to leave with peace thro' a discharge of duty, altho' I had close labour with such professors of the Christian name as had forsaken the Lord, and the teachings of his spirit, and had their dependence upon fallible man; but the language of encouragement flowed freely unto those who under all their discouragements had endeavoured to retain their first love. John Issott came home with me to dine spent the afternoon and drunk Tea, my beloved Scholar Joseph Grayham, came with his Books, immediately after dinner and stopt until Bed time, then I accompanied him part of the way home. Our Monthly meeting was to be held at Highflatts the next day, we had only one friend to lodge tonight viz Robert Thompson of Pontefract meeting who got here to Tea his company was very acceptable. On 17<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week. Many friends called and Breakfasted with me; At 11 o'clock the meeting for Worship began; It was large, yet I have seen many more both friends and others on the like occasion; Isabella Harris from Ackworth was there, and tho' the forepart of the meeting was dark and cloudy yet towards the close thereof, Light broke forth, and Life was raised into dominion, and she had a long and highly favoured time in testimony from Gal: 3 C: and 27 ver. As many of you as have been baptised into Christ, have put on Christ. After which I was concerned in Prayer. And I thought the meeting closed under a very solemn covering The business of our Monthly meeting was entered upon at the conclusion of this, William Leppington and Sarah Earnshaw were cleared from all other engagements relating to marriage and left at liberty to accomplish theirs when they and Highflatts friends saw meet. Burton friends produced a few lines from Thomas Walker Haigh a young man who had attended their meetings many years requesting to be accepted a member of our Society. A great deal more business was gone thro' most of which was amicably conducted. one painful case excepted in which there was contrary sentiments, and some Libertine spirits, who were unhappily joined by others for want of proper consideration did much harm; but thro' patient wading Truth gained the victory. Both meetings held 4 hours and a half. After, which we din'd 15 friends, and a pretty many stopt Tea, but none all night except Elizabeth Marsden our Henry's Wife.

Memorandum.        On ye. 19<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 6<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1805, and 4<sup>th</sup>. day of the week were married at Lumbroyd near Penistone, William Leppington late of Uppertorpe near Sheffield and Sarah Earnshaw of Langsett, and I being invited attended the said Marriage; Set out from home the said morning betwixt 8 and 9 o'clock and went by Ing Birchworth to Penistone were I stopt and got a little refreshment at my much esteemed friend George Chapmans, then proceeded to Lumbroyd, The meeting began at 10 o'clock and held 2 hours, we were favoured thereat with the company of our friend Catharine Tricket a valuable Minister from Sheffield meeting. The meeting were small there being but few friends, and about 12 of other

Societies attended one of which was an independent Peacher at the Chapel near Penistone, yet upon the whole it was an open satisfactory meeting, Catharine Tricket had two pretty long to bear the first from Psalms 105. v: 4. Seek the Lord and his strength. And the other from Matt: C: 6. v: 11. Give us this day our daily bread. After the friends had taken each other in marriage, and the Certificate was read and Signed; Catharine Tricket had another Testimony to bear, stood long and was led in a very encouraging manner to some state or states from Matt.: C: 11<sup>th</sup>. v: 28. Come unto me, all ye that Labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. After meeting we had a pleasant walk over the moors to Langsett were Thomas Earnshaws the young Womans Parents lives, and at whose house the entertainment was, George Chapman, myself, Mary Walker and Mary Mallinson were appointed to see that the marriage was orderly conducted who all attended. After Tea I set out about six o'clock and came by Millhouse, Royd, and Summerford home were I got about 8 in the evening, dear Joseph Grayham came to his Books and stopt all night with me, whose company was very agreeable.

Memorandum. On the 14<sup>th</sup>. of ye 7<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1805 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week our Meeting at Highflatts was pretty large several of other Societies attending, yet it was but a low time, and held in silence, he who puteth forth his own Sheep and goeth before them, knows the states of the People and whether verbal communications or silence be best for them; and when he is pleased to shut none can open profitably; and when he opens none can shut. After dinner Joseph Grayham came as usual to read and write and stopt and slept with me. William Awmack of Wakefield came the evening before, and lodg'd at my house until the 4<sup>th</sup>. day morning following; and late this evening Thomas Dixon Walton and William Gant of Barnsley came to my house and stopt all night on their way to our Mo. meeting to be held at Wooldale. On 15<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, I set out towards Wooldale in company with the friends who lodg'd at my house and Joseph Johnson of Ackworth who called upon us this morning, we set out about 9 o'clock and went by Newmill and got to Wooldale about half past 10 were I had a little business to do. The meeting for Worship began at 11 and was very large of friends and a many of other Societies came in so that not only the house but the chamber was also pretty well filled, towards the close thereof Isabella Harris of Ackworth stood up and was opened from the 2 Kin: C: 2. v: 14. Where is the Lord God of Elijah. She had a short but very plain and close testimony unto such as were letting in hardness against their Brethren. At the close of this meeting was our Monthly meeting for discipline, Nathaniel Pryor of Brighouse Mo. Meeting and Elizabeth Gregory of Ackworth Mg. laid before us their intentions of taking each other in Marriage. Also Thomas Walker Haigh of Burton Mg. was accepted a member of our Society. A great deal more business was before us this day which was very amicably conducted, at the close thereof the Printed Yearly Mg. Epistle was read. Both meetings held 4 hours. After which I din'd at Henry Swires of Springhouse were I tarried all night, having to go about a little business to Huddersfield the next day. On 16<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of the week I left here about 9 o'clock in the morning and went to Wooldale, Honley, and Lockwood to Huddersfield got my business done before noon, and din'd at cousin Abraham Mallinsons, sat a considerable time at cousin Robert Firths took a Glass of Rum and Water. Left Huddersfield about 4 o'clock in the company with John Bottomley came together by Almondbury to Kirkburton were I called at my beloved Scholar Joseph Grayham Mothers, stopt near 2 hours there and drunk Tea, then came by Shelley to cousin Benjamin Walkers of Paddock were I stopt awhile and got home about 9 o'clock in the evening.

Memorandum On the 21<sup>st</sup>. of ye. 7<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1805, Our meeting at Highflatts was pretty large, several of other Societies attending. I had a pretty long testimony to bear therein from

Acts C: 26. v: 28. Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian. After meeting John Beardsall jun. of Holm came to my house, he having had a desire to come to a Meeting and see me ever since the Meeting at that place and more especially after he received a Letter from me, which he said afforded him considerable satisfaction, as when it came to hand he was in a very poor low state of mind. He din'd and drunk Tea with me and I was much pleased with his company; believing that a renewed visitation of divine Love was extended towards him, and earnestly desiring that he might be favoured with strength to persevere in the path of faithful and unreserved obedience, I parted with him not altogether without hope that my little labour thro' the Blessing of Providence had not been altogether in vain. Joseph Grayham came as usual after dinner, attended his books all afternoon and tarried with me all night. On 28<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of the week our meeting at Highflatts was pretty large of friends and a few other Societies came in, but not so many as the 1<sup>st</sup>. day before, yet I thought the meeting more eminently favoured I had a long and open time in testimony therein from Rom: C: 12. v: 1. I beseech you therefore, Brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. I felt great liberty in this meeting and thought it a time of favour. After dinner my beloved Scholar Joseph Grayham came to his Books and stopt with me until bedtime and then return'd home. Henry Marsden and Wife came with me from meeting and din'd and drunk tea with me and then went home. Joseph Grayham were at both these meetings of which I was very glad being a young man whose welfare I have been as much concern'd for every way as my own altho' I never found Liberty in my own mind to encourage him to attend meetings, yet have many times been made feelingly sensible that for want of coming up faithfully in this respect, he was left in such a state of weakness as not to be able to resist the temptations of the enemy so that when he would do good evil was present with him, and the good that he would do he could not, whilst the evil which he was desirous to shun overcame him; and this I believe is the case with many visited minds who are desirous to know an overcoming of evil but not being faithful to present manifestation of duty, because it is so much in the way of the cross, they are left as it were to themselves for a season, yet the most high is many times pleased to follow these with the renewed visitations of his love, until they are made willing to surrender their own will, to the divine will, and by being faithful to the manifestations of duty, experience an increase of sight and strength, so as to be able to discover the snares of the enemy and receive Power to withstand him in all his temptations. This I cannot but desire and hope may be the blessed experience of this my beloved friend; for when he hath taken undue liberties, I have many times thought I would associate no more with him; but O when I have seen him again how have my Bowels yearned over him, that whatever any might think or say of me I dare not but use a proper freedom with him and do all in my Power for his good every way, and sometimes am favoured with a hope the time will come when we may unitedly adapt the language, "We took sweet counsel together, and walked unto the house of God in company." On 29<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week This morning I went to Haddenley to my Brother Samuel Woods, to see my Sister who was going to Buxton for the benefit of the waters, she having been long in a very infirm state; Sarah Firth the Wife of Joseph Firth of Toothhill and Elizabeth Whiteman being going there also, kindly offered her a place in their Chaise, which she accepted of and agreeable to their proposition met them at Holmfirth; her daughter Jane went with her to assist her in Bathing and other things and my Brother accompanied them thither to bring the horse back. When I got to Haddenley they were gone so being disappointed of seeing them, after tarrying a little there, I went to see my old servants and beloved friends Henry and Elizabeth Marsden who were newly settled on a small farm at Haddenley were I hope and much desire they may do well, as I do feel a sincere regard for their welfare, having lived so long with me I very much respect them, as much so as if they were near Relations. They were desirous for me to stop dinner with them which I complied with, and which was the first meal I got in their house. After dinner I call'd and sat a little with my Nephew Robert Wood and then came home were I got betwixt 3 and 4 o'clock in the afternoon. Soon after I got in at George Taylor of Park came to my house; he had been favoured with a clear convincement of the Truth, and

for some years very diligently attended our Meetings both on first and week days but being not faithful to the manifestations of duty he lost strength, and evidently departed from that lively zeal he had been favoured with, so that for some time he had wholly neglected the attendance of Weekday meetings, and appeared more and more indifferent about the attendance of those on first days he also associated himself with such company, and appeared to take pleasure in it, has had once been a burden to him. My mind had been oftens deeply afflicted on his account as he was one whom many of us once thought likely to become a useful member of the Society; and he stopping a considerable time this afternoon it gave me an opportunity to relate unto him the following circumstances which I had heard and leave it to his consideration viz. "A Gentleman of considerable property had a faithful friend for his Steward, who managed his affairs so well as to give the greatest satisfaction both to his Master and Tenants; as well as others with whom he was concerned. Another Gentleman who was frequently to visit there and had the opportunity of hearing and seeing the uprightness of the friend, being in want of a Steward, desired this Gentleman to get him a Quaker for one if he could: After some time he heard of one under the name, who he understood was possessed of every outward qualification for such a place; accordingly he sent for the man, and with a Letter from him ordered him forward to the other Gentlemen; when he got there the Letter was conveyed to him by one of his servants, and he was quickly ordered to meet the Master in a certain room; when he entered the room he took off his hat and made a kind of obeisance to his supposed Master The Gentleman then asked him if he was the man who brought the Letter? Answer yes? I thought said he you had been a Quaker; it was one of that perswasion I wanted? he answered? I had been convinced of those Principles many years; but have been unfaithful? The Gentleman then said, Poor man, I am sorry for you, But if you are unfaithful unto God, you cannot be faithful unto man; you will not do for me; and so dismiss'd him." My mind felt somewhat relieved with the foregoing communication, desiring that it may prove to him as bread cast upon the waters; the remembrance of which may be useful to him, tho' it may be many days hence. The same evening and the morning following I wrote the foregoing remarks.

Memorandum        On 30<sup>th</sup>. of 7<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1805 and 3<sup>rd</sup>. day of the week, We had an uncommon heavy Storm of Thunder and Lightning, It began betwixt 3 and 4 o'clock in the afternoon and continued about 2 hours, I did not recollect ever hearing so much louder Thunder at once at any time before, and the Lightning was very awful, It entered several houses, and shattered many trees in the neighbourhood around us; yet thro' mercy I have not heard of the Life of any man or Beast being lost which I think was a peculiar mark of Providential regard. The storm was attended with heavy Rain and in some places uncommon hail so that the ground was covered therewith a considerable thickness, and a great flood ensued in the Brooks in this neighbourhood. I was thankful my small family happened to be all at home, and my respected friend Joshua Morley being come up about some business, stopt with us throughout the storm whose company was very acceptable After the storm abated he stopp'd Tea, and then set out; and we went to see the flood, and several of our Neighbours feeling abundant cause of thankfulness unto the most high for this renewed manifestation of his preserving power over his creature man.

Memorandum.        On ye. 11<sup>th</sup>. of ye 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1805 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, Our Preparative Meeting at Highflatts was large, and thro' the gracious condescension of him whose tender mercies are over all his works, and who willeth not the death of a sinner, but visits and revisits the sons and daughters of men in order that they might forsake the evil of their ways, and return unto him and live. It proved a time of memorable favour. The day being

fine friends pretty generally attended and a great many of other Societies came in; so that the Meetinghouse was nearly full. The company of such I have oftens thought do not hurt our Meetings but rather otherwise as we generally find more openness amongst them. I was early opened, and had a long testimony to bear therein; from Heb: C: 3. v: 15. Today if ye will hear his voice harden not your heart. And afterwards had a pretty long time from Luke C: 15. v. 8, 9. What woman having ten pieces of silver if she lose one piece, doth not light a candle, and sweep the house and seek diligently until she find it? And when she hath found it she calleth her friends and her neighbours together, saying, Rejoice with me, for I have found the piece which I had lost. John Bottomley was next concerned in Prayer. At the close of this meeting the business of our Preparative Meeting was gone thro'. Both meetings held three hours. My beloved friend Joseph Grayham was at the Meeting to day, as he hath constantly attended on first days for some weeks past, If he continues I hope he will receive strength thereby to follow the Lamb in the way of his leadings, and obtain the victory over every evil. After dinner he came to my house to his Books, we spent the afternoon very comfortably together; he drunk Tea and supp'd with me. and went home at Bedtime.

Memorandum. On ye. 16<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 9<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1805 and 2<sup>nd</sup>. day of the week in the morning at 9 o clock a committee met at the Meetinghouse at Highflatts to consider of a suitable number of friends for Overseers, and I being one of the Committee attended; The opportunity held until 11 o clock at which time our Monthly Meeting for Worship began, and it being a very fine day and many friends busy in their harvest the Meeting tho' large was considerably smaller than usual It was a very laborious season, yet upon the whole a good meeting, strength being administered to discharge the duty required in plain close searching labour unto those who were at ease in Zion; and the language of encouragement flowed freely unto the deeply exercised minds. I had a long testimony to bear therein first from Jer: C: 4. v: 20. My bowels, My bowels; I am pained at my very heart; my heart maketh a noise in me; I cannot hold my peace, because thou hast heard, O my Soul, the sound of the trumpet, the alarm of war. Isabella Harris had a long time next from John C: 6. v: 60. This is an hard saying; who can bear it? At the close of this meeting was held the Meeting for discipline. The Queries were read and answers received from all our Preparative Meetings viz. Pontefract, Burton, Highflatts, Ackworth, Wakefield, and Wooldale. A General Answer was drawn up approv'd and Signed in order to be laid before our ensuing Quarterly Meeting. Also James King and Rachel Brook were cleared from all other engagements relating to Marriage and left at liberty to accomplished theirs when they and Wooldale friends saw meet. A great deal more business was gone thro' and the whole was agreeably conducted. Both meetings held 5 hours. Our meeting the day before was large, but a low suffering time in silence. John Issott came home with me and din'd at my house; after dinner James Harrison and Isabella came, and being desirous to go to John Bottomleys of Wood to Tea I accompanied them thither, and after Tea we return'd. Found several friends come to my house and some others came afterwards, so that I was favoured with the company of seven lodgers viz. Robert Thompson and James Harrison of Pontefract Mg. John Robinson and Rebecca his Wife, and William Awmack of Wakefield, Isabella Harris of Ackworth, and Frances Yeardley of Sheffield. The next morning many friends called and breakfasted with us, but we had only 12 to dine. William Awmack stopt all night with us again.

Memorandum. On ye. 19<sup>th</sup>. day of ye. 9<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1805 and 5<sup>th</sup>. day of the week were married at Wooldale James King of Oldham in Lancashire and Rachel Brook of Wooldale, I being invited attended the said Marriage, left home betwixt 8 and 9 o clock in the morning, and got to Wooldale just in time to the meeting which began at 10 It was very large the

Meetinghouse being pretty well filled, a great concourse of People of other Societies attending whose behaviour was sober and orderly becoming the solemnity of the occasion; It was a satisfactory and I hope a profitable meeting to some, John Bottomley had a short time in testimony therein first from 1 Cor: C: 10. v: 31. Whether therefore ye eat, or drink or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God. I had a long time next from Rom: C: 8. v: 13. If ye live after the Flesh, ye shall die; but if ye through the spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live. After the friends had took each other in marriage I was concerned in Prayer, and after the Certificate was read and Signed John Bottomley had a long testimony to bear from Heb: C: 2. v: 6. What is man that thou art mindful of him? or the Son of man that thou visitest him? The meeting held near 3 hours. After which we went to Joseph Brooks in this village, the young Womans Parent were the entertaining was. Godfrey Woodhead, Samuel Wood, Lydia Broadhead and Mary Swire were appointed to see the Marriage orderly conducted, I din'd and drunk Tea and then set out towards home in company with John Whitaker of Oldham who was coming to see his Relations at Birdsedge and John Bottomley, stopt a little at cousin John Mallinsons and got home about 7 o'clock in the evening.

Memorandum. On ye. 6<sup>th</sup>. day of ye. 10<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1805 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, departed this Life at her Son Joseph Mallinsons of Longroidbridge near Huddersfield in the 78<sup>th</sup>. year of her age, Susanna Mallinson Widow of my Cousin Tobias Mallinson of Wood in Denby, and was buried ye 10<sup>th</sup>. of the same Mo. and 5<sup>th</sup>. day. of the week in friends Burial ground at Parrack in Huddersfield. She having lived long Neighbour to us; I may briefly add concerning her; She was an affectionate kinswoman a kind neighbour and a sympathizing friend to the afflicted charitably disposed to the poor, and generally well beloved, She had a long and tedious illness which she bore with Patience and becoming fortitude, expressing near the close of her time her Peace was made with the Lord and that she had nothing to do but to die. I being invited attended the burial; set out from home the same morning about 6 o'clock went by Shepley Woodsom hall, Almondbury and Huddersfield to Longroidbridge got to Cousin Joseph Mallinsons a little before 9 o'clock which was the hour invited for, We Breakfasted and sat a little and then proceeded with the Corps to the Burial ground and after the internment a Meeting was held as usual in the Meetinghouse which began at 11 o'clock and continued about 2 hours, It was not very large altho' a pretty many of other Societies attended; but I thought it was an open favoured Meeting John Bottomley had a short Testimony to bear therein first from Rev: C: 14. v: 13. Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord, from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works to follow them. I had a long time next from Eph: C: 2. v: 8, 9, 10. By grace are ye saved, through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them. John Bottomley was next concerned in Prayer After which I had a pretty long time from John C: 1. v: 46. Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth? Phillip saith unto him, Come and see. After meeting Friends and Relations with the Neighbours generally din'd at the White hart in Huddersfield but John Bottomley and myself were invited to dine with the nearest Relations at Cousin Joseph Mallinsons were I tarried and drink Tea, and a little past six o'clock left there and went up to Lindley were I got a little before 7 in the evening and lodg'd at Thomas Firths. On 11<sup>th</sup>. and 6<sup>th</sup>. of week I left Lindley about 9 o'clock in the morning and came with Thomas Firth to Huddersfield were I called to see several of my acquaintance, stopt at Cousin Robert Firths about 4 hours and din'd, then left Huddersfield about 3 o'clock in the afternoon and came by Almonbury and Woodsom mill to Kirkburton were I called to see my beloved friend Joseph Grayham Mother, soon after I got there John Bottomley came in we stopt little more than 1 hour drank Tea, then came together by Shelley and Cumberworth to Carrbridge were we parted and I got home about 7 o'clock in the evening.

Memorandum On the 11<sup>th</sup>. day of ye. 10<sup>th</sup>. Mo. and 6<sup>th</sup>. day of the week 1805. departed this life after a very short sickness having been at the meeting the first day before, William the Son of Joseph Bottomley of Shepley Woodend in the 6<sup>th</sup>. year of his age and was Buried in friends Burial ground at Wooldale ye. 14<sup>th</sup>. of the same Mo. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. day of the week. I being invited attended the burial, set out from home the same morning about 8 o clock, a heavy Shower coming on detain'd me about half an hour at cousin John Mallinsons of Birdsege, and then I proceeded to Shepley Woodend and after Coffee and Tea was over we proceeded with the Corps to Wooldale. The Meeting began as usual at 11 o clock and held upwards of 2 hours It was not large altho' a pretty many friends and Neighbours attended, and I thought it was a very hard and laborious time in the forepart thereof, yet it ended well Truth being comfortably in dominion, and strength afforded fully to relieve my own mind so as to leave in sweet Peace. After a long time in silence John Bottomley had a pretty long testimony to bear from Matt: C: 15. v: 13. Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh. I had a long time next from Isai: C: 3. v .10, 11. Say ye to the righteous, that it shall be well with him; for they shall eat the fruit of their doings. Woe unto the wicked; it shall be ill with him; for the reward of his hands shall be given him. After meeting John Bottomley and me came to dine at Joseph Bottomleys, I called by the way at Samuel Woodheads of Foulstone where I got a little Rum and Water, and after dinner we came with William Bottomley and some other friends to his house at Dobroyd were we drank Tea, in my way home I called and sat a little at John Pickfords of Park and got to Newhouse about 6 o clock in the evening - Our family sitting the evening before was eminently overshadowed with the heavenly wing Joseph Grayham, Joseph Haigh and George Mallinson attended After the reading I had a long testimony to bear from Rev: C: 22. v: 9. Worship God. and afterwards had a pretty long exhortation to drop. What shall we render unto thee O God for all thy mercy is towards us, they are more in number than the hairs of our heads. Thanksgiving and Praise belong unto thee, and unto us blushing and confusion of face.

Memorandum. On ye. 20<sup>th</sup>. day of ye. 10<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1805 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, departed this Life Mary Dickinson Wife of Samuel Dickinson of Wood aged 31 years, and was buried in friends burial ground at Highflatts ye 25<sup>th</sup>. of the same and 6<sup>th</sup>. day of the week. They having been disunited from friends her husband applyed, and obtained leave to bury her in our burial ground and ordered it to be on our Week day meeting day. I being invited attended the said Burial a Breakfast has provided and from the house we accompanied the Corps to the Burial ground, and after the interment attended the meeting which began at 10 o clock, There being several Neighbours and Relations not professing with us, increased our week day meeting considerably, and I thought a good degree of solemnity covered the Assembly. After a considerable time in silence, John Bottomley had a short testimony to bear from Heb: C: 1. v. 1, 2, God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in times past unto the Fathers by the Prophets. Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things. After which I had a pretty long time from Deut: C: 32. V: 29. O that they were wise, that they understood this, that they would consider their latter end. The meeting held 2 hours. From thence I came directly home.

Memorandum. On ye. 3<sup>rd</sup>. day of ye. 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1805 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week was our Meeting for Sufferings at Highflatts. William Wass, John Bottomley and Thomas Earnshaw of Judfield were appointed to collect the same and make the usual enquiry, into friends clearness respecting Tythes, Priests demands, those called Church rates, the Rate money and the Militia and to advise friends into an annual inspection into the state of their affairs. The Meeting for Worship began at 11 o clock which was long, the friends of Lumbroyd meeting attending, and several of other Societies came in. I had a pretty long testimony to bear therein

from Luke C: 11. v. 21, 22. When a strong man armed keepeth his palace his goods are at peace. But when a stronger than he shall come upon him, and overcome him taketh from him all his armour wherein he trusted, and divideth his spoils. At the close of this Meeting the Men and Women friends who were members of the Society were requested to stop together when the usual enquiries were made and Answers received from all the heads of families, except one friend who was absent; and another friends answer not being satisfactory, The Mg. appointed Elihu Dickinson and John Pickford to pay them a visit and report to the adjournment of this meeting. Both meetings held upwards of 3 hours. After which William Wass and Thomas Earnshaw went with me to dine, and tarried with me all night; After dinner William Wass, Joseph Grayham and myself went to drink Tea at John Bottomleys of Wood. and Thomas Earnshaw and dear William Taylor went to Tea to John Pickfords, we all return'd to my house in time to the family sitting which began at 7 o clock and held about 1 and half. After reading, I had a pretty long and encouraging testimony to bear from Gal: C: 6. v: 9. Let us not be weary in well doing; for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. Joseph Grayham stopt all night and slept with me.

Memorandum. On ye. 10<sup>th</sup>. day of ye. 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1805 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, was the Quarterly conference of the Overseers of our Preparative Meeting held at Highflatts at 10 o clock in the morning, and feeling my mind drawn to sit with them I gave up thereunto. We had at present 8 under that appointment viz. George Chapman, Thomas Earnshaw of Judfield; John Bottomley, John Pickford, John Brook, Mary Walker, Mary Mallinson, Elizabeth Walker and Sarah Haigh, all of whom attended except Mary Walker who was not in a situation. I had a pretty long testimony to bear therein from Gal: C: 6. v. 1, 2. If a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual restore such a one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself lest thou also be tempted. Bear ye one anothers burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ. In the course of the conference I had divers remarks to make which I hope were profitable to them. At 11 o clock the Meeting for Worship began, which was pretty large the friends of Lumbroyd Meeting uniting with us to day as usual. I had a long testimony to bear therein from Psalms C: 32. v: 2. Blessed is the man unto whom the Lord imputeth not iniquity; and in who spirit there is no guile. At the close of this meeting was held our Preparative Meeting, Both meetings held near 3 hours. In the afternoon, Joseph Grayham came to his Books as usual and stopt all night and slept with me, My spirit was heavily oppressed all the afternoon, but could not see the cause, and in our family sitting in the evening I was ready to cry out under the weight thereof. After the reading I was constrained to supplicate the Lord on the behalf of the varied states present dear Joseph Graham and Joseph Haigh of Birdsedge being all who were there except my own family. In the night I felt my oppressed spirit relieved, slept comfortably, and the next morning my poor mind felt pretty calm and easy.

Memorandum. On ye. 19<sup>th</sup>. day of ye. 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1805 and 3<sup>rd</sup>. day of the week when I got home from our Monthly meeting held at Wakefield, I found my Worthy and much esteemed friend William Midgley of Buersell near Rochdale in Lancashire got there before me. He was come on purpose to stop a few days with me and intended to confine his visit principally to me and a few of my particular friends His company was truly acceptable and edifying being rather poorly in body and deeply exercised from various causes in mind and O how valuable is the company of a truly tender sympathizing friend at such a time. On 20<sup>th</sup>. of 4<sup>th</sup>. of week in the forenoon I being closely engaged in writing he spent most of the time at John Bottomleys of Wood. In the afternoon we went to John Pickfords of Park to drink Tea. On 21<sup>st</sup>. and 5<sup>th</sup>. of week we went to Penistone and din'd and drank Tea at George Chapmans.

On 22<sup>nd</sup>. of 6<sup>th</sup>. week attended our Week day meeting at Highflatts in the forenoon which was pretty open and satisfactory, I was first concerned therein in supplication and afterwards had a short testimony to bear. In the afternoon we went and drank Tea at Henry Marsdens of Haddenley; call'd and sat a little at cousin John Mallinsons; and in our return at my brother Samuel Woods. On 23<sup>rd</sup>. and 7<sup>th</sup>. of week we went to Breakfast at Elihu Dickinsons of Highflatts and afterwards called and sat a little at Elihu Dickinsons Tanners. In the evening my beloved Scholar Joseph Grayham came to my house and brought part of his clothes his time being expired at Birdsedge, and he hired to Denby, but proposed stopping with me a few days before he went to his new place. On 24<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week we went to a Public Meeting at Higham and after meeting William Midgley set out towards home, William Taylor accompanied him a little behind Kirkburton and then return'd. On 25<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, this morning my beloved companion Joseph Grayham set out to see his Mother at Kirkburton and get some of his things mended purposing to return to my house in the afternoon to Tea, but being detained until late in the evening he stopt all night at Birdsedge. On 26<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week in the forenoon he brought his Box and remainder of his clothes to my house, The afternoon we were very sorrowful and shed many tears at the thoughts of being further separated from each other, and the likelihood of having less of each others company. In evening we were both of us more composed and he went thro' his reading and spelling Lessons as usual yet at times was a little gloomy knowing the morning the parting time was near. On 27<sup>th</sup>. and 4<sup>th</sup>. of the week we arose early and after Breakfast I set him on his way to near Denby, were we parted better than I expected but not without Tears. Surely our Friendship with each other may be compared to that of David and Jonathan concerning whom it is declared. The soul of Jonathan was knit with the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul. and when the time of their separation came, David broke forth in this heart felt language, I am distressed, for thee my Brother Jonathan; very pleasant hast thou been unto me; thy love to me was wonderful, passing the love of women; and certainly those whose hearts knit together in the bond of pure friendship, the ties thereof are much stronger than outward Relationship.

Memorandum        On ye. 29<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1805 and 6<sup>th</sup>. of week, Our week day meeting at Highflatts, was not large only 23 men and 12 Women attending. It was a low time in the forepart thereof, but Truth arose, and towards the close I was favoured with some singular openings and had a pretty long testimony to bear from Matt: C: 26. v: 29. I will not drink henceforth of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Fathers kingdom. On 1<sup>st</sup>. of 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week, our Meeting at Highflatts was not very large altho' several of other Societies attended. There was something very solemn and substantially good seemed to cover the meeting in the early part thereof and it proved throughout a season of singular favour, No praise to him who willeth or runneth but unto God who sheweth mercy. I was first concerned therein in supplication, and afterwards had a long testimony to bear from 1 Tim: C: 1. v: 15. This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief. After Meeting my beloved friend Joseph Grayham and Charles Blackburn came to my house to dine. Joseph Grayham employed himself in writing in the afternoon and after Tea return'd home, I set him a little on his way. He came to my house the evening before the first time after removing to Denby, stopt all night and slept with me. Our rejoicing in each others company was mutual, as was our parting sorrowful. Charles Blackburn stopt our family sitting which was open and satisfactory After reading I had a pretty long testimony to bear therein from Est: C: 5. v: 9. Thus shall it be done to the man whom the King delighteth to honour.

Memorandum. 12<sup>th</sup>. mo. 8<sup>th</sup>. 1805 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week. Our Meeting at Highflatts was large the friends of Lumbroyd Meeting attending to day as usual; and a pretty many of other Societies came in. I had a very long testimony to bear therein from Rev: C: 15, v: 2. I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire; and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God. Afterwards I was concerned in Prayer. At the close of this meeting was held our Preparative meeting The Queries were read and answers thereto drawn up approv'd and Signed in order to be laid before the Monthly meeting. Both meetings held upwards of 3 hours. After which my beloved friends Thomas Dixon Walton and Thomas Walker Haigh of Barnsley and dear Joseph Grayham din'd at my house. After dinner the friends from Barnsley set out towards home, and just before they set off, my respected friend Henry Swire of Wooldale meeting came in. After Tea Joseph Grayham set out for home, I accompanied him part of the way, were we again had a sorrowful parting. Henry Swire tarried until 7 o'clock the time we were going to sit down to read, and then set out for home. Joseph and Jonathan Dickinson attended our family sitting, After reading I had a pretty long testimony to bear from Acts C: 27. v: 31. Except these abide in the ship, ye cannot be saved. The opportunity held upwards of an hour. The young men tarried with me about an hour after and then return'd home.

Memorandum. On 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 15<sup>th</sup>. 1805 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week. Our Meeting at Highflatts was much smaller than usual, several friends being set out for our Monthly meeting to be held the next day at Ackworth, and it been extremely cold with a little snow upon the ground, I suppose was the cause. It was held throughout in silence and continued upwards of two hours. After meeting my beloved friends Henry Marsden and Joseph Grayham din'd with me, the former left soon after dinner but the other attended upon his Books all afternoon, stopt all night and slept with me. Sometime ago I received a letter from my beloved friend Timothy Sykes of Shafton a young man 20 years of age ye. 11<sup>th</sup>. day of this month, and had been a Preacher amongst the Methodists about 3 years; informing me that he was to be at the meeting at Dykeside this day, and proposed coming from thence to my house to spend a few days with me. I was glad of the information, having been kindly entertained at his house; and he, a young man for whom I have had a particular value from our first acquaintance. I sent my servant Benjamin Beever to Dykeside Chapel this afternoon to conduct him to my house, but he met with another man whom he took to be him, and brought him along with him, I excused to the man for the mistake, and he return'd home, not appearing to take it amiss. At 7 o'clock in the evening we sat down to read as usual and when we had just got thro' our Lessons, Timothy Sykes came, having got Jonathan Crosland of Dykeside to accompany him hither; They sat down with us who were collected before, there being besides own family Joseph Grayham and Joseph Haigh of Birdsedge the latter being a constant attender when in health, and the former when he could stopt all night. After some time in silence I had a long testimony to bear from Rom: C: 8. v:14.. As many as are led by the spirit of God they are the sons of God. On 16<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, This morning early dear Joseph Grayham set out for his present habitation at Denby, and in the afternoon Timothy Sykes and me went to drink Tea at John Pickfords of Park. On the 17<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, In the forenoon we went to Skelmanthorp din'd at Charles Blackburns, and in the afternoon he accompanied us to Anthony Kinsleys were we drunk Tea, John Pickford met us here and we came together near home. In the evening as Timothy and me were set together in my Parlour, we closed into silence, the divine Power mercifully overshadowed us; my spirit was bowed, and tendered before the most high and I had a pretty long testimony to bear to his Truth from 2 Cor: C: 10. v. 4, 5,. The weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds; Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of

christ. After which dear John Pickford came and spent the remainder of the evening and supp'd with us. On 18<sup>th</sup>. and 4<sup>th</sup>. of week In the forenoon we went and sat a little at John Bottomleys of Wood and return'd to dinner. In the afternoon we drank Tea at cousin John Mallinsons of Birdsedge; George Mallinson return'd with us to my house were we found John Bottomley; they both supp'd and spent the evening with us; in the forepart thereof we had a comfortable satisfactory opportunity together in which I had a long testimony to bear from John C: 21. v. 18, 19. When thou wast young, thou girdest thyself, and walkedst wither thou wouldest; but when thou shalt be old, thou shalt stretch forth thy hands, and another shall gird thee, and carry thee whither thou wouldest not. This spake he signifying by what death he should glorify God. Through mistake I omitted mentioning in its proper place, that after the testimony last evening I was concerned in Prayer; and this evening before supper, at Table, I was engaged in supplication. On 19<sup>th</sup>. and 5<sup>th</sup>. of week, In the morning we felt a little gloomy with the thoughts of our separation being near, and I being going to the market at Penistone he proposed accompanying me as he said to have as much of my company as he could, We left my house about 10 o'clock in the forenoon, and went to my worthy friend George Chapmans of Penistone. After dinner dear Timothy Sykes set out for home, his visit to me was truly acceptable and I believe profitable to himself; we experienced an increase of that love which thinketh no evil but rejoices in the Truth; which is not confined within the narrow limits of any Society, but is extended to all under every name who truly feared God and are workers of righteousness; these however they may differ in sentiment, in some things, feeling measure the unity of the one spirit which is the bond of peace. Our spirits having been measurably made partakers of this precious unity whilst together; our separation at the time filled our hearts with sorrow, and we parted in tears. I return'd from Penistone with John Pickford who had been at the burial of William Brook of Ing Birchworth we came together to Birchworth and then parted, I having a mind to come by Denby to see my beloved friend Joseph Grayham, I sat a considerable time at a Neighbours house and then sent for him, he came immediately, and accompanied me most of the way home, and then return'd. I have oftens been very deeply concern'd on his account since his removal to Denby lest he should suffer loss thereby, knowing the weakness and frailty of human nature, and the subtilty of that unwearied enemy who seeks to counteract the Lords work: but considering that the Lord is everywhere, and his Power is above every power, I have oftens earnestly desired that the seed sown in his heart may prosper, that every noxious weed which would obstruct its growth may be removed, and every disposition contrary to Truth may be changed; and he enabled to bring forth fruit to the praise of the great husbandman.

Memorandum. 1 mo. 1<sup>st</sup>. 1806 and 4<sup>th</sup>. day of the week, This day about 12 o'clock at noon my beloved Scholar and companion Joseph Grayham was 27 years of age. In the evening he came to my house to improve in his learning, stopt all night and slept with me. The next day It happened we both had to attend Penistone market and accidentally met together at Ing Birchworth to our mutual rejoicing, being always glad to be in each others company, and sorry when the time of separation comes. But death will sometime separate for a short space the most near and dear friends. O most merciful Father be pleased I humbly beseech thee to prepare us for an admittance into thine heavenly kingdom, that so we may be favoured to meet in the realms of bliss, never more to part, where all temptations and tryals will be at an end, and sorrow and sighing will be fled away; where those who have been concerned to follow Christ in the regeneration will unite in sounding forth their Redeemers praise to all Eternity. We spent the afternoon very comfortably at our very valuable friend George Chapmans drunk Tea there and return'd together as far as our roads lay. The parting time came which was not so agreeable to us, as to meet together but at present we must be content with our allotment.

Memorandum. On 5<sup>th</sup>. of 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 1806 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, The day being fine for the time of the year our meeting at Highflatts was pretty large, a few of other Societies attending, There was something very comfortable hovering over us in the very early part of the meeting, but the arisings of Life was much obstructed by the unseasonable coming in of many; however Truth at length arose into dominion and the living were enabled to rejoice in the presence of him who is the crown and glory of our Assemblies; and I had a pretty long testimony to bear from Deut: C: 33. v. 18, 19. Rejoice, Zebulon, in thy going out; and Isacher, in thy tents. But they shall call the people unto the mountain, there they shall offer the sacrifices of righteousness. The Meeting held upwards of 2 hours, at the close of which I had tenderly to request friends and others more carefully to observe the hour appointed setting before them the loss those sustained themselves who were not so, and the hurt it was to the meeting. My beloved scholar as has been his constant practise since his removal to Denby came with me home din'd and drunk Tea with me employing himself in the interval in his Books. After Tea dear Joseph Grayham set out for Denby, I accompanied him about halfway were we parted. My mind has been much exercised most part of the last week about going to seek convinced friends at Barnsley, and this day the impression was strong to go the next day, but as no other service seemed to point out, I felt very unwilling to obey the motion I called and sat a little at John Bottomleys he accompanied me part of the way home; I inform'd him of my exercise withall adding I was afraid something was amiss with some of them; also my unwillingness to give up to go; he encouraged me to faithfulness, and I gave up to go the next morning, after which my poor mind experienced a sweet calm. Our family sitting this evening was measurably favoured none was present except those of my own house After reading I thought it was to me a time of solemn silence. Afterwards I went and sat a little at John Pickfords of Park, and just before we went to Bed James Taylor of Oldham meeting in Lancashire came to spend a few days with me. I now thought I might be excused from going to Barnsley, and more especially when the morning came which proved remarkably stormy. On 6<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, Altho' I felt very desirous to stop at home I found I could not do it with peace to my own mind; The wind was very high accompanied with heavy Showers of rain I tarried until 10 o'clock in the forenoon and then set out took a few Books in my Pocket to give away if I met with any suitable object; James Taylor accompanied me to Wood were we sat a little at John Bottomleys. I still felt unwilling to leave my friend, and the day continued exceeding stormy I was ready to beg to be excused, but no peace could I find but through obedience, so took my leave and proceeded, met my beloved friend Joseph Grayham betwixt and Denby after querying of me where I was going, he told me he thought I should have a very sore journey and so indeed I found it, the weather continuing very stormy all the day, and the roads were exceeding dirty, I called and rested me a little at Joseph Ingrams of Dakinbrook, and afterwards took shelter at Ellen Waltons of Hollinghouse; She invited me to dine with her I accepted the invitation; then proceeded by Cawthorne, my mind was impressed to go by Higham to see John Sellers I reasoned a little as that it would be much worse road, and he being a Collier would undoubtedly be at his work, however I gave up, and to my very great surprize, just before I got to his house, found him standing upon the common as if waiting for me; he appeared pleased to see me, asked me to call at his house, inform'd me he went to his work as usual, this morning; but never began, and so return'd home I found him in a tossed state of mind by harkening too much too zealous jarring guides, stopt with him about 2 hours and had much liberty in conversation which I hope was profitable to him; and I felt well satisfied with this little act of obedience. I got to Barnsley betwixt four and five o'clock drunk Tea with Elizabeth Dunn, who informed me that William Gant a young Man under convincement was so far fallen away as to have his intentions of marriage published with a Woman of the town in the Steeplehouse the day before. O how some visited minds suffer loss to themselves thro' unwatchfulness, and cause the principle in which they have once believed and found sufficient for their preservation from evil to be evil spoken of, as also to wound the spirits of those who love the Truth above all; I now saw the reason of being drawn to Barnsley, and during my stay there had the word of encouragement unto those who

were made to mourn for those who could not mourn for themselves. From hence I went to Isabella Bashforths were I lodg'd. In the evening I went to Thomas Dixon Waltons warehouse to see him and John Yeardeleys we were sat conversing together, William Baildon a visited youth, who was convinced of the Truth of friends Principles, but had not yet found strength to acknowledge it came in we closed into silence, and I had a pretty long and encouraging testimony to bear to him, from Mark C: 10. v: 17. What shall I do that I may inherit eternal life. etc. I took a Glass of Rum and Water which I found particularly useful to me after my harassing journey, and then return'd to my quarters were dear Thomas Dixon Walton came to sleep with me. On the 7<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. week. After Breakfast I called on Thomas Dixon Walton and John Yeardley with whom I had a religious opportunity in which the language of encouragement flowed freely I being opened unto them from Luke C: 12. v: 32. Fear not little flock; for it is your fathers good pleasure to give you the kingdom. I left my love with a Book for William Baildon, Then taking a Glass of Wine, set out about 10 o clock in the forenoon, dear Thomas Dixon Walton accompanied me about 2 miles then return'd. I called at Richard Schorahs of Barguh.mill, they having kindly invited us to dine with them when the meeting was at Higham. He was not at home but his Wife received me very kindly, and desired I would call at any time and take a Bed with them, or spend a few days; I stopt most of an hour and gave her a Book; then came to Kexboro', where I din'd at the Widow Hudsons, gave her a Book and then came to Hoyland were I called and sat a little with Mary Fisher, then came by Bagdon to Dykeside were I rested me a little at John Revells and took a Glass of wine, got home about 4 o clock in the afternoon, and when seated in my own habitation felt the evidence of Peace, so that I could say, altho' I went forth sorrowing, I return'd as with the sheaves of joy in my bosom.

Memorandum. On 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mo. 2<sup>nd</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, Our meeting at Highflatts was not large, but I thought eminently favoured, which for the present appeared to afford some relief to my deeply distressed mind, having been for several days before plunged as it were into an abyss of deep sorrow, O may these Baptisms tend to purify me and prepare for every work the most high hath for me to do, and may his everlasting arm of divine Power be under means to bear up and support in these trying seasons, that I may not sink below the Anchor hope; and then O Lord if thou see meet to dip me yet deeper in Jordan; I will thankfully partake of the Cup thou hast given me to drink; hoping that every renewed Baptism, may have a tendency to prepare me for an admittance into that kingdom were the weary shall for ever rest. A few others Societies came in to day. I was first concerned in this meeting in supplication; John Bottomley was next concerned in testimony a pretty long time from Psalms 34. v: 19. Many are the afflictions of the righteous; but the Lord delivereth him out of all. I next from Prov C: 9. v: 12. If thou be wise, thou shalt be wise for thyself; but if thou scornest, thou alone shall bear it. Leah Kinsley had a short time next. Joseph Grayham and Charles Blackburn came to my house to dine and stopt until after Tea; I went with my beloved friend Joseph Grayham part of the way towards Denby; at my return found Cousin George Mallinson of Birdsedge and James Birchall their servant in husbandry at my house; They stopt our family sitting which was a favoured time, after reading I had a long testimony to bear therein from Acts C: 10. v. 34, 35. I perceive that God is no respecter of persons; But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him. The young men stopt supper with me, and I was pleased with their company. James Birchall hath attended our meetings since he came to live at Birdsedge.

From Joseph Sams to John Bottomley

Ackworth School 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo: 19<sup>th</sup>. 1806

Much Esteemed Friend, J: B.

Finding a freedom to send thee a few lines, believing it to be incumbent on me in gratitude alone to acknowledge thy kindness which has so conspicuously shone in thy wholesome advice, and fatherly concern for my present, and particularly future wellbeing, which has evinced thy earnest desire to promote the cause of Truth, and I am convinced nothing but it, and pure love to me, would have prompted thee to; I may inform thee the perusal of thy letter has been refreshing and strengthening to my mind, and has tended to raise renewed desires that I may be what the Father of mercies would have me to be; and that in order to it I may become as passive clay in hand of the potter; and that the willings and runnings of the natural mind may be brought under subjection to the divine principles of light and life implanted in my soul. It is the renewed breathing of my spirit that the Father and fountain of good will be pleased of his infinite mercy to purge and cleanse me thoroughly; making me a fit tabernacle for himself to dwell in; yea, saith my soul, let not thine hand spare, O Lord, nor thine eye pity, until every thing that is in me, contrary to thy holy law, be entirely rooted out and destroyed. I am satisfied that those who humbly confide in him, who have none in Heaven above, nor on earth beneath, like unto him, will be preserved; and that Satan with all his wiles will not be permitted to prevail against them. And though he may see meet to try and prove us, with temptations and trouble, yet I believe they are permitted for a wise end, yea for our refinement and perfection in the Truth, as saith the Apostle, James ch:1. v: 2. 3 My brethren count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience At times we may seem so surrounded with temptations, and those of the most alluring kind (for our grand enemy knows where to lay his baits and of what kind) that it may seem almost impossible for us to escape; yet I firmly believe that the Lord is not wanting in mercy to his creatures; and further as saith the Apostle, 1<sup>st</sup>. Cor: ch: 10<sup>th</sup>. v.13 "God is faithful, who will not suffer us to be tempted above that we are able; but will with the temptation, also make a way to escape, that we may be able to bear it." It is my earnest desire, and I trust fervent prayer at this time, that the Father of mercies, of his infinite goodness will be pleased to preserve me from these many and various temptations which surround, increase in me living desires after righteousness, and enable me to count nothing too near or too dear to relinquish for the Truth, and his holy names sake, that so I may enter in at the strait gate and narrow way which leads unto eternal life, and persevere therein to the end. Perhaps dear friend, I have expressed myself with more freedom than thou expectedst me to do, yet as these things have opened before me, and I have found a freedom to express them. I trust thou will receive this, in the love which induced thee to write to me. I believe I shall not be easy to conclude without expressing my desire that thy labours of love to me, as well as others, may have the desired effect; and that thou may receive the reward of Peace here on earth (which I trust will be the case,) and finally when thou finish thy course, receive an inheritance among the spirits of saints and just men made perfect.

Desiring thou wilt accept my love I conclude

from thy Friend

J: Sams

For Joseph Bottomley of Wood

Memorandum. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mo. 9<sup>th</sup>. 1806, and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week, This day we were favoured at our Meeting at Highflatts with the company of our friends Ann Crowley and Susanna Horne from the County of Middlesex who were on a religious visit to Friends in the North of England, The Meeting was large of Friends and tho' there was no request for information to be given to those of other Societies, a very great concourse attended, so that not only the Meetinghouse but the chamber was as full as could be comfortably accommodated. It proved a remarkable

favoured time, The language of encouragement and consolation flowing freely and to those who at times were brought near, whilst those who were far off were intreated to draw nigh under a sense of a renewed visitation extended unto them. Susanna Horne was first concerned in supplication therein. Ann Crowley had a very long testimony next from Psalms 8. v. 3, 4, 5. When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers; the moon and stars, which thou hast ordained; What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him? For thou hast made him a little lower than the Angels; and hast crowned him with glory and honour. Susanna Horne had a long time next from Gen:19. v:17. Escape for thy life; look not behind thee, neither stay thou in all the plain; escape to the mountain, lest thou be consumed. At the close of this Meeting was held our Preparative meeting. Both Meetings held upwards of 2 hours and a half. My beloved friends Thomas Earnshaw of Judfield and Joseph Grayham din'd with me at my house Thomas Earnshaw set out towards home after dinner but Joseph Grayham as usual engaged in his Books until after Tea, and then I accompanied him part of the way towards Denby, and in my return called and sat a little at John Bottomleys of Wood, and got home just in time to our reading at 7 o'clock; Joseph Haigh only attended this evening; It was a time of renewed favoured; What shall we render unto thee, O God for all thy benefits unto us? After reading I was concerned in testimony from Psalms 139 v. 23, 24. Search me, O God; and know my heart; try me, and know my thoughts; And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

Memorandum. On ye. 16<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mo. 1806 Our friend Samuel Haigh of Highflatts departed this life aged about 60 years and was buried in our burial ground at Highflatts ye. 21<sup>st</sup>. of the same and 6<sup>th</sup>. day of the week. I being invited attended the said Burial; the invitation was for 9 o'clock in the morning, and Coffee and Tea were provided for all who attended. The Meeting began at 11 and held about 2 hours; It was pretty large, there being many Neighbours and Relations to the deceased who were not friends, most of whom appeared to be a very raw ignorant People, who made the exercise of this meeting, both in the time of silence and in Ministry very heavy, yet strength was mercifully afforded in proportion to the tryals of the day, and the meeting ended better than I expected. John Bottomley had a pretty long testimony to bear therein first from Matt: C: 13. v: 37. What I say unto you, I say unto all, Watch. I next from 1Cor: C: 6: v: 19, 20. Ye are not your own? For ye are brought with a price. John Bottomley next in Prayer. Afterwards I had another short testimony to bear from Matt: C: 23. v. 24, 25. Lord, I knew thee that thou art an hard man, reaping where thou hast not sown, and gathering where that thou hast not strawed: And I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth. After Meeting being invited I stopped dinner with the Widow of the deceased, and got home about half past 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

Copy of a Letter from John Pickford to Joseph Wood; and his Answer thereto.

Birdsedge 6 mo. 21<sup>st</sup>. 1802

Dear Friend  
Joseph Wood

I hope thou are convinced that I am no flatterer; because of my abhorrence of it, I am sometimes afraid of erring on the other hand, but think I can often sensibly feel that. " I have no man like minded, that so naturally careth for me." and under this consideration I felt most easy to ask thy advice concerning a matter very weighty and of the utmost importance to me; desiring thou would solidly weigh it, and give me thy advice as thou may be favoured to see to be right; I have at times for a considerable time back felt a sympathy for and attachment to thy servant Frances Field; in such a manner as induced me to think was something more

than mere Friendship, but frequently endeavoured to suppress the tender emotions of my heart towards her, my mind in the latitude of thought, when uncircumscribed by the humbling Truth soaring higher; but when mercifully favoured to feel the humbling influence thereof; O then how different has been my views; how ardently and tenderly have I then been favoured to petition in some such language as this. "O most gracious Father if thou see meet to give me a Partner for life, I asked not for beauty or riches, but one that loves thee with a perfect heart, and serves thee with a willing mind." And under these heart tendering impressions, I have felt my mind closely united unto her; with a belief that she was the person designed for me if I entered into the Marriage state, and O how ardently have I desired that I might be favoured to act in the Lords counsel and under his direction, and then tho' we had little of this worlds goods we should be favoured with contentment, and find it by blessed experience that a little with his blessing was sufficient. Various have been the conflicts of my mind, respecting this (to me) weighty matter, unknown but to the Lord alone, and to him I desire to leave it believing if it be right, it will in his time make its own way; but if not, I hope and sincerely desire it may fall to nought. I am with sincere regard thy Affectionate Friend

John Pickford

Newhouse 7 mo. 1<sup>st</sup>. 1802

Beloved Friend  
John Pickford.

I received thine, the contents of which afforded me a considerable degree of satisfaction; in observing the earnest desire thou had to be rightly directed, in a matter of the utmost importance in time; and upon which mans future felicity might be much forwarded or hindered. The step thou has taken is consistent with the practice of our primitive friends and the faithful down to the present day; in asking advice of such as they can place some confidence of secrecy in. I have taken time to consider it deliberately, as I thought it required; and as it is a matter in which I am entirely disinterested, except a desire for your real welfare, my judgment therein hath been entirely unbiased. It has cost me no small share of exercise even when I should have slept, and now feel liberty honestly to inform thee as far as I have been favoured to see. I have not felt the seal of divine approbation, as I have in some cases of the like kind in which my advice hath been asked; whether it may be that it may not be right for you to move therein at all, or its may be at present an improper time, I am not able to say. But however it may be, I think I dare venture to assert; if it be at all right, I think the time is not yet come. Thou knows it is but 3 Months since she was accepted into membership, and consequently cannot be in a state of mind to weigh a matter of that importance, but be of considerable loss to her in the best sense in this Infant state. I believe it would be far more profitable for her not to have her mind cumbered with the thoughts of such importance until she is further established in the Truth, and become more acquainted with the spirit and nature of our discipline, as well as of better report both amongst friends and others. Now my advice to thee is, keep the matter in thine own breast at present, without letting her know of any partiality towards her, either by word or action, and endeavour to be still and cool in thy own mind; If it proceeds from a natural cause only, in time it will die away; If divine, it will increase in weight, and the right time to move therein safely will be clearly manifested. Marriage is Gods ordinance, and it is he alone that can point out the way, and rightly join together; and I believe those whom he thus joins he will bless, and they will be comfortable therein. The Apostle saith, "All things are lawful for me, but all things edify not." Marriage is lawful to all by the laws of man; but I believe not expedient to all, neither are all edified thereby. It is a comfortable state to those who are rightly join together therein, and some are rendered more useful thereby. There are others who have been useful before, that have been of very little use afterwards; the necessary cares and concerns of their family preventing their growth and usefulness. I wish thou may weigh this solidly; It is far easier to keep the mind

stayed upon the Lord whilst single, saith a worthy friend in his Journal; than when weighed down with the encumbrance of a growing family, and little but what comes from hard labour to support it with. And therefore I believe there are such in the present day as Christ foretold. "Which hath made themselves eunuchs for the kingdom of heaven's sake." Believing they might from the situation Providence had placed them in be more useful in their day, age and generation. I have now communicated to thee what hath freely opened; and when thou hast had a suitable time to read, and consider the same; shall be obliged to thee to enclose it in a paper and return it to me. As time to all is uncertain, and if anything should happen, knows not but it might fall into improper hands. With warmest wishes for thy welfare I conclude thy real friend

Joseph Wood

Memorandum. On 2<sup>nd</sup>. mo. 23<sup>rd</sup>. 1806 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, Our Meeting at Highflatts was pretty large several of other Societies attending, After a long time silence, I had a pretty long Testimony to bear from 1 Thes: C: 4. v: 11. Study to be quiet; and to do your own business. At the close of the Meeting the Yearly Meeting Epistle was read. John Sellers from Higham was at this meeting being come on a visit to me, and he, and my beloved friend Joseph Grayham came to my house to dine. After Tea I set Joseph Grayham part of his way home and then return'd. Our family sitting this evening was measurably favoured Joseph Grayham Mother came whilst we were at Meeting and stopt all night. She sat with us this evening as also John Sellers and Joseph Haigh. After reading I had a short testimony to bear from Prov: C: 25. v: 11. A word fitly spoken is as apples of Gold in pictures of silver. The opportunity held upwards of an hour. On 24<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, In the forenoon John Sellers and me went to see John Mallinsons of Birdsedg, John Pickfords of Park and John Bottomleys of Wood sat a little at each place and then return'd to dinner, he tarried until after Tea and then set out for home. I hope the visit was profitable to him as it was satisfactory to me; he hath entirely left the Methodist Society and I hope is growing in the Truth; may the Lord be pleased to preserve him to the end that he may receive the crown immortal which fadeth not away.

Memorandum. In the winter of the year 1805, very affecting accounts were received from Hanover of the distresses of the inhabitants there; as well as from other parts of Germany, occasioned by a failure in the crops, and the Armies of the French, and other Powers then at war with them Plundering the Inhabitants of their money, provisions and cattle; Whereby they were reduced to the greatest necessities, so that many to preserve themselves alive, eat grass and dead horses which had been buried. These accounts being duly authenticated, excited the inhabitants of Great Britain with compassion for their Suffering fellow creatures to set about raising subscriptions, to be laid out for their relief in Provisions. The Inhabitants in general of most ranks and conditions, came forward with a commendable liberality particularly the Dissenters of every denomination. The members of our Society in particular exerted themselves very much in promoting subscriptions, and accounts of their distresses were forwarded by the friends of London to Meetings in the Country So that Subscriptions in time became pretty general throughout the Nation. In the 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. 1806. The account of the distresses were read at the close of the Meeting for Worship on a 1<sup>st</sup>. day at Highflatts, and the following sums given by friends and others who attend our Meeting; and forwarded to London for the relief of those poor Germans who are ready to perish with hunger viz.

	£	s	d		£	s	d
John Firth	0	10	6	Joseph Grayham	0	2	0
John Aldam	0	4	0	Henry Marsden	0	1	0
John Pickford	0	1	0	Samuel Wood	0	2	6
Sarah Haigh	0	0	6	Robert Wood	0	2	6
Joseph Priest	0	2	6	Joshua Dyson	0	1	0
Joseph Haigh sen.	0	1	0	John Haigh	0	2	6
Joseph Stead	0	3	0	Elihu Dickinson	1	1	0
John Brook	0	2	6	George Chapman	0	5	0
Richard Dickinson	0	14	0	Thomas Earnshaw			
Joseph Walker	0	2	6	Judfield	0	5	0
Elihu Dickinson Tan.	1	1	0	Joseph Wood	0	7	0
Elihu Dickinson jun.	0	10	6	Joseph Haigh			
Susanna Dickinson	0	10	6	Birdsedge	0	1	0
Benjamin Stead	0	1	0	John Mallinson	0	5	0
William Taylor	0	1	0	Joseph Ingram	0	1	0
				Anonymous	0	0	6
				Total	£7	2	6

Sent to Mo. Mg. by John Pickford

Memorandum. 3 mo. 30<sup>th</sup>. 1806 and 1<sup>st</sup>. of the week. Our Meeting this day at Highflatts was larger than usual several People of other Societies attended; I was much enlarged in testimony therein from 1 John C: 4. v: 9. In this was manifested the Love of God towards us, because that God sent his only begotten son into the world, that we might live through him. My mind felt fully relieved in this meeting, Truth arose into dominion and I hope it was a profitable time to some. dear Joseph Grayham and cousin Benjamin Walker and Elizabeth his Wife din'd and drunk Tea with me. Joseph Grayham tarried until near 7 o'clock and then return'd to Denby; We had the company of Joseph Haigh and John Pickford at our family sitting None of my family was at home except Elizabeth Marsh my housekeeper, but William Taylor came before it was over and sat down with us yet we were not below the promise, which I had briefly to observe to them, of which I believe was mercifully experienced by some of us. I had two testimonies to bear therein The first from Matt C:18, v: 20. Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them. Afterwards from Matt C: 9. v: 15. Can the children of the bride chamber mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them? but the days will come when the bridegroom shall be taken from them, and then shall they fast. This being the last night of our reading this winter, I was thankful for this renewed instance of divine condescension, and that he was pleased to be near whilst we read, and afterwards enabled us to Worship in his presence in which there is life, and at his right hand is fullness of joy.

Memorandum. 4 mo. 13<sup>th</sup>. 1806 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, was our Preparative meeting at Highflatts, It was small owing to the severity of the weather which was rather uncommon for the time of year. I had a pretty long testimony to bear therein first from Psalms 5. v: 22. Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he will sustain thee; he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved. After a considerable time of silence I had to stand up and enlarge upon the same subject. At the close of the Meeting for Worship, the business of our Preparative Meeting was gone through. My beloved friends George Chapman and Joseph Grayham din'd and drunk Tea

with me. Betwixt 7 and 8 o'clock I set Joseph Grayham part of the way towards Denby, and in my return call'd and sat a little at John Bottomleys of Wood.

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The following is the copy of an inscription upon a stone in the Steeplehouse yard at Cawthorne

In memory of seven men who lost their lives at Barnby Colliery by fire damp  
 Joseph Parkin May 19<sup>th</sup>. 1803. Aged 21 years      John Teasdale aged 37 years  
 Mark Teasdale aged 48 years      William Burket aged 33 years  
 Charles Parker aged 29 years      John Hobson aged 35 years on the ye. 19<sup>th</sup>. of August 1805  
 and also Vincent Hay aged 22 years, he was interred at Silkstone ye. 19<sup>th</sup>. August 1805.

Stop passenger dreads fate decreed Peruse  
 One stone stands here for seven inter'd thou views  
 Call'd in one moment to Deaths gloomy shade  
 God call'd we heard and heavens behest obeyed  
 Ye weeping friends dry up afflictions Tear  
 We hope not lost + dispel aboding fear  
 Angelic hosts conveys the souls away  
 Thro' Deaths domain to realms of endless day

All you that chuse the stone to view  
 Take care that you to God proved true  
 Repent in time make no delay  
 They in their prime was snatch'd away.

Four of the above men I saw taken dead out of the pit on my return from our Monthly. Mg. at Burton in ye. 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1805.

Memorandum.      On ye. 6<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 5<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1806 and 3<sup>rd</sup>. day of ye. week, In the evening we had a heavy thunderstorm. I went down to John Bottomleys of Wood, and about 9 o'clock in the evening when I was thinking of returning home we heard a clap of Thunder at a distance which rather surprized me as I had no apprehension of anything of the kind, however it increased the Thunder was pretty loud accompanied with very much lightning (which in the night season was very awful), and heavy rain. Before 12 o'clock the storm was over, and soon after John Bottomley and his wife went to Bed, and I lay me down in my clothes upon another Bed, but could not sleep, So that about 2 o'clock in the morning I arose and came home. At Penistone the vicinity thereof the Storm was more violent the Thunder and Lightning being awfully alarming to many, The Lightning entered the dwelling house of John Coe of Storrs near Oxspring when the family was in Bed, very much burnt him and his Wife, so that his life was despaired of when we heard the account, The Windows were all shattered to pieces except one, and all the goods in the house damaged very much one chair excepted, The Bed in which the Servant and another boy lay was split in pieces under them, yet I did not hear of them receiving any harm. Oh that these awful solemn warnings may be a means of awakening sinners to repentance, and causing all so to number their days as to apply their hearts unto Wisdom.

Memorandum      5<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 11<sup>th</sup>. 1806 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, was our Preparative meeting at Highflatts which made the Meeting for Worship larger the friends of Lumbroyd meeting uniting with us, at those times. It held long in silence, but towards the close thereof I had a pretty long testimony to bear from Ez: C: 5. 36. v: 25, 26. Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean; from all your filthiness, and from all your idols will I

cleanse you. A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you; and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. When the meeting for Worship was over, the business of our Preparative meeting was gone thro'. Both meetings held upwards of 3 hours. My beloved friend Joseph Grayham and John Haigh din'd and drunk Tea with me to day. When I got from Meeting I was surprized to find my dear friend William Taylor of Rochdale at my house; he inform'd me that he was come to invite me to the burial of Sophia Bright Wife of Jacob Bright of Rochdale and daughter of William and Mary Holmes of Low Leighton in Derbyshire who departed this life the day before ye. 10<sup>th</sup>. Inst. and was to be buried in Friends Burial ground at Turflaneend ye. 13<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, with her little infant which was born dead, and the first child; They had only been married 1 Year and a piece. The respect I bore them strongly drew me to attend her Burial; But when I considered the present state of my health, and the weight engagements I was under; I believed it best for me to decline it. A little past 7 o'clock Joseph Grayham set out towards home William Taylor and me accompanied him part of the way and in our return called at John Bottomleys of Wood were we supp'd. on 12<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week dear William Taylor return'd home; and I set him a little on his way, we breakfasted at John Pickfords of Park, then went to Henry Marsdens of Haddenley were we got some refreshment proceeded by Newmill and Tottis to Henry Swire of Springhouse were we din'd. After dinner I accompanied him to near Holmfirth were we parted, I return'd by Wooldale and Newmill to Foulstone were I called and sat a little at Samuel Woodheads, and then went to Godfrey Woodheads were I drunk Tea. From thence I came to William Bottomleys of Dobroyd, sat a little, and afterwards called at cousin John Mallinsons of Birdsedge, James Birchall their servant in husbandry had been there the day before, to see John Coes house which was damaged with the Lightning last 3<sup>rd</sup>. day night, he brought information, that the shattered state of the house and the furniture exceeded the report we had before heard, but that the master of the house appeared likely now to recover of the hurt he had received. I got home about 8 o'clock in the evening.

Memorandum            6 mo. 16<sup>th</sup>. 1806 and 2<sup>nd</sup>. day of the week, was our Monthly meeting held at Highflatts; the meeting for worship was very large the house and chamber being quite full. It was upon the whole a low time, and not much openness there in. John Bottomley had a short testimony to bear first from Cant: C: 6. v: 11. I went down into the garden of nuts to see the fruits of the valley, and to see whether the vine flourished, or the pomegranates budded. and afterwards myself from Prov: C: 27. v: 17. Iron sharpeneth Iron, so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend. At the close of this meeting was the meeting for discipline, in which we had a great deal of business, which was satisfactorily conducted. Robert Walker and Hannah Cudworth were cleared from all other engagements relating to Marriage, and left at liberty to accomplish theirs when they and Wakefield friends see meet. The night before John Robinson and Wife lodg'd at my house, of Wakefield Mg. and this night Thomas Dixon Walton of Burton Mg. We din'd after meeting 19 friends and Breakfasted in the morning a large number.

Memorandum            7 mo. 20<sup>th</sup>. 1806 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week Our meeting at Highflatts was pretty large of friends and a few of other Societies came in, I sat in the forepart thereof under a very weighty exercise of spirit, and after a considerable time in silence, had a long testimony to bear from Phil: C: 1. v: 21. For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. At the close of the meeting I had to a few remarks to make. My beloved friend Joseph Grayham came with me home, we spent the afternoon very comfortably together. Towards evening, Samuel Coward, Thomas Yeardeley and Isabella Bashforth of Barnsley, and David Brearey of

Dewsbury came to my house to lodge in their way to our Monthly meeting to be held the next day at Wooldale. After supper I accompanied my dear friend Joseph Grayham part of the way towards Denby and then return'd. On 21<sup>st</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, after Breakfast I set out for Wooldale went by my esteemed friends George Broadhead of Meltonhouse were I called to see our worthy friend Isabella Harris from Ackworth stopt near an hour and then proceeded by Tottis to Wooldale were I got some refreshment at Thomas Roberts. The Meeting for Worship began at 11 o'clock and was large of friends and a great many of other Societies attended, the house and chamber being both filled. It was very long in gathering which was a great hurt to the meeting. We was favoured thereat with the company of our valuable friend William Sowerby of Richmond Mo. meeting, who had a pretty long testimony to bear therein first from Rev: C: 3. v: 6. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the spirit saith unto the churches. Isabella Harris had a pretty long time next from Isai: C: 41. v: 1. Keep silence before me O Islands; and let the people renew their strength; let them come near, then let them speak. At the close of the Meeting, I had an exhortation to the People. After which we entered upon the business of our Monthly meeting and a great deal came before the meeting which was conducted to mutual satisfaction. Both meetings held upwards of 4 hours. After which I din'd at our kind friend Henry Swires of Springhouse, and after dinner came with my beloved friend John Pickford, by Tottis to George Broadheads of Meltonhouse were we drunk Tea, and afterwards came to Haddenley were we called at Henry Marsdens but he and his Wife not being got home, we proceeded to my Brother Samuel Woods were we sat a little and then came home were I got betwixt 8 and 9 o'clock in the evening. Found the Masons there who had taken down the west end of the house since I left home which had been in a bad state for some time.

Memorandum            8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 3<sup>rd</sup>. 1806 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, This day a pretty many People of other Societies attended our meeting at Highflatts, In which considerable openness appeared to declare the Truth, yet it is cause of discouragement to the faithful labourers to see so little fruit many are brought to acknowledge, to the Truth of what they hear declared, but very few are willing to submit to that Power which can alone change the heart and enable man to take up their daily cross, and follow a crucified Saviour. I was first concerned therein supplication and afterwards had two pretty long testimones to bear the first from an Eccle: C: 12. v.13,14. Fear God, and keep his Commandments; for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgement with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be bad, and afterwards from Jer: C: 8. v: 22. Is there no balm in Giliad? Is there no physician there? why then is not the health of the daughter of my People recovered? My beloved friend Joseph Grayham came as usual with me from Meeting and tarried until Bedtime. His mother came in the forenoon, tarried until after Tea and then return'd home. Joseph and me had a good deal of conversation after she was gone. It appeared since his removal to Denby that he had entirely got better of his besetting sin in being overtaken at times with drinking to excess. But the unwearied enemy who ever envies the happiness of man, not willing to leave him here, but to try his utmost skill to lay waste the Lords work mercifully begun in him, had been for a considerable time past proving him with a temptation of a different kind, and I am afraid hath in some measure prevailed over him, to his unspeakable loss. I had for sometime had a sense of danger attending him, but not a sight from what quarter, yet had several times warn'd him of some approaching danger as Truth opened my way; and from the respect I bore him, my exercise at times, on his account had been almost insupportable. I accompanied him part of the way home and gave him such counsel and advice as his present situation appeared to me to require.

Memorandum 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 10<sup>th</sup>. 1806 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week. This day was our Preparative meeting at Highflatts, which made it larger than usual of friends, and a few of other societies attended. My mind was singularly exercised in the forepart thereof, in the time of silence; and the ministerial labour was, plain, close heavy and very laborious, yet I believe it was a time of peculiar favour to many whose states were particularly opened and spoke to in the Power of him who searcheth the heart. I had a long testimony to bear therein from Jer: C: 4. v: 19. My bowels, my bowels; I am pained at my very heart, my heart maketh a noise in me; I cannot hold my peace, because thou hast heard, O my soul, the sound of the trumpet, the alarm of war. And afterwards had a pretty long time from Hos: C: 14. v: 4. I will heal their backsliding, I will love them freely; for mine anger is turned away from him. At the close of this meeting the business of our Preparative meeting was gone through in the course of which myself and John Bottomley had each of us a pretty long testimony to bear being opened in much weighty counsel and advice, both to heads of families and the youth, pointing out unto them their duty one unto another. and to the Almighty the universal Parent of mankind. My beloved friends Thomas Earnshaw of Judfield and Joseph Grayham din'd at my house, Thomas after Tea set out for home, but Joseph tarried as usual until betwixt 8 and 9 o'clock and then I accompanied him, part of the way to Denby, and in my return home called and sat a little at John Bottomleys of Wood.

Memorandum 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 31<sup>st</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, Our meeting at Highflatts was this day large and eminently favoured, many of other Societies attending most of whom I believe had been powerfully reached unto at the Meeting at Denby the first day evening before. The ministry this day in this meeting went forth as a flame of fire so that the stubble could not stand before it, the stoutest heart for the present being made to bow unto the Power to which every knee must bow either in judgment or in mercy; and tho' many feel it in mercy how few there are who retain a sense thereof, but like the dog that returns to its vomit return to wallow in the mire and filth of sin. I had a very long testimony to bear therein from Jer: C: 2. v. 11, 12, 13. Hath a nation changed their Gods? which are yet no gods; but my people have changed their glory for that which doth not profit. Be astonished, O ye heavens, at this, and be horribly afraid, be ye very desolate saith the Lord. For my People have committed two evils, they have forsaken me the fountain of living waters, and hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water. The meeting held near 2 hours and a half. My beloved friend and Scholar Joseph Grayham came home with me from the meeting as usual and spent the afternoon at my house; he had been drawn into unprofitable company the evening before, and after dinner we had some conversation upon it, he wept much, and express'd the deep sorrow he felt for it, I was truly thankful to feel him so tender, and that he was so sensible of his error, and could not but admire the mercy and loving kindness of the Almighty in thus following man by the reproofs of instruction which are indeed the way to life. O what a favour it is when poor man deviates from the path of virtue, that he should thus be pleased to follow him by his convictions so as to cause them like Peter formerly when he had denied his Lord and Master and was brought to a sense thereof; to weep bitterly. We spent the afternoon together profitably, and I believe to our mutual satisfaction. About 7 o'clock he set out towards home, and I accompanied him above half way were we parted in much nearness of affection, having at the time a few words of exhortation to him, concluding with a secret supplication that the Lord might be graciously pleased to keep him in future, and through his watchfulness; preserve him from evil, and lead him in the way everlasting.

## Expostulation and Reply; by William Wordsworth

Why, William, on the old gray stone,  
 Thus for the length of half a day  
 Why, William, sit you thus alone,  
 And dream your time away?  
 Where are your books? that light bequeath'd  
 To beings else forlorn and blind!  
 Up, Up, and drink the spirit breath'd  
 From dead men to their kind.

The eye it cannot choose but see,  
 We cannot bid the ear be still;  
 Our bodies feel where're they be,  
 Against or with our will. And

Nor less I deem that there are Powers,  
 Which of themselves our minds impress,  
 That we can feed this mind of ours  
 In a wise passiviness.

You look round on your Mother earth  
 As if she for no purpose bore you  
 As if you were her first born birth  
 And none had lived before you?  
 One morning thus by Esthwaite Lake  
 When life was sweet, I knew not why,  
 To me my good friend Matthew spake,  
 And thus I made reply;

Think you mid all this mighty sum  
 Of things for ever speaking,  
 That nothing of itself will come,  
 But we must still be seeking?

Then ask not wherefore here alone,  
 Conversing as I may,  
 I sit upon this old gray stone,  
 And dream my time away?

Memorandum 9<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 7<sup>th</sup>. 1806 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, Our meeting at Highflatts was this day very large of friends and others, the largest we had this summer the house being well filled and several sat up stairs; I had a pretty long testimony to bear therein from Rom: C: 8. v: 14. As many as are led by the spirit of God they are the sons of God. and afterwards John Bottomley from Heb: C: 1. v. 1. 2. God, who at sundry times, and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the Prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things. At the close of the meeting for Worship was our Preparative meeting; in which the Queries directed to be answered this quarter were read and answered, and divers remarks made thereon; Also answers drawn up to lay before the Monthly Meeting. Both meetings held upwards of 4 hours. My beloved friend Joseph Grayham spent the afternoon with me as usual, and stopt all night and slept with me. On ye. 4<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 9<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1806, my Aunt Ann Beaumont Widow of John Beaumont of Tottis departed this Life and was buried in friends Burial ground at Wooldale ye. 8<sup>th</sup>. of the same and 2<sup>nd</sup>. day of the week aged about 86 years. I being invited to attend the said Burial, Left home about 7 o'clock in the morning, and called at Henry Marsdens of Haddenley were my Brother Samuel Wood came to me and accompanied me to Tottis. The Meeting began as usual at 11 o'clock and held about 2 hours, A great many People of other Societies who were principally invited to the Burial attended, They generally appeared raw and ignorant respecting the way of Life and salvation and like one formerly cared for none of these things, but such was the condescension of the Almighty that I believe it was an awakening time to many whose states were clearly opened and spoke to in the Power and the authority of the Gospel. John Bottomley had a short testimony first from Isai: C: 40. v: 31. They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength. I had a long time next from Rev: C: 1. v: 7. Behold he cometh with clouds, and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him; and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. And after a short silence had another pretty long testimony from Acts C: 7. v: 34. I have seen the affliction of my People which is in Egypt, and have heard their groaning, and am come down to deliver them. John Bottomley was afterward concerned in Prayer. After Meeting I return'd to Tottis to dine and by the way called at Henry Swires were I got a little suitable refreshment. After dinner I set out towards home in company with John Bottomley, Mary Mallinson and Sarah Haigh. Henry Swire

accompanied us to Melthouse were we stopt betwixt 2 and 3 hours at George Broadheads and drunk Tea then proceeded. I called at cousin John Mallinsons of Birdsedge and sat most of an hour and so got home betwixt 8 and 9 in the evening.

Memorandum 9 mo. 14<sup>th</sup>. 1806 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week. Our meeting at Highflatts was this day large of friends and others; and held long in silence, afterwards I had a long testimony to bear therein, which was very plain and close to those who had long slighted their own mercies, so that it was hard for me to deliver what opened to these states. But I was led in a consolatory manner to the afflicted mournful humble followers of a crucified Saviour. The passage given me to speak from was from Acts C: 7. v: 51. Ye stiff necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost. Leah Kinsley had afterwards a few words from Luke C: 13. v: 24. Strive to enter in at the strait gate. The meeting held two and a half hours. After which my beloved friend Joseph Grayham came home with me, spent the afternoon in improving himself in his learning as usual, and in the evening I set him part of the way towards Denby. In the morning James Birchall a young man servant in husbandry to John Mallinson of Birdsedge came to my house; we had had some conversation a few times in private before; he is deprived of the privilege of reading, but very desirous to learn; but tho' I felt great sympathy for him, my way at present did not seem to open to undertake to instruct him, but I hearkened him a lesson this morning and believed he would soon learn if any body would attend to him properly. I also believed that the day of the Lord was dawning upon him, He having attended our Meetings a considerable time and tho' I believe at first he only went because the family did; yet I am not without hopes that it will prove a blessing to him, by turning his mind to the true light which enlighteneth every man both learned and unlearned that cometh into the world, and if he is happily strengthened to obey the manifestations of this divine light the day may not only dawn but the day star arise in his heart, and he become a faithful follower of the Lamb experiencing his blood to cleanse from all sin.

Memorandum 9<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 21<sup>st</sup>. 1806 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, A considerable number of Persons of other Societies attended our meeting to day at Highflatts which hath been much the case of late, the Publick meetings held in the villages in this neighbourhood having raised an enquiry in the minds of many. The Publick Labour in this meeting tended principally to settle upon the teachings of Christ and to wean the awakened minds from the teachings of men John Bottomley had a short testimony therein first from Gen: C: 49. v: 10. The Scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the People be. I had a pretty long time next from Acts C: 13. v: 43. Continue in the grace of God. The meeting held near 2 hours. After which Joseph Grayham and John Issott came to my house to dine. After Tea John Issott set out for home and dear Joseph Grayham and me towards a Publick meeting at Denby. In the forenoon James Birchall came to say his lessons, The first day before I seemed fully concluded when I hearkened him his first Lesson not to undertake to instruct him. But seeing him so desirous to learn, and being sensible I had it in my Power to be useful to him, and believing it to be my duty to do good unto all men as far as is in my Power; the night after I informed him, that he might come to my house when he had opportunity and I would do my best for him, and this morning I had the satisfaction to observe that in the course of one week he had improv'd so much as to read several words without spelling.

Memorandum            10 mo. 5<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week. Our meeting at Highflatts was not so fully attended to day has it has been of late altho' several of other Societies came in It held about 2 hours and a half towards the close I had a pretty long testimony to bear from 1 John C: 5 v: 12. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. My beloved friend Joseph Grayham came with me from meeting and spent the afternoon in improving in his learning. I set him part of the way home and returned to our family sitting, which was the first this Winter, began as usual at 7 o'clock and held about one hour. James Birchall was the only person who came to sit with us. After reading I had a short testimony to bear from John C: 1. v: 17. The law was given by Moses, but grace and Truth came by Jesus Christ. James Birchall stopt after the opportunity and said his lessons, he has improved very much for the time, which afforded me great satisfaction, and by our frequent associating together; we experience an increase of love towards each other; and a prevailing desire attends my mind for his welfare every way, more especially that he may be brot. to the saving knowledge of the Truth.

Memorandum            On ye. 5<sup>th</sup>. day of ye. 10<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1806 Anthony Kinsley of Skelmanthorp departed this life aged about 72 years, and was buried in friends burial ground at Highflatts ye. 8<sup>th</sup>. of ye. same, and 4<sup>th</sup>. day of the week. I being invited attended the said burial; left home in the morning about half past 6 o'clock in company with my dearly beloved friend William Taylor, we went by Cumberworth to Leah Kinsleys of Skelmanthorp where we got about half past 7 o'clock. After Breakfast the corps was taken up at half past 9 during the pause when the corps was at the door before it was put into the hearse a very great concourse of People being assembled to see us set off I felt a word of exhortation to flow in my heart unto them, but reasoning that it was a very unusual thing, I let the opportunity slip, and was quickly convinced that it could never be come at more; which caused me much sorrow for a season as I followed the corps to Highflatts, where the meeting was pretty large of friends and others considering there was not many invited, and it proved a solemn satisfactory time. John Bottomley had a short testimony to bear therein first from Isai: C: 26. v: 3. Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee; because he trusteth in thee. I had a long time next from Gal: C: 3. v: 27. As many of you as have been baptised into Christ, have put on christ. Afterwards John Bottomley was concerned in Prayer. In my return home from the meeting, and since I have been led to admire the mercy and goodness of the Almighty to me in chastising me for my disobedience to manifest duty, and in his own time as I was made willing may even desirous patiently to bear his chastisement and fatherly correction to favour again with the peaceable fruits of the spirit. Leah Kinsley and her sister Sarah Hellowell came to my house to dine and stopt until after Tea. In the evening James Birchall came and said his lessons, he continues to improve fast in his learning, and we find an increasing respect to each other.

Memorandum            10<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 12<sup>th</sup>. 1806 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, Our Meeting at Highflatts was very large both of friends and others, The house being quite full. I had a pretty long testimony to bear therein from Hos: C: 12. v: 1. Ephraim feedeth on wind, and followeth after the east wind. At the close of the meeting for Worship was our Preparative meeting, Both meetings held upwards of 2 hours. The night before my truly valuable friend George Chapman came to my house and stopt all night with us. And this morning James Birchall came to say his lessons, George expressed his surprize at the improvement he had made for the time. My beloved friends Thomas Dixon Walton and John Yeardley of Barnsley were at our Meeting to day, they came home with me and din'd at my house where I left them in

company with dear William Taylor when I set out to a Publick meeting appointed for me this afternoon at Thurstonland.

Memorandum. On ye. 21<sup>st</sup>. of ye. 10<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1806 and 3<sup>rd</sup>. day of the week were married at Burton George Brearey of Dewsbury and Isabella Bashforth of Barnsley. I being invited attended the said Marriage and our Monthly meeting being held at Burton the day before, I left home ye. 20<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 10<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1806 and 2<sup>nd</sup>. day of ye. week betwixt 5 and 6 o'clock in the morning in company with my beloved friend William Taylor we went by Denby to Dakinbrook, rested a little at Joseph Ingrams were John Pickford, and Joseph Haigh of Birdsedge, came up with us, who accompanied us by Cawthorne to Barnsley were we got about 9 o'clock, I rested me and got Tea at Penelope Dunns, and then went to Burton, where the Meeting was pretty large, and held through in silence. At the close of the meeting for Worship was our Monthly Meeting for discipline the business of which was satisfactorily conducted. George Brearey of Wakefield Mg. and Isabella Bashforth of Burton Mg. were cleared from all other engagements relating to marriage, and left at liberty to accomplish theirs when they and Burton friends saw meet. Both meetings held 4 hours. I din'd at John Wilsons and then return'd to Barnsley where I drunk Tea at Penelope Dunns and slept with George Brearey at Isabella Bashforths. On 21<sup>st</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week I Breakfasted at Penelope Dunns. The meeting appointed this day at Burton for the solemnisation of the marriage began at 11 o'clock and held 2 hours and a half. The forenoon proving very wet prevented many people attending, however there was a considerable number of other Societies came in so that the Meetinghouse was nearly full. John Mence the Priest of Barnsley stood within hearing but did not come in. It was an open solemn Meeting. Isabella Harris had a long testimony to bear therein from 1 Pet: C: 1. v: 18, 19. Ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious Blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot. I had a pretty long time next from Gen: C: 1. v: 3. God said, Let there be light and there was light. and after a short time in silence I appeared again in the course of which testimony I had to lay open the inconsistencies of the marriage ceremony as used in the Church England, our testimony against acknowledging the Power of a Priest to join Man and Woman together, as well as anyways contributing to the support of an hireling ministry, shewing them that our dissent was not for the sake of singularity but purely conscientious. The friends then took each other in marriage, and after the Certificate was read and in part Signed Isabella Harris had a long time in testimony from Rom: C: 12. v: 1. I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. After meeting we return'd to Barnsley where the entertainment was at Isabella Bashforths. The friends appointed to see the orderly conduct of the marriage were Samuel Coward, William Wass, Isabella Harris and Elizabeth Dix. After dinner the new married couple set out for his house at Dewsbury, and most of the friends towards their respective habitations, but at Isabellas request I tarried another night several of her Relations coming in, and some friends of this Mg. to supper. This afternoon I drunk Tea at Penelope Dunns and then return'd to my Quarters, where Johnny Yeardley came to supper and tarried and slept with me. On 22<sup>nd</sup>. and 4<sup>th</sup>. of week I Breakfasted at Penelope Dunns, and got a little refreshment about 11 o'clock with Ellin Spenceleys, and afterwards some Rum and Water at Thomas Dixon Waltons who set me a little out of town, and then return'd I left Barnsley about 12 o'clock and came to Cawthorne where I din'd at Thomas Wests stopt betwixt 2 and 3 hours, and then came to Dakinbrook where I stopt about one hour at Joseph Ingrams and drunk Tea, then came by Denby home got there betwixt 5 and 6, where I was much affected in receiving the unexpected intelligence that I was invited to the Burial of two near friends of mine viz. cousin Mary Firth Wife of Robert Firth of Huddersfield who departed this life ye. 19<sup>th</sup>. of this Mo. and was to be buried in friends Burial ground near Huddersfield ye. 24<sup>th</sup>. of

the same Aged about 54 years. and Mary Swire Wife of Henry Swire of Springhouse who departed this life ye. 22<sup>nd</sup>. of this Mo. and was to be buried in friends Burial ground at Wooldale ye. 24<sup>th</sup>. of the same. James Birchall came soon after I got home to say his lessons and we spent the evening together comfortably.

Memorandum            On ye. 22<sup>nd</sup>. of ye. 10<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1806 departed this life the Mary Swire Wife of Henry Swire of Springhouse near Wooldale and was buried in friends burial ground at Wooldale ye. 24<sup>th</sup>. of the same Mo. aged 40 years. My cousin Mary Firth of Huddersfield been buried the same day, and they being both particular friends of mine, and being invited to both of their burials, I was concerned to weigh it properly whether to attend, and found my way clearly open to attend that of Mary Swires, and was afterwards confirm'd that I was right therein. I set out from home the same morning being ye. 6<sup>th</sup>. day of ye. week betwixt 7 and 8 o'clock and got to Henry Swires of Springhouse about 9 were Coffee and Tea were provided for such as were invited. The meeting began at 11 and held upwards of 2 hours. It was pretty large many People of other Societies attending who were not invited, She being a Woman very well respected amongst her neighbours. The occasion was solemn, and an awful solemnity covered the meeting. Esther Lees from Lancashire was there who is Sister to the deceased who is a young Minister and had a pretty long and acceptable testimony to bear therein in first from Luke C: 12. v: 27. Consider the lilies, how they grow; they toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. I had a long time next from Eccle: C: 1. v: 2. Vanity of Vanities; all is vanity. After meeting I return'd to Henry Swires to dine, and at Table before dinner was concerned in supplication; nearly sympathizing with my beloved friend in the great loss, he and his children had sustained; at his request I stopt until Tea, and then set out for home in company with James Taylor from Lancashire who came to lodge at my house we called and sat a little at Henry Marsdens in Haddenley, and got home about half past 7 o'clock were I found James Birchall just come in to say his lessons.

Memorandum.            11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 2<sup>nd</sup>. 1806 and 1<sup>st</sup>. of the week, was our Meeting for Sufferings at Highflatts. Christopher Walker, Morritt Matthews and John Pickford being appointed by the Monthly meeting to collect the account of Sufferings, and enquire into friends faithfulness respecting our testimony against Tythes, Priests demands, those called Church rates, the Militia and the Rate money; and advise friends to an annual inspection into the state of their affairs; who all attended here. The Meeting for Worship began as usual at 11 o'clock, the day being very wet occasioned it to be much smaller than otherwise it would have been I had a long testimony to bear therein from 1 Cor: 3. v: 9. Ye are Gods husbandry. At the close of the meeting for Worship, the business was entered upon, The Sufferings in this meeting were collected, and Answers to the several particulars received from all the heads of families, except 3, George Chapman was appointed to visit one of them and Christopher Walker and Morritts Matthews agreed to call upon the other two. Both Meetings held 3 hours. After which Christopher Walker and Morritts Matthews came to dine with me and stopt all night at my house, when we got there we found my beloved friend Joseph Grayham who came after the meeting for Worship, stopt all afternoon to improve in his learning and after Tea return'd home. After dinner dear William Taylor accompanied the two Strangers to John Pickfords of Park to Tea. We had the company at our family sitting this evening of Christopher Walker, Morritt Matthews, John Pickford, Joseph Haigh of Birdsedge, and James Birchall. It was a time of favour, after reading I had two pretty long testimonies to bear the first from Jer: C: 10. v: 25. Pour out thy fury upon the heathen that know thee not, and upon the families that call not on thy name. and the other from 1 Chron: 4. v: 10. Oh that thou wouldest bless me indeed

and enlarge my coast, and that thine hand might be with me, and that thou wouldest keep me from evil, that it may not grieve me. and God granted him that which he requested. After which John Pickford stopt supper with us. and James Birchall said his Lessons, and afterwards they both returne'd home.

On 3<sup>rd</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, was the meeting for Sufferings at Wooldale, and I being desirous to see Henry Swire, thought it a suitable opportunity to pay him a visit, left home betwixt 8 and 9 o'clock in the morning and called upon my esteemed friend John Pickford; we went by Newmill to Wooldale where we got just in time to the meeting which began at 10 o'clock. It was not so large as I expected but pretty satisfactory; I had a pretty long testimony to bear therein from Prov: C: 30. v: 26. The conies are but a feeble folk, yet make they their houses in the rocks. At the close of the meeting for Worship the business was entered upon, the Men and Women sitting together as usual on these occasions. The account of Sufferings were called for and answers received from all the heads of families except two, whom Henry Swire was appointed to visit. Both meetings held near 2 hours. After which John Pickford and me went to Henry Swires to dine, about 3 o'clock in the afternoon we set out towards home, Henry Swire accompanied us by Totties and Scholes to George Broadheads of Meltomhouse where we drunk Tea, and tarried until about 6 o'clock and then proceeded; got home about 7 were I found James Beardshall at my house, we having spelt his name wrong before as appears by the copy of the Register of his age which he had now procured from the Parish Register at Silkstone. He stopt all evening, said his Lessons, and then I set him part of the way home. On the 4<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, Elizabeth Marsh my housekeeper, and me having been repeatedly invited to go spend a day at her Uncle Jonathan Brammalls, and this day being fixt upon for the said visit; we arose early it being moonlight in the morning, and set forward betwixt 5 and 6 o'clock, went by Summerford, Carrhouse, and Bullhouse to Swinden where we got to Jonathan Brammalls a little before 8 o'clock where we were very kindly and generously entertained, and I was very much pleased with seeing the country which appeared much pleasanter to me than I expected. John Howe and his Wife of Hordern came here to see us. It proving a wet afternoon, I concluded to leave my housekeeper there all night, and I set out towards home about quarter before o'clock Jonathan Brammall and John Howe set me on my way about half a mile and then return'd; I came by Hasselhead ware, Middlecliff, and Broadstone and got home about quarter before 6 in the evening.

#### Silkstone in the Diocese and County of York

James Son of George and Ann Beardshall was publickly baptized the twenty ninth day of December, in the year of our Lord one Thousand seven hundred and eighty five.

Copied from the Regr. of Silkstone this 3<sup>rd</sup>. Novr. 1806 by me

Samuel Horsfall Curate

Memorandum. On ye. 31<sup>st</sup>. of ye 10<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1806 departed this Life William Dyson of Shelley Woodhouse, and was buried in friends Burial ground at Highflatts ye. 5<sup>th</sup>. of the 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. following and 4<sup>th</sup>. day of the week; aged about 72 Years. He joined our Society by conviction, was a steady exemplary member thereof; adorning his profession by an innocent Life and circumspect conversation, so that it may be truly said of him, That he was a preacher of righteousness, in that which is beyond all outward testimonies and declarations. I was invited to his Burial but being rather unwell did not go to the house in the morning, but attended the Meeting, notice having been given the first day before that our weekday meeting would be held at the same time. The meeting was large a many of other Societies attending, and it proved a remarkable open favoured time John Bottomley had a short testimony to bear

therein first from Jon: C: 3. v: 2. Go unto Niniveh that great city, and preach unto it the preaching that I bid thee. I had a short time next from 1 Cor: 2. v: 11. What man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the spirit of God. John Bottomley was next concerned in Prayer, and afterwards I had a short testimony from Rom: C: 9. v: 13. Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated. The meeting held two and a half hours. Joshua Dyson the son of the deceased, being desirous for me to go with them to dine I complied therewith; but went first to Elihu Dickinson Tanr. were I got some suitable refreshment, and then proceeded with John Bottomley by Cumberworth to Joshua Dysons of Shelley Woodhouse. I stopt a little after dinner but return'd home were I got a little before 6 o'clock In the evening James Beardshall came as usual to say his lessons but was so poorly that he could not; so that after stopping a little, he return'd home, I accompanying him part of the way, and felt very much for him.

Mem: This was sent to Justice Beckworth in York, who sent to visit me, and desired to hear what the cause of my Imprisonment was

Sir

In the year 1652

My Love in Lord Jesus Christ remembered unto thee, I receive thy Love in that thou didst send to visit me in these my outward Bonds; for my outward Bonds they are made to be my inward freedom, being a Prisoner of hope, waiting upon the Lord, to see that set at liberty which is in inward Bondage. I am thrown into these outward Bonds by the persecuting Priest and two false Accusers, who have sworn that I came into the Church of Warnsworth, and maliciously and contemptuously did molest, disturb and vex Thos. Posleebey Clerk, preaching the word of God. Whereas he spoken no word in preaching after I came in at the Church door, neither did I hear him speak anything of what he was Preaching before I came in or after, but as I came in he was stricken dumb, or had done for anything I know. I spoke nothing against what he was Preaching, for I could not, because I heard not any thing, but went up to the seat where I formally sat, and sat me down, sat in silence, and nothing had I to speak to him at that present. then presently after me came in another Friend, one George Fox, and a Stranger with him; the Priest called for the Constable and Churchwardens to carry these rude fellows out of the Church, and asked, what do you come for? George Fox replied, a Question being asked, an Answer may be given. I came to witness forth the Truth; God dwells not in Temples made with hands. then they cried take him away. and he was carried forth, and buffeted and stricken by the People, by testimony of them which see him stricken. I see him after, his Face made black with Strokes. Then the Priest spoke to me, I being in Silence, saying, come thou hast been a great while away, I must catechise thee; wherefore came you no sooner? I am here, what hast thou to say unto me; then he was silent. Then I spake these words Beware of deceiving the People. He replied whose Ox, whose Ass have I taken, who have I defrauded, or who have I oppressed? I answered, every Man whom thou hast received hire of, for those which were taught of God, received it freely, and spoke it forth freely, without Hire, and if thou wert taught of God, and didst obey his teachings, thou art required to be an example to the flock, thou preaches against Pride, thou lives in Pride; thou Preaches against Covetousness, thou lives in it; thou Preaches against heady Highmindedness, thou lives in it; thou hast a form of Godliness, but thou denies the Power thereof; thou preaches Christ in thy words, but in thy works thou denies him. Then I said, if thou hast a word of exhortation to speak, speak on. He replied, I am not to cast Pearls before Swine, nor to give holy things unto dogs. I answered, if the Nature of a Swine, be not cast out of thee, if the Nature of a Dog be not cast out of thee, thou art the Swine and thou art the Dog, it is so both in Priest and People, where it is not cast forth. The Priest was at my house the Month before, and desired to know of me, wherefore I did not come to hear him: I told him, I did hearken to the voice of the Lord within me, finding him to be my only teacher; besides in the Primitive Church, there were two

or three to speak, one by one; and if anything was revealed to another, the first was to hold his peace, and the other to speak, and the rest were to judge, which liberty is not now, for thou hast liberty to speak what thou wilt. which he replied to me and did desire me to come to hear him preach, and I should have liberty freely, after he had done speaking, to speak to him, or to the People, if I was moved to speak any word of exhortation, or could gainsay anything which he spoke upon not to be the Truth; so I going in Love, to hear the Truth, to bear testimony of the Truth, sat me down, was in silence till he called me to catechise, and asked me Questions, and I made Answers, and gave Testimony of the Truth, and spoke forth the Truth: and this Priest, with two witnesses, gave Oath that I came maliciously and contemptuously to disturb him, which is a false accusation; for I came in love, to hear the Truth spoken, and to speak forth the Truth, for which I suffer these outward bonds. This is truth which I have made known unto thee. I desired of the Justices that I might have had their testimony, which was my Answers, and the Constable, wither the Priest did not call him and the Churchwarden, to carry me forth, before I spoke to him; or whether I spoke to him before he called me, to catechise, but the Justices said it was affirmed by the two Witnesses against me, and said that they could do no other but commit me. So I rest in patience, not fearing but the Lord will deliver me, out of all my Troubles; for my Portion of the world, and hypocritical professors, is nothing but to be persecuted with the world; for it is the nature of Cain, in every Man which imprisons the seed of God, within them, and the same Nature which casts into Prison and persecutes to Death without; as it was it is the same. Dear Sir, as thou art one which art called to sit to do Justice, do that which is just; Be not partial; be merciful and walk humbly before thy God; be valiant for the Truth upon earth, and tread upon the deceit; Truth must be judged by Truth; for he that he is Judge of Truth, must live in the Truth; for Christ saith, if any man will do the will of my Father, he shall know whether my doctrine be Truth, or no.

Thomas Aldam

This copy was taken from the original, with only some few of variations, chiefly orthographical, which original was written by the Author when a prisoner in York Castle

Copy of a Letter from the Governor of Tortola's Wife to the Widow of Thomas Chalkley

Tortola 2<sup>nd</sup>. of 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. 1742

Esteemed Friend

In that Love which neither sea nor land can separate do I write to thee; having confidence it may be received in the same; for the regard I bore to our Worthy Friend and thy Husband enjoins me to write to thee tho' by face a Stranger and do sympathize with thee, and bear a part of thy grief; Altho' the loss is not only to thee, and to me; but all the Church. But if we will walk in the Paths of the Righteous, we must hear Wisdoms Voice, which teacheth submission, and in humility to be content in every station; and more especially since our Loss is his Gain. His arrival on this Island was cause of joy to me and many others, whose faces were Zionward, and he was made Instrumental in the hand of the Almighty to bear the burden of the weak, to Lend a hand to the lame, to lead the Blind and put their feet in the way, which before were out of the way. I can say he was a Father in Israel. Wisdom seemed to delight in him, for by the Power of God, he was made all things to all men. To the weak he became weak and to the strong he became strong. O he was Lovely in all his ways! His countenance was cheerful, and pleasant in his conversation; His Questions were pertinent and plain, and his Answers solid and deep, as Texts to things of greater moment. He was also an Archer in Israel, for his Bow abode in strength; while he shot at Babylons foundation and his Arrows scarce (if ever) missed the mark. Here his deportment was solid and grave. In short his whole life and conversation bespoke him to be a true Minister of Christ. For his lively Testimony drew many hearts to attention, and stirred many Zealous minded People to seek after Truth;

which goes on and prospers amongst us by the help of that arm that first brought us forth. He was a nursing Father to me and many more, and a faithful and indefatigable servant, who neglected not his Masters work, for he did a great deal in a little time. Patience seemed to have her perfect work in him, For the most beautiful frame of mind that ever I saw was in his sickness, in which he seemed to go away in triumph, Trampling on Death as a thing not worth his notice. And with the full assurance of his reward, as he made mention in his last testimony; that he had finished his course, and a crown of glory was laid up for him that would never fade away. and said O this has ever been my desire! That I might hold out to end. This was about three days before he departed this Life. I speak my own experience and not anothers, for I was with him all the time of his sickness, and I do not know that I heard him once complain, or speak of any one in particular, save his Wife and child, which he mentioned several times. So I leave him at rest with the faithful, and his memory is sweet to us here. But it becomes us all to submit to the divine will of God; For all things turns out for the good of them that fear him, and tho' no doubt but this has come very nigh thee; Yet as thou givest up in obedience to him, his Fatherly care and eye will be over thee, and will be thy portion, an husband to thee and a father to thy child, which will make amends for all. I think I may say Truth prospers over all, and that there is daily added to the church such as shall be saved. Praises be to his Name who alone hath brought salvation to his People

Finis.

Memorandum. 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 9<sup>th</sup>. 1806. Was our Preparative meeting at Highflatts, The meeting for Worship was smaller than usual, The friends of Lumbroyd meeting being excused from attending here to day on account of their being here last first day except him that was Representative to the next Monthly meeting. and very few of other Societies came in. After a long time of silence, I had a pretty long testimony to bear from Heb: C: 11. v: 25. Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the People of God than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season. At the close of this meeting the business of our Preparative meeting was gone thro. Both meetings held upwards of 2 hours and a half. After which my beloved friends Thomas Earnshaw of Judfield and Joseph Grayham din'd at my house, Joseph return'd home after Tea; and Thomas went to John Pickfords to Tea but stopping all night at my house he return'd in the forepart of the evening, so that we had his company, and Joseph Haighs of Birdsedge, and James Beardshall at our family sitting which was a low time; except the reading, it was held in silence. James Beardshall stopt supper with us, he was returning from Barnsley were he had been the day before to be hired; and had agreed to go to one Jacksons of Bankend near Clayton; I was sorry for his removal, on his own account: as it would prevent, if not wholly put a stop to his improvement in learning; in which he had made a good progress for the time, but I was afraid it would lay waste those visitations he had been favoured with. O that the Fowls of the air may not pick up the seed which I believe is sown. But as his removal was not of his own choice, I am more easy, altho' I believe our parting will be attended with sorrow, as we have appeared to increase in affection to each other, during our short acquaintance. But the enemy ever envied the happiness of man, and when the Lord works seeks to frustrate it by any means he can. On 10<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week After Breakfast Thomas Earnshaw and me went to John Bottomleys of Wood were we stopt until after dinner, and then return'd, he sat a little with me at my house, and betwixt 2 and 3 o clock set out towards home.

Memorandum. 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 23<sup>rd</sup>. 1806 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week. This day being very wet our Meeting at Highflatts was much larger than I expected, and tho' I went to it in a very depressed state of mind, and sat in the forepart thereof in a state of darkness that was felt, even as under the weight of the mountains. Yet in the Lords time he was pleased to lift up the

light of his glorious countenance upon us, to dispel the darkness, and caused the mountains to skip as a rams, and that the little hills as Lambs, and gave me a pretty long testimony to bear to his Truth from Matt: C: 2. v: 15. Out of Egypt have I called my son. After meeting my beloved friends Henry Marsden and Joseph Grayham came to dine with me when we got home we found Joseph Grayham's Mother at my house, She was come to see him and stop all night with us. After dinner Henry Marsden set out towards home. Joseph Grayham stopt as usual until after Tea and then I set him a little on his way towards home. This being the time of servant removing and we having contracted with each other for the year ensuing; he was come to my house to enter upon his years service the forth day following. May the most high favour us together and preserve us in that Love which hath long subsisted and may this change prove for his good every way, and in a particular manner that it may have a tendency to his growth and establishment in Truth and righteousness, is what I humbly desire. Our family sitting this evening was eminently favoured, we had the company of thereat of Joseph Grayhams Mother, Joseph Haigh of Birdsedge and dear James Beardshall for so I now call him feeling this evening the visitation of Truth to flow towards him, O that he made duly prize it many are called but few are chosen, because they are not willing to put of the old man with his deeds, and put on the new man Christ Jesus in whom the choice, or election stands; agreeable to scripture testimony Eph: C: 1. v: 4. "According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love." After reading I had a long testimony to bear from Mark C: 10. v: 21. Sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor; and thou shalt have treasure in heaven; and come, take up the cross, and follow me. after a short time in silence I had a pretty long time from Phil: C: 1. v: 29. Unto you it is given in the behalf of christ, not only to believe upon him; but also to suffer for his sake. James Beardshall being leaving Birdsedge next day, supp'd at my house and tarried all night, and slept with me.

Memorandum. 11<sup>th</sup>. mo. 29<sup>th</sup>. 1806 and 7<sup>th</sup>. day of the week, This day in the afternoon; we had a most tremendous storm of Thunder and Lightning, very unusual at this time of the year, It continued for about the space of 1 hour; begun in the North-west, and divided; part going down the south, but was far the heaviest down the North. It was attended with hail, but not so much with us as was expected the clouds appearing awfully black, and we being as it were betwixt the Storm.

Memorandum. 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 30<sup>th</sup>. 1806 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, The day being fine for the time of year, our Meeting at Highflatts was pretty large of friends and several of other Societies came in, My mind was low in the forepart thereof, but a little matter opening accompanied with a concern to stand up, I gave up in obedience, and not expecting to have many words to communicate, but found much enlargement of heart, and had a long testimony to bear from Jer: C: 6. v: 16. Stand ye in the ways, and seek, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. After meeting John Issott came to dine with me and stopt until after Tea, his company was truly acceptable. Our family sitting this evening was favoured, there was none present beside my own family except Joseph Haigh of Birdsedge, my beloved friend Joseph Grayham, was now come to be my servant in husbandry. I wish his removal may be for his good and our mutual comfort I was earnestly concerned to seek unto the Lord in it humbly beseeching him to direct us aright before we engaged with each other. In this opportunity I had a pretty long testimony to bear from Rom: C: 12. v: 9. Let love be without dissimulation, abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good.

Memorandum. 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 5<sup>th</sup>. and 6<sup>th</sup>. day of the week 1806. Our Week day Meeting at Highflatts was smaller than usual, the day being fine for the time of year. There was only 33 Persons attended. The forepart of the meeting was much disturb'd thro' the wild ranting unsettled behaviour of that poor deluded Woman Martha Dickinson. So that I was under the necessity publickly to reprove her; which for the present had the desired effect. She made no reply but settled down quietly and we enjoy'd the remainder of our meeting comfortably. In the afternoon I went to visit John Issott of Stocksmoortop he having frequently invited me, called by the way and sat a little at John Haighs of Shepley. John Issott and his Wife received me very kindly, I stopt Tea with them and was comforted with my visit believing him to be growing in the Truth. At my return he accompanied me nearly to Shepley were we parted I believe under some degree of the influence of Gospel love. I called at Joseph Hinchcliffes of Whinney about a little business, it was dark when they had done it, but Charles Hinchcliffe their son a hopeful young man who hath attended friends Meetings from early life accompanied me on my way as far as Birdsedge, whose company was very acceptable; he mentioned in our way his desire to be admitted a member of our Society requesting me to lay it before friends, which I engaged to do. We stopt a little with Joseph Haigh of Birdsedge and got some refreshment, and then I came home were I got in time to hearken Joseph Grayham his lessons.

Memorandum 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 7<sup>th</sup>. 1806 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, Our meeting at Highflatts was large of friends, it being the Preparative meeting and the day remarkably fine for the time of the year, Likewise a pretty many of other Societies attended so that the Meetinghouse was nearly full. It was to me a low time in the forepart thereof but I thought much favoured towards the close, I had a pretty long testimony to bear therein first from Isai: C. v: 7. I will not be a healer; for in my house is neither bread nor clothing; make me not a ruler of the People. John Bottomley next from Isai: C: 55. v. 1, 2. Ho, everyone that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money, and without price. Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread; and your labour for that which satisfieth not. I had a long time next from Matt C: 18: v: 3. Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. After the close of the meeting for Worship, The business of our Preparative meeting was gone thro' amongst other things, the Queries were read and answered, and Answers thereto drawn up approved and Signed to lay before the Mo. Mg. Also an application to be admitted a member of our Society from Charles Hinchcliffe a young man who hath attended our meeting from early life, was laid before this meeting and ordered to be laid before the Monthly meeting. Both meetings held near 4 hours, John Sellers of Higham and Benjamin Chapman came from the meeting to dine at my house The latter set out from home soon after dinner but the former stopt all night and until next day in the afternoon. At our family sitting this evening, We had the company of the beforementioned friend and Joseph Haigh of Birdsedge. After reading I had a pretty long testimony to bear from Isai: C: 28. v: 16. He that believeth shall not make haste.

Memorandum. 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 11<sup>th</sup>. 1806 and 5<sup>th</sup>. day of the week. My esteemed friends William Midgley and his daughter of Buersall near Rochdale in Lancashire, came to my house on a visit for a few days. They got in, in time to Tea in the afternoon, and their company was truly acceptable. On 12<sup>th</sup>. and 6<sup>th</sup>. of week, in the forenoon we attended our weekday meeting at Highflatts, there was a 39 Persons there, it was a favoured meeting, I had a pretty long testimony therein first from Matt: C: 6. v: 10. Thy kingdom come, and afterwards another from Gen: C: 18. v: 19. I know him, that he will command his children,

and his household after him. Leah Kinsley next from Prov: C: 9. v: 10. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. In the afternoon we drunk Tea at John Bottomleys of Wood. On 15<sup>th</sup>. and 7<sup>th</sup>. of the week. In the afternoon we went to Highflatts and drunk Tea at Elihu Dickinsons Clothier. At our return my niece Jane Wood was come to my house to keep Mary Midgley company during the remainder of her stay, and John Pickford came and spent the evening and supp'd with us. - On 14<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of the week. Our meeting at Highflatts was pretty large a few of other Societies coming in I had a pretty long testimony to bear therein from Ex: C: 20. v: 19. Speak thou with us, and we will hear; but let not God speak with us, lest we die. After meeting William Midgley and his daughter intending for our Mo. meeting to be held at Wakefield next day set out towards there in their own carriage and William Taylor took my mare and accompanied them. Our family sitting this evening was eminently favoured There was only myself, my housekeeper Elizabeth Marsh, and dear Joseph Grayham my servant in husbandry, and Joseph Haigh of Birdsedge; After reading I was concerned therein in supplication and afterwards had a pretty long testimony to bear from 1 Thes: C: 5. v: 22, 23. Abstain from all appearance of evil. And the very God of Peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless until the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. - On 5<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week about 6 o'clock in the morning I set out towards our Monthly meeting at Wakefield in company with Joseph Haigh of Birdsedge who had been all night at my house we met with John Pickford at Cumberworth who accompanied us thither, went by Skelmanthorp, Emley and Bretton to Crigglestone, stopt about one hour at my Uncle Joseph Houghs and got Tea, then proceeded by Milthorp and Sandal to Wakefield were we got just in time to the meeting which was pretty large, Samuel Gandy dropt a few words therein first, I had a pretty long time next from Isai: C: 43. v: 23. Ye had not brought me the small cattle of your burnt offerings. Afterwards Joshua Kaye a young man from Leeds dropt a few words. At the close of the meeting for Worship was held our Monthly Mg. for discipline. We had a great deal of business before us to day which was unanimously conducted. Amongst other things The Queries were read and Answers received from all our Preparative meetings viz, Pontefract, Burton, Highflatts, Ackworth, Wakefield and Wooldale, and a General Answer drawn up approv'd and Signed in order to be laid before our ensuing Quarterly Meeting Also our friend Isabella Harris returned the minutes of last meeting given her to visit the Particular meetings within Knaresborough Monthly Meeting, and places it adjacent, to have some public meetings in those parts as way it might open, and informed us she had been enabled to go through the same so as to return in peace. She afterwards expressed a concern to pay a religious visit to the inhabitants of some places within the compass of our own monthly meeting. And I informed friends of a concern that was on my mind to pay a religious visit to the inhabitants of Dodworth. Both of which met with the unity and approbation of friends and the meeting left us at liberty to proceed therein as truth opened our way. Both meetings held 5 hours. After which I din'd at John Robinsons of Fieldhouse, and after dinner return'd to Wakefield, went to William Awmacks to see William Midgley and his daughter were I drunk Tea, and then they came with me to John Robinsons junr. to supper, were William Midgley and me lodg'd. - On 16<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week I left Wakefield about 10 o'clock in the forenoon and came by Milthorp to Crigglestone were I stopt about 2 hours and din'd at George Earnshaws then came by Bretton and Parkmill to Skelmanthorp were I stopt betwixt 2 and 3 hours; and drunk Tea at Charles Blackburns, and sat a little at Leah Kinsleys then proceeded, Charles Blackburn accompanying me as far as Low.Cumberworth. I got home betwixt 7 and 8 o'clock in the evening.

Memorandum. 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 26<sup>th</sup>. 1806 and 6<sup>th</sup>. day of week, Our week day meeting at Highflatts, was dull and cloudy in the forepart thereof, but better towards the end altho' Truth did not arise in too much dominion. I had a short testimony to bear therein from Isa: C: 30. v: 7. Their strength is to sit still. There was 45 Persons at this Meeting, amongst the number

James Beardshall who came to my house the day before to see me stopt all night and after dinner to day return'd home his visit was acceptable to me, The man who first hired him failed before he went so that after being about one week at home he met with the present place where he now lives, viz. at Thomas Walkers of Wellhill near Wortley Forge, which I believed to be far more suitable place for him than the other. He seems desirous to attend friends meetings, but is a long way from any, and they having no other servant is pretty much confined on first days. I am afraid he will suffer loss in regard to improving in learning. and believe it might have been more to his advantage in a spiritual sense had his lot been cast amongst friends. I recommended him to keep close to the principle of Truth in the secret of his own heart, and out of all vain and unprofitable company, that so he might be preserved out of all evil.

Memorandum. 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 28<sup>th</sup>. 1806 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of week. Our meeting at Highflatts was not large it being a wet day, and none but such as usually attend came in. It was a time of remarkable favour, in the early part thereof I had a long testimony to bear from 2 Tim: C: 2. v: 19. The foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, the Lord knoweth them that are his. and towards the close had a few words more from Rev: C: 8. v: 1. There was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour. After meeting Henry Swire came to dine with us, and in the afternoon John Pickford came to drink Tea; they both stopt our family sitting in the evening, and Charles Hinchcliffe and Joseph Haigh was also there, it was a time of renewed favour, After reading I had an encouraging testimony to bear from Isa: C: 40. v: 29 He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increases strength. and afterwards had a short testimony from 2 King: C: 6. v: 26, 27. Help, my lord O King. And he said, if the Lord do not help thee, whence shall I help thee.

Memorandum. 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 11<sup>th</sup>. 1807. and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week. It being our Preparative meeting The meeting for Worship was large of friends, and several other Societies came in. John Bottomley had a short testimony to bear therein first from Rom: C: 1. v: 19 That which may be known of God is manifest in them. Afterwards I had a long time from 1 Kin: C: 19. v. 9, 10. What dost thou here, Elijah? And he said I have been very jealous for the Lord God of Hosts; for the children of Israel have forsaken thy Covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy Prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away. At the close of this meeting the Business of the Preparative meeting was gone through. John Brook of Shepley and Elizabeth Walker din'd with me. In the evening our family sitting was much favoured there was none there besides ourselves and Joseph Haigh of Birdsedge. After reading I had a long testimony to bear from Matt: C: 22. v: 14. Many are called but few are chosen. The next day I went to Skelmanthorp to visit Charles Blackburn having had a heavy exercise upon my mind on his account the evening before. He had been clearly convinced of Truth many years ago, but like many others not dwelling deep enough with Christ the seed had not come to experience the heavenly birth brought forth in him, and his expectations running after great things, the day of small things was overlooked. So that when the Joannites came into these parts he was carried away with their Prophecies I believe to his unspeakable loss, but being honest in his intentions, a ray of hope sometimes revives that the cloud may be dispelled, I had an opportunity to relieve my mind to him and left him in peace. Din'd at his house, and we came together to Leah Kinsleys for Tea.

Memorandum      On ye 6<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. 1807 Benjamin Dickinson of Thurlstone departed this life and has buried in friends burial ground at Lumbroyd near Penistone ye. 10<sup>th</sup>. of the same and 3<sup>rd</sup>. day of the week Aged 68 years. I being invited attended the said Burial left home a little past 7 o'clock and went by Birchworth to Thurlstone were I Breakfasted at the house of the deceased and then accompanied the corps to the Meetinghouse; the meeting began at 11 o'clock and held upwards of 2 hours. It was pretty large of friends and others, and a very open favoured time I was first concerned therein in supplication and afterwards had a very long time in testimony from 1 Pet: C: 1. v. 24, 25. All flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flowers of grass; the grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away. But the word of the Lord endureth for ever, and this is the word which by the Gospel is preached unto you. After meeting I came to George Chapmans of Penistone were I din'd and drunk Tea. After Tea George Chapman accompanied me to Thurlstone I feeling a desire to see the Widow and children of the deceased We had a satisfactory opportunity with them which tended much to the relief of my mind I had a long testimony to bear therein from Jer: C: 49. v: 11. Leave thy fatherless children, I will preserve them alive, and let thy widows trust in me. Betwixt 7 and 8 o'clock I set out towards home William Dickinson accompanied me to the Toll Bar near Highflatts and then returned. I was much pleased with his company having had a desire to have a little private conversation with him. I got home betwixt 8 and 9 o'clock in the evening.

Memorandum      Altho' I have not usually made any memorandums of my journies when they have been principally to our Monthly Meeting yet this Journey being attended with some particular circumstances I felt most easy to commit an account thereof to writing. I left home ye. 14<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. 1807 and 7<sup>th</sup>. day of the week about one o'clock in the afternoon and went by Denby to Joseph Ingrams of Dakinbrook were I rested me a little and then proceeded by Cawthorne to Barnsley were I got betwixt 4 and 5 o'clock and took up my quarters during my stay in this town at Penelope Dunns except lodging with my beloved friend Thomas Dixon Walton.

On the 15<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of the week. After Breakfast I went to Burton being of the Committee appointed by our last Monthly meeting to visit John Sellers on his application to be admitted a member of our Society; We met in the Meetinghouse chamber at half past 9 o'clock, and at the close of the visit drew up the following report to be laid before our Monthly meeting the next day viz.

We have visited John Sellers, and find that he is a man of a circumspect life and conversation; and believe he is pretty clearly convinced of the Truth of our religious Principles: the opportunity was satisfactory, and we hope what was communicated may be profitable to him: yet we think a further establishment may be to his advantage before his admission into membership with us

Burton 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. 15<sup>th</sup>. 1807

Joseph Johnson    Ackworth  
John Pickford  
Joseph Wood

The meeting for Worship began at 11 o'clock, several were there who had begun to attend meetings since I was here before. It was a very open favoured time, and I had a long testimony to bear therein from Isa: C: 55. v: 3. Hear, and your soul shall live. At the close of the meeting for Worship was their Preparative meeting held, Of the committee appointed to attend here there was present George Chapman, Thomas Earnshaw, John Pickford and myself. It was a solid meeting the Queries were read and answered with great solemnity and answers prepared in writing to lay before the Monthly meeting. Both meetings held betwixt 2 and 3 hours. After which I set out for Wakefield were the Monthly meeting was to be held next day Dear Joseph Yeardley being my companion at the other, We stopt and got a little

Rum and Water at John Wilsons and then proceeded to Carlton were we called and din'd at the Shoulder of Mutton of some provisions we had in our pockets and got 1 Quart of Ale warmed paid 9d and then proceeded, by Royston, Cheviot Hall and Sandal to John Robinsons of Wakefield got there a little before 5 o'clock were we took up our Quarters. Our meeting of Ministers and Elders having been some years discontinued, The Quarterly meeting appointed a Committee of friends to pay the members thereof a visit Accordingly a meeting was appointed to be held here at 6 o'clock this evening and we had all notice to attend. The committee who were Joseph Birkbeck of Settle, Henry Tuke of York, John Hoyland and Elizabeth his Wife of Sheffield and Martha Smith of Doncaster, met us in friends Meetinghouse, and I think I may add it was a profitable and refreshing time to us all The Queries were answered which brought our state before the Meeting much weighty and instructive advice were communicated, and it appeared to be the united sense of friends, that an addition of Elders might be made and the Select meeting reestablished if the Mo. meeting concurred in judgement therewith. This meeting held upwards of 2 hours. On 16<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week The meeting for Worship was very large. Besides the company of the Ministring friends we had the evening before, we was favoured with that of our friend Susanna Horne from Middlesex. It was an open satisfactory meeting, the Publick labour tending much to the encouragement of the faithful, Elizabeth Hoyland had a pretty long testimony first from Jer: C: 8. v: 18. My heart is faint in me. Susannah Horne a long time next from Isai: C: 24. v: 16. From the uttermost part of the earth, have we heard songs, even glory to the righteous; but I said, might leanness, my leanness, wo unto me: the treacherous dealers have dealt treacherously, ye, the treacherous dealers, have dealt very treacherously. Henry Tuke next from 2 Cor: C: 5. v: 5. Now he that hath wrought us for the self same thing is God, who hath also given unto us the earnest of the spirit. John Hoyland a pretty long time next from Isai: C: 2. v: 5 O house of Jacob, come ye, and let us walk in the light of the Lord. Martha Smith next in Prayer. At the close of this meeting was held our Monthly meeting for discipline The Queries were read and Answers thereto from all our Preparative meetings viz. Pontefract, Burton, Highflatts, Ackworth, Wakefield and Wooldale. and a General Answer drawn up approved and Sign'd in order to be laid before our ensuing Quarterly meeting. In Answer to the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Query it appeared. That in several of our Meetings there was some appearance of convincement and 5 had been admitted into membership since last year viz. 3 in Burton, 1 in Highflatts and 1 in Wakefield meetings. The friends appointed to inquire into John Hoyls clearness in relation to Marriage with all others except Ann Shiers reported they find nothing to the contrary, of which the friends of Brighouse Mo. meeting was inform'd by our certificate and the further care thereof left to them. A Committee was appointed to unite with a committee of the Quarterly Meeting to consider of an addition of friends for Elders that the Select meeting in this Mo. meeting might be reestablished, a great deal more business was gone thro' and the whole was satisfactorily conducted. Both meetings held near 5 hours. After dinner I left Wakefield in company with Thomas Earnshaw of Judfield, we got to Christopher Walkers of Dirtcar to Tea were we lodg'd. On 17<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week. After Breakfast I left Christopher Walkers in company with John Bottomley; we stopt a little at William Pickards and got some refreshment before we left, came to Crigglestone were we din'd at George Earnshaws, then came by Bretton and Parkmill to Skelmanthorp were we drunk Tea at Charles Blackburns, and afterwards sat a little at Leah Kinsleys then came by Cumberworth home were I got about 7 o'clock in the evening.

Memorandum. On ye. 28<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. 1807 departed this life Martha Dickinson Widow of Benjamin of Thurlstone aged about 73 years, and was buried in friends Burial ground at Lumbroyd near Penistone ye 1<sup>st</sup>. of ye. the 4<sup>th</sup>. Mo. following and 4<sup>th</sup>. day of the week being just 3 weeks and one day after her husband whose burial she attended, being then in as good health as usual. I being invited attended her burial but a deep snow falling the day

before, I met the corps at the Meetinghouse; Left home about 8 o'clock in the morning, and went by Ing Birchworth to Penistone where I stopped some time and got some refreshment and then followed the corps to Lumbroyd. The Meeting began at 11 o'clock and held about 2 hours. It was a solemn and satisfactory time John Bottomley had a pretty long time therein in testimony first from Matt: C: 25. v: 6. Behold the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him. I had a long time next from Eze: 18. v: 30. Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin. John Bottomley next in Prayer. After meeting I went to the Burial house to dine with their son Thomas Dickinson who had the care of the Burial and had not return'd home since his Fathers, We called by the way at George Chapmans and got a little refreshment. I stopt with them at Thurlstone until after Tea then John Bottomley called upon me, and we came together by Ing Birchworth home where I got about 7 o'clock in the evening.

Memorandum            On 4<sup>th</sup>. of 4<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1807 and 7<sup>th</sup>. day of the week, Our friend Thomas Shillitoe of Tottenham in Middlesex who was on a religious visit to friends in these parts, came to my house very unexpectedly not thinking myself worthy to receive such a guest under my roof he travelled on foot, and was an example of true self-denial; got to my house pretty early, and his company was truly acceptable to me. In the afternoon we went to see John Pickford of Park and from thence to John Mallinsons of Birdsedge where we drank Tea and supp,d and then returned home. On 5<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week he was at our meeting at Highflatts and tho' no notice was given to those of other Societies a pretty many attended so that the Meetinghouse was well filled, and a pretty many sat in the chamber Thomas Shillitoe had a very long time therein first addressing himself to friends in which he included all such as attended our Meetings pretty generally from 1 John C: 2. v: 27. The anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you; but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and his truth, and is no lye. After a short time in silence he had a pretty long time from Luke C: 11. v: 21, 22. When a strong man armed keepeth his palace his goods are at peace, But when a stronger than he shall come upon him, and overcome him, he taketh from him all his armour wherein he trusted, and divideth his spoils. He had afterwards a long and encouraging testimony to bear unto those of other Societies from Tit: C: 2. v: 11, 12. The grace of God, that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously and godly in this present world. The meeting held upwards of 2 hours. After dinner he set out to a meeting appointed for him this evening at Wooldale, and tho' he refused having guides from place to place yet I feeling a desire to be at the meeting he signified he should be pleased with my company, accordingly I accompanied him thither, we got to Thomas Roberts of Wooldale about for 4 o'clock where we drank Tea. The meeting began at 5 and held upwards of 2 hours, and tho' no notice were given to those of other Societies, yet seeing friends going to Meeting abundance flocked thither, that not only the Meetinghouse but chamber was well filled. Thomas Shillitoe had a very long testimony to bear therein first to such as usually attend meetings from Isai: C: v: 16, 17. Put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil? Learn to do well. He had a long time next to those of other Societies from Psalms 127. v: 1. Except the Lord built the house, they labour in vain that build it; Except the Lord keep the City, the watchman waketh but in vain. After a short time in silence he stood up again, and enlarged a little to them. At the close of the meeting, I informed the People it was over and remarked that as their behaviour had been commendable I wished they might retire in the same commendable manner to their respective habitations, concluding with a short exultation to them. My Respected friend and servant Joseph Grayham was at the meeting and accompanied me until I reached home, we went to Thomas Roberts where we got a little refreshment, then leaving Thomas Shillitoe there, we went to Henry Swires of

Springhouse were we supp'd and then set out for home Henry Swire accompanied us about 1 mile and then return'd and we reached home betwixt 10 and 11 o'clock in the evening.

On the death of John Greenwood of Stones near Todmorden in Lancashire

What shall I say of human bloom,  
 In dales and rocks mov'd on;  
 Like fragrant flowers borders sweet,  
 Are soon cut down and gone.  
 In amplitude, affluence here,  
 Which Providence hath blest;  
 In state, trade, and abilities  
 His equals few possest.  
 His Habitation filled up,  
 With every needful stall;  
 His hospitable table spread,  
 Also an open door.  
 For friends, of all degrees enjoy'd,  
 His entertainment kind;  
 And his poor neighbours often felt,  
 Of his bountiful mind.  
 Tidings of sorrow will approach,  
 To many a distant ear;

And near connections mourning on,  
 The mark of sorrow bear.  
 Ah! how transient are his scenes,  
 Of elegance, alive;  
 How soon succeeding ones possess,  
 The fruit of wisdoms eye.  
 Amidst the bloom of life cut down,  
 Like trees whose growths not o'er;  
 From all the treasure he possest,  
 Must now enjoy no more,  
 His habitations now confin'd  
 Within the silent grave;  
 Where all are hastening on apace,  
 The fate we are sure to have.

James Taylor  
 Heighside near Oldham

Memorandum. 6<sup>th</sup>. mo. 7<sup>th</sup>. 1807 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week Our meeting at Highflatts was not so large as usual on the Preparative meeting day owing to the wetness of the morning; but it was a singular time, the states of many being remarkably opened and spoke to, I had a pretty long testimony to bear therein first from Rev: C: 2. v: 21. I gave her space to repent of her fornication; and she repented not. And afterwards had a long time from Psalms 42. v: 11. Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? hope thou in God; for I shall yet praise him, who is the health of my countenance, and my God. After which I had another pretty long time from Jer: C: 2. v: 22. Though thou wash thee with nitre,

and take much sope, yet thine iniquity is marked before me. At the close of this meeting, the business of our Preparative meeting was gone thro' at the close of which John Bottomley had a pretty long testimony to bear from Psalms 119. v: 165. Great peace have they that love thy Law; and nothing shall offend them.

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Newhouse 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 27<sup>th</sup>. 1806

Beloved Friend  
Joseph Grayham

The near friendship which hath long subsisted betwixt us, cannot fail of raising strong desires in our minds, for each others welfare; I can truly say that thou art frequently the companion of my thought, accompanied with earnest desires that the seed sown in thy heart may prosper, and bring forth fruit to the praise of the great husbandman; the Apostle saith, "Know ye not that they which run in a race, run all, but one receiveth the prize? so run that ye may obtain." and I have earnestly desired this may be thy blessed experience, that thou may so run as in the end thou may obtain the crown immortal which fadeth not away; I know thou hast not made that progress in the heavenly race, that some have done in the time; perhaps for want of due watchfulness, and a proper submission of thy will to the divine will; but I also remember, "the race is not always to the swift, nor the battle to the strong." May thou therefore be encouraged, to persevere in the path into which the feet of thy mind have been mercifully turned, seeking unto the Lord for strength to withstand the temptations of the enemy, and to overcome the evils which abound in the world, which fallen nature are prone unto; as well as to come up in the faithful obedience to the discoveries of the Light of Christ in the secret of thine own heart, which manifests to man his duty unto God, and one unto another. Thy diligence in attending Meetings on first days, and due observance of the hour appointed, hath appeared pleasant to me, and I doubt not but is acceptable to Almighty God; and if thou art concerned when there, to gather to the divine gift in the secret of thine own heart; I have no doubt that thou will experience thy strength renewed, so as to order thy conversation aright; guarding against all vain and unprofitable talk in whatsoever company thy lot may be unavoidably cast, remembering the declaration of Christ; who is appointed to be Judge both of the quick and the dead. "I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment." Also the encouraging language of the Psalmist in the Lords name. "Whosoever offereth praise,

glorifieth me; and to him that orders his conversation aright, will I shew the salvation of God." No tongue can express, nor pen set forth, the deep experience which hath at times attended my mind, on thy account, since thy removal to Denby. It hath appeared to me a place where thou art exposed to temptations of various kinds; but remember Christs advise to us to his immediate followers. "Watch ye and pray, lest ye enter into temptation. The spirit truly is ready, but the flesh is weak." And tho my friend the flesh is weak, and we of ourselves are not able to resist the least temptation of the wicked one; but the spirit is ready, for the assistance of those, who humbly and sincerely seek it from a sense of the need they have of its help to preserve them in a state of watchfulness unto Prayer. I have oftens been ready to adapt the language of one formerly on the account of his beloved son, since thy separation from under my more immediate notice. "If mischief befall him by the way in the which ye go, then shall ye bring down my grey hairs with sorrow to the grave." Thou knows my beloved friend, I have watched over thee for good, even as a Parent care for his only son; I have encouraged thee in every virtue; I have warned thee faithfully against every vice; I have bore thee with very weakness when overtaken with temptations; and have seen some fruit in thee of my unwearied exercised on thy account. Thou was strengthened to forsake thy former companions, who had been a snare to thee, and many times drawn thee into the paths of folly and vanity. I beseech thee by the mercies of God, be careful that thou be not again drawn into a familiar acquaintance with such company. "My son if sinners entice thee consent thou not." But let thy leisure hours be employed in thy Books, or in private meditation, waiting upon God for the renewed manifestation of thy duty, and strength to come up in a faithful discharge of the same; or in the company of faithful friends. Thus will thou experience a growth in the Truth, and be favoured with that peace the wicked are strangers to, the Prophet saith. "The wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt, There is no peace saith my God, to the wicked." But if on the contrary thou should give way to wrong things so that evil befall thee, thou will not only pierce thyself through with many sorrows; but it will be a trouble to me, whom thou has proved to be a sincere friend to thee; heavier than I shall know how to bear. I would willingly hope better things of thee; yea the things that accompany salvation; knowing that the Lord is everywhere; and his Power is able to preserve all those who cleave unto it with full purpose of heart, and dare not lean to their own understanding, wheresoever their lot is cast, or in whatsoever situation of life they are placed. I shall now conclude with the language of the Apostle. "Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and Majesty, dominion and Power, both now and ever. Amen. To his care and protection I earnestly recommend my beloved friend, with mine own soul; Who am with strongest desires for thy welfare every way, thy truly loving and affectionate Friend

Joseph Wood

For Joseph Grayham  
of Denby

Newhouse 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mo. 4<sup>th</sup>. 1806

Beloved Friend  
William Midgley

I received thine, which altho, short was truly acceptable to me, conveying the pleasing intelligence, that some of thy family, and others; were in a better state of health than when we left your parts; and as thou appears desirous to be informed how we got home, I am now about to answer thy request. But must first desire thee to communicate with our united Loves to thy Wife, our grateful acknowledgment of her kindness to us, in sending the Chaise to convey us to Ripponden: and tho' it may never be in our power to make her an adequate compensation; yet I hope she will not be forgot by him who hath promised; that "Whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the

name of a disciple, verily, I say unto you he shall in no wise lose his reward." After we left Rippondon it rained all the way, but the wind being on our backs we got on better than might have been expected; and do not know that either of us suffered from cold. We called and din'd at Thomas Firths of Lindley, he was not at home, but Jane his Wife received us very kindly; we were pleased with our short visit there: she told us that her eyes like Eli's formerly had been dim, but she was thankful of late, she had been favoured to see as it were a glimmering; with more to the like effect; which was cause of thankfulness to my mind; and I thought would be acceptable to thee to hear. I never was so well satisfied before with a visit to your parts as with my last; and I believe my beloved companion was pleased with his journey, and I hope it was profitable unto him. I have been at Barnsley since my return, were I met with the pleasing intelligence, that some fruits of my late deep exercise, in my last visit to that part had appeared, which brought to my mind the Psalmists declaration. "They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing a precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him." John Sellers of Higham soon after that visit to him, informed his Class, that he could not act as their Leader any longer but in obedience to the requirings of Truth, must unite with friends in their way and manner of Worship. And William Baildon of Barnsley, the young man whom I mentioned to thee when at thy house with whom at that time I accidentally or rather providentially had a religious opportunity; hath since constantly attended friends Meeting, and appears at time much broken and tendered therein. He is about 18 years of age, has been under a religious exercise of mind about three years; seeking solitude, and loving retirement; renouncing the follies and vanities of this world, and seeking after the durable riches of eternity, but had not freedom to unite with any religious Society; before that to me, unexpected and unforeseen opportunity. He is of a considerable family in the world, and hath many rich Relations; which will make his way the harder if he persevere in faithfulness; but the Lord is able to support. Inform thy dear children of this circumstance, and as way may open, endeavour to impress it upon their minds, the difficulties those have to pass through, whom the Lord calls as out of the world, to unite with us as a People; and may they be thereby excited to prize the privilege they are favoured with; and not sell their Birthright for a mess of pottage, by going back into those things, which the Lord is calling his faithful followers out off: Lest they should have to seek a place of repentance, and not find it, altho' they seek it carefully with Tears. I thought the information would be pleasing to thee, as I believe thou art one of the few, who have no greater joy than to hear of the spreading of Truth in the earth. In respect to myself, mine remains to be a path of inward and outward exercise, so as that I seem at times almost ready to faint by the way: The faith which is able to remove mountains being at so low an ebb. Yet at other times I am ready to adapt the language. "What ailed thee, O thou sea, that thou fleddest? thou Jordan, that thou was driven back? Ye mountains, that ye skipped like rams; and the little hills like lambs? Tremble, thou earth, at the presence of the Lord, at the presence of the the God of Jacob: which turned the rock into a standing water, the flint into a fountain of waters. Thus the Lord leadeth about his poor depending children and instructeth them, mercifully keeping them as the Apple of his eye; and tho' he may see meet at times to clothe them as with the royal robes, and cause it to be proclaimed before them that this is the man whom the King delighted to honour; yet there must be a returning again to sit at the Kings gate, and sometimes clothed with sackcloth having ashes upon the head: a lowly humble, but safe situation. I have sometimes been encouraged by the testimony of one formerly. "I think that God hath set forth us the Apostles last, as it were appointed to death, for we are made a spectacle unto the world, and to the Angels, and to men. We are fools for Christ sake, but ye are wise in Christ; we are weak, but ye are strong; ye are honourable, but we are despised." My beloved friends William Taylor and Joseph Grayham, unite with me in dear Love to thee, and thine; with any other friends in your parts in thy freedom. But before I conclude I feel most easy to inform thee, that during my stay in Rochdale my mind was impressed with a belief that the fields were ripening for the harvest, and that there would be a gathering there which made me very desirous that in fixing upon the place to build your Meetinghouse, all human considerations might be laid aside, and that Wisdom alone sought unto which is

profitable to direct. I have no disposition to dictate to you, but feel a liberty simply to say that the place on the south side of Yorkshire Street, when viewing it felt most pleasing to me. I am dear friend, thy truly loving and affectionate friend

Joseph Wood

For William Midgley of Buersell  
near Rochdale in Lancashire

Newhouse 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mo: 7<sup>th</sup>. 1806

Respected Friend  
William Baildon

Thou has oftens been the companion of my thoughts since the first time I saw thee at Barnsley; and tho' I was then an entire stranger unto thee, yet I thought thou was one whom the Lord had visited with the day spring from on high; and who was calling thee to glory honour immortality and eternal life; and oftens have I desired that thou may not be disobedient to the heavenly vision, but give up faithfully to every manifestation of duty, not putting off to some more convenient season, apprehending it may be more easy for thee; for times and seasons are in the Lords hand, and it is in the day of his Power, that those who are desirous to be his People, must be willing: Willing to forsake all and follow him; who hath declared without this we cannot be his disciples. "Whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple." I thought I felt the language of encouragement to flow in my heart towards thee, notwithstanding I believe if thou art preserved in the line of faithful obedience, thou will have many hard things to meet with; as well as many things to part with, which may be as near as a right hand or a right eye. But dear friend let not these things discourage thee, if little things are required, be faithful, it is the way to be made ruler over more; if hard things are required the Lord is able to support; may thou therefore give up in cheerful obedience to all his requirings; who hath done and suffered so much for our sake, remembering for thy encouragement the Apostles testimony. "Ye know the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich." How great is his mercy and loving kindness to the children of men, all within me is many times humbled under the consideration thereof; his Grace is sufficient for the support of all those under every tryal; who cleave to it, and dare not lean to their own understanding: It is through the Power of this Grace that the obedient children of God, are enabled to leave all and follow a crucified Saviour; not only when he may ride in triumph as into Jerusalem, and they can sing Hosanna; glory to God the highest, but when he is led upon Calvarys mount, spit upon, buffeted, crowned with thorns, mocked, derided, and crucified. Those who dare not in these seasons turn their backs upon him, will be favoured to receive in this world the hundredfold, and in the world to come life everlasting. I have no desire to add much, knowing that the Lord is altogether sufficient for his own work; yet at times he is graciously pleased to make use of Instruments, as he did formerly of clay in opening the eyes of one that was blind, hear his testimony, when he was enquired of how he came to receive a sight. "A man that is called Jesus made clay, and anointed mine eyes, and said unto me, go to the pool of Siloam, and wash, and I went and washed, and received sight." My mind hath oftens been instructed by the passage, for tho' he saw meet to make use of clay, as he does at times of Instruments, yet it was not until he was washed, that he could see things clearly; so true is our Lords declaration to Peter. "If I wash thee not thou hast no part with me." O then the willingness he was brought into. "Lord not my feet only, but also my hands and my head." O may this be thy experience, and may thy mind be centered upon that divine Principle of Light and Life which comes by Jesus.Christ. Awakened minds are too apt to have their expectations outward; This was the case with Naaman, who was desirous to be healed of his Leprosy, but had like to have missed of the very means thereof, by having his expectation outward. "Behold I thought, he will surely come out to me, and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God, and strike his hand over the place, and recover the leper" How many miss

their way, by overlooking the means, which are brought so near as into the secret of each heart. The work of Religion is an inward work; and as man submits to have the operation of the Grace of God, and is obedient to the discoveries he is favoured with; it leavens into its own divine and heavenly nature; Thus the heart being made clean, the fruit proceeding therefrom will be clean also, and by bringing forth fruits of holiness is our heavenly Father glorified. I would now conclude in the Apostles language to the believers formally. "I commend you to God, and to the word of his Grace, which is able to build you up, and give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified." and remain thy truly affectionate and sympathizing friend

Joseph Wood

For William Baildon  
of Barnsley.

Newhouse 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mo. 15<sup>th</sup>. 1806

Beloved Friend  
John Pickford

Since our conversation yesterday, thou has been very much the companion of my thoughts, accompanied with a concern to drop a few remarks to thee; and altho' I rather wished to suppress it, yet I find my peace is concerned in my obedience; and can truly say I have nothing in view in thus addressing thee but my own Peace, and thy preservation from right hand and left hand errors. I believe thou art not too forward, but there may be an equal danger in being too backward; and I believe it right sometimes to submit to the Judgment of our Friends in appointments to service, as the Spirit of Truth is one in all, in the head, and in all the living members; and I have sometimes seen that the enemy hath twined himself very craftily into some minds this way; by endeavouring to make them believe that as they are favoured with this Spirit, they must not at all submit to the Judgment of others, who are alike favoured but entirely depend upon it; and if he get in this way the tendency thereof hath been sorrowfully manifested in many well disposed minds: They have got exalted above measure, and in time become wise in their own conceits. The station of an Overseer is a very important one, and much I am fully persuaded depends upon their cordially uniting one with another, in endeavouring to stir up the pure mind in their unfaithful Brethren and Sisters; This I apprehend requires no particular divine impulse; It is the duty of their office to which they are appointed by the Church, for the faithful discharge of which, they will one day have to render an account unto the holy head thereof. That I believe was thou more cordially to unite with thy Brethren and Sisters in giving up to visit such, thou would experience when there, a sufficiency of strength to answer that Lords requirings, and be made to acknowledge with some formerly. "My heart is towards the governors of Israel that offered themselves willingly among the People." And I fully believe the Lord will be with those in the present day who offer themselves willingly for his service, and the good of their fellow creatures; Thus manifesting they prefer the prosperity of Zion to their chiefest joy. On the contrary I have remembered the awful language in the Lords name unto a People formerly. "Curse ye Meroz, said the Angel of the Lord, curse ye bitterly the inhabitants thereof; because they came not to the help of the Lord to the help of the Lord against the mighty." Now I look upon Overseers faithfully discharging the important trust reposed in them, to be coming up as it were to the help of the Lord against the mighty enemy of mans happiness. It was a positive injunction under the law. "Thou shalt in any wise rebuke thy neighbour, and not suffer sin upon him." Neither do I believe it right to limit the holy one of Israel, by saying no good will be done, for times and seasons are in his hand, and we know not tho' he may send us forth in great weakness, but he may favour with abundant strength, and wonderfully bless the labour. "In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand; for thou knowest not whether shall prosper, either this or that or whether they both shall be alike good." That I do feel a desire that thou may be more and more dedicated to the Lords cause, and offer thyself

willingly for service, depending upon him who doth not fail to minister seed into the sower, and who will fully qualify his poor depending children properly to fill up their respective stations in the Body to the glory of the holy head. I shall now conclude with the Apostles language to the believers formally; sincerely desiring that through thy resignation and obedience it may be thy blessed experience. "Now he that ministereth seed to the sower, both minister bread for your food, and multiply your seed sown, and increase the fruits of your righteousness; Being enriched in every thing to all bountifulness, which causeth through us thanksgiving to God." I am thy truly loving and affectionate friend

Joseph Wood

For John Pickford  
of Park.

Newhouse 2<sup>nd</sup>. mo. 22<sup>nd</sup>. 1806

Beloved Friend  
Jonathan Dickinson

It was the declaration of the prophet Jonah. "They that observe lying vanities forsake their own mercy." And yet how many of our beloved youth, favoured with peculiar privilege years are of this number, who are promising themselves satisfaction in this or the other enjoyment, out of the ever blessed and unchangeable Truth; and so are slighting or neglecting the mercies of Almighty God renewedly extended unto them. I verily believe, and I think thou art fully sensible thereof, that the call of the Lord hath been many times renewed unto thee, in a language similar to this. "My son, give me thine heart, and let thine eyes observed my ways." And O saith my soul that thou may be but so wise for thyself, as to be obedient unto the call; for in a little time all things short of a profession in the Truth will appear to thee lighter than vanity, and be a vexation of spirit. "The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a Woman took and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened." The seed of the Kingdom is compared to the least of all seeds, but as thou art in the day of humbling visitation, willing to turn my mind unto it; It will enable thee to cease from doing evil; It will strengthen thee to forsake thy former companions in vanity, and tho' thou may feel thyself weak, there is power in it to remove mountains and to enabled thee to run as through a troop of difficulties; and altho' for a season thou may have to mourn over him whom thou has pierced, yet in due time he will give unto thee the oil of joy for mourning, and the garment of Praise for the spirit of heaviness, even when thou has submitted thyself so fully to the operation of the Lord Power, as to experience a being leavened into its divine and heavenly nature: The heart being thus cleansed, the fruit preceding therefrom will be clean also; all superfluity of speech behaviour and apparel will be laid aside; Thy delight will be in the company of such as fear the Lord, and think upon his Name; and in the attendance of religious meetings for Worship and discipline; and to do any little matter in thy power which may have a tendency to promote the cause of Truth and righteousness in the earth, remembering for thy encouragement: That the Widows mite cast into the Treasury, was more acceptable than those who cast in their abundance. Under a firm belief that the Lord is waiting to be gracious to thee, I cannot but earnestly desire thou may be so wise as to leave all and follow him. "If thou be wise, thou shalt be wise for thyself; but if thou scornest, thou alone shall bear it." With warmest wishes that through thy faithful obedience, thou may be favoured with the true consolations of time, and the durable riches of eternity; I remain thy truly loving and affectionate Friend

Joseph Wood

For Jonathan Dickinson  
of Wood

Newhouse 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. 3<sup>rd</sup>. 1806

Respected Friend  
John Sellers

Since thou was at my house I have oftens remembered thee, with earnest desires that thou may be more and more as passive clay in hand of the great Potter, willing to be just what the Lord would have be; then will thou see his wonders in the deeps, and be made to admire his marvellous works. "Be still and know that I am God." was the language of the Psalmist in the Lords name. Be careful I beseech thee of much conversation, even upon religious subjects; wait to feel the Lords presence and power near, before thou open thy mouth, that so divine counsel may not be darkened; remembering the Apostles advice "Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man." Be not afraid of appearing foolish in thine own eyes, and the eyes of others, it is the only way to become truly wise. O the advantage of this pure silent waiting depending state, as set forth by the Prophet in the Lords name. "In returning and rest shall ye be saved, in that quietness and in confidence shall be your strength." Thus may thou see the Lords work carried on in thee, without the noise of a Fool being heard; as in the building of the Temple of old; truly descriptive of the little use, all the arts and devices of man are, in the carrying on of the Lords work in the present day. But in this state of true quietude, the Lords power is felt, his own arm brings salvation, our duty is discovered, strength and liberty is received, to come forward in the line thereof. Thus the exercised mind experiences that declaration of the Prophet fulfilled to them. "It shall come to pass in that day saith the Lord of hosts, that I will cut of the names of the idols out of the land, and they shall be no more remembered." They dare no longer call the names of the Months, nor the days of the week; after the names of the Gods which their heathen ancestors worshipped; No, but they are watchful over all their words and actions, that so in all their conversation they may glorify God, and rejoice in the experience of his promise fulfilled unto them. "Then will I turn to the people a pure language, that they may call upon the name of the Lord, to serve him with one consent." I have no desire in making these remarks to lead thee into a bare formal observation of anything, but as these things have opened, I have penned them; believing the Lord will leave those safely along whose wills are wholly resigned to his will, and who are concerned that they may be obedient to every manifestation of duty. Therefore in that which hath convinced thee wait, that so thou may experience that which thou art convinced of to be wrong, to be removed out of the way, thus will thou know, "The path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day." With earnest desires for thy preservation, growth and establishment; in the ever blessed and unchangeable Truth, I remain thy sincere Friend

Joseph Wood

For John Sellers  
of Higham.

Newhouse 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. 18<sup>th</sup>. 1806

Beloved friend  
Charles Blackburn

The Love which hath subsisted betwixt us, from our first acquaintance with each other; will I hope apologize with thee, for the freedom I take in writing to thee; more especially when I inform thee, that to me, it hath appeared something more than a freedom; even a necessity laid upon me; for during my late indisposition, even in those seasons, when according to mine own apprehension, I have been near my final change; thou has been brought before me, as tho' there was something of a debt due from me, unto thee; and being now better, yet continued in a state of confinement, it appeared to me to be the right time to discharge it; for tho' the danger of my alarming complaint may appear at present to be removed; yet I know not how soon a return may take place, and the slender thread of life may

be cut asunder; and therefore I cannot but anxiously desire that my days work may just keep pace with the day. Now it hath renewedly appeared to me, that in the time when the Lord was graciously pleased to overshadow thy mind in an eminent manner, with the day spring from on high; whilst thou remained under the heavenly impression, the way in which thou ought to walk was sufficiently clear to thee; but instead of fully resigning thy will to the divine will; and laying aside all thy wisdom gathered in the fallen nature; and being brought into the child's state, in which state alone the kingdom of heaven is received; there hath been a consulting with flesh and blood; the renewed manifestation of the heavenly vision hath not been properly waited for; hence the day of small things hath been overlooked, which hath blocked up the way for greater discoveries; a state of darkness hath ensued, in which state man may walk, but knoweth not whither he goeth. This many are led to dispute, whether the vision, which was once convincingly clear, whilst they were little and low in their own eyes, was really divine: and so thro' the subtilty of him who lieth in wait to deceive, are drawn from the innocency and simplicity of the pure Truth, and do not come to experience a being set free thereby; but remain in a state of mixture, feeding upon the tree of knowledge, which is good, but not for food: For in the day man feeds thereon he dies to the innocent life. But O my dearly beloved friend, what will these do in the end. Thy state has it has been renewedly opened before me, in this my solitary confinement hath appeared to bear some resemblance, unto that described by the Prophet, in the following language, "I went down to the Potters house, and, behold, he wrought a work on the wheels. And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the Potter; so he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the Potter to make it." I am convinced thou has been brought as upon the wheel, but has thy will be sufficiently slain, hath not the work been marred; for want of being willing to come to, and abide in the fools state; the only way to be truly wise; Is not this the cause thou has not been formed into such a vessel as he who is perfect in wisdom sees meet; Is not this the cause that there is a halting betwixt two opinions. "How long halt ye between two opinions? if the Lord be God, follow him? But if Baal, then follow him." O the full surrender of the will of the creature, is exceeding hard for flesh and blood to attain unto; but there is not another way for us to experience the new Creation, and truly to become the followers of the living God, and spiritual Worshippers of him in the inner Temple. May thou be willing to be again brought upon the wheel, and formed anew into such a vessel as the great Potter may see meet. It was the language of the spirit unto one of the severn Churches. "I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear with them which are evil; and thou hast tried them which say they are Apostles and are not, and hast found them lyars. And hast borne and hast patience, and for my names sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted. Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee because thou hast left thy first love" That tho' we may have been favoured with clear openings; so as not to bear with them that are evil, and to discover the states of such, who have the form of Godliness, but are strangers to the Power thereof; yea, may be preserved in an orderly conduct and conversation amongst men; yet if we depart from our first love, which can alone preserve us meek humble followers of the Lamb; the hand writing upon the wall will be against us "Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting." Therefore get down low in thine own mind, to the seed of life, abide with it, be willing to be foolish in thine own, and the eyes of others; that so thou may attain to, and be preserved in the state described by the Psalmist. "Lord mine heart is not haughty, nor mine eyes lofty; neither do I exercise myself in great matters, or in things too high for me. Surely I have behaved and acquitted myself as a child that is weaned of his Mother; my soul is even as a weaned child." As this state is experienced and preserved in; thou will no doubt be brought into the liberty of the pure Truth, and experience the promise fulfilled to thee. The works of righteousness shall be peace, and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever." In that Love which changeth not, do I conclude and remain; thy truly loving and feelingly sympathizing friend

Joseph Wood

For Charles Blackburn  
of Skelmanthorp

Newhouse 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. 20<sup>th</sup>. 1806

Beloved Friend  
Henry Marsden

Our long residence together, and near attachment to each other; cannot fail of producing earnest desires for each others welfare, now when we are separated; I can truly say my mind hath oftens experienced and anxious solicitude for thine, in this life; and more especially in that which is to come. and as we are advised, " Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you. "So I have desired that this may ever remain to be the first and principal thing in thy view; and then I have no doubt but thou will be favoured with a sufficiency of additional Blessings. For as saith the Psalmist. "The heavens are thine, the earth also is thine; as for the world, and the fullness thereof, thou hast founded them." and in another place "The earth is the Lords, and the fulness thereof. And tho' he may not see meet to give unto every truly religious mind abundance, neither is it necessary for our well being here, nor even desirable; if we consider our Lords own testimony. "How hardly shall they that have riches enter the kingdom of God." Yet he blesses the labours of the truly pious, who are many times made to acknowledge, they have enough, and to spare, even to communicate our of their little, for the help of others, and tho' it may but appear to them as the Widows mite, yet it is acceptable to the great Overseer of the family, who looks more at the disposition of the mind, than the magnitude of the offering. The Apostle adviseth the believers to be, "Not slothful in business, but fervent in spirit serving the Lord." I believe there is no need to stir thee up in a proper care for the support of thy family, which is very commendable; and no more than every mans reasonable duty: seeing that he that is not thus concerned, is so far from deserving the name of a Christian, that he is declared to be worse than an Infidel. At the same time I wish thee to use due moderation in this respect, so that the body may not be too much oppressed, for the mind being so nearly connected therewith, if this should be the case, there may be great danger of losing that fervour of spirit in which thou ought to be daily exercised; as well as neglecting to serve the Lord, by offering unto him the first fruits, who will not accept of the ref use of our time for a sacrifice, but requires us to be diligent in the assembling of ourselves together, not only on first, but other days of the week; and therefore I feel my mind concerned to encourage thee to a due attendance of Meetings for Worship and discipline; and to get a proper exercise of mind when there; thus will thou be benefited thereby; being from one time unto another strengthened to walk in the light, in which true Fellowship is known, with the Father, and the Son; and with the truly living and baptized members of the Church of Christ. If we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus.Christ his son cleanseth us from all sin." Thus would the Professors of Truth in their different situations and allotments in Life, be as lights in the world, as a city set upon a hill that could not be hid, others beholding, would be engaged to enquire after that Principle, by which they had attained to this situation; and when like the Queen of the south, they was come to see for themselves, would be made to acknowledge, that notwithstanding they had heard many excellent accounts, yet one half had never been told them. For, "eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither hath it entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him." I conclude with reviving my warmest wishes for thy welfare, temporally and spiritually, thy sincere friend

Joseph Wood

For Henry Marsden  
of Haddenley

Newhouse 5 Mo. 5<sup>th</sup>. 1806

Dearly Beloved Friend  
Thomas Dixon Walton

The precious unity which have subsisted betwixt us from our early acquaintance; and that blessed fellowship which we have many times experienced in that pure

life which is hid with Christ in God, hath renewedly covered my spirit in my solitary retirement this morning; accompanied with earnest desires that thou wilt be favoured with the blessing of preservation, and as thou advances in years, may experience a growth in grace, and a coming forward in usefulness in the Church of Christ; and in order thereto, suffer me in that love which thinketh no evil to caution thee, as thou art now entered upon the concerns of this life, to guard against them having too much place in thy mind and affections, remembering. "No man that warreth entangled himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier." And O the anxious solicitude I oftens feel that thou may ever be preserved a living useful member of the mystical body or Church of Christ which is "Clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet." then the great red dragon which stands ready to devour the heavenly birth will never be able with his tail to cast thee to the earth. I shall now drop this subject, knowing that a word to the wise is sufficient, and believing thou wilt receive it, as it really is; the product of endeared love to thee. I may now just say, my exercise from the prospects before me is oftens very great, lest the cause of Truth should anyways suffer thro' me; and as I mentioned to thee yesterday my thoughts of having a meeting at Shafton I would have thee keep it to thyself, until we get there, that I may be fully satisfied that it is the right time; only I should be glad for thee to be ready at your Preparative meeting, to accompany me to our Monthly Meeting; and would have thee to take care to inform Samuel Laver that we intend to dine at his house that day; and Timothy Sykes that we propose lodging with him that night. and as my prospect does not exceed the inhabitants of the village, there will be time for information if the concern remain. I feel it safest for me in these weighty undertakings to try the fleece both wet and dry. I am dear Friend, thine assuredly

Joseph Wood

For Thomas Dixon Walton  
of Barnsley

Newhouse 5 Mo. 14<sup>th</sup>. 1806

Beloved Friend  
Jacob Bright

The respect I have for a considerable time bore ye and thy wife, made me very desirous to attend her Burial; but my present state of health, with the religious engagements I am under; prevent me from complying with what appeared desirable. Nevertheless I have embraced the first opportunity, of expressing my near sympathy with thee on the present mournful occasion; yet would not have thee to sorrow as without hope, but rather comfort thyself with a belief that she is taken from the troubles of time, to an eternal inheritance, which fadeth not away; when the wicked cease from troubling, and the weary are at rest. And dearly beloved friend, may the present awful event deeply impress thy mind, with the uncertainty of all outward enjoyment; she is now removed, the object of thy love, the Partner of thy sorrows, and that in a very short space of time since ye entered into this solemn covenant of Marriage, never more to return to thee; may thou wisely prepared to follow her, by living loose to the fading and transitory enjoyments of Life, and using all diligence to make thy calling and election sure; and let not sorrow too much depress thee on the present occasion, but remember that it is the Lords doing, who cannot possibly err. The language of one who was very deeply tryed, but was enabled to retain his integrity, is brought before me. "Shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil." We are ready with thankfulness to receive those things that are pleasant to us, and O may we be enabled with resignation to say when the bitter cup is handed, "Thy will be done." Nevertheless I believe sorrow on these occasions may without offence have a little vent, he who felt the frailties of human nature, wept when Lazarus was dead; and true religion destroys not natural affection, but bounds our sorrows with becoming moderation. That whilst I feel deeply with and for thee on the present and trying occasion I also desire thee as much as in thee lieth, to guard against

inordinate sorrow; and may he who I believe hath visited thee with the day spring from on high, be graciously pleased to be near, to bear up and support, that so all things may work together for thy good; is the earnest fervent breathing of my spirit, who am dear friend, in much nearness of affection, thy truly sympathising friend

Joseph Wood

For Jacob Bright  
of Rochdale Lancashire

Newhouse 10<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 4<sup>th</sup>. 1806

Beloved Friend  
Morrith Matthews

The near sympathy I have felt with thee many times, since thou was appointed into the station of an Overseer, hath frequently led me to supplicate the Father and fountain of all our mercies; that he might be graciously pleased to sustain thee under all thy exercises; and that the hands of thine arms might be made strong, to fulfil the important trust committed to thy care; so as to produce peace to thine own mind; and that thy labours may be blessed to the Church and be a means of gathering the strayed of the flock into the true Sheepfold, were the great Shepherd continues to feed his sheep, and causes them to lie down as by the still waters at noon; being unto them a shelter from the heat, a covert in a storm, and as the shadow of a great Rock in a weary land. I know my friend the station thou art in is a very weighty one, but let not thine hands hang down neither be thou dismayed for tho' thou may feel thyself exceeding weak, and be oftens ready to say who is sufficient for the work of the present day; remember the encouraging language to an exercised servant formerly "My grace is sufficient before the ye; for my strength is made perfect in weakness." and again, the testimony of one, who was often stripped, and tried and proved; in which state he had to mourn over the deep declension which appeared amongst an highly favoured people. Yet when the Lord was pleased to arise by his Power, and renewedly qualify for service, he could then acknowledge "In the Lord have I righteousness and strength; even to him shall man come; and all that are incensed against him shall be ashamed." And I trust my friend if thou art mercifully preserved in the path of obedience, and kept out of right hand and left hand errors, thou will be favoured experimentally to adapt a similar language; for tho' the present time, is I know a time of great discouragement, a day of perplexity and distress, and of treading down as in the valley of vision; yet unto those who wisely count the cost, the Truth is still to be preferr'd; the foundation thereof being permanent, and still standing sure, having this seal: The Lord knoweth them that are his; he seeth them in the depth of all their exercises, and his everlasting arm of divine Power is underneath to bear up and support and thro' the renewed Baptisms of his spirit he prepares and qualifies from one time and season unto another to engage in his cause; and I believe he will more and more manifest who are on his side: but there was never more occasion than in the present day to take diligent heed of the advice of Christ. "Behold I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves; be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves." May you seek after an increase of that wisdom which is profitable to direct, and be clothed with the innocency of a dove; then I believe the Lord will bless thy labours, and crown them with success, in your Meeting, where there is much need of those who are well skilled in war, so as to be like the Left-handed sons of Benjamin, able to sling a stone to a hairs breadth. Thus will thou be favoured to experience the declaration of the Prophet in the Lords name fullfilled "In that day shall the Lord of hosts be for a crown of glory and for a diadem of beauty unto the residue of his People, And for a spirit of judgment to him that sitteth in judgement, and for strength to them that turn the battle to the gate. Having in much love and good will communicated a little of what my mind hath felt, accompanied with an earnest desire that thou may be encouraged to come forward in a faithful discharge of the duty of thy office, and not flinch in the day of battle, nor be dismayed by the language of the vaulting Philistines, but remember the smooth stones taken out of the brook, tho' they appear

despicable, will be made effectual, to accomplish the end for which they were intended. In the same love I close, and remain thy truly affectionate Friend

Joseph Wood

For Morritt Matthews  
of Dewsbury

Newhouse 10<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 16<sup>th</sup>. 1806

Beloved Friend  
James Birchall

Altho' I had fully concluded in my mind, never to undertake to instruct another young man in learning; but finding thou was desirous to learn, and knowing the great disadvantages those art under, who cannot read the scriptures of Truth and feeling compassion for thee that thou was deprived of this privilege. I found a willingness raised in my mind to afford thee what instruction lay in my Power; more especially as thou appeared so desirous, and no other seemed willing to undertake the arduous task. Now in the course of our keeping company together I have been thankful to find the great improvement thou has made for the time, and have also believed thee to be a young man of a free open, and naturally good disposition as well as favoured with a good understanding considering thine education. These things uniting together, have strengthened my resolution to do all that lieth in my power for thy improvement; more especially as I feel in our communication together an increase of that love towards thee which sincerely desireth thy welfare in time, and happiness in eternity; and without we are walking in the path of virtue, we can have no well-grounded hope of eternal felicity; and without this, we are deprived of the real comforts of this life: For it is a truth that virtue alone is happiness below. Now as all mankind in a greater or less degree, have sinned, and fallen short of the glory of God; so there is no way for man to experience reconciliation, but thro' sincere repentance for past transgressions; which implies a godly sorrow for sins that are past; and a humble walking before God for the time to come. For tho' Christ shed his precious blood for the remission of sins that are past, yet those only receive the benefit of this sacrifice, who truly repent and forsake their sins: agreeable to the testimony we have left upon record. "Repent ye therefore, and be converted that your sins may be blotted out." Now christ not only offered up his life an acceptable sacrifice for the remission of sins that are past, but agreeable to his own declaration he came into the world that those who are dead in trespasses and sins might have life. "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." And this life according to the testimony of the Apostle John is the Light which shines in the dark hearts of the children of men. "In him was life; and the life was the Light of men. And the Light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not." Now this Light doth not shine in man to condemn man; but that by believing in it they might receive Power to forsake sin, and become the sons of God. "But as many as received him, to them gave he the power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe in his Name." Now those who receive and believe in the light and walk in it; which implies our obedience to its manifestations; for it is by this light that the Almighty sheweth unto man what his duty is, and the way in which he ought to walk; these come to experience the blessings arising from the Life death and Sufferings of Christ; agreeable to the Apostles Testimony. "If we walk in the light, as he is in the light; we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus.Christ his son cleanses us from all sin." What an unspeakable favourite it is, that the most high is thus graciously pleased to visit the sons of men; and bring his salvation, or the means thereof, so near as into the hearts of all, may not we in the deepest humility and reverence adapt the language of the Psalmist. "What is man that thou art mindful of him and the Son of man that thou visiteth him? For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with the glory and honour." And O the abundant cause we have for thankfulness that our lot is cast in a day, when life and immortality are brought to light thro' the Gospel. "The law was given by Moses, but Grace and Truth came by Jesus.Christ. The

Mosaic dispensation was outward, consisting of outward ceremonies and observations; and the Law was outward, wrote upon tables of stone; The temple and the worship was also outward. But the present dispensation of God to mankind is inward and spiritual; The law is inward wrote in the heart, agreeable to the declaration of the Prophet in the Lords name. "Behold the days come, saith the Lord, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah; Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the Lord; but this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the Lord I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their heart; and will be their God, and they shall be my People. And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his Brother, saying, Know the Lord; for they shall all know me from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more. Thus my beloved friend, thou may perceive the privilege all mankind are favoured with; and may thou prize it by daily meditating on this inward Law, it requires no outward learning to understand thy duty to thy Maker, but obedience to his manifestations; Thus may thou experience thy body to be the temple of the Holy.Ghost, I know a worshipping of the Father in spirit and in truth; in a state of solemn silence, without the aid of words. I thought when my mind was first concerned to write to thee; it would be better to speak what I had to say to thee; as if I wrote, thou could not read it; but as times and seasons art altogether in that the Lords hand, it is, he that openeth, and no meant shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth. Therefore feeling mine heart enlarged with love towards thee, and a sincere desire for thy welfare, in time, and in eternity; I took my pen and wrote simply what opened; believing the same part which engaged me to write, would make way for a suitable time to read it unto thee; and measurably open thine understanding to comprehend the Truths contained therein. I conclude in true love unto thee, thy truly loving friend

Joseph Wood

For James Birchall  
of Birdsedge

Newhouse 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 22<sup>nd</sup>.1806

Esteemed Friend  
Ellin Spenceley

A sense of that precious Unity which was mercifully diffused amongst us, on our late visit to thee; hath been several times renewed upon my mind, since my return to my outward habitation; accompanied with earnest desires, that through thy continued watchfulness, and faithful obedience to divine manifestations, thou may be favoured to experience an increase of that Life, in which our fellowship withh our maker, and the faithful one with another stands. "How good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity. It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aarons beard; that went down to the skirts of his garments; As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion for there the Lord commands the blessing, even life for evermore." Now observe this unity is compared to precious ointment upon the head; Christ.Jesus who is the head of the true church, and from thence it runs down, not only upon those whom he hath anointed and appointed for the work of the ministry, but unto every member of the body, even to the nethermost skirts of his garments, as thro' the channel of the two golden pipes of faith and love. "What are these two olive trees upon the right side of the Candlestick, and upon the left side thereof? and I answered again and said unto him, What be these two olive branches, which through the two golden pipes empty the golden oil out of themselves? And he answered me, and said, Knowest thou not what these be? and I said, no my Lord. Then said he, These are the two anointed ones that stand by the Lord of the whole earth." And tho' they do stand by the majesty of heaven, yet they also stand on the right hand

side, and on the left of the members of his militant church on earth, emptying the golden oil which hath healing virtue therein into the mournful soul. Yet these who have been favoured to experience this, must still be concerned to know their abiding to be in Christ, and patiently bear those purging seasons, which come upon all for their preparation, to fill up their respective places in the body, in which there is no useless member, altho' our gifts and services are different, as he who is the holy head seeth meet. "Abide in me, and I in you, as the branch cannot bear fruit of itself except it abide in the vine; no more can ye except ye abide in me. I am the vine, ye are the branches, he that abides in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit; for without me, ye can do nothing." Thou art now united in outward fellowship with a People whom I believe the Lord hath in a peculiar manner favoured; and which I believe is a favour to those who are not prevailed upon, tho' the subtilty of him who lieth in wait to deceive to take up their rest here, but are daily concerned to come up in the line of their respective duties, not looking at others to their hurt, but studying to be quiet and to do their own business; which is what I sincerely wish for thee as for myself. And there is one thing which I think I cannot close without giving thee a caution, which I hope will be received in the love in which it is given, and that is respecting the connection in relation to Marriage which is formed betwixt thee and a young man; for whom I have also a particular regard; and for whose preservation and growth in the truth I am equally concerned. If the thing proceedeth from the Lord, there needs not many words about it; It will carry its evidence with it. Therefore I would tenderly advise you to avoid that unbecoming practice of sitting up in the night, more especially as thou lives alone, to prevent reproach; and if you see it right to go together, be not hasty in proceeding to accomplish the same, after thy admission into membership, that so you may be a good example therein to others. And may it be your united concern, that every thing may be done decently, and in good order, that so the beautiful order of Truth, may more and more appear honourable in the world. I conclude in much feeling sympathy thy affectionate friend

Joseph Wood

For Ellin Spenceley  
of Barnsley.

Newhouse 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 26<sup>th</sup>. 1806

Respected Friend  
Richard Thorp

The Psalmist expresses himself after this manner, "I will run the way of thy commandments, when thou shalt enlarge my heart." And I have thought there is a great deal of instruction contained in it, to us of the present day, when life and immortality is brought to light by the Gospel, that in all our religious movements, we may acknowledge Christ to be the head; by moving under his immediate direction: Waiting to feel our hearts enlarged in love to God and our fellow creatures, that we may be strengthened to run the way of his commands. For altho' I have oftens felt desires; under a belief that he who visited thee in early life, is renewing the visitations of his love to thee; that thou might come up in obedience to the manifestations of his will and experience a settlement upon the foundation against which the gates of hell will not be able to prevail, which is the revelation of the Fathers will thro' the son of his love that so the testimony of the Apostle may in due time be fully accomplished in thee. "The God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ.Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, establish, strengthen, settle you. "Yet knowing the work is the Lords, and that he is altogether sufficient for his own work, without the aid of instruments; that as the noise of a tool was not to be heard in the building of the Temple of old; so nothing preceding from the will of the creature, even if it rise from the strongest desire for their good; can profit in the building up of man, a temple fit for the Holy.Ghost to dwell in. The Apostle saith unto the believers formally. "Ye are the temples of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them, and they shall be my People.

Wherefore come out from among them, and be separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you." After tho' as I have before observ'd I have felt desires that thou might be encouraged and strengthened to come forward in this work, yet I dare not put forth mine hand, until feeling my heart enlarged in Love to God, and my fellow creatures, I felt as I apprehended a concern to write to thee, and in the cross of mine own will, gave up to run the way of his commandments. And tho' I am far from being desirous of stamping anything too high, yet I think I may truly say, that when I sat me down to write I had no prospect whatsoever, of what I might have to communicate, but simply gave up myself to the direction of the spirit which giveth utterance; and whilst I am writing, the passage which we have left upon record in the scriptures of Truth livingly opens before the view of my mind, which have many times conveyed deep and solid instruction to me. "After six days Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into an high mountain apart, And was transfigured before them; and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light. And behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with him. Then answered Peter and said unto Jesus, Lord, it is good for us to be here; if thou wilt let us make here three tabernacles; one for thee, one for Moses, and one for Elias. While he yet spake, behold a bright cloud overshadowed them; and behold, a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him. And when the disciples heard it they fell on their faces, and were sore afraid. And Jesus came and touched them, and said, arise, and be not afraid. And when they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no man save Jesus only." This vision I apprehend to be truly descriptive of the gradual progressive work of conversion in man. The law came by Moses, and is said to be our schoolmaster, to bring us unto Christ; who is the end of the law, for righteousness to every one that believeth. Now the covenant being changed, the law which was formerly outward wrote upon tables of stone, is now inward, wrote in the heart; and this law is light, agreeable to the testimony of the wise man. "The commandment is a lamp; and the law is a light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life." And John declares "That Christ was the true light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world." And that, "As many as received him to them gave he Power to become the sons of God." Now the ministration of the law hath its glory for we read. "If the ministration of death, written and engraven in stones, was glorious, so that the children of Israel could not stedfastly behold the face of Moses for the glory of his countenance, which glory was to be done away. How shall not the ministration of the spirit be rather glorious." Now many visited minds take up their rest here, and some come a little further, even under the ministration of John; concerning whom our Lord and saviour declares. "He was a burning and a shining light; and ye were willing for a season to rejoice in his light." Here many are building tabernacles as in the mixture, one for thee, one for Moses, and one for Elias. But hear our Lords testimony in another place "I say unto you, Among those that are born of Woman, there is no greater Prophet than John the Baptist; but he that is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he." Even those who have known a passing thro' the ministration of Moses, and of Elias or John the Baptist, unto Christ the sum of substance of all outward Types and Shadows; having no Life nor Power of their own to act in; self being wholly reduced, and knowing a ceasing from man, and all the teachings of men; hearing his voice, arise, and be not afraid, and seeing none but Jesus only, nor desiring to hear none, but his voice, whether it may be immediately or instrumentally communicated; These will know many times in their own experience in silent waiting upon him, the truth of what we have left upon record verified. "I sat down under his shadow with great delight, and his fruit was sweet to my taste. He brought me to the banquetting house, and his banner over me was love." O that this may be thy experience, that thou may not take up a rest, short of the rest which the Lord hath prepared for his People; but may know a coming thro' all unto him alone who fulfilled all; that so thou may experimentally know him to be all in all. Then wilt thou have something to flee unto in time of trouble which will be a support to the mind, and an anchor to the soul, even in those seasons when faith may be at a very low ebb." "If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful, he cannot deny himself." He will own himself in whomsoever he is fully brought forth, for "The fountain of God standeth sure having this seal the Lord knoweth them

that are his". I conclude with earnest desires for thy growth preservation, and establishment in the ever blessed and unchangeable Truth; thy truly affectionate and well wishing friend

Joseph Wood

For Richard Thorp  
of Haddenley

Newhouse 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 4<sup>th</sup>. 1806

Beloved Friend  
Charles Blackburn

The mission of the Apostles, and their labour was, to gather the minds of the People to christ within them; and to settle them under his own immediate teaching; which they themselves were experimental witnesses of; agreeable to the testimony of one of them "The mystery which hath been hid from ages and generations, but now is made manifest to his saints; To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory; Whom we preach." Here the churches were gathered, settled and established. They knew the Son of God was come; not only in that prepared body of Flesh given him to do his fathers will in; but they saw thro' that dispensation, even into that of his second coming, in them that without sin unto salvation; whereby their understanding was opened to know him that is true, and they were in him that is true, and he in them, and they knew him to be the true God and eternal life. And glorious was the state of the Church at this time of day; yet as no state is attainable beyond a state of watchfulness it was necessary to caution even these who had been favoured to experience christ formed in them. "Little children keep yourselves from Idols." Yet many in this day seeking to be wise above what is written, fell from that glorious state to which they had attained; for the Apostle saith. "I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another Gospel, Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the Gospel of Christ." And in order that the minds of the believers might not be drawn to look without, for that which is alone to be found within; Christ warned them. "If they shall say unto you, Behold, he is in the desert; go not forth; Behold, he is in the secret chamber; believe it not." Notwithstanding, these would shew great signs and wonders; even as the Magicians and Astrologers in Egypt did; so that if it were possible, they should deceive the Elect. But this is impossible; for Christ is the elect, and those in whom he is form'd whilst they abide in him. And when the Pharisees queried of him, when the kingdom of God should come, he answered. "The Kingdom of God cometh not with observation; Neither shall they say Lo here; or Lo there; for behold, the Kingdom of God is within you." And as he had taken upon him human nature; and was tried, proved, and tempted, like us in all things yet without sin; and knowing that he who ever envieth the happiness of man, and who when he cannot draw into gross evils having power to transform himself into an Angel of light would come in his religious appearances, to seek to draw their minds outward, for it matters not to him what religious appearances man may make, if his strong holds in the heart are not broken up, by him who is stronger than he; who is indeed the strong man armed, and fortified with notions and speculative opinions; and who will push the unstable minded forward in a fiery zeal, for the destruction of the kingdom of Satan, the Beast, the whore which sits upon many waters, and the false Prophet; persuading them that these things are without them in the world, and that they must make war against them: whilst they are alive in their own hearts, and can only be destroyed by the stone cut out of the mountain without hands, agreeable to the Apostles testimony when alluding to Christs second coming, and setting up his Kingdom in the heart of man. "Then shall that wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming." Then will these know in their own experience; that he hath put all things in them, in subjection under his feet, altho' they see not yet (thro mans disobedience, unfaithfulness, and wandering from him who is the bright and morning star; soaring above

him, in the vanity of their imaginations, feeding on that tree of knowledge which bringeth death) all things in the world put under him and subdued. Now as I was about to observe, after he had given the information to the Pharisees where they ought to look for the kingdom of God; he saith unto his disciples. "The days will come when ye shalt desire to see one of the days of the son of man, and ye shall not see it. And they shall say to you, see here or see there; go not after them; nor follow them." As much as say, "Abide in me" even in those seasons when I may be veiled from your sight, for he is ever near his poor depending children, altho' at times for wise purposes it is hidden from them; now in these seasons the enemy may be very busy to draw out thy mind; but mans safety is in abiding in him, and patiently waiting for the renewed manifestation of his love, feeling a living hunger, which is a sign of life, and leads to an inward and spiritual exercise. "Let me see thy countenance, let me hear thy voice; for sweet is thy voice, and thy countenance is comely." and again, "Draw me and we will run after thee." Here hath been the preservation of the faithful amongst us as a People, from the time the Lord first gathered us to be a chosen generation, a royal Priesthood, a peculiar People, that we should shew forth the Praises of him who hath called us out of darkness into his marvellous light. Now these dare not go forth after the Lo heres and theres; nor run after the hearing those who notwithstanding their talk of the spirit, evidently manifest that they are Strangers to the need they have of its assistance to enable them to Worship God; lest by gratifying a vain curiosity they should tempt the Almighty to withdraw his holy spirit from them; and leave them unto themselves, to wander as in the dark mazes of their own imaginations, upon the barren mountains of empty notions and speculative opinions, and whilst they are thus professing to look for light, he turns it into the shadow of death, and it becomes gross darkness. Although I have nothing but love and goodwill in my heart towards thee; yet I do assure thee it hath been a very great cross to write to thee. I am afraid there may be a want of room to receive it, and a charity rightly to understand it. Be this as it may, I can truly say, nothing short of an apprehension of duty would have made me willing to engage therein, and therefore I beseech thee, it read it with coolness and deliberation; it belongs to no one but thyself; there is no premeditated matter in it, no view of proselyting thee to name or opinion. But an earnest desire that thou may not be drawn from that foundation, which in the day of humbling visitation was opened unto thee; even the revelation of the Fathers will through the son of his Love, against which the Gates of Hell will never be able to prevail; and upon which foundation I am fully convinced, thou would long ago have been established, had thy obedience kept pace with the knowledge thou has, and would have been favoured with. And it is cause of humble thankfulness to my mind, now whilst I am writing to feel his call renewed. "Repent, and do thy first works." Come out from amongst them and be separate. "Touch not; taste not; handle not; Which all are to perish with the using, after the commandments and doctrines of men." Seek not to comprehend the Truths recorded in the Scriptures, by thy natural understanding, neither busy thyself in comprehending those things which may not be proper for thee at present to know. But be faithful to the manifestations of his will; believing that all things needful will be revealed in due time: This is the childs state in which the kingdom of God is received. Neither suffer thy mind to be hurried after the commotions that are in the earth, to the neglecting of the most important business of thy life; But approve thyself in all things an humble follower of the prince of Peace. Thus will thou know, Jerusalem to be unto thee a quiet habitation; and Christ.Jesus, "An hiding place from the wind, and a covert from the tempest, as rivers of water in a dry place; as the shadow of the great rock in a weary land." In that Love which changes not, nor waxes old with time, as a garment; do I conclude and remain thy truly affectionate and sincerely sympathising friend

Joseph Wood

For Charles Blackburn  
of Skelmanthorp

Newhouse 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 8<sup>th</sup>. 1807

Beloved Friend  
Joshua Dyson

Altho' I have not had the opportunity to being much in thy company since the decease of thy Father, yet I have not been unmindful of thee, having frequently felt a secret sympathy with thee in thy present lonely situation; accompanied with an earnest desire, that every dispensation of unerring Wisdom may be so sanctified unto thee, as to have a tendency to thy growth and establishment in the ever blessed and unchangeable Truth. And as no situation in Life is out of the reach of Satans temptation, who knows how to vary his baits and snares, thy preservation in the line of thy duty will depend upon keeping in a low humble situation of mind, where the frailties of human nature are clearly discovered, and the many weaknesses man is liable to, if not preserved in that state of watchfulness, so strongly recommended by our Lord and Saviour, who well knew that there was no other way to escape the snares of him, who ever seeks the utter destruction of man. "Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation, the spirit indeed is willing but the flesh is weak." A sense of this remaining upon thee, will most assuredly lead thee not only to watch, but to watch unto prayer, that thou may be favoured with the Lords strength, remembering the Apostles advice. "Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all to stand. Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the spirit and watching thereunto with all perseverance." Thus asking will thou be favoured to receive, because thou wilt not ask amiss; It was in this state of mind that one formerly was engaged. "And Jabez called on the God of Israel, saying, O that thou wouldest bless me indeed, and enlarge my coast, and that thine hand might be with me, and that thou wouldest keep me from evil, that it may not grieve me, and God granted him that which he requested. "I believe it is acceptable to the great Author of our being to be thus reverently and devoutly exercised in spirit before him, who hath declared he will be sought unto; and tho' we as a People have declined the customary forms of Prayer, believing them to be no ways acceptable; yet the faithful amongst us know; that without Prayer, whatever may have been our former experience there is no preservation. A neglect of this duty have brought many into the state described by the Apostle. "They have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows." For sin let it be of what kind it may, and sorrow are inseparable companions. But as thou art now entering upon the arduous undertaking of the head of a family, and as these things have impressed my mind, I thought I felt most easy to throw them before thee, in that love in which freedom runs; and as I have no doubt but thou art the visited of the Lord; so I wish thou may be preserved by him, and that the candle lighted may never be put out, nor hid either under a bed or bushel; but stand in Christ the candlestick, and thereby give light to all around; For it is only as our abiding is in Christ that we can see the varied snares and temptations of the unwearied enemy, and the way to escape them, and bear the purging seasons by which we are enabled to bring forth a fruits of holiness, and herein is our heavenly Father glorified; and thus would our Lights in our respective situations and allotments in life shine, others beholding would thereby be induced to prove the virtue and efficacy of that divine principle in which we believe. Thus would many be instrumental of turning mankind to righteousness and shine as the stars in the firmament for ever. In that love which breathes for the welfare of the whole human race, and for the preservation of all the Lords visited children from the evils of the world, and that they may abide in him who never fell; Do I conclude thy truly loving and affectionate Friend

Joseph Wood

For Joshua Dyson  
of Shelley. Woodhouse

Newhouse 6<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 8<sup>th</sup>. 1807

Respected Friend  
John Fisher

I write to thee as a confidential friend, that I hope will not improperly disclose anything I am about to communicate to thee. I had frequently heard that Thomas Firth of Lindley was in the habit of getting drunk, and behaving in a very disorderly manner; I could scarcely give credit to the report as having known him as I thought in a very different state. His Wife had several times sent messages expressive of her desire to see me; and being at Huddersfield last third day, I proposed to go up and lodge there, informed him of my intentions, requesting him to come as soon as he could, that I may have his company in the evening. Accordingly he got home much sooner than usual, but quite in a state of intoxication; and his language and behaviour was astonishing to me; I could not be easy to stop but returned to Huddersfield the same evening. As I am now convinced his case is an habitual one, I am afraid he has been too much overlooked. I trust it is far from being my disposition to expose the weakness of my friends; but really it appears to me, that not only his own family, but the cause of Truth suffers, if the Meeting do not in a proper manner take up his case. I know the station of an Overseer, in which thou stands, is a very important one; much depends upon a revival amongst us as a People by a faithful discharge of their duty: may thou my dear friend be encouraged, and strengthened; faithfully to discharge thy trust without respect of persons, knowing no man after the flesh. "If thou warn the wicked of his ways to turn from it; if he do not turn from his way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul." I know it is hard work to discharge the duty of the present day faithfully; oftens feeling ourselves as we apprehend altogether unfit for it, and knowing that this kind of labour too generally meets with an unkind reception, but whilst I am writing this language comfortably opens. "Say not, I am a child; for thou shall go to all that I shall send thee, and whatsoever I command thee thou shall speak. Be not afraid of their faces, for I am with thee to deliver thee, saith the Lord." I hope thou will not take it amiss the freedom I have used in this communication indeed I durst not admit it, otherwise should have been glad to have been excused; I believe it may be best, from the situation in which I stand; not to let him know of my writing; as I apprehend that there is no need of instancing to him a particular time: but I very much fear from what I saw and felt at the time, that if the Society is not some way cleared from the reproach his conduct brings upon it, there will be greater. I conclude with dear Love to thee and thy Wife, thy affectionate Friend

Joseph Wood

For John Fisher  
near Huddersfield

Newhouse 6<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 16<sup>th</sup>. 1807

Beloved Friend  
Joseph Grayham

If I had not been a sincere friend of thine, and an earnest well-wisher to thee in every respect; more especially for thy advancement in piety and virtue, my exercise of mind on thy account had not been so great, as thou knows it has for some years past, and more especially since thou left Birdsedge; as I had a clear discovery of the temptation the enemy would assault thee with, and gave thee this faithful and solemn warning, as it arose simply in my mind, after I had suffered deeply for my disobedience in not mentioning it sooner. "Mind what thou art doing, otherwise thou will bring thyself into such trouble as neither thee nor thy best friends can extricate thee from." Now this was a timely warning, and fully manifests the love of God to thee; and that it must come from him who knows the secret thoughts of every heart, and the temptations they are tryed with, and who will not suffer any to be tempted above what they are able to bear, if they sincerely look unto him for help, instead of joining with the temptation; and well my beloved friend it would have been for

thee, if thou had taken heed to that solemn warning, but for want of this thou has fallen into a crime I believe thou would once have abhorr'd, the consequence of which has been sorrow to thyself; and since it was known to all thy well wishing friends: yet I believe it is but the beginning of sorrows to thee; for since thou informed me of it, no language can set forth the depression of spirit which I have felt on thy account; even when I have appeared serene and cheerful to others, my heart within me, has felt as if ready to burst with sorrow, accompanied with a fear that this will be thy situation, when that knot is tied which nothing but death can dissolve: O that thou had timely taken warning; and not only watch'd but watched unto prayer; then I believe the Lords Power would have been witnessed to be thy preservation, not only from this, but all other evils; for I cannot believe but there is a giving way to evil of one kind or another, before any fall into crimes of so deep a stain to the reputation of a man, as well as so highly offensive to Almighty God. Solomon saith, "I find more better than death the woman whose heart is snares and nets, and her hands as bands; who so pleaseth God shall escape from her; but the sinners shall be taken up by her." Now I am ready to conclude that notwithstanding thou had in a great measure, obtained a victory over thy besetting sin, of getting too much liquor at times; yet I am afraid thou has not wholly forsook it, but at times secretly indulged thyself therein, as well as in such company whose conversation is impure and unchaste; otherwise the Almighty would not have left thee unto thyself, to be overtaken in the net of a strange woman, seeing that thro' his servant he hath declared, that those who pleased him shall escape her snares. The Apostle saith, "Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled, but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge." But those who marry for filthy lusts sake, wholly pervert the right order thereof; which was to be mutual helpmeets to each other, in spiritual and temporal concerns, and pierce themselves through with many sorrows; making what might be comfortable to them, had they proceeded therein in the Lords fear, one of the most unhappy situations that man can possibly be in, in time, as well as much endangering their eternal felicity; if they are not so humbled under a sense of their great transgressions, as to experience their sins to go beforehand to judgement, and so obtain mercy of the Almighty. The Psalmist fell into a snare of a similar kind; but O the sorrow he experienced, even that godly sorrow which worketh true repentance. "I am weary with my groaning; all the night make I my bed to swim; I water my couch with my tears." The failings of holy men formerly are recorded in Scripture, not that we should tempt God by falling into the like evils; but being under a more highly favoured dispensation; a dispensation in which Life and immortality are brought to Light by the Gospel; we might be enabled to escapes such snares; and the deep sorrow which most assuredly follows being overtaken therein: And also if any poor creature should thro' unwatchfulness, and the strong temptations of our, common enemy, fall into such enormous sin, that they may not sink in the horrible pit of despair, or add sin to sin by running into other evils; for this is also the work of the adversary; when he hath drawn them into great evils, to endeavour to persuade them, that now it is over with them, they never more need to look for mercy, for they have committed the unpardonable sin, and Hell inevitable must forever be their portion. But I say these things are left upon record, and these also may have hope that so through their sincere repentance and amendment of Life, there is hope of obtaining mercy with God that he may be feared. I have also remember the testimony we have left upon record by one reputed above others for wisdom and knowledge "Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for all of their labour; For if they fall the one will lift up his fellow; but wo to him that is alone when he falls; for he hath not another to help him up." A particular friendship hath subsisted betwixt us from our first acquaintance, a friendship which I believe nothing but death, or the sin of ingratitude will be able to dissolve. It was first founded on my part in purity of intention; an earnest desire to do thee good in temporals, and as the Lord opened my way in spirituals it hath increased with time, until I could feelingly adapt a similar language with one formerly "I am distressed for thee, my Brother Jonathan; very pleasant hast thou been to me; thy love to me was wonderful, passing the love of woman." And I dare appeal to thee, if ever thou has seen anything; from our first acquaintance to the present day; in me, contrary to the most pure and disinterested friendship; and if I have not at all times both by precept and example, laboured for thy

advancement in Piety and virtue. And now when thou art fallen into the great evil, I cannot but be earnestly concerned for thy restoration: For the day after thou had communicated this sorrowful intelligence to me, when we was conversing together a little upon it, thou was much broken and tendered, and I clearly saw that thou was not yet forsaken of heaven; and a living hope was raised, that if thou mind thou may yet experience, that though thy sins are of a dark dye, they may yet be made white as snow, and thus two are experienced to be better than one, that when either falls they may be instrumental to help their fellow. Many I am perswaded do rejoice that thou art fallen into this snare, and whilst I am writing this language opens. "When they shall fall they shall be holpen with a little help; but many shall cleave to them with flatteries." But O my friend pay no attention to the words of those flatterers: who may tell thee never to heed, others have done the like before thee, but consider it will not be others we have to answer for; but we must all appear before the judgement seat of Christ, to answer for our own deeds, whether they be good or evil. These pretended friends are thy greatest enemies, shun their company I beseech thee, remembering the Psalmists declaration of such, "The words of his mouth were smoother than butter, but war was in his heart; his words were softer than oil yet were they drawn swords." But humble thyself before the Lord, that so thou may be holpened with a little help, and be favoured to adapt the language we have left upon record. "Rejoice not against me, O mine enemy; when I fall I shall arise; when I sit in darkness, the Lord shall be a light unto me. I will bear the indignation of the Lord, because I have sinned against him, until he plead my cause, and execute judgement for me; he will bring me forth to the light, and I shall behold his righteousness." Now my friend I feel a liberty to drop my pen, with earnest desires that he who hath drawn forth, and engaged in this labour of love, may be graciously pleased to bless it unto thee; that so thy last days may be thy best days, that in the conclusion thereof, thy poor mind may be favoured with Peace, and an unshaken evidence, that thy warfare is accomplished, thy iniquity pardoned, having received at the Lords hand double for all thy sins. Is the earnest desire of thy truly sincere, but at present sorrowful friend.

Joseph Wood

For Joseph Grayham  
of Newhouse

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Newhouse 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 7<sup>th</sup>. 1807

Beloved Friend  
Joseph Grayham`

"Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which our spiritual restore such a one in the spirit of meekness, considering thyself that lest thou also be tempted." When I have been led to look towards thee of late, this language of the Apostle to the believers formally hath much accompanied my mind; with a certain evidence, that a renewed visitation of the Love of God is extended towards thee: And O how strong are the desires I feel, that thou may not neglect the present opportunity put into thine hand, lest thou should never be favoured with another. I have oftens remembered that instructive Parable, put forth by our Blessed Saviour, "A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded him, leaving him half dead. And by chance there came down a certain Priest that way, and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side; And likewise a Levite when he saw him he passed by on the other side. But a certain Samaritan as he journeyed came where he was; and when he saw him, he had compassion on him. And went to him, and bound up his wounds; pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to and Inn, and took care of him." As I have been favoured to view thy state of late, in that light which searcheth all things, yea the deep things of God; I have been made humbly thankful in believing that the Lord is mercifully opening unto thee, the loss thou has sustained, by leaving Jerusalem, that state of watchfulness in

which alone preservation from evil is experienced, and that thereby thou has fallen among thieves, who have left thee in a wounded helpless state, out of which thou never can extricate thyself, and tho' one may pass by thee on one hand, and another on another, not thinking thee worthy of their notice; yet sensibly feeling that the good Samaritan, he who shed his precious blood for our sins, and who ever liveth to make intercession for us, is graciously pleased to look again with compassion upon thee, I cannot but earnestly desire, that the present opportunity put into thine hand, in which I believe thou may experience a being set free by the pure Truth, may be duly minded; Otherwise I greatly fear thou will be a bond slave to sin for ever. Oh my friend, "Cease from evil" of every kind indulge not these inclinations in thy thoughts, but be deeply humbled under a sense of thy transgressions, and the mercies of Almighty God in condescending to have compassion upon thee; then I do firmly believe that thou will experience his judgments mixed with mercy, that he will not only pour in the wine, but also the healing Oil into thy bleeding wounds, that he will blot out thy transgressions, love thee freely, and take care of thee. O my friend what I have felt of late on thy account, none knows but that Omnipresent Being from whom nothing is hid. Hope and fear hath attended my mind, sometimes a hope that the present visitation will prove effectual to thee, at other times a fear lest it should pass over, and thou not duly prize it, nor improve thereby. I have also been many times sensibly dipt into the tryed state of thy poor mind, in a matter of the utmost importance in life, as thy future comfort in this world much depends upon it, and thy everlasting happiness may be much endangered by a wrong step therein; Thou will know what I mean; and if I have been favoured to feel aright, thou has many times been brought into that state, in which thou knew not what to do for the best; whether entirely to drop it, or proceed forward; and as things are I have thought it best for me not to advise thee either way. But I believe in order to be favoured with a right judgment would be best for thee to do; would be to keep quite away for a time, and endeavour to get into a state of true stillness and quietude of mind, not leaning to thine own understanding, nor carnal reasoning; but feeling after that Power that can alone subject the will, so as truly to say not my will but thine O Lord be done. Then I believe he who condescended to lead his peculiar People formally by a pillar of cloud by day, and a pillar of fire by night; will mercifully condescend, clearly to point out to thee, what thou ought to do, and strengthen thee to obey him. It is a favour to see that we are not able to direct our own steps, and patiently to wait under an humbling sense thereof, for the Lords direction; not daring to move one way or another without it. This is what I much desire for thee, from a full persuasion there is no other way to move aright; and though thou may have missed thy way let me beseech thee in that love which very oftens prevails over my mind, most anxiously to desire thy welfare every way; not to miss it farther for want of this precaution; and thereby plunge thyself into troubles, which may be as snares and traps unto thee, as scourges in thy sides, and thorns in thine eyes; making thy passage through life a scene of complicated sorrows, which thy best friends cannot deliver thee out of. My mind has this day been afresh deeply exercised on thy account, and I could not feel easy without thus addressing thee with a few lines; and can assure thee I have no other view therein, but my own Peace, and thy present and future welfare; and O saith my soul, that thou may duly weigh the contents thereof, and be concerned to put the advice in practice; and then I humbly hope thou will be favoured with that Wisdom which will infallibly direct thee aright. I conclude in that love which first brought us near and dear to each other, thy truly sincere and affectionate friend; who cannot but nearly sympathized with thee in all thy troubles; and in meekness seek after thy restoration, and preservation from all future evil; considering myself lest also I be tempted. Farewel

Joseph Wood

For Joseph Grayham  
of Newhouse

Newhouse 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 22<sup>nd</sup>. 1807

Beloved Friend  
William Midgley

I received the Letter wrote by thy direction containing the affecting intelligence of the decease of thy son Joseph, also your invitation to me, to attend his Burial, when at Barnsley early on 2<sup>nd</sup>. day morning, and was for some time in a strait what to do; affection for the Child, a feeling sympathy with the parents, and tender respect for the whole family, seemed to draw that way. On the other hand a religious visit to a part were they were entire Strangers to friends, and information to the People ordered, caused a fear lest the best of causes should suffer through omission. John Bottomley was with me and engaged in the same cause. So that I found no way but to endeavour to get to the place of true waiting, in which state this language opened. Let the dead bury their dead: but go thou and preach "the kingdom of God." Now being sufficiently convinced it was my duty to follow the Lord in the way of his requirings. I durst not any longer reason with flesh and blood, but give up to the heavenly vision, altho' in the cross to mine own inclination. So true we find is the declaration of christ "Whosoever doth not bear his Cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple" Well my friend, Notwithstanding it seemed to be ordered in best Wisdom, to be absent in body, even at a time when the company of friends is particularly desirable and consolatory; yet I think I may say, I was present in spirit; and I trust nearly felt, and sympathized with you; as I do whilst I am writing accompanied with earnest desires that the Lord may be your support under the present afflicting dispensation of his Providence; that so like one formally on a similar occasion, ye may be favoured not to mourn out of measure, but come into the house of the Lord and Worship him; and with humble confidence say. "While the child was yet alive, I fasted and wept; for I said who can tell whether God will be gracious to me, that the child may live. But now he is dead, wherefore should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me." I must now draw to a conclusion after expressing how glad I should be to see thee at my house soon, and with dear Love to you all, I conclude and remain, thy truly loving and affectionate Friend

Joseph Wood

For William Midgley of Buersill  
near Rochdale Lancashire

Newhouse 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mo. 6<sup>th</sup>. 1808

Beloved Friend  
William Harvey

Thy kind attention to me when last at Barnsley: hath not only then, but many times since my return to my outward habitation, being gratefully remembered by me; And demands my grateful acknowledgment of this manifestation of thy friendship; more particularly as it was at a time when my mind was under deep Baptisms, engaged in a service of the most arduous kind; in which those dipping seasons are necessary, to enable us rightly to visit the seed unto which the promise of God is. "He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ." and this seed being in a state of affliction in the hearts of the unregenerate, If we rightly visit it, we must feel with it and know a travail with it for deliverance; This is confirm'd by an eminent Apostle in the following language. "My little children of whom I travail in birth again until christ be formed in you." Until they experienced that state described by the Apostle Peter, of "Being born again, and not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God which lives and abides for ever." Now in my remembrance of thee, in that love which many waters cannot quenched, nor distance separate I have desired this may be thy experience. Thou art favoured with good natural abilities which may make thee more useful if properly sanctified; but may thou ever remember. "the natural man receiveth not the things of the spirit of God; for they are foolishness unto him; neither

can he know them because they are spiritually discerned." We must know the fools state, before we can be truly wise; we must be stripped of all natural acquirements and creaturely exertions, that so the seed or little leaven may operate to the making of us one in nature with it; That so what we are we may be by the grace of God, thus would his Grace not be bestowed upon us in vain, but we should be enabled to labour under the direction of best wisdom, and in that ability which God immediately giveth for the promotion of Truth and righteousness in the earth. I oftens look with a awfulness at the precious visitation extended to many in your parts, and tho' sometime past Burton meeting might well be compared, as to a little sister having no Breasts yet I am favoured with a hope the time is approaching, if the present visitation is faithfully improv'd, when divers will have to hold forth the breast of consolation unto others. May thou my beloved friend be one of this happy number, altho' thou may have a time to eat the bread of adversity and drink the water of affliction; Its better to suffer affliction with the People of God than to enjoy the pleasures of sin which are but for a season. Please to write to me soon, with warmest wishes for thy welfare I conclude and remain thy truly loving friend

Joseph Wood

For William Harvey  
of Barnsley

Newhouse 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mo. 4<sup>th</sup>. 1808

Esteemed Friend  
Susanna Atkinson

Altho' I feel myself a poor creature, in a situation according to my own apprehension more likely to receive, than administer encouragement to others; yet on hearing thou had made application to the Monthly meeting to be admitted a member of our Society; I thought I might inform thee I was glad; because I believed when I sat with thee and some others at Burton, it was a duty required of thee so to do; and knowing there is no other way for us to grow in the Truth, but by coming up in obedience to the manifestations of the spirit, given to every man to profit withall; It is most assuredly better than sacrifice, yet how oftens do we feel desirous to substitute sacrifice in the room thereof; because the cross is in it, by which alone we can be crucified to the world. Well my friend but when we have done the will of God, for which there it is most assuredly a reward; it may not be always immediately experienced, so true is the language of the Apostle. "Ye have need of patience; that after ye have done the will of God; ye might receive the promise." Now when this is the case the unwearied enemy seeks to make the poor creature believe that they have missed their way, because they do not immediately feel that consolation which they expected, and which most assuredly flows from the presence of God; and in this state it may be profitable to remember, "The just shall live by faith." and also "Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward." But remember the promise, "Yet a little while, and he that shall come will come and will not tarry." and when he comes his reward is with him, for he is the quencher of fears, and the resolver of doubts, yea and the restorer of paths to walk in. May thou my friend trust in him with thine whole heart, and never lean to thine own understanding; for in what way soever thou may be try'd or prov'd, I firmly believe the step thou has taken is in the line of apprehended duty, and as I have no doubt but the opening was clear to thy mind all the time, rest satisfied in that, without being over anxious about the event. Thus will thou be favoured with the blessing of preservation, and experience a being kept in perfect peace, the portion of those whose mind is stayed on the Lord. I conclude with strong desires for thy preservation, growth and establishment in the ever blessed and unchangeable Truth, thy sincere Friend

Joseph Wood

For Susanna Atkinson  
of Barnsley

Newhouse 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1<sup>st</sup>. 1808

Beloved Friends

Thomas Hould and Mark Braer

Your affectionate kindness to friends when at Alverthorp, hath oftens been gratefully remembered by me; evidently manifesting your minds had been mercifully turned unto that life which is the Light in men; in which the unity of the faithful according to our various growths in religious experience stands the least measure of which begets that love in us, and one unto another, by which the disciples of Christ are known. Well my friends may ye be daily exercised that ye may walk in the light of the Lord, that is come up in faithful obedience to the manifestations ye are, and may be favoured with; not running before, nor staying behind your guide; remembering that, "He that believeth shall not make haste," but when the cloud remains upon the Tabernacle, patiently abide in your tent, having your mind staid upon God; and when the cloud is taken up, then is the time to journey forward; thus will you be favoured with preservation, and experience a growth in the Truth. it is whilst we have the Light, that we are advised to walk in the light, lest darkness come upon us; now it appears clear to me that there may be a walking in the darkness, and here I believe many visited minds have missed their way, by kindling a fire, and walking in the light thereof; but these know not wither they go, and in the end they lie down in sorrow. But O the safety in these seasons of withdrawing, of trusting in the Name of the Lord, and staying their minds upon God; who in his own time will again appear to the humble waiting soul; and when he appears his reward is with them, and his work before him. Thus my friends will ye experience, as ye are thus awfully and reverently engaged to follow Christ, not running before, nor staying behind your heavenly guide, his gracious promise in due time to be fulfilled unto you, "If ye walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus.christ his son cleanseth us from all sin." And O my dear friends may you in all your assembling together, for the purpose of worshipping him, who is the dread of Nations, and the Lord of the whole earth; endeavour to get into a state of true stillness, and quietude of mind; that so ye may know that he is God, feeling his awful presence near, to the breaking of your hearts, and contriting your spirits, and enabling you to worship him who is a spirit in spirit and in truth; Thus will you experience your strength in him to be renewed, whereby you will be enabled to run with patience, the race that he sets before you. Not only following him when ye can say "Hosanna to the son of David, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest." but also to be willing to follow him as upon Calvarys Mount, and there be crucified with him; that so ye may unite in testimony with the Apostle. "I am crucified with Christ, nevertheless I live, yet not I, but christ that liveth in me, and the life which I now live in the flesh, I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." Having penned these remarks as they opened under the influence of that love which earnestly desireth your preservation and perseverance in that path into which I believe ye are mercifully turned; which is as a burning and a shining light, shining brighter and brighter unto the perfect day; I conclude with the language of the Apostle, "The God of all Grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ.Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, establish, strengthen, settle you." and remain your truly well wishing and sympathizing friend

Joseph Wood

For Thomas Hould and Mark Braer  
of Alverthorp

Newhouse 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. 2<sup>nd</sup>. 1809

Beloved Friend  
Mark Brearer

I received thine, and am now set down to inform thee thereof; the reading of which afforded me satisfaction, particularly to hear that thy mind was favoured to experience a being drawn from the teachings of men, and centered in solemn silence, waiting for the full fulfilment of the gracious promise. "And all thy children shall be taught of the Lord." and at times experiencing it to thy souls comfort and solid satisfaction: To be thus inwardly gathered in thy mind, is to thee an inexpressible favour, and if preserved in this state, and thy obedience keep pace, with the manifestations thou art, and will be favoured with; I have no doubt but in time thou will be favoured more clearly to see that declaration of the Prophet in the Lords name fulfilled in thee. "In returning and rest shall ye be saved, in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength." O the sweet enjoyment those are favoured with at times whose minds are mercifully weaned from the teachings of men and gathered under the teaching of christ: These can adapt the language, "There the glorious Lord will be unto us a place of broad rivers, and streams; wherein shall go no galley with oars, neither shall gallant ship pass thereby." No creaturely contrivance, nothing of the willing or runnings of man, but all these silenced before him." For the Lord (continues the Prophet) is our judge, the Lord is our law giver, the Lord is our King; he will save us." In this humble dependent state, if the Lord is pleased to move by any of his Ministers how it answers the life in the hearers even as face answers face in a glass, verifying the wise mans declaration. "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver." Please to give my kind love to Thomas Hould and William Blackburn: May you individually center down deep unto that precious gift unto which your minds have been mercifully turn'd, and may you come up in a faithful obedience to its teachings, altho' it lead in the way of the cross, then will the Lord delight to favour you in your assemblies, with his presence to the breaking of your hearts, and contriting of your spirits before him; causing you at times to adapt the language of the Psalmist in the secret of your souls." I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint; my heart is like wax; it is melted in the midst of my bowels." I conclude in that love which breathes for your establishment in the Truth, and remain sincerely thy affectionate Friend

Joseph Wood

For Mark Brearer  
of Alverthorp

Newhouse 4<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 24<sup>th</sup>. 1809

Beloved Friend  
John Yeardley

As I think I can truly say I have thy welfare both spiritually and temporally at heart; so I thought I felt most easy to inform thee that since I left Barnsley the last time; the proposal of Partnership made by our mutual friend William Bayldon to thee, has so very much occupied my thoughts, accompanied with a brief that it is worth serious attention and consideration; but above all to seek unto the Wisdom which is profitable to direct; and which I believe will not be withheld from those who sincerely seek it with a desire to be instructed by it. At my first hearing of it, the only objection I felt, was lest thou should be thereby drawn into such an hurry of business, like some other visited minds; as in the cumber of many things, too much to neglect the one thing needful; but in my solid reflections upon it since I got home; I have thought if thou should be mercifully preserved in thy proper place; keeping the world and the enjoyments thereof under thy feet; thou might perhaps be more useful to him, whose welfare I am equally concerned for, than if he was to unite with a person whose treasure is wholly in the earth. I likewise see that two is better than one, where the fear of the Lord is before their eyes, and an united concern of heart to serve the Lord in their callings and

outward employments, and thus let their lights shine before men; one having the care at home, whilst the other is engaged abroad. Having thus endeavoured to turn thy attention to a matter of importance, I should wish to leave it with thee, without my daring to say anything conclusive for or against it; But earnestly desiring that the Lord may direct thee to act therein, as will be most for your advantage, and the honour of the cause of Truth, which yet remains dearer unto a remnant than the increase of corn wine or oyl. Please to give my kind love to thy affectionate Wife; and may you be unitedly concerned to serve the Lord and his People above all other things, then will the dew of heaven descend upon you, and make you as fruit full boughs, whose branches will spread over every wall of opposition. I remain in that love which changes not thy affectionate friend

Joseph Wood

For John Yeardley  
of Barnsley

Newhouse 6<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 24<sup>th</sup>. 1809

Beloved Friend  
Robert Harrison

Altho' I have not wrote to thee before, yet I assure thee that thou has oftens been the companion of my thoughts; believing thou has a tribulated path to tread, in which my spirit according to my measure hath frequently sympathized with thee; accompanied with earnest desires that thou might not draw back, nor be discouraged, in this the day of Jacobs troubles; for a scene of inward or outward conflict, hath ever been the lot of all those who would live godly in Christ.Jesus: This dispensation may well be compared to the winter season, in which our Saviour exhorts us not to take our flight; but patiently endure the many sharp storms, and severe frosts; intended to destroy those things in us that hinder the growth of that plant which is of the Lords right hand planting. The language of the Almighty unto a deeply tryed servant formerly was "Hast thou entered into the treasures of the snow? or hast thou seen the treasures of the hail. "Ah my friend those many sharp tryals and conflicts which thou may have to meet with, if but patiently abode under; and thy obedience keep pace with the knowledge of thy heavenly Fathers will as from time to time revealed; I have no doubt will be sanctified unto thee; even to thy establishment upon that foundation against which the gates of hell will never be able to prevail. I feel even whilst writing the language of encouragement to flow in my heart towards thee, firmly believing that all thy manifold troubles, will, if thou art faithful unto the death of thine own will, work together for thy good, even to the bringing of thee into the glorious liberty of the sons of God. "If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." This was the language of christ unto the Jews formerly who believed on him; clearly implying that to obtain this freedom we must not only believe on him, but come up in obedience to his manifestations; for this is a continuing in his word: and tho' it is our duty to obey our Parents in the Lord; yet when the Lord commands one thing, if our Parents another; it is better to obey God than man; and to manifest that tho' we love them as we ought, yet we love God more than all, remembering the declaration of his beloved son. "He that loveth Father, or Mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me is not worthy of me. He that findeth his life shall lose it; but he that looseth his life for my sake shall find it." Here is great encouragement to faithfulness in bearing our daily cross, and following him in the way of his leadings, who was himself made perfect through sufferings; and so must all his faithful followers be. Great is the loss that many do sustained by consulting with flesh and blood; instead of giving up in obedience to the heavenly vision; The Israelites thro' their disobedience caused themselves a long journey in the wilderness; many in the present day from the same cause, greatly retard their spiritual progress, and increase their difficulties; that

I have ever found it best for me, to trust in the Lord with all my heart, and not lean to mine own understanding; and I firmly believe if this was the case with all the Lords visited children, who may have many great outward tryals to pass through; their path would be frequently much easier than it is; and they favoured sooner to obtain the Sabbath of rest: in which there is still need of watchfulness and Prayer, as well as in the winter season, lest after this attainment any should take their flight. But O the gracious promise, to his tryed children seems to revive with power and encouragement to faithfulness. "Thy shoes shall be iron and brass; and as thy days so shall thy strength be." and also another, which teacheth us not to fear man, nor the threatenings of the sons of men; so as to prevent us from coming up in our duty unto the Almighty, who is graciously pleased to reveal his will unto man, clearly shewing them what they ought to do, and what to leave undone. "Fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul; but rather hear him which is able to destroy both body and soul in hell." and afterwards he continues to shew, not only the advantage of faithfulness; but also the sorrowful consequences of disobedience. "Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess before my Father which is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I deny before my Father which is in heaven. Think not that I come to send peace on earth, I am not come to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance against his Father, and the daughter against her Mother, and the daughter in law against her Mother in law." Thus we see my friend that these things must be expected, by those who receive Christ in the way of his coming; for however near the ties of nature may be to each other; the enmity remains betwixt the two seeds; the birth after the flesh, ever did and ever will, hate and persecute the birth after the Spirit. But when did the Lord forsake those who loved not their life unto death; or when did he fail in his own time to bring deliverance unto these. We may remember when the King commanded the three children formerly not to worship the living God, but the image which he had made, they durst not obey him; whenceforth he ordered the furnace to be heat seven times hotter than it was wont to be; and they to be bound, and cast into the midst thereof; but how marvellously did the Lord preserve them, for when the King came to look he broke forth in this language to his counsellors, "Did we not cast three men bound into the fire; Lo, I see four men loose walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt, and the form of the fourth is like the son of God." Now it appears that through their faithfulness the King was brought to the acknowledgement of the Truth. Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abendigo, who hath sent his Angel, and delivered his servants that trusted in him, and have changed the kings word, yielded their bodies, that they might not serve nor worship any God except their own God. Now by these things thou may be encouraged to faithfulness, not leaning to thine own understanding as a man, which is ready to seek after ease to the flesh. But rather trust in the Lord, who hath delivered in six troubles, and will not forsake in the seventh; altho' the furnace may appear seven times hotter than before; or the tryals much heavier than thou hast yet passed through; his presence will be near to support, if not to convince, that it is the living God whom thou servest and obeyest; who is indeed a rich rewarder of all those who diligently seek and serve him. Unto whose blessed care, guidance, and protection; I would earnestly recommend and leave thee who am thy truly affectionate and sympathizing friend

Joseph Wood

For Robert Harrison  
of Barnsley

Newhouse 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mo. 1<sup>st</sup>. 1810

Beloved Friend  
Miles Meadowcroft

I have oftens been led to remember thee of late, in much nearness of affection; and with earnest desires for thy preservation, growth and establishment in the ever

blessed and unchangeable Truths; believing thou art not only convinced of the everlasting foundation, the revelation of the Fathers will through the son of his love; but has been concerned that thou might rightly build thereupon, not the works of thine own righteousness, wrought in the will of the creature; but those which are in obedience to the manifestations of that spirit, a measure of which all mankind are favoured with; and this is not a legal, but an evangelical obedience, even the obedience of faith; The righteousness of which speaketh on this wise, "The word is nigh thee even in thy mouth, and in thy heart." and this is that word which the Apostle James recommends mankind unto, earnestly beseeching them to, "Receive with meekness the engrafted word which is able to save your soul." How clear how plain is the way of Life and salvation set forth; It is not in man by nature, it is no part of him as he constitutes a rational being, but is the engrafted word, the light of him of whom the Apostle John bears testimony, "The word was made flesh, and dwelt amongst us and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the father full of grace and Truth." and adds "of his fullness have all we received, and grace for grace." So that the salvation of man is alone effected by christ, there being no other name given under heaven by which any man can be saved but by the name of Jesus; which is his Power revealed in the heart, and our obedience thereunto is required in which humble self-denying path, I wish thy encouragement; that thou may experience a building that will stand whatsoever tryals may attend, and in due time the promise fulfilled, "He shall bring forth the headstone thereof with shoutings, crying, Grace, grace unto it." Oh my friend I have oftens felt much sympathy with thee since I was last at thy house, thy outward situation appearing to me something like that of a good man formerly, concerning whom we have this testimony left upon record. "That righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing vexed his righteous soul from day to day." and tho' it is not pleasant to be thus situated, yet if we are but favoured with the evidence that we are in our places, as I believe thou art in thine, it is enough; his power is able to preserve in any place, as well as to support under every exercise; and sometimes these are made by the uprightness of their lives and conversations, instrumental of turning others from the evil of their ways. I think I feel the language of encouragement flow in mine heart towards thee, who I believe has much hidden as well as outward exercise to pass through, fearing at times thou shalt not be able to hold out to the end; But fear not our blessed Lord himself was made perfect through Sufferings, and so must all his faithful followers be; and there yet remains to be a way, even the way of holiness, in which the wayfaring man tho a fool cannot err. May thou be enabled to keep in this path in heights and in depths; fighting the good fight, and keeping the faith, and in the end the crown promised unto all who love the appearance of our Lord and Saviour Jesus.christ, will be sure; I remain in much affection thy truly well wishing friend

Joseph Wood

For Miles Meadowcroft  
at Royton in Lancashire

Newhouse 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mo. 28<sup>th</sup>. 1810

Beloved Friend  
David Brearey

The sincere respect I have entertained for thee, from our first acquaintance, induces me at this time to write to thee; being thankful in feeling that this respect is not undiminished; Love to brethren, being the mark of the disciples of christ, by which they were to be known unto the world; and this love extends further even to the loving of our enemies. "For if (saith Christ) ye love them which love you, what thank have you? for sinners also love those that love them." The consideration of this has led me to feel for thee, with bowels of compassion which yearneth over thee for thy preservation in the love which thinketh no evil. For tho' thy behaviour towards me hath not in the least hurt me; yet I am afraid it may prove an hurt unto thyself, if not guarded against. When I spoke to thee at Wakefield, and thou

refus'd to speak again; I was not hurt but a little surprized; however I was not conscious to myself, that I had given thee any cause of offence, either in thought word or deed; therefore thought little more about it, until I saw thee again at Dewsbury, when perceiving the same shyness, I enquired of thy cousin George, if he knew the cause, who informed me, he understood it proceeded from something I had said respecting thee at Barnsley; I suppose near two years ago: Who thy informer was, I know not, nor desire to know: but am persuaded if thou had been preserved on thy Watch, thou would have been favoured to see, that the reviving of such things, at this distance of time; proceeded from that spirit, which seeks to divide in Jacob and scatter in Israel; even if they told thee the truth; altho' I am certain I never said anything with a design to injure thee in any respect. Yet it is not impossible but a person of a free open disposition may drop unthinkingly an unguarded expression; but if this was the case thou knows the most high hath declared by his Prophet terrible things against those. "That make a man an offender for a word, and laid a snare for him that reproveth in the gate." Now if thou had taken offence at any thing I had said, instead of suffering the seed of enmity to enter thy heart, and indulging the growth thereof, which when once it gets root is not easily removed; thou had spoken to me before thou had mentioned it to another, thou would have acted the part of a friend and a Christian; and preserved thyself from falling into this snare of the unwearied enemy, who is always watching for our unwatchfulness; and in any way to draw from the simplicity there is in the Truth. And O the loss those sustain who let in a spirit of enmity against their Brethren. In vain is their attendance of religious meetings instead of being edified thereby, their state therein resembles that of the mountains of Gilboa upon which there was neither rain nor dew; they cannot offer their gift upon the altar the command being first to go and be reconciled to their Brother, and then come offer their gift. Neither can they pray with any hope of acceptance, because we must from our own heart forgive our Brother, before we can ask of him who knows the secrets of all hearts to forgive us our trespasses. But I believe my dear friend, If I have been favoured to feel aright; but I have had no outward information; yet a painful jealousy hath seized my mind, that thou has been letting out thy mind after something, which thou knows to be inconsistent with the Truth, thou art making profession of; and that this is more the ground of that enmity raised in thy breast, than anything thou hast heard from others. I have not been so little acquainted with mankind, but to know by repeated observations; that when they are prevailed upon through the subtilty of the unwearied enemy, to turn from the Light in which they had believed, and if faithfully obeyed would have preserved them, and infallibly led them in the way of Peace; then they are desirous to throw the blame upon others; this was the case with our first Parents. "The woman which thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree and I did eat." But ah my friend this will not do; If thou transgresseth the righteous law of God, the punishment will in time fall upon thy own head, and may be heavier than thou will know how to bear. Besides when any fall into temptations, they not only lose their strength, but their sight; and tho' they may think to go forth as at other times, not knowing that the Lord is departed from them; being ignorant of their situation yet their strength is gone, they are not able to resist the wicked one; they grow sour in this temper, and morose in their disposition; almost every body is wrong for them, and especially those whose dwellings thro' adorable mercy of preserved in the Light; these are the principal butts of their envy, they are watching over them with an eye for evil; seeking out for new faults, and magnifying old ones, which would never have been thought any if they had kept their first love. O my friend let me beseech thee not only to watch; but watch unto Prayer, for Preservation out of the snares of that unwearied enemy that hunts after the precious life. And may thou read these lines in a truly humble frame, and under the precious influence of that Love in which they are wrote; and then I trust they may be made instrumental of good to thee, which is the earnest desire of thy truly well wishing friend

Joseph Wood

For David Brearey  
of Dewsbury

Newhouse 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. 17<sup>th</sup>. 1810

Beloved Friend  
James Harrison

Notwithstanding the gracious declaration of the most high by the mouth of the Prophet, that he would be "For a spirit of judgment to him that sitteth in judgement, and for strength to them that turn of the battle to the gate." which gracious promise those experience to be continued who, "Trust in the Lord with all (their) heart and lean not to (their) own understanding." How oftens do we see when favoured to experience this state things in a quite different light than what we have before conceived. Now I apprehend it was for want of getting and abiding here, that made our last Monthly meeting such a deeply trying and exercising time to a remnant; For tho' in the end Truth got the victory, as I trust it will, yet O the sorrow of heart in which I sat for a season, language is not able to convey unto another; It appearing to me that some by leaning to their own understanding were like those of old and to whom it was said "They err in vision, they stumbled in judgement." and I said in my heart, O Lord what will become of us, take thy cause into thine own hand; and help thy little ones, and increase the number of those who dare not know any after the flesh in judgment; for truly the strength of the bearers of burdens is ready to fail. As my mind was thus exercised, comfort arose out of the depth of sorrow; in feeling thee arise as out of the bottom of Jordan with stones of living memorial; and with a single eye to the honour of the great Name, impartially advocate the cause of Truth, with life and Power, that I thought I never felt thee so favoured before; and since I got home it hath lived much on my mind, to acknowledge it to thee, for thy encouragement to get deep, and dwell deep, that so thou may experience the great Masters state "In his humiliation his judgment was taken away." This is the way to know the Lord to be a spirit of judgment unto us. Therefore wait my friend, yea patiently wait, until the wind, the earthquake and the fire, in which the Lord is not, be passed by; and then the still small voice will be heard, which points out to us our respective services; and thus shall we be favoured to see, when to speak and when to be silent; for as Solomon observes, there is "A time to keep silence and a time to speak." and those who diligently attend to this they experience that, "A wise mans heart discerns both time and judgement." Thus they grow quick of discerning in the fear of the Lord, and in time are favoured to distinguish, what comes from God and what from mans natural understanding or opinion. "For the ear trieth words, as the mouth tasteth meat." With warmest wishes for thy preservation, growth and establishment in the unchangeable Truth; I remain thy affection friend

Joseph Wood

For James Harrison  
of East-Hardwick

Newhouse 4<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 11<sup>th</sup>. 1810

Esteemed Friend  
Elizabeth Leatham

The last week I was very poorly of a bad cold, which seems generally prevalent amongst the inhabitants here; and which prevented me from attending the burial of our friend Joseph Johnson. On first day I was better, and in the evening received William Leathams letter with the affecting intelligence of the death of thy daughter Elizabeth Leatham, and an invitation to me to attend her Burial; accordingly I made preparation for my journey: she being a friend for whom I had a very particular regard; her meekness, innocency, and love unfeigned; clearly manifesting the virtuous bend of her mind. But the second day, and yesterday morning the weather was so unfavourable, and the roads so exceeding wet and dirty that I was afraid to attempt it, lest I should not be able to accomplish it, as I cannot bear to travel on horseback; and it was well I did not having a return of my complaint yesterday afternoon which made me very ill; but through mercy feel much better this morning; and have

taken up my pen to acknowledge how much my inclination is crossed in being disappointed of paying my last tribute of respect to my dear deceased friend, by accompanying her remains to the silent grave. But tho' I am absent in body, yet I think I can truly say, I have this morning been led in my private retirement, feelingly to sympathize with thee; believing that this solemn separation will be felt very severely by thee; and earnestly have I desired that thou may be favoured to get near unto that which will moderate thy sorrows, and enable thee with humble resignation to say. "The cup which my Father hath given me to drink, shall I not drink it." I firmly believe there is no real occasion of sorrow on account of the deceased, having no doubt on my mind but her immortal spirit hath left a very afflicted earthly Tabernacle, and is now centered, were there is no more death, neither Sorrow nor crying, nor no more pain; for the former things are passed away. Were "they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light; and they shall reign for ever and ever." As I was thus exercised this morning it opened before the view of my mind. "Daughters of Jerusalem, weep not for me, but weep for yourselves, and for your children." Weep not for the dead and altho' parental affection may demand a tear, and I believe it may be dropt without offence. When Lazarus was dead, "Jesus wept Then said the Jews, Behold how he loved of him." Religion does not destroy natural affection, but keeps it within proper bounds. For tho' we are required to love the Lord with our whole heart; we are also enjoined to love our neighbour as ourselves, and consequently the nearer ties of nature; and therefore when a solemn separation takes place, nature may have a little event without offence. But O methinks the language again revives to thee my friend; Weep not for her who I believe is at rest, but let thy concern be for the living; that by Example and Precept thou may be made instrumental to direct their feet in the way of Peace, carefully watching over them for good, not only reproving them if they should take libertys inconsistent with the pure Truth; but with a proper authority endeavouring to restrain them from evil; even in those things which by some may be accounted little; for it is by giving way, and indulging in these little things; that room is made for greater temptations to enter; and the precious visitations all are at times favoured with laid waste. "Take us the foxes, the little foxes, that spoil the vines; for our vines have tender grapes." When thou sees thy son William be so kind as to give my best respect to him, I have din'd twice at his house since he settled in Wakefield; he is very kind to his friends, and I love him much; he appears to me to be of a sweet natural disposition, and I believe is at times favoured with precious visitations; and O that he might be willing in those seasons of the renewed manifestations of the Lords Power, faithfully to close in therewith; by entering in at the strait gate, and walking in the narrow way, which leads unto eternal life, then he would be I believe a very useful member of our religious society. The world and its traffick hurts many of our beloved youth; yet there are a few preserved, and I wish an increase of this number, who are made willing to forsake all, take up their daily cross, and follow Christ; not being ashamed to confess him before men, by endeavouring to walk as they have him for an example; and these he hath declared he will own, at a time when we shall all wish to be acknowledged by him. These are his sheep who hear his voice, and follow him; and he giveth unto them eternal Life, and none shall ever be able to pluck them out of his hand. Give my dear Love to thy Husband, and please to accept the same thyself, from thy truly affectionate and sympathizing friend

Joseph Wood

For Elizabeth Leatham  
of Pontefract

Newhouse 6<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 22<sup>nd</sup>. 1810

Beloved Friend  
John Fozard

Thine of the 10<sup>th</sup>. I received on the 21<sup>st</sup>. Inst. and was glad to hear from thee, fully uniting with thee in thy remark on the profitableness of stillness, and was glad to hear

that thou was favoured to experience that state at times, in which thou was renewedly favoured to see thy own state, and to dip a little into the state of others; It is a state of safety, It is spiritual Israel abiding in their tents; a state in which, "There is no enchantment against Jacob, neither is there any divination against Israel." in this state their enemies are not able to curse them, but on the contrary to acknowledge, "How shall I curse, whom God hath not cursed? or how shall I defy, whom the Lord has not defied? For from the top of the rocks I see him, and from the hills I behold him; lo, the people shall dwell alone, and shall not be reckoned among the nations." May thou my beloved friend persevere in this humble, watching, waiting state, in which secret supplications will be put up for thy own preservation; and a living exercised maintained, to travel forward with the wrestling seed who inherit the blessing. Many have begun well, and run well for a season; but for want of keeping in this state of stillness, and inward watchfulness, have suffered themselves to be bewitched, and drawn from their obedience to the Truth. Many who have been favoured with clear convincement of the Truth about religious Principles, and whose feet have been turned into the strait and narrow way, have thro' unwatchfulness departed therefrom; and are now travelling in by ways and what is more lamentable are insensible thereof; May thou therefore daily attend to the exaltation of the Apostle to the believers formally, "Take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all to stand." So wisheth, so prayeth thy sincere friend, that this may continue thy blessed experience

Joseph Wood

For John Fozard  
of Dewsbury

Newhouse 6<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 25<sup>th</sup>. 1810

Beloved Friend  
Joseph Firth

It has oftens been a cause of satisfaction to my mind, in observing thee preserved in that commendable plainness of apparel, into which the Truth led our worthy predecessors; and continues to lead all those who obey its dictates. A departure from this branch of at Christian testimony, hath opened a way in many of ability youth, for the enemy to enter with his temptations to greater evils whereby they have gradually sliden from one thing unto another and until the language may be applicable as to them which was delivered unto an highly favoured but deeply revolted People formally. "Why then is this People of Jerusalem slidden back by a perpetual backsliding? They hold fast deceit, they refuse to return." This is cause of mourning unto all those who love the Truth, whose hearts are bound to the law and to the testimony, and who are travelling according to their respective measures for the prosperity of Zion, and the enlargement of her borders. But the greatest loss is unto themselves, depriving themselves of the enjoyment of the presence of God; which can alone make life comfortable, and afford hope in death. May thou my beloved Friend beware of too much familiarity with this class of our fellow professors, lest thou should suffer loss thereby; but may thy secret language be, "O my soul come not thou into their secret, unto their assembly, mine honour, be not thou united." I am not about to charge thee with anything of this kind to thy hurt; but knowing the frailties of human nature, and being acquainted with the wiles and stratagems of that unwearied enemy which goeth about not only as a roaring Lion seeking whom he may devour, but as a cunning wily serpent seeking whom he may betray; and draw from the simplicity of the Truth; That I thought I felt it my place to caution thee against too much familiarity with those who walk inconsistent with the pure Truth. But rather retire alone, commune with thine own heart and be still, that so thou may be enabled to come up in the Apostles exhortation to Timothy. "Be thou an example to the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity." This is what I much desire may be thy

experience. Thou fills an important station in the Church, I doubt not but thou feels it so; I know I felt it so to me when I entered into it in early life; I saw that all outward qualifications could not enable me to fill it up with propriety, without the sanctifying operation of the spirit of Truth, which I was concerned to seek after, and wait for; by the renewed influences of which all our services are rendered acceptable unto God, and profitable unto our fellow creatures. I have oftens felt my mind covered with love towards thee, accompanied with a concern to address thee with a few lines for thy encouragement, to come clean out of every letting hindering thing; taking no man for an example, further than he follows christ. I doubt not but thy readiness to comply with the appointment of friends, and willingness thus far to do what is in thy power to promote the cause, is an offering acceptable to the Almighty; who not only loves an early dedication of heart unto him, but remains to support those with his Presence and Power who enter into his service willingly. I have sometimes been favoured with a comfortable belief, that thou wilt experience the promise fulfilled in thee. "I will bring the third part through the fire and will refine them as silver is refined, and wilt try them as gold is tryed; they shall call on my name, and I will hear them, I will say it is my People; and they shall say, "the Lord is My God." This is that preparation necessary to be experienced in order that we may be favoured to see the Lord to our comfort; and be prepared for instruments of use in his hand; agreeable to the declaration of the Prophet, in the Lords name; when favoured with a prospect of the graces and purity of those, who were brought under the peaceable government of christ. "Every pot in Jerusalem and in Judah shall be holiness unto the Lord of hosts; and all they that sacrifice shall come and take of them, and seethe therein; and in that day there shall be no more the Canaanites in the House of the Lord of hosts." Whensoever the Lord in mercy may be pleased to turn his hand more fully upon thee, for thy thorough refinement, and bring thee under the fiery dispensation in which gold is tryed, may thou not think some strange thing hath happened thee, but patiently bear the turnings and overturnings of his holy hand, until he hath put all his, and thy enemies under his feet. Then wilt thou be made to acknowledge, "Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways thou King of Saints; ?Who shall not fear thee, and glorify thy Name, for thou only art holy." With warmest wishes for thy preservation, and growth in the unchangeable Truth, I remain thy truly loving and affectionate Friend

John Wood

For Joseph Firth  
of Shepley.Lanehead

Newhouse 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 27<sup>th</sup>. 1810

Respected Friend  
Mary Sykes

It hath much impressed my mind since thou was admitted a member of our society, to address thee with a few Lines; sincerely desiring thy preservation, growth and establishment in righteousness; and this must be by keeping inward, and dwelling deep with that principle of Light placed in the heart, which comes by Jesus.christ and coming up in obedience to its spotless dictates, for, "Behold to obey is better than sacrifice; and to hearken than the fat of rams." Not to hearken unto man, nor to be carried away with the teachings of men; but to hearken unto that infallible teacher, at whose feet Mary sat, and heard his word. Whilst her sister Martha was cumbered about much serving; as many in the present day are, who I believe are welldisposed; but suffer loss by thinking to recommend themselves to the Almighty by their own dead works; their formal Preaching, praying and Singing and other things which they look upon as religious duties, performed in their own will way or time; without waiting to feel his spirit lead them into these services; which can alone render them acceptable unto him, and truly profitable one unto another. For it remains to be a truth, that "Bodily exercise profiteth little; but godliness is profitable unto all things, having the promise

of the life that now is, and of that which is to come." Now it is an increase in this godliness, that I feel a desire may be thy experience, as I trust thou has been favoured to see, how little all thy self exertions, or works of righteousness, perform'd in the will of the creature, either by thyself, or others; could do for thee; and known a ceasing therefrom. That thou may now be diligent in waiting in the Light, and watching therein unto Prayer, that so thou may experience his holy spirit to help thine infirmities, and enable thee to petition him for those things which thou stands in need of; Thus wilt thou be favoured to pray with the spirit, and with the understanding also; and to sing with the spirit and with the understanding also. O the advantage of having the mind turned to the Light, staid in the light, and faithfully obeying the light, and diligently waiting in the light; these know him to be their teacher; and in their private retirements, as well as in their religious meetings, at times are favoured to experience this Truth, "My doctrine shall drop as the rain; my speech shall distil as the dew, as the small rain upon the tender herb; and as the showers upon the grass." Thus the soul is refreshed, quickened and animated; a growth in real godliness is witnessed; these cannot live on former experiences, but wait daily for the renewings of life, knowing "The path of the just is as the shining light that shineth more and more unto the perfect day." O that thou my friend may be daily exercised in spirit before the Lord, walking in the just mans path this is what I covet for thy sake, and others that so thou may be as a light in the part where thou lives, that others seeing thy good works, may be induced to turn unto the divine Principle which can alone enable them to bring forth the fruits of holiness. Whilst I am writing christs testimony comes before me, "Other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also must I bring and they shall hear my voice, and there shall be one fold, and one Shepherd." I have believed there are of this class in your part whom the Lord will in due time gather, from the teachings of men, to sit as under his own immediate teaching; as under the shadow of his wing and know his fruit to be sweet to their taste. I conclude with earnest desires, that thou may be "Steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord." thy sincere friend

Joseph Wood

For Mary Sykes  
of Shafton

Newhouse 12 mo. 20<sup>th</sup>. 1810

My dear Friend  
James Harrison

The wheels of discipline move so heavily forward in our Monthly Meeting, that I am often ready to say in the secret of my heart; It is in vain to attempt to support the cause of Truth; or to endeavour to remove those things out of the camp, which is the cause that Israel cannot journey forward; nor stand before their enemies; we have so much of that charity crept in amongst us, which neither edifieth, nor is of any advantage to the body; but on the contrary, instead of being set without the camp for cleansing in due time, whereby I believe many would be restored and brought into a state of perfect soundness; they are suffered to remain therein, thro' this false charity, until an amputation is obliged to take place; to preserve the body from death, which is already heavily diseased thereby; and the individual when thus cut off, can never again be restored. A sense of these things makes a remnant whose minds are really cloathed with that charity which the Apostle prefers before all other Graces, which hath for its foundation, the Love of God; even that Love which dare not heal the wounds of the daughters of Zion deceitfully, frequently to go mourning heavily on their way: and ready to adapt the language of the Prophet. "O Lord God, forgive, I beseech thee; by whom shall Jacob arise? for he is small." Few indeed are they who are rightly engaged, to get so deep as to experience the Lord to be a spirit of Judgment unto them, in the transacting the weighty affairs of the church; but are acting therein by the strength of their own reason, or conceived opinions; whereby true, "Judgment is turned away backward, and justice standeth

afar off; for truth is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter. Ye truth faileth; and he that departeth from evil maketh himself a prey." This I believe is the case with too many in the present day, who in effect are saying; "Ye take too much upon you seeing all the congregation are holy every one of them, and the Lord is among them; wherefore then lift you up yourselves above the congregation of the Lord." This is most assuredly the effect of that charity which hath not the love of God for its foundation; and under the specious pretences thereof it leads into mixture and confusion in the body; and when this spirit is opposed or stopt, it soon manifests what sort of charity such are possessed of, by being envious against those who are clothed with real charity, and act therein; by charging them with taking too much upon them. Yet I believe there are a small remnant preserved who are favoured with the spirit of discerning and true Judgement, and who dare not whatever they have to suffer from the slander of tongues depart therefrom; but are exercised in spirit before the Lord, that the Camp may be cleansed, and those things removed that marr the beauty of Zion; and I believe the number of these are increasing, and will increase. I have been led to communicate these things to thee, from what passed at our last Monthly meeting; after the report of that state of insensibility into which poor Elizabeth Wainwright was fallen, was read; that any should think there would be a service in deferring the present visit a few months: I fully believe the contrary, and much desire that you may perform it as soon as you can minding the opening of Truth therein, which alone can rightly point out your way. It is no charity to keep members in the body until there is no more life in them, for the dead cannot be again restored to life. But I have oftens thought after suitable labour has been extended, if the last office of love was more seasonably put in Practice; The body would be more preserved from harm; The most high would be graciously pleased more eminently to own our Assemblies; Those who have missed their way, would be more likely to see their situation, and seek unto the Physician who is able to heal them, and being restored unto perfect soundness, might become very valuable members of our religious Society; been rightly qualified to speak a word in season unto others, from their own experience of the snares of the unwearied enemy. Our meetings would not be so unprofitably crowded with business, by cases being so long continued unnecessarily upon our Books, which is neither pleasant to the individuals who are under dealing, nor profitable to the meeting; but very much the contrary. I have wrote to thee from the necessity; and in much freedom, having believed that thou has of late seen things after this manner thyself, more clearly; and I earnestly wish to encourage thee to faithfulness, for this is the way to increase in usefulness, and to bring sweet Peace to thy own mind. With dear Love to thee and thy Wife, and remain thy truly Loving and sympathizing friend

Joseph Wood

For James Harrison  
of East-Hardwick

Newhouse 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 26<sup>th</sup>. 1811

Beloved Friend  
Thomas Dixon Walton

The very near sympathy I felt with thee, the two last times I was at thy house; hath been so frequently renewed when absent from thee, that I thought I was most easy to inform thee thereof by a few Lines; believing thou art now fully sensible of the loss thou has sustained; by too eagerly pursuing the very uncertain enjoyments of this Life, and not duly attending to the advice of thy best friends. I have long seen since and believed that the Lord would bring a blast upon this spirit; and disappoint the expectation of those, who were making haste to be rich; and fulfil the Apostles testimony in them viz. "They that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is the root of all evil; which while some covert after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many

sorrows." I write not this my beloved friend to upbraid thee with it, believing thou now sees and feels the Truth thereof in thy own experience, but rather to encourage thee to look unto him who hath declared. "I will heal their backsliding, I will love them freely; for mine anger is turned away from him." I comfortably hope that this will be thy blessed experience if he should see meet to remove thee from works unto rewards by the present indisposition; and if he should see meet to raise thee up again, that thou may have to acknowledge with one formally. "Though he cause grief, yet will he have compassion according to the multitude of his mercies." and to warn others from falling into the like snare. For tho' nothing is more expressly declared against in holy writ; yet nothing is more apt to draw away the minds of the Lords visited children than the love of the World; Notwithstanding the Apostles caution against it, and of the dreadful effects thereof. "Love not the world neither the things that are in the world. if any man love the world, the Love Of the Father is not in him." And if the love of the Father is not more prevalent in our minds, than any other thing whatsoever, we are not worthy of him, neither can be instrumental in his hands to gather souls unto him. I trust that he who visited thee in early life, and stained the glory of this world in thy view; and favoured thee with a sight of the great danger of entangling thyself with the things of this Life; manifesting to thee that he had work of a different kind for thee to engage in; and that it was impossible for thee at one and the same time to serve God and mammon; hath again turned his hand in mercy upon thee, altho' it may be in the way of his Judgments, yet I believe mixed with mercy; a sense of which hath made me rejoice; altho' I feel deeply with thee in thy present afflictions of body and mind, and am glad that thou art favoured with a kind tender and truly sympathizing Wife: and O my friend if thy health should again be restored, and the candle of the Lord shine upon thee as in former days, may thou be strengthened duly to remember the language of our blessed Lord to one formerly. "Behold thou art made whole, sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee." Accept dear friend, these few lines as the small token of that unfeigned Love, which through the various vicissitudes we have had to pass through since our acquaintance; hath remained I can say on my part undiminished, and which I never felt stronger than at the present time; and believe me to be thy truly loving and tenderly sympathizing friend

Joseph Wood

For Thomas Dixon Walton  
of Barnsley

Newhouse 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 6<sup>th</sup>. 1811

Dear Friend  
Charles Unsworth

Having frequently felt much sympathy for thee, since thou came into these parts and in consideration of thy being deprived of thy Parents in early life, who are or ought to be the guardians of youth; and counsellor to consult with in important steps of Life; this sympathy hath led me to a freedom with thee, and this freedom to a sincere friendship, which I feel daily increasing towards thee, accompanied with earnest desires for thy welfare every way, but more especially for that part in thee, that must have a being when time here shall terminate. And therefore it is in mine heart to recommend unto thee, the advice of our blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus.christ, who came into the world to save sinners, not in, but from their sins. "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." that is all things needful for the accommodation of our bodies; for those who are thus exercised it leads them to industry, so that they are, "Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord." who blesses their endeavours, and maketh them content with a little, and causeth them gratefully to acknowledge they lack nothing, for the Lord graciously supplieth all their wants. It certainly is therefore the greatest wisdom, and the only way to enjoy solid happiness in this life, to seek the kingdom of God, and his righteousness, in the

first place, and this can only be in those seasons when he is pleased to renew the visitations of his love unto us. For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God, and are by nature children of wrath, walking according to the Prince the Power of the air, the spirit which now worketh in the children of disobedience. "But God, who is rich in mercy; for his great love wherewith he loved us; Even when we were dead in sins hath quickened as together with Christ; By grace ye are saved." This was the Apostles experience, this hath been the experience of a remnant in the present day; and this is what I much desire may be thy experience, under a belief that the most high is mercifully visiting thee, with the day spring from on high; and as he is the first moving cause in the salvation of many so it is only when he is pleased to move, that man can seek with a hope to find; and those who neglect these seasons of favour may seek and not find. Therefore the language runs thro' me unto thee, which was unto a People formally. "Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near." And O my friend may thou not only seek him while he is to be found, which is in the day of his Power, when he is graciously pleased to knock at the door of thy heart; but may thou seek him where he is to be found, and that is within; and the more thou art in love with silence and solitude; the more thou will be acquainted with the way and working of the Grace of God which brings salvation; and which first appears as a reprover for evil; and as there is a ceasing from those things which it manifests to be evil, then it leads gently forward in the way of Life. Thus the obedient soul is favoured to experience with the Apostles that it teaches them all things, and is truth and no lie; and are made thankful in their hearts that they have been made acquainted with this divine and heavenly gift; which the Apostle James calls the engrafted word, and exhorts. "Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word which is able to save the soul." Observe he calls it the engrafted word, for tho' it is in man, it is not part of man; but is of a divine and heavenly nature, being the purchase of the death and Sufferings of Christ, who when he had shed his precious blood for the remission of sins that are past, through faith in his name; ascended up on high, and led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. For which that eminent Apostle Paul breaks forth in this language, "Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift." Because there is no Power of language able to set forth the value thereof. It is the Seed to which the promise was made, that it should bruise the Serpents head, slay his Power in man, and create him anew in Christ.Jesus unto good works, so effectually changing the hearts, affections and desires of man from earthly unto heavenly things; that tho' these live in the world, they are redeemed out of the world, and the spirit thereof, and their hearts are set upon heaven and heavenly things. O blessed change indeed, may thou press after it, and be willing to part with every thing to obtain it; it is the only way to make thy life comfortable, and thy latter end happy; With warmest wishes for thy present welfare, and eternal felicity; I remain thy truly loving and affectionate Friend

Joseph Wood

For Charles Unsworth  
at Highflatts

Newhouse 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 25<sup>th</sup>. 1811

Beloved Friend  
John Yeardley

The prospect I mentioned to thee when at thy house of having a Publick meeting at Burton, increasing with weight upon my mind; I spread my concern before the friends of our Select meeting, and they expressed their unity therewith, and encouraged me to faithfulness; and also thought it quite unnecessary to mention it to the Monthly meeting at large. Being thus left at liberty, I have been very desirous to move therein in the right time; and tho' I have wish'd to put it off a little longer; yet the next first day seems to fix so closely upon my mind; that I feel constrained to request thy care in informing the inhabitants of

Burton thereof, and that some information may also be given to the inhabitants of Carlton and Royston, The meeting to begin at the usual hour. I can with freedom write unto thee, feeling that unity with thy spirit, which preserves near and dear to each other; and in which freedom runs: and therefore may add. My mind feels very low under the present exercise; but I can honestly appeal to him who knoweth the secrets of every heart that I have nothing in view, in all my religious movements; but peace to my own mind, I neither seek for, nor expect great things for myself; or look for great things to arise from my labours; but if the precious life is but preserved for a prey it will be enough. I feelingly sympathize with thee under thy exercises, which I believe are at times heavy; yet I humbly trust that he who cast his mantle over thee, when at the ploughtail, and thereby drew thee after him, will never leave thee nor forsake thee, as thine eye is preserved single unto him, and thou art coming up in faithfulness to every manifest duty. Thus will thou be favoured to experience the Lords Power is not diminished, yet remains to be above every Power, and that in his own time he will exalt his little ones. And therefore it is with me for thy encouragement to revive the Apostles testimony. "My beloved Brethren be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the way and work of the Lord; for as much as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord." Give my kind love to the partner of thy joys and thy cares; and to John Charlesworth; and Please to accept the same thyself, from thy assured friend

Joseph Wood

For John Yeardley  
of Barnsley

Newhouse 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mo. 26<sup>th</sup>. 1812

Beloved Friend  
Charles Unsworth

In that love which changeth not do I dearly salute thee, my ever dear and well beloved friend, sincerely desiring thy welfare in time, and in eternity; and tho' we cannot from the distance of our present situation, see each other so frequently as formerly; yet there is that love begotten in each of our minds, which distance cannot separate, nor time wear out or destroy; under the renewed influence of which love my mind feels engaged at this time to encourage thee to faithfulness in daily watching unto Prayer. I am persuaded the Seed, the precious seed of the kingdom, which seed is Christ, is sown in thy heart: and O the travail and exercise of spirit which I feel that thou may be as passive clay in the Lords hand, that every thing may be given up by thee, that may have a tendency to hinder its growth; and then I doubt not but in due time thou will be favoured to experience a Birth brought forth in thee of its own divine and heavenly nature, and be made to say, "Thou hast delivered my soul from death, wilt not thou deliver my feet from falling, that I may walk before God in the light of that the living." O my dear child I have seen that if thou art but willing to give up everything to follow Christ; that neither grace nor glory, nor no good thing will be withheld from thee. Be not afraid to become a fool, it is the only way to be wise. Guard against unprofitable company, and conversation; rather retire alone to meditate in the law of the Lord, and tho' thou may have many enemies, thou will to be favoured to experience, that they will not be able to overturn thee. "Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee." I am in a very poor state of health at present, If I should grow worse, I will send for thee. If not I trust we shall meet on first day. But in sickness or in health, my love to thee is the same and I am convinced thine to me is the same: and if we keep our places those who are seeking to divide in Jacob, and scatter in Israel will never be able to dissolve our friendship; but on the contrary we shall be more and more united together in the covenant of Life. Farewel my dear friend at present, I must conclude, and believe me thy faithful friend in life or death

Joseph Wood

For Charles Unsworth  
of Shelley Woodhouse

Newhouse 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. 12<sup>th</sup>. 1812

Beloved Friend  
Robert Whitaker

The thine I received yesterday, with Hannah Dumbletons and thy love to me, which was truly acceptable; as well as your invitation to attend the accomplishing of your intended marriage; which I should have been glad to have done, but am under a pre engagement about that time which I know not how to avoid; so that if I should not get there, I would not have you think it is for want of regard to you, nor a disunity with your undertaking. For I can truly say, that I not only feel good unity therewith; but had a prospect thereof a considerable time before I ever heard of your intentions; and when you laid your intentions before our last Monthly meeting, such were the comfortable feelings which attended my mind, that if it had been required of me, I could have bore testimony. "The thing proceedeth from the Lord." And I humbly trust that the presence of him who attended the Marriage in Cana in Galilee, will be with you in the accomplishing of yours, and may perhaps graciously condescend to turn the water into wine, and favour you to partake with him thereof in his kingdom to the refreshment of your souls. Well dear Friend accept dear Love to thee, and communicate the same to thy friend Hannah Dumbleton, accompanied with mine earnest desire that you may be preserved alive, and growing in the Truth; like Zacharias and Elizabeth formerly, concerning whom we have this testimony. "They were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless." I am thy truly loving and affectionate Friend

Joseph Wood

For Robert Whitaker  
of Ackworth

Newhouse 4<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 10<sup>th</sup>. 1812

Beloved Friend  
Charles Unsworth

Feeling in my private retirement, the fresh flowings of that love, which hath united our hearts together in the bond of pure friendship, never to be broken; if we are endeavouring, each of us to keep our proper places in the Truth; by coming forward in obedience to the manifestations we are favoured with; and thus an increase of Love and Life will be experienced, whereby we shall be more and more cemented together in the covenant of Light and Life. As was the case with David and Jonathan betwixt whom the most near and dear friendship subsisted; being clearly manifested by their readiness to do every act of kindness, civil and religious to each other, and the mournful language which dropt from the former after the death of the latter. "I am distressed, for thee, my brother, Jonathan, pleasant hast thou been unto me; thy love to me was wonderful, passing the love of women." And very pleasant can I truly say, hath been, and is, thy company to me; and many manifestations have I received of thy sincere love and regard for me. But ah! my dear Charles; the time seems approaching when we must be separated for a season; I have begged, yea earnestly begged, that I may be resigned to the divine will. It is a great cross to me to leave my outward habitation, and go forth amongst Strangers, whose faces I have never before seen; but the greatest cross of all at present is the thought of being so long separated from thee my beloved companion, and bosom friend; whom I have watched over for good, with all the tenderness and affection of a kind and sympathizing Parent. But O saith my soul that our heavenly Father may take thee under his immediate care, and divine protection; and keep thee from evil, and lead thee in the way everlasting; and whilst I am writing a lively faith springs in my heart, That thus will he do for thee, and never leave thee, nor forsake thee; If thou art but willing to bear his circumcising hand upon thee, and know not only thy actions, but thy thoughts, and words, to be circumcised thereby; so that thy very speech will bewray thee to be a follower of

him, who declares. "Whosoever does not bear his Cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple." There are many things to part with, and give up unto, which is exceeding hard to flesh and blood; But it is only those who are willing to take up their cross, and live in the daily denial of Self, that must receive the crown immortal that will never fade away. Therefore it is in my heart to encourage thee my most dearly beloved friend to faithfulness, and though thou may have many bitter conflicts to pass through, yet remember the Lamb and his followers will have the victory; Altho' Satan will not easily let go his hold, but will try thee with his different temptations; but in these seasons look not at the temptation to lust after it; but look unto Christ who was tempted in all things like unto us, yet he nobly overcame; and as thou art favoured to experience through him an overcoming; thou will partake of the promise, "To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receives it." Be encouraged therefore my dear friend to hold on thy way, be as diligent as thou can in the attendance of religious meetings, and when there labour to obtain that state of pure stillness, in which every thought is brought into captivity, to the obedience of christ; and tho' the enemy may seek to obstruct thy attaining this desirable state, by drawing thy mind out, after outward subjects, and objects, or endeavouring to lull thee asleep; yet as thou art endeavouring to keep up the warfare against him, he will flee; and drawing nigh unto God, he will draw nigh unto thee; Thus wilt thou be favoured to experience those seasons of refreshment which flow from his presence; and be made to acknowledge with the Psalmist. "Thou wilt shew me the path of Life; in thy presence is fulness of joy, at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore" Accept my dearest friend, this renewed token of my endeared Love to thee, who am thy faithful friend and affection Brother

Joseph Wood

For Charles Unsworth  
of Shelley. Woodhouse

Newhouse 4<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 17<sup>th</sup>. 1812

Beloved Friend  
Charles Unsworth

Accept dear friend the following lines as a token of my remembrance of thee, in that love which changeth not; and my earnest desire to encourage thee in the path of Piety and virtue. It hath been no little satisfaction to my mind when I have come to Ing Birchworth, that I have never at any time found thee uniting with their Servants in unprofitable conversation, but I have thought it a becoming manner rather shunning their company. I trust this hath been from a desire in thee to obey the call, which all the unregenerate are favoured with, altho' slighted by too many, to their great loss and irretrievable ruin, "Come out of her my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins and that ye receive not of her plagues." O what a favour it is to those who in obedience to the call, are made willing to embrace the invitation. "Come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you; And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters saith the Lord Almighty." That I thought I felt most easy to express my satisfaction in thee in refraining from associating thyself with company that can do thee no good, but might do thee much harm; and also to encourage thee to persevere in the strait way which leadeth unto Life. The Apostle saith, "The good that I would, I do not, but the evil which I would not that I do." But by attending to that inward law which is light he experienced a different state, as appears by the following testimony. "The law of the Spirit of Life in Christ. Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death." This is what I much desire thou may be favoured to experience, who am thy sincere friend in

hopes to see thee at my house tomorrow night

Joseph Wood

For Charles Unsworth  
of Shelley. Woodhouse

Newhouse 5<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 7<sup>th</sup>. 1812

Beloved Friend  
Charles Unsworth

Precious is the company of true and faithful friends to each other; who are unitedly pursuing the path of virtue according to the best of their understanding Sweet are the opportunities of conversation these are favoured with; and cementing is that love which knits the heart of these together. But Wisdom, unerring Wisdom sees meet at times and seasons to separate these one from another, and tho' it may appear trying unto them, yet his will, not our own must be done if we are favoured with the answer of Peace. Now this outward separation I apprehend is likely to take place betwixt thee and me soon, and tho' it may not seem pleasant unto us, yet the Lord is able to Sanctify it to us, and favour us when absent in body, to be present with each other in spirit, according to our respective measures; and this I trust we shall experience if we are endeavouring to keep watchful and strengthen every good desire in the mind, which proceeds from him who is the foundatoin of every thing which is good and excellent. And as a renewed token of my sincere love to thee, it springs in my heart to leave a few things with thee, which I sincerely desire when I am separated from thee thou may frequently read to thy profit. viz.

First, Endeavour to keep in thy mind, that thou hast not a being here barely to serve thyself; but to glorify the Lord in thy day age and generation, this will bring an holy awe over thy mind, and a fear of offending him who hath our Life, breath and being at his command, and can take them from us whensoever he pleaseth. This pure holy fear will be thy preservation in the hour of temptation, which all are tryed with; For the unwearied enemy seeketh by all the ways in his Power to counteract and lay waste the Lords work, But, "The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life, to depart from the snares of death." It was this fear that preserved Joseph in his youth when strongly tempted, and enabled him to say "How can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God." And for thy encouragement to resist the wicked one with his varied snares, remember the Apostles testimony, "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man, but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that you are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it."

Secondly, Shun I beseech thee as much as thou can, not only vain but all unprofitable company; but as thou must at times be necessarily exposed to such, let thy words be duly weighed before thou speak, and be as few as thou well can, remembering the following Scripture testimonies. "In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin." And again, "If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue; but deceiveth his own heart, this mans religion is vain." And again, "To him that ordereth his conversation aright will I shew the salvation of God."

Thirdly, Be faithful in thy Masters service, obedient to all his lawful commands, not answering him improperly again; Thus wilt thou be favoured to experience the blessing of heaven to rest upon thee; remembering for thy encouragement herein, the Apostolic advice. "Servants be obedient to them that are your Masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart as unto Christ. Not with eye service, as menpleasers, but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart." and again, "Servants be subject to your Masters with all fear; not only to the good and gentle, but also to the forward. For this is thank worthy, if a man for conscience toward God endure grief, suffering wrongfully."

Fourthly, Be as diligent as thou can in the attendance of religious Meetings, this is a duty incumbent upon us as saith the Apostle, "Not forsaking the assembling of yourselves together as the manner of some is." And endeavour to get into, and persevere in an awful reverential frame of mind in thy going to meetings; and when therein keep to thine own exercise, in thy gift; that so thou may be favoured to experience an awful solemn silence; and in the fresh arisings of the heavenly life, may be enabled to worship the Father of Spirits in Spirit and in truth. And after meeting be not hasty in entering into conversation unnecessarily, lest thou scatter away the good thou may have received there, For "As the new wine is found in the cluster, and one saith, Destroy it not for a blessing is in it."

Fifthly and Lastly, "As God is light, and in him is no darkness at all." May thou be concerned to walk in his light, this will regulate thy temper and actions, and make thee quick of discerning in the Lords fear. Thus wilt thou experience an advancement in Grace towards the stature of a perfect man; and thus if we are each of us preserved in our proper places. If we are favoured to meet again, we shall be one anothers joy in the Lord. Finally my dearly beloved friend; May the blessing of him who was hated of his brethren, because the Lord loved him, be thine. "Joseph is a fruitful bough, even a fruitful bough, by a well; whose branches run over the wall. The archers have sorely grieved him, and shot at him, and hated him. But his bow abode in strength, and his arms of his hands were made strong by the hands of the mighty God of Jacob: from thence is the Shepherd, the stone of Israel. Even by the God of thy Father, who shall help thee, and by the Almighty, who shall bless thee with blessings of heaven above, blessings of the deep that lieth under, blessings of the breast and of the womb: The blessings of thy Father, have prevailed above the blessings of my progenitors, unto the utmost bounds of the everlasting hills: they shall be on the head of Joseph, and the crown of the head of him that was separate from his brethren." Is the earnest breathing and travail of my spirit, who am thy sincere and truly loving and affectionate friend

Joseph Wood

For Charles Unsworth  
of Annatroyd

Darlington 5<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 31<sup>st</sup>. 1812

My Dear Charles

Having given William Taylor and thee a brief account of our movements in a joint Letter; it is now with me to address thee with a few lines accompanied with my best wishes for thee, and desires for thy growth and prosperity in Truth and righteousness: and believe me my dearest friend, when I say my love to thee is not in the least diminished since our separation; for thou art daily in my remembrance; and I have no doubt but I have a place in thine. I frequently anticipate the mutual satisfaction we shall experience, if favoured to meet again; concluding it will be something like the Meeting of Jacob and his son Joseph in Egypt after their long separation. Well my dear friend, keep near I beseech thee and to that which will preserve thee from all evil, and lead thee in the way everlasting. Thus in time wilt thou be favoured to experience the truth of this Scripture testimony fulfilled. "When a mans ways please the Lord, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him." In that love which changeth not do I affectionately salute thee and remain thy truly faithful friend and bosom companion.

Joseph Wood

For Charles Unsworth  
of Annatroyd

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Memorandum. The King having suddenly dissolved the Parliament after having been elected only about 6 Months, a new election came on for this county in the 5<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1807 and three candidates offering themselves viz. William Wilberforce, Henry Lascelles, and a young man Son of Earl Fitzwilliam, called Lord Milton. And I having at the canvas offered my vote for him and William Wilberforce, and Miltons committee sitting at Huddersfield were very earnest to get me and some others off, as speedily as they could; but I being in a poor state of health, had almost entirely dropt the thought of going to York; but the contest being a very sharp one, the committee in Miltons interest sent a Chaise to Birdsedge for me Elihu Dickinson Clothier and William Dickinson we got in betwixt 5 and 6 o'clock On the 27<sup>th</sup>. of 5<sup>th</sup>. Mo 1807 and 4<sup>th</sup>. day of the week in the evening, and took in Edward Hardy of Shepley by the way who was in the same Interest. We went to the Rose and Crown in Huddersfield were after waiting some time, the committee setting there procured a chaise to convey us to Wakefield. we got to the White hart in that town about midnight were we got supper and then Beds being filled and we desirous to get forward, sat up except Edward Hardy whom we left here, he having some business in the Town to do in the morning. On 28<sup>th</sup>. and 5<sup>th</sup>. of week, we set out in a chaise for Aberford were we got to Breakfast at Gascoignes Arms, and they forwarded us in a Chaise to the Rose and Crown in Tadcaster were we got some Wine and Water and then was immediately forwarded by another chaise to York were we got about 10 o'clock in the forenoon. we got some refreshment at William Tukes; He and his son Henry being both gone to the Yearly Meeting at London, and his Grandson Samuel son of Henry and his Sister having the care of the house. They were exceeding kind, and invited us to take up our Quarters there during our stay in York. Some false report having been industriously spread very prejudicial to the Interest of William Wilberforce, we was desirous to see him before we went to the Poll; accordingly we went to the Inn were we met with his servant who told us he was in the Castle yard, and that he would accompany us to him, we went and soon got an opportunity with him in a room in the castle were he fully clear himself of those reports, and having it from his own mouth we were the better able to contradict them afterwards. We then went and gave our votes for Wilberforce and Milton. There was convenient Booths erected in the castle yard of boards, with the Names of the Wapontakes in the County fix't upon them, and each Freeholder gave his vote, in that Booth in which Wapontake his estate was situated. Elihu Dickinson and mine being both in Staincross we got done in about a quarter of an hour; William Dickinson being in Agbrigg he was a considerable time before he could get in. After we had done we return to dine with Samuel Tuke who is a very nice young man and seems promising to be an useful member of our Society. After dinner we went to see for a carriage to convey us towards home; but it was impossible to procure one. Accordingly we left the city on foot and a little past 4 o'clock and came to Tadcaster were we got Tea at the Rose and Crown and after waiting a considerable time met with a coach to convey us to Leeds, we were 6 in the inside and several with out, Ignatius Brook of Cleckheaton, a man of Leeds, and another from near Lofthouse were our companions within, and being very sociable agreeable company, made our journey pleasant, we stopt a little at the Inn at top of Bramham moor and got some refreshment, then proceeded to Leeds were we got betwixt 12 and 1 o'clock in the morning to the Hotel the Signe of the Kings Arms. After supper we got to Bed betwixt 2 and 3 o'clock and slept a little betwixt and 5 which was all the sleep we had in the journey, and this was the only house were we was imposed on by unreasonable charges. On 29<sup>th</sup>. and 6<sup>th</sup>. of week, we left Leeds betwixt 5 and 6 o'clock in the morning, and came in the Stage coach to Huddersfield, our companions within were a man of Leeds, another from Saddleworth, a woman from Leicester, there were a pretty many passengers on the outside, we got to Huddersfield to Breakfast at the Rose and Crown, were the committee were surprized at our speedy return, none having done it in the same time by far they said before. We had to wait here a long time for a conveyance, I think near 3 hours, but at length they procured a Chaise in which we came to Shepley were we alighted, and walked home got there betwixt 2 and 3 o'clock in the afternoon having been only about 45 hours from home, and got there better than when I left it. The Lax of which I had been

very poorly for some time stopping, so as not to be troublesome to me in the journey which I thought was a peculiar favour.

Memorandum           6<sup>th</sup>. mo. 14<sup>th</sup>. 1807 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, our Meeting at Highflatts was large, a pretty many of other Societies coming in, and altho' it was attended with very heavy exercise I believe upon the whole it was a profitable and I believe an highly favoured time to some, I had a long testimony to bear therein from Deut: C: 32. v. 9, 10, 11, 12. The Lords portion is his people; Jacob is the lot of his inheritance. He found him in a desert land and in the waste howling wilderness, he led him about, he instructed him, he kept him as the apple of his eye. As an eagle stirreth up her nest, fluttereth over her young, spreadeth abroad her wings, taketh them beareth them on her wings; so the Lord alone did lead him, and there was no strange God with him. Afterwards I had a short time from Eccl: C: 9. v: 10 Whatsoever thy hand findeth thee to do, do it with thy might, for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom in the grave, wither thou goest. After meeting my beloved friend Henry Marsden came to dine at my house stopt until after Tea and then returned home. It being our Monthly Meeting at Highflatts the next day, several friends came in before supper to lodge with us viz. John Robinson, George Brearer and Wife and Ann Thorp of Wakefield meeting; and Ellin Spenceley of Burton meeting. - On 15<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, in the morning we had only 3 or 4 friends to breakfast with us besides our lodgers; our Monthly Meeting for worship at Highflatts began at 11 o'clock and was very large the house and chamber being pretty well filled but not crowded, we had the company of our friend Thomas Shillitoe from Middlesex there, whose service in these parts hath been very extraordinary, and I hope a blessing to some whose hands are ready to hang down, and feeble knees to smite one against another; and I sincerely wish that those who are afar off may be brought nigh thro' this renewed visitation, which hath been powerfully extended through the medium of this devoted and dedicated servant of the most high God, in a particular manner unto this class. The meeting this day was a time of renewed favour various states were opened and spoke unto the power and authority of the everlasting Gospel of Christ; and a time of visitation renewedly I believe it was to many, O that it may not prove as water spilt upon a stone, but that those who have been long obdurate may be softened under the melting influence of that Power which can alone prepare the heart to receive the Showers of the former and the latter rain. Thomas Shillitoe had a long testimony to bear therein first from Zech: C: 13. v: 1. There shall be a fountain opened to the house of David, and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, for sin and for uncleanness. I had a short time next from 1 Cor: C: 4. v: 9, 10, 11. I think that God hath set forth us the Apostles last, as it were appointed to death. for we are made a spectacle unto the world, and to Angels, and to men. We are fools for Christs sake, but ye are wise in Christ; we are all weak, but ye are strong; ye are honourable, but we are despised. Even unto this present hour we both hunger and thirst, and are naked, and are buffeted; and have no certain dwelling place. John Bottomley next from Psalms 53. v: 6. When God bringeth back the captivity of his people, Jacob shall rejoice, and Israel shall be glad. Thomas Shillitoe next from part of the Parable of the Prodigal son. Isabella Harris had a long time next concerning Saul being sent utterly to destroy Amalek and the sorrowful consequences of his disobedience to the Lords commands. At the close of the meeting for Worship was the Meeting for discipline, The business of which was conducted in a spirit of harmony and concord and I thought Truth gained some ground this day. Thomas Yeardley of Burton Mg. was clear from all other engagements in relation to Marriage except with his friend Elizabeth Hodgson of Marsden Mo.meeting in Lancashire of which we informed the said Mo. Mg. by our certificate. At the close of the business our beloved friend Thomas Sillitoe had a very acceptable testimony to bear, and at the close thereof took a very solemn and affectionate farewell of us not expecting according to his present prospect to see us again in the course of this visit. Both meetings held upwards of 4 hours. After which we had 19 friends din'd at my house, and James Harrison,

Christopher Walker, Henry Swire and Isabella Harris, stopt Tea and betwixt 6 and 7 o'clock set out towards their respective habitations; I felt very low and depressed in spirit after all my friends had left me and being in deep sorrow on another account, from a circumstance that had lately come to my knowledge, and which was renewed with great weight upon my spirits this evening so that the anguish of my spirit appeared almost insupportable, had not the arm of the Lord been secretly underneath to bear up, altho' at the time hid from mine eyes.

Memorandum. 6<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 21<sup>st</sup>. 1807, and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, Our meeting at Highflatts was large friends pretty generally attending and several of other Societies came in. The day before after dinner an unusual weight of exercise came upon me, heavier than I thought I had ever experienced before, nature seemed ready to sink under it, and my whole frame was deeply affected, I seem to have no strength to cry unto the Lord for help; and that faith which can remove mountains was at so low an ebb, that I could not believe it possible but that I sink in the horrid pit of despair. I sought but could not find out the cause; in this situation I remained until 2 o'clock in the morning, and could not close mine eyes to sleep. Soon after which I got a little rest, and when I awoke my mind was less oppressed, but I felt exceeding poor and Stripped in which situation I went to the meeting, but soon after I sat me down therein; O the surprizing alteration I felt how was my poor mind humbled, my spirit tendered, and my heart contrited; how soon can the Lord make a dry and barren wilderness as pools of water. It was a most extraordinary favoured meeting and I had a long testimony to bear therein from Isai: C; 12. v 3, 4. With joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation. And in that day shall ye say, Praise the Lord, call upon his name, declare his doings among the People, make mention that his name is exalted. After which I was concerned in Prayer thanksgiving and Praise, unto the Almighty powerful being whose love had been this day so eminently manifested amongst us. John Issott came with us to my house to dine, and stopt until 8 o'clock in the evening, his company was truly acceptable, and our conversation together, profitable and edifying, he being a truly pious man, whose presevation and growth in the Truth I very much desire

Memorandum 6<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 28<sup>th</sup>. 1807. Our meeting at Highflatts this first day of the week was very large a great many People of other Societies attended; it proved thro' merciful condescension a memorable time of divine favour There was great openness in the line of ministry, and that Power alone which can open a heart to receive the word preached, was felt powerfully to speak upon the minds of many unto whom the visitation of Truth was renewedly extended. And the word of encouragement peculiarly flowed, unto the poor weak Zion traveller unto the strengthening of the hands of the weak, and encouraging the feeble minded, suitable advice was also communicated to the careless and unconcerned, who were faithfully warned of their danger in continuing in such a state. I was first concerned therein in supplication. John Bottomley a long time next in Testimony from Rev: C: 15. v: 3. Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints. After a short time in silence he had a pretty long time again. I had a long time next from Hos: C: 14. v: 9. Who is wise and he shall understand these things? prudent, and he shall know them? For the ways of the Lord our right, and the just shall walk in them: but the transgressors shall fall thereinn. John Bottomley had afterwards a pretty long time and seasonable exhortation. My beloved Friend Timothy Sykes of Shafton a Local Preacher amongst the Methodists, and betwixt whom and me there had been a particular friendship from our first acquaintance; came to my house the evening before to stop all night, he was late having met with some disappointment in setting off, our family was gone to Bed when he came except myself, however I was much pleased to see him. This morning he left my house

about 9 o'clock having to go to Preach at Dykeside, I set him on his way a little and then return'd. Having no company this afternoon I attended closely to the instruction of my Scholar Joseph Grayham in his learning; and in the evening which was remarkable fine we took a long walk together in the fields.

Memorandum            On ye. 29<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 6<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1807 Our friend Sarah Broadhead widow of John Broadhead of Meltomhouse departed this Life and was buried in friends burial ground at Wooldale ye 2<sup>nd</sup>. of ye. 7<sup>th</sup>. Mo. following and 5<sup>th</sup>. day of the week aged 79 Years. Being invited I attended the said burial; left home about 7 o'clock in the morning and in about one hours time got to her son George Broadheads of Roydhouse where (the) entertainment was. After the people had breakfasted, The corps were brought down in a hearse from Meltomhouse, hither; and we proceeded to accompany it to the grave. After the interment a Meeting was held as usual which began about 11 o'clock and continued about 2 hours and a half. It was large a great many friends and others being there. John Bottomley had a pretty long testimony to bear in the early part thereof from Rev: C: 14. v: 13. Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord, from henceforth; yea saith the spirit; that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them. After along time in silence; I was raised up to bear a long testimony from 2 Cor: C: 13. v: 5. Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith, prove your own selves, know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus christ is in you, except ye be reprobates? John Bottomley was afterwards concerned in Prayer. After meeting I got some Brandy and water at Thomas Roberts's of Wooldale and then return'd to George Broadheads by way of Tottis and Scholes; where I din'd and drank Tea; Left there betwixt 6 and 7 o'clock in company with Elihu Dickinson and John Bottomley and got home betwixt 6 and 7 o'clock in the evening.

Memorandum.            7<sup>th</sup>. mo. 12<sup>th</sup>. 1807 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, our meeting at Highflatts was large, altho' mostly select of Friends, as such as usually attend. It held long in silence and was a very heavy laborious time, at length a little of best help was afforded, and I was able to relieve my mind in a pretty long and close testimony from Matt: C: 26: v: 45. Sleep on now, and take your rest; behold the hour is at hand, and the son of man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. At the close of the meeting for Worship was held our Preparative meeting, and John Bottomley and myself being appointed to acquaint our Mens and Womens Preparative meetings, that the Mo. meeting had issued a testimony of denial against Hannah the Wife of James Dickinson; as is usual we first read it in the Mens meeting, and then in the Womens. After which John Bottomley had a pretty long time in divers weighty exhortations to our Women friends, and afterwards myself very much to the relief of my own mind. John Haigh an intimate acquaintance of Joseph Grayham, from Paddock near Kirkburton, having a great desire to be at a friends meeting came to ours this day, but being late did not come in but stopt without where he could hear what was delivered, and after the meeting for Worship came with Joseph Grayham to my house, where he din'd and drank Tea, and stopt until betwixt 7 and 8 o'clock in the evening. He appears to be a man of an orderly conduct and conversation, and I was pleased with his company.

Memorandum.            7<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 19<sup>th</sup>. 1807 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, Our meeting at Highflatts was large, a pretty many people of other Societies attending. I had a long testimony to bear therein first from Jer. C: 18. v. 14, 15. Will a man leave the snow of Lebanon which cometh from the rock of the field? or shall the cold flowing waters that come from another place

beforsaken? because my people hath forgotten me, they have burned incense to vanity; and they have caused them to stumble in the ways from the ancient paths, to walk in paths, in a way not cast up. Leah Kinsley had a short time next from Matt. C: 22. v: 14. Many are called but few are chosen. Afterwards myself from Eph: C: 1. v: 4. As he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world. This afternoon was spent as usual in instructing my servant Joseph Grayham in his learning in which I have taken great delight, having no view therein whatsoever but his good, and that it might be made a blessing to him by enlarging his understanding in the knowledge of his duty unto God and man and that he might be favoured to come up in obedience to the same and whether or no this desirable end be answered I feel this consolation, I have done my duty, and in so doing have been favoured with Peace. This evening several friends came to lodge with us, who were on their way to our Monthly Meeting held the next day at Wooldale viz. William Taylor, and Thomas Yeardley and Wife from Burton Meeting and David Brierley of Dewsbury. - On 20<sup>th</sup>, and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week I set out towards Wooldale in company with my beloved friend William Taylor of Shafton betwixt 8 and 9 o'clock in the morning went by Newmill to Wooldale, were we called at Joshua Broadheads, I having some business with him, got some refreshment there, and then went to the meeting which began at 11 o'clock. It was very large the house and chamber being nearly full, a considerable number of other Societies attending. We were favoured thereat with the company of our friends Esther Lees from Lancashire and my sister Jane Doncaster of Sheffield. Jane Doncaster had a short testimony to bear therein first from 2 Pet: C: 1. v: 19. We have also a more sure word of prophecy. Isabella Harris had a pretty long time next from Psalms 68. v: 1. Let God arise, let his enemies be scattered. John Bottomley next from Rev: C: 2. v: 7. To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life; which is in the midst of the paradise of God. Afterwards Jane Doncaster was concerned in Prayer. At the close of the meeting for Worship was held our Monthly meeting for discipline in which a great deal of business was gone thro' and satisfactorily conducted; at the close thereof the Printed Yearly Meetings Epistle was read, and in the course of the business Our Friend Isabella Harris laid before us a concern which had been for some time on her mind to pay a religious visit to some Meetings in the counties of Cumberland and Durham, and to have meetings with the inhabitants of some places where none are usually held, The meeting having good unity with her concern, directed a Minute to be given to her expressive thereof and left her at her liberty to proceed therein as Truth opened her way. Both meetings held 4 hours after which I din'd at Henry Swire of Springhouse, and drunk Tea with several other friends who accompanied me thither at George Broadheads of Jackson Bridge. After which Thomas Walker Haigh of Barnsley came with me to my house were we got betwixt 8 and 9 o'clock in the evening, and he tarried all night with me. - On 21<sup>st</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, Thomas Walker Haigh set out from home soon after Breakfast, and before noon my Brother Daniel Doncaster and his Wife from Sheffield called upon us in their return from Wooldale; and John Bottomley at my request came up to see us; They all din'd and drank Tea with us, their company was very acceptable; and I thought we spent the time comfortably and profitably together. After they was gone I went to Highflatts to see Elihu Dickinson junior who is in a poor state of health, I stopt supper Simeon Hunter of Sherborn being there; and return'd home rather late in the evening.

Memorandum. 7<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 24<sup>th</sup>. 1807, and 6<sup>th</sup>. day of the week. In the afternoon I went over to William Railtons Priest of Cumberworth a social friendly man, and his Wife also a kind neighbour, having a little business with them; As I was going I heard a clap of Thunder at a distance, and whilst I was there, we had a most awful and tremendous Thunder storm which continued for above an hour, the Thunder was extremely loud, and the flashes of Lightning very awful, I do not remember ever hearing so much loud Thunder in the same time before. After the storm was a little abated, I smoked my Pipe and took a Glass of Rum and Water with them; William Railton and his Wife was both pressing on me to stop Tea with

them, but I declined their kind invitation and return'd home. After Tea we heard that the lightning had entered our neighbour William Outrams dwelling-house at the Tollbar near Highflatts, accordingly I went to see and found the report true, It had tore down part of the Top of the chimney, broke the mantel stone in the house all to pieces and shattered all the windows one light it had taken clean out, the mans Wife had a piece taken clean out of the shoe on her foot and one of the childrens was much shattered, several People was in the house, who had called to take shelter from the storm, one was set in the corner in a chair the foot of which was taken off and a rail; another was much knocked down near the middle of the floor and one who sat in a chair near the door was slightly hurt upon one arm, The bottom of a new chair was split asunder, and a number of drawers were part way drawn out, and many other matters which were very surprising, and yet not one received the least harm except the individual beforementioned. how wonderfully did the interposition of kind providence appear; how evidently were his mercies manifested over the noblest part of the Creation.

Memorandum. 7<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 26<sup>th</sup>. 1807 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, Our meeting at Highflatts was not much larger than usual altho' several strangers of other societies were there. It was a remarkable time various states were opened and closely spoke to, and the way of life and salvation clearly pointed out to the meanest capacity. I had a very long testimony to bear therein first from Jam: C: 1. v: 21. Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls, and afterwards another from Am: C: 3. v: 2. You only have I known of all the families of the earth; therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities. And afterwards I stood up and expressed that though the exercise of the present day had been to me very heavy, and the labour thereof much in the way of the cross, yet I felt sweet Peace, in the faithful discharge of apprehended duty. and then had divers remarks and weighty exhortations to communicate to the youth of our Society. At the close of the Meeting the Yearly Meeting Epistle was read. At our return home we found Maria the Wife of Ralph Denton of Joanroydnook an intimate acquaintance of Elizabeth Marsh my housekeeper, at my house; she stopt to dinner and Tea, and then return'd home Joseph Grayham and me spend the afternoon as usual in our Books; He is in much trouble by joining in with the temptation of an unwearied enemy in a snare the danger of which had been clearly seen, and he faithfully warned thereof. Sin and sorrow are always inseparable companions I earnestly desire that his may be of that Godly sort that worketh true repentance; for worldly sorrow only bringeth death.

Memorandum. 7<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 27<sup>th</sup>. 1807. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. day of the week; This afternoon it began to Thunder soon after dinner in the South-West, and looked awfully black, which alarmed many People very much, fearing such a time as had been but a few days before, and tho' we had several heavyish claps of Thunder accompanied with awful flashes of Lightning, yet the storm appeared to divide, and the weight thereof part to go down the south and part the North; and the wind arose and carried it faster away than was expected; and I have not heard of any damage anywhere done this day.

Memorandum. 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 2<sup>nd</sup>. 1807, and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of week, The day being remarkably fine, our meeting at Highflatts was large, and several of other Societies came in. It was a low heavy time in the forepart thereof, in which time I sat under a feeling sense of great poverty, but a little matter opening I stood up in great weakness and was strengthened to bear a long and

encouraging testimony to some deeply tryed states from Judg: C: 6. v: 15. My family is poor in Manasseh, and I am the least in my fathers house. After some time in silence I had a pretty long time again having a solemn warning to deliver to such as had repeatedly refused the offers of Gods Love from Luke C: 14. v: 24. None of those men which were bidden shall taste of my supper. Afterwards John Bottomley stood up and just repeated the three first verses of the 1<sup>st</sup>. Psalm. When we return'd home we found my Aunt Ann Hough of Crigglesstone at my house, I was much pleased to see her, She is my Mothers Sister and in the 75<sup>th</sup>. year of her age, being the only Aunt I have living She stopt with us until the next day in the afternoon. This afternoon I spent as usual in instructing my beloved Scholar Joseph Grayham in learning. The next morning when I was putting his Books by I found he had wrote upon a piece of waste paper "I wish I may not forsake my God; nor my God forsake me; for if he does what shall I do." I was much affected when I read it and my spirit said Amen to the humble petition, penned as I believe it flowed from a heart sensible of the loss he had sustained by falling into a grievous snare in the hour of temptation; O saith my soul that he may be so humbled under a sense thereof, as that he may be favoured to obtain forgiveness of the Almighty, whose love I think I have at times sensibly felt is still continued towards him; and who I humbly hope at times, will pour in the wine and oyl into his bleeding wounds and that thro' his sufferings for transgression, he may learn to be more watchful, and the remaining part of his days be blessed with the blessing of preservation, and have to sing of the judgments and mercies of the Lord to his soul. So be it saith my spirit.

Memorandum. 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 9<sup>th</sup>. 1807, and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week was our Preparative meeting at Highflatts, The meeting for Worship was not so large as I expected the day being remarkably fine, altho' a few of other Societies came in; It was a heavy laborious exercising meeting, towards the close thereof I had a long testimony to bear in which I had close doctrine to deliver to various states, and the language of encouragement to others even unto some who had missed their way and were mercifully brought to a sense thereof. The passage with which I was opened from was from Isai: C: 30. v: 1. Wo to the rebellious children saith the Lord, that take counsel, but not of me; and that cover with covering but not of my spirit, that they may add sin to sin. At the close of this meeting the business of our Preparative meeting was gone through, and at the close thereof John Bottomley and myself had each of us close hard labour in testimony with both Parents and children who were deviating from the simplicity of the pure Truth, which I thought at present appeared to have some reach upon the minds of some. But ah! how oftens do these favours appear as water spilt upon a stone, which tho' oftens wet, yet the nature not being changed, is quickly dried up. This afternoon was spent in a close attention to the improvement of my Scholar Joseph Grayham in his learning. On the 10<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week Joseph Haigh of Birdsedge and myself having been for some time under an engagement to pay a visit to Jonathan Bramalls of Swinden we concluded to go to day, and for this purpose he came to my house the evening before and stopt all night. We set out a little before 6 o clock in the morning, it being misty but soon cleared out and we had a very pleasant walk over the Moors to Soffley were we met with Benjamin Beever who had been my servant in husbandry several years and hired to this place the last removing time, he was a youth I much respected, and had not seen him before or since he left me, he appeared much pleased to see us, and I was glad to see him; after conversing a little with him, we proceeded to Jonathan Bramalls of Swinden were we got about eight o clock, and met with a very kind reception. After Breakfast took a walk in to the ground, and they being busy in their hay we helped them a little; and after dinner took leave of them, their daughter Ann accompanying us to John Howes of Hordron were we paid an agreeable visit, their kindness and freedom, with the loneliness of the place, and its beautiful situation, being particularly agreeable to me. We stopt about two hours and drunk Tea and betwixt four and five o clock set out towards home; came to Boardhill were we called at the Dog and Partridge and got

some Rum and Water Paid 1d, and then came to Soffley were we again met with Benjamin Beaver stopt and conversed a little with him, and then came over the Moors and by Birdsedge home were I got betwixt 7 and 8 o'clock in the evening. The day having been remarkably fine the walk over the Moors was very delightful, and particularly gratifying to me.

Memorandum. 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 14<sup>th</sup>. 1807 and 6<sup>th</sup>. day of the week, Our week day meeting at Highflatts was pretty large considering the day was wet, and in the forepart thereof my spirit was heavily oppress'd, so much so that I thought I had never felt the like before, at length I felt a concern to stand upon my feet and had a few close remarks to make, but not feeling my mind relieved after some time in silence had to stand up again and was led to speak concerning Esau selling his birthright for a mess of pottage, and how when he would have found a place of repentance he could not, altho' he sorted it carefully with tears. Whilst I was speaking James Arthington Wilson a young man who happened to be at meeting to day, and who had been many times much visited, but proved disobedient; was so struck with conviction that he cried out aloud, and all in the meeting might hear him express this language "Surely it is not all over with me." Friends appeared to be generally affected and many were made broken into tears, and such a change in a meeting, I think I never before felt. The young man came and spent the afternoon with me, his company was truly acceptable, he was for the present brought into a truly humble teachable frame of mind, and O saith my soul that he may but be preserved in this state. Before he left my house I had something to communicate to him from Matt: C: 13. v: 16. Blessed are your eyes; for they see.

Memorandum. 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 16<sup>th</sup>. 1807 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week My beloved servant and Scholar Joseph Grayham was married at the Steeplehouse in Penistone with Mary Barraclough Widow of John Barraclough of Denby. At our first acquaintance with each other he lived servant with John Mallinson of Birdsedge, and I had oftens observed in his countenance something more solid at times than in many others which attracted my attention but he being naturally rather of a reserved than open disposition and hearing sometimes of his being drawn into unprofitable company, by which he was drawn into the practice of drinking to excess, which I afterwards found was his besetting sin, and many times brought deep sorrow over his mind. These things kept me at a distance from him for some years, altho' I have oftens felt my mind secretly drawn in love towards him. But John Bottomley having a concern to pay a religious visit to the family, I accompanied him, and in this opportunity felt my mind drawn in Gospel Love to labour with this young Man which I believed reached the witness in his heart, and fully convinced me that the Lord was at work there at times altho' he knew it not or what it was that thus visited him, like Samuel formerly who knew not that it was the Lord when he heard the call. Before this I had wrote a letter to him from an apprehension of duty altho' I knew he could neither read nor write, and tho' it was a great part of a year before yet telling him in human reasoning, I had neither read it to him nor got any other person to do it. But soon after the beforementioned opportunity we had began to be more intimately acquainted. I undertaking to instruct him in learning. On 1<sup>st</sup>. day afternoons he mostly came to my house and on the evenings of other days I went to him so that we spent most of our leisure hours together, this proved a means of separating him from his former unprofitable companions, yet sometimes he was overtaken with too much Liquor which always brot. deep sorrow over his mind, O the tears that I have seen him shed afterwards when we have been alone. By thus associating together our love to each other exceedingly increased and many times did I sensibly feel the precious visitations of Truth extended towards him he forsook the National Worship, and frequented no place until, about the middle of summer 1805 when he began to attend our meetings constantly on first days, and I believe

in his judgment was fully convinced of the Truth, but like many others too much stumbled at the cross which hindered his growth, and caused him at times to be overtaken with his besetting sin, yet the Almighty followed him with his judgments mixed with mercy. In the 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. this year he left Birdsedge, and proposed in his mind to come and live with me, after they had hired another man we had some talk about it, but letting in human reasoning instead of obedience to best direction, I gave it up, but was soon convinced of my error, and heavily chastised for it I do not know that any one action of my life caused me as much sorrow. He hired to Mary Barraclough of Denby a Widow with two small children who had a small farm and kept a Shop. I soon saw the unsuitableness of the place, and her design in hiring of him, and whilst I am writing I wish it may be a caution to visited young men to mind how they place themselves. For tho' he had always bore a good character in respect to chastity, which made me hope he might be preserved, yet it is dangerous being placed in the way of temptation, the enemy is so busy about those who are desirous to abandoned him. He continued to come to my house as usual and I did my best to instruct him in learning, yet I have oftens felt heavily exercised on his account, I wrote to him and gave him such caution as opened; and tho' I heard nothing I have since believed she soon cast her eye upon him with a view to ensnare him, and he perhaps might look too much towards the prospect of a situation in life, however I am convinced there was something hindered in his growth in the Truth. About the middle of summer as we were set together in my parlour a very heavy exercise came over my mind on his account accompanied with a concern to express a few words unto him. I went with him part of the way home as usual, but we parted without doing what I apprehended to be my duty, but O the sorrow I was under all the week for this omission of duty. When first day came again I was going with him towards home, I felt the same word revive and when we was going to part I told him something had lain very heavy upon my mind to impart to him, but for what cause I was an entire Stranger. My message I then delivered in the following words "Mind what thou art doing, for if thou does not thou will bring thyself into such a scene of troubles, as neither thee nor thy best friends can extricate thee from." adding I believe this is intended, as a solemn caution or warning to thee. He made no reply, but I sensibly felt it reached unto the witness and brought a great solemnity over his mind. Soon after he inform'd me that the Woman with whom he lived had drawn him into an entanglement with her and he believed what I had said to him respected it; he wept very much and said he was determined to drop it, I told him from what I heard of her, I believed he would not except he left place, but that he thought he could not well do at that time of year. I continued to caution him at times as truth opened my way, knowing how dangerous his situation was. About harvest William Taylor of Rochdale came over to see me, and having a great regard for Joseph Grayham we went down to Denby to see him, and he return'd with us to my house and tarried all night and William feeling uneasy in his mind at the dangerous situation he was in had a private opportunity with him and told him how uneasy he felt, Joseph inform'd him that he wished he had never gone thither, and he believed it would have been much better for him if he had not; but added he was determined to leave when the year was up, accordingly a little before the time he came up one evening and I hired him, and after he came he told me he left clear of any criminal concern with her, and I believe fully determined in his mind to keep away from the place. But having dared to dally with the temptation as I thought the affectionate part was gone out and after he had been at my house a few weeks, when I was from home he ventured to call there, and having lost his strength by thus daring to tread upon forbidden ground he was overtaken in the snare and drawn to do that as I afterwards heard him say he once thought he never should have done. On the 31<sup>st</sup>. of ye 5<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1807 he inform'd me she was in a state of pregnancy by him, I was much affected with sorrow, altho' I told him I was in some measure prepared to receive it, as I had expected this would be the case when he ventured to go again after he had left. The next day we had some little conversation upon the subject and he wept very much, and I was truly thankful in believing that notwithstanding his fall, he was not forsaken but that the Lord was still renewing the visitations of his love unto him. O his mercy is indeed great. He is not dealing

with man according to his deservings but according to the multitude of his mercies hath compassion upon him, by renewing unto him the offers of his Love. About this time he was again overtaken several times with taking too much Liquor, I spoke to him about it he said it was trouble for what he had done that led him to it. I told him it was letting it have a wrong effect, and that it was the work of the enemy when any had been drawn into evil to endeavour if possible to push them forward into others; but that it was more necessary for him to humble himself, that so he might be favoured truly to repent and use all diligence in making his calling and election sure before he was called hence to be of men no more This advice had the desired effect. Yet he was oftens very sad and mostly appeared as one in trouble, and did not offer to marry, and indeed I believe he knew not what to do; I oftens thought it appeared to me as if he could not tell which way would be for best; and I dare not say to him either do it, or let it alone, but feeling at times a sympathy with him, I was concerned to turn his attention to that which could infallibly direct him. It was indeed a very weighty matter, the property was left to the two children, except an annuity to her during life, and nothing but the Interest could be come at which would be considerably short of sufficient for their education, and she a woman generally reported not the best tempered; So that it looked a distressing place for a young man to enter into, and I apprehend he now felt it so. Yet I believe the Lord was graciously pleased to continue his regard to him by following him with his judgments mixed with mercy, and one afternoon being the first day of the week, I perceived him to be under considerable exercise of mind, and the next morning I found wrote upon a piece of loose paper by his own hand. "I wish I may not for sake my God nor my God forsake me, for if he does what shall I do." I was much affected when I read it, and I sincerely desire that he may keep to the same exercise of mind now he is entered into a different scene of Life for the enemy there is his temptations according to our different situations, and it is only those who are concerned to keep the daily watch, who are favoured to experience preservation and a growth in the Truth. And may what I have now wrote, be made a blessing to some visited minds when my body may be laid in the silent grave, by begetting a care in them not to place themselves in such situations as may unnecessarily expose them to temptations, which when overcome by, may pierce themselves through with many sorrows. For sin and sorrow are inseparable companions. I had this remark I well remember to make in the first religious opportunity I sat with Joseph Grayham.

Memorandum            Our meeting at Highflatts, on 23<sup>rd</sup>. and 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1807 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week was much as usual in respect to the numbers of friends and others who attended. I was very low in my first sitting down therein, but endeavouring to get to the place of true waiting, a little matter arose, and I stood up and had a pretty long testimony to bear from Matt: C: 8. v: 22. Follow me; and let the dead bury their dead. Afterwards I had a short time from Heb: C: 4. v: 9. There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God. and after that a few words from Luke C: 5. v: 5. We have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing. After meeting Henry Marsden and Wife and their little son Isaac, and cousin Samuel Stead din'd with me, and after dinner Joseph Grayham wife came for the first time to pay me a visit, they all stopt Tea with me except cousin Samuel Stead who return'd pretty soon after dinner, towards evening I took a walk with Joseph Grayham and his Wife towards Denby.

Memorandum.            On 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 24<sup>th</sup>. 1807. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. day of the week This afternoon about 3 o'clock we had a Storm and Thunder and Lightning, but the weight of it went down the South, which in some places was very heavy; about 7 o'clock in the evening we had more Thunder at a distance, and abundance of Lightning which continued until towards midnight, and caused us to apprehend, that it was a very awful night somewhere.

Memorandum. 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 28<sup>th</sup>. and 6<sup>th</sup>. of week, There was 42 Persons at meeting at Highflatts today; It was a remarkable time, The minds of a remnant, being comfortable, felt to be deeply centered in God. After a solemn silence this language run thro' me accompanied it with a concern to revive it in the hearing of this Assembly. Matt: C: 1. v: 23. They shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us. Had a pretty long testimony to bear. The language of encouragement flowing freely unto those whose minds have this day been deeply centered in him who is an Omnipresent being, and the youth were encouraged to seek after him, that so his glory might at times cover their minds in their Assemblies, and acceptable worship be performed unto him. After meeting Leah Kinsley din'd and drunk Tea at my house. In the afternoon William Wormald came to invite me to the burial of his Master Joseph Kershaw of Shaw in Lancashire who was convinced of the Truth but not accepted a member of our Society he died ye. 26<sup>th</sup>. of this month and was to be buried ye. 30<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week in friends burial ground at Turf lane end near Oldham. He was called away in the prime of Life, had a short but very severe illness, being heavily afflicted; and has left a Wife and 6 children.

Memorandum. 9<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 4<sup>th</sup>. 1807. and 6<sup>th</sup>. of week, Our friends Thomas Clarke and Joseph Metford from Sommersetshire in the course of their religious visit to the meetings of friends in this county were at our meeting at Highflatts. I got home from my Journey to the Publick meetings held in Worsbro' dale, and at Houghton late on 4<sup>th</sup>. day evening. In the former of those meetings I thought Truth arose into the greatest dominion I ever before experienced on any occasion, but in returning home my mind felt very much stripped, and tho' I did not see any cause on mine own account yet after I got home my poverty and distress of mind increased, so as to be visible in my countenance, which was sad from sorrow of heart. I have sometimes rejoiced much when I have heard of Strangers coming to visit us but such was the state of my mind now that nothing seemed to afford me any satisfaction, that small portion of faith which is able to remove mountains, seemed in my apprehension to be quite gone up; in this situation I remained until the meeting day came, and then I was afraid to go to it, I felt a burden to myself and was afraid of being burdensome unto others, however I dare not stay at home, altho' strongly tempted to it; But soon after I sat me down in the meeting my mind did enjoy a perfect calm. The friends were led in a very encouraging manner, and I was renewedly favoured to see the necessity there was after being favoured in a very extraordinary manner; to be cloathed as with the royal robes, and evidently manifested to the People that this is the man whom the King of Kings delighteth to honour, to be again stripped, and now a returning to sit at the Kings gate sometimes cloathed as with sackcloth and ashes, and it is in these deeply humiliating seasons that the Lord prepares his vessels for further service. Thomas Clarke had a pretty long testimony to bear in this meeting first from Gen: C: 15. v: 1. Fear not, Abram: I am thy shield, and thy exceeding reward. Joseph Metford had a long time from Heb: C: 8. v: 5. See, saith he, that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the Mount. Thomas Clarke had afterwards a short time from Prov: C: 4. v: 25. Let thine eyes look right on and let thine eyelids look straight before thee. I return'd from this meeting rejoicing seeing the word of God made good. If we believe not yet he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself.

Memorandum. 9<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 13<sup>th</sup>. 1807 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week was our Preparative meeting at Highflatts, It was large altho' there was not many of other Societies came in, yet the Meetinghouse was pretty well filled. I had a very long and remarkable open time in testimony therein from Gen: C: 2. v: 25. They were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed. The Power of Truth greatly prevailed, many were much broken and

tendered, and the glory of the Lord conspicuously covered the Assembly. At the close of the meeting for Worship the business of our Preparative meeting was gone through The Queries were read and answered and answers drawn up approv'd and Signed in order to be laid before our ensuing Monthly meeting, Many weighty remarks were made thereon, and much counsel and advice were communicated by sundry friends. O that these favours may not be rejected, until the language go forth; Ephraim is joined to idols; let him alone, of the danger of which some were faithfully warned. Both meetings held near 3 and a half hours. Joshua Broadhead and his Wife of Wooldale din'd at my house today and Joseph Grayham being very ill, so as to be pretty much confined to his Bed his Mother and Aunt came to see him, and Henry Swire came and spent a short time with us this afternoon. They all drank Tea with us, and I accompanied Henry Swire part of the way home in the forepart of the evening.

Memorandum. On 10<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 11<sup>th</sup>. 1807 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, It being our Preparative meeting at Highflatts the meeting for Worship was large altho' mostly select of such as usually attend our meetings. I had a pretty long testimony to bear therein from Gen: C: 3. v. 9, 10. The Lord God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou? And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden; and I was afraid. Afterwards I was opened in a very particular manner to some state whose mind felt to me to be much hurried respecting the doctrine of Election and Reprobation which doctrine as generally held I had to shew its falsity, and to shew them where the Election stood even in Christ Jesus, and those only were the elect who were created anew in him, in whom alone the choice stands from Eph: C: 1. v: 4. He hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world. At the close of this meeting the business of our Preparative meeting was gone thro'. Thomas Earnshaw of Judfield came with us home and in the morning Joseph Grayham Wife and their son Robert then about 6 weeks old came to my house it was the first house he was in except their own. They all din'd and drunk Tea with us, and then set out to their respective homes. Our family sitting this evening was held in silence except the reading and no other person attended beside Joseph Haigh of Birdsedge

Memorandum. 10<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 13<sup>th</sup>. 1807 and 3<sup>rd</sup>. day of the week, This forenoon William Bayldon came to my house on a visit to me, which visit was truly acceptable, The inwardness of his mind, the solidity of his countenance, the weightiness of his conversation, evidently manifested a work of divine Grace in his soul. He was 20 years old ye. 5<sup>th</sup>. of this month, hath attended friends meetings at times about 2 years, and more diligently of late; he is a resident in Barnsley having learned the Linen business there; he is the son of John Bayldon of Hollinghurst near Netherton a considerable farmer. The meeting I had in that place being spoke well of by the People in general had I believe made way in his Fathers mind for his sons liberty; he telling a friend soon after he should never say anything more against his son attending meetings, and now sent word by him, that he should be glad to see me at his house, at any time. His Mother was daughter of the Priest of Royston, and her Brother George Wood is now one of the 12 Judges, and this summer was appointed for the Northern Circuit; he made to stay amongst his Relations in Yorkshire, and William was several times in his company but he made no remarks to him respecting his attending friends Meetings; He was desirous that some of the children should be brought up for the Church (so-called) he having three Brothers and William was designed for that, and accordingly received a good education, but not feeling his mind easy, he was not sent to the University; being I believe designed by Providence for more honourable service; On 14<sup>th</sup>. and 4<sup>th</sup>. of week, In the afternoon we drunk Tea at John Bottomleys. On 15<sup>th</sup>. and 5<sup>th</sup>. of week we Breakfasted at Elihu Dickinsons; and in the afternoon, betwixt 2 and 3 o'clock, he set out for his Fathers, and I set him on his way

about 3 miles, and as during his stay at my house we had been brought very near and dear to each other, so we parted under the precious influence of the cementing power and virtue of Truth. I called in my return at Charles Blackburns of Skelmanthorp and drunk Tea and then came to John Woods of Dykeside were I took a Glass of Rum and Water, and in my way home from there called and sat a little at John Bottomleys of Wood.

Memorandum. On ye. 20<sup>th</sup>. day of ye. 10<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1807. Sarah Chapman daughter of George Chapman of Penistone depart this Life and was buried in friends burial ground at Lumbroyd near Penistone ye. 24<sup>th</sup>. of the same and 7<sup>th</sup>. day of the week aged about 21 years. I being invited attended the burial, the invitation was for 8 o clock in the morning and the Meeting began at 11 I left home a little past six o clock and got to Penistone at about half past 7. The meeting was large the house and chamber being quite full. They having an extensive acquaintance many were invited and many came to the meeting who were not at the house. It was a solid good meeting and held about 2 hours. I had a long testimony to bear therein from Psalms 39. v: 5. Behold, thou hast made my days as an hand breath; and mine age is as nothing before thee; verily every man at his best state is altogether vanity. John Bottomley was next concerned in supplication. From the meeting I returned to George Chapmans were I stopt and din'd and drunk Tea. About 5 o clock I set out towards home George Chapman set me on my way upwards of half a mile and then returned. He was one of the first of my religious acquaintance; and from that time a pure disinterested friendship hath subsisted betwixt us; the nature of which is to bear one another burdens and so fulfil the Law of christ; and surely after we were separated I sensibly experienced this my spirit being heavily oppressed as I came on the road, neither did I feel any desire to get from under it, believing it arose from that pure love which have so long subsisted betwixt us, and which I believe nothing but death will be able to dissolve and this love leads to a feeling sympathy one with another in all their troubles, and this I was favoured to see was the cause of my present exercise, as well as a separation from her whom from her infancy I had respected, and whose kindness to me I had oftens admired. She had had a long illness of about 3 Years and 11 Months which tho' very trying to nature, I trust was profitable unto her. It oftens appearing to me when I have been set with her, That the Almighty would not remove her hence until she was so thoroughly refined, as to be in a proper situation of mind to dwell with him for ever, and truly for a long time she appeared fully resigned to leave the world and all the enjoyments thereof in the very bloom of her Life and flower of her age; and O saith my soul that a consideration of this may be a means of alleviating the sorrow of her afflicted Parents under so deep a tryal as parting with their beloved and only daughter. O may they be favoured with the resignation of one formerly so as to be enabled to say with him. "Shall not the judge of all the earth do right."

Memorandum. 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1<sup>st</sup>. 1807 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week. Was the Meeting for Sufferings at Highflatts at which time the friends of Lumbroyd Meeting unite with us So that the Meeting for Worship was large of friends and a few of other Societies attended, It was a time of renewed favour John Bottomley was first concerned therein in supplication. Thomas Dixon Walton had a few words next in testimony I had a pretty long time next from Psalms 32. v: 10. Many sorrows shall be to the wicked; but he that trusteth in the Lord, mercy shall compass him from about, after which I was concerned in Prayer. At the close of the meeting for Worship was the Meeting for Sufferings. Henry Swire, James Harrison, Thomas Dixon Walton and John Pickford were appointed by the Monthly meeting to collect the account of Sufferings and enquire into friends faithfulness respecting our testimony against Tythes, Priest demands, those called Church rates, the Rate money, and the Militia; and to advise

friends to an annual inspection into the state of their affairs. The account of Sufferings were collected and read, and answers given or received from all the heads of families belonging to our Preparative meeting some weighty remarks were made and testimonies borne, and the business of our Preparative meeting was adjourned to the close of the meeting for Worship next 1<sup>st</sup>. day. Both meetings held 3 hours. Henry Swire, James Harrison, and Thomas Dixon Walton came with me to my house to dine. After Tea Henry Swire return'd home, the other two friends stopped all night with us, so that we had their company at our family sitting this evening, also of our friend John Pickford who came to spend the evening with us, and Joseph Haigh who usually attends; It was a comfortable opportunity, after reading, I had an encouraging testimony to bear therein from Hos: C: 14. v: 5. I will be as the dew unto Israel; he shall grow as the lily, and cast forth his roots as Lebanon. On 2<sup>nd</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, After Breakfast, James Harrison and Thomas Dixon Walton, set out to meet the other friends at Wooldale meeting; and in their return to Barnsley called at John Mallinsons of Birdsedge in the afternoon were at their request, and the familys invitation; I met them, and we drunk Tea there together.

Memorandum. 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 8<sup>th</sup>. 1807 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, Was the Conference of Overseers of our Preparative Meeting which is held Quarterly at 10 o clock in the morning and I feeling my mind drawn to sit with them attended accordingly and had reason to believe I was in my proper place as several matters of importance came before them, in which I had some advice to communicate. Our present our Overseers are George Chapman, Thomas Earnshaw of Judfield, John Brook, William Taylor, Joseph Haigh, Mary Walker, Mary Mallinson, Sarah Haigh and Leah Kinsley, all of whom attended except William Taylor and Mary Walker the latter being prevented thro' indisposition. The meeting for Worship was at the close of the Conference which was not very large altho' a few of other Societies came in I had a pretty long testimony to bear therein from Psalms 75. v 8. In the hand of the Lord there is a cup, and the wine is red; it is full of mixture, and he poureth out of the same; but the dregs thereof all the wicked of the earth shall wring them out, and drink them. Our friend Christopher Walker of Dirtcar was at our meeting today, and in the afternoon called and drunk Tea with us. Our family sitting in the evening was small, none attending beside except Joseph Haigh. After reading a degree of solemnity covered our minds so that the promise to the two or three was mercifully fulfilled unto us.

Memorandum. 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 22<sup>nd</sup>. 1807 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, Our meeting at Highflatts was this day smaller than usual, but larger than I expected, being extremely cold and deepish snow. But it proved an open favoured time I was early concerned to bear a short testimony therein from Nah: C: 1. v: 7. The Lord is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him. Afterwards I had a long time from Hag: C: 1. v: 9. Ye looked for much, and lo, it came to little; and when ye brought it home, I the Lord did blow upon it. Why? Saith the Lord of hosts. Because of mine house that is waste, and ye run every man to his own house. I had a short time next from Job: C: 5. v: 6. Affliction cometh not forth out of the dust neither doth trouble spring out of the ground. John Bottomley was next concerned in Prayer. After meeting Henry Marsden came and din'd with me, and after he return'd home, George Wassenage, a Young Man from Toadwick about 11 miles behind Sheffield who had lived servant with our Neighbour Richard Hutchinson of Lanehead this year came to drink Tea with us, he being about to return into his own country, and having always appeared civil and friendly towards me when we met; I had invited him to come before he left and was pleased with his company. At our family sitting this evening there was only myself my beloved friend and servant William Taylor and my housekeeper Elizabeth

Marsh. But we were not beneath the promise which after reading, in our silent waiting was measurably fulfilled unto us. On 24<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, a very Stormy day and the snow lay deep upon the ground, my beloved friend and servant Joseph Grayham having finished his year left my house this day and went to his Wife we spent most of the day together, and after Tea I set him a piece on his way, were we parted. In mutual affection having a great respect for each other, and strong was my desires for his welfare every way, and more especially that he might be preserved from the evils of the world and experience a growth in the Truth. For altho' he has been overtaken in the hour of temptation, and fallen into gross evil which I believe he would once have abhorred. Yet I also believe he has in mercy experienced the rod for transgression, and still retains a love for the Truth. May he so mind the seasons of renewed visitation as to experience a daily growth therein is the fervent travail and breathing of my Spirit on his account. The next morning Jonathan Hirst of Denby who appears a likely youth for my service, came to be my servant in husbandry. I sincerely wish it may be to his advantage, and our mutual satisfaction.

Memorandum. On the 8<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1807 and 3<sup>rd</sup>. day of the week in the evening Timothy Sykes of Shafton a Preacher amongst the Methodists and an intimate acquaintance of mine came to see me and spend a few days with me. He was a tender spirited youth and in an enquiring state of mind when I was first acquainted with him, and being of an excellent natural disposition, his company was very agreeable; Since that time he hath appeared to me to grow more in the branches than in the root, seeking after that knowledge which puffeth up more than after that charity which truly edifieth, hence ariseth a partiality to opinions, and a zeal for outward forms without Life, and a danger of letting in a persecuting spirit against those who conscientiously dissent from them. This I thought was in some measure his present case, and in the course of this visit I had faithfully to warn him against it. Nevertheless as I believe he retains a degree of Godly sincerity his visit was acceptable, and our love for each other being without dissimulation we was glad to enjoy each others company. On 9<sup>th</sup>. and 4<sup>th</sup>. of week in the afternoon we drunk Tea at John Pickfords of Park. On 10<sup>th</sup>. and 5<sup>th</sup>. of week, in the afternoon we drunk Tea and supp'd at my Brother Samuel Woods of Haddenley. On 11<sup>th</sup>. and 6<sup>th</sup>. of week in the forenoon he wrote to his Brother George who is a travelling Preacher amongst the Methodists, and I attended our Weekday Meeting at Highflatts which was pretty large and satisfactory Leah Kinsley bore an acceptable testimony therein, and after meeting din'd at my house. Benjamin Chapman and Jonathan Hirsts Mother my servant in husbandry, drank Tea with us this afternoon, and George Mallinson spent the evening with us and supp'd. This day Timothy Sykes attained the 22<sup>nd</sup>. year of his age. On 12<sup>th</sup>. and 7<sup>th</sup>. of week in the afternoon we drunk Tea at cousin John Mallinsons of Birdsedge. On 13<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week about 9 o clock in the morning Timothy Sykes left my house intending to reach home in the evening. We parted in mutual affection my mind feeling at the time earnest desires that he might be favoured to experience a being so thoroughly emptied of that desire of feeding on the tree of knowledge; as to be in a proper situation of mind to receive the new wine of the kingdom. For new wine must be put into new bottles; Man must be created anew in Christ Jesus before he can drink new wine with him in his kingdom. Our meeting at Highflatts was this day pretty large Thomas Dixon Walton of Barnsley was there and had a short testimony to bear therein first. After which I had a pretty long time from Isai: C: 40. v. 30, 31. The youths shall faint and be weary; and the young men shall utterly fall; But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint. At the close of the meeting for Worship the business of our Preparative meeting was gone through amongst other things the Queries were read and answered and answers thereto drawn up approv'd and Signed in order to be laid before our ensuing Monthly meeting. Both meetings held near 3 hours. We had the company of George Chapman, Joseph Grayham and his Wife,

and their little son Robert to dinner and at Tea except George Chapman. Henry Swire came to Tea, and stopt our family sitting in the evening were we had also the company of Joseph Haigh and John Pickford. After reading and a short time in silence I had a pretty long testimony to bear from Rev: C: 14. v: 13. Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord, from henceforth: yea saith the Spirit; that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them. Henry Swire and John Pickford stopt supper with us, and about 9 o'clock set out towards home.

Memorandum. 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 27<sup>th</sup>. 1807 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week. The day being fine our Meeting was pretty large at Highflatts, and was considerably increased by a number of other Societies who came in. I had a pretty long testimony to bear therein from Gal: C: 3. v: 1. O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you that ye should not obey the Truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth crucified. and afterwards from Rev: C: 2. v: 4, 5. I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love. Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent; and do thy first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and I will remove thy candlestick out of his place. Near the conclusion of the meeting I have to address both Parents and children tenderly to exhort those who were heads of families to restrain their children and as much as in them lay their servants from mixing with the vain World in the observations of those times, wherein under a pretence of honouring the time of the birth of Christ his great Name was much dishonoured there being more sin and wickedness committed than in the same space of time in all the year beside: and had to beseech children to be obedient to their Parents, that so it might be well with them. After meeting Joseph Grayham and John Issott came to dine with me they stopt until after Tea and then set out to their respective homes, I set Joseph Grayham a piece on his way and then return'd. At our family sitting this evening none attended but ourselves After reading my mind was renewedly impressed not only with the duty but real advantage of families thus collecting together to read the Scriptures, and wait upon that Almighty powerful being from whence all good comes.

Memorandum. 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 3<sup>rd</sup>. 1808 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week. Our meeting at Highflatts was a time of remarkable favour The Truth was largely and livingly declared, the emptiness of all outward form and shadows were set forth and Christ the pure living and eternal substance exalted as the end thereof. also the danger of those who had been favoured to experience a good beginning, of departing from the substance and returning to the weak and beggarly elements was declared and all were pathetically advised who had been taught of the anointing to abide in him. John Bottomley had a short testimony therein first from Sam: C: 15. v: 22. To obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams. I had a long time next from 1 John C: 4: v: 1. Beloved believe not every spirit, but try the Spirits whether they are of God; because many false Prophets be gone out into the world. John Bottomley next in Prayer and afterwards I had a pretty long time in testimony from 1 Cor: C: 3: v: 11, 12, 13, 14, 15. Other foundation can no man lay than that is laid which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; Every mans work shall be made manifest for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire, and the fire shall try Every mans work of what sort it is. If any mans work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any mans work be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved, yet so as by fire. After meeting Joseph Grayham and Elias Armitage came to dine with me, they stopt all afternoon and after Tea set out for their respective habitations, and I accompanied Joseph Grayham a piece on his way and then return'd. Our family sitting this evening was in a good degree favoured several neighbours

came in viz Joseph Haigh, Amos Blackburn, John Kirk junr. and James Hinchcliffe. After reading I had a pretty long testimony to bear from Acts C: 10. v. 34, 35. God is no respecter of persons. But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.

Memorandum. 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 8<sup>th</sup>. 1808 and 6<sup>th</sup>. day of the week, This day towards evening Miles Meadowcroft of Royton in Lancashire came to my house, He was convinced of friends Principles a few years ago, and since hath been at his request admitted a member of our Society. I had no acquaintance with him before this time, but I suppose he had seen me at the meeting at Oldham, of which he is a member; and being in this part was desirous to see me, he stopt all night, and the next morning I accompanied him to Skelmanthorp he having some business with Charles Blackburn, Whilst there I met with a Pamphlet wrote by Daniel Roberts of Painswick in Gloucestershire a member of our Society who had embraced the visionary notions of Joanna Southcott and endeavoured to propagate the same by a circular letter, for which he was brought under dealing by the Monthly meeting of Nailsworth in the said county. I read the said Pamphlet carefully, and was favoured with a clear discovery of the troublesome unsettled and contentious spirit of the man there was somethings that any member of our Society must know to be false; and some other parts of his conduct according to what he himself hath wrote, not only inconsistent with that civility and good manners which I believe will ever adorn a true Christian, but also with the Precepts laid down by Christ himself, and the whole appeared to be wrote with much asperity of a language, and interspersed with many bitter reflections upon the Society at large. I could not but exceedingly pity the Author, yet I thought there was such visible traits of what Spirit the man was of throughout the whole of his performance, as must clearly manifest to every unprejudiced reader, that notwithstanding his high pretensions; he is too much a stranger to the Wisdom which is from above which is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy, and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy; and better acquainted with that knowledge which puffeth up than with that charity which edifieth. I thought I felt thankful in making these remarks, in being renewedly convinced that notwithstanding many amongst us as a people are resting at ease in the traditions of their forefathers, and are not sufficiently concerned to know the Truth for themselves, yet there are a living remnant preserved in most places unto whom the language of our Lord and Saviour is applicable Blessed are your eyes for ye see. These are still favoured clearly to discern betwixt the voice of the Shepherd and the voice of the stranger in whomsoever it appears, and under the precious influence of that Wisdom which is profitable to direct after due admonition and seasonable time of waiting to place judgment upon the head of the transgressor whether it may be in Principle or in practice. These I believe remain to be the salt of the earth, or as a city set on a hill that cannot be hid, and I fully believe that the number of these are increasing, and that the precious Truth possessed by them will yet spread far and wide in the earth, Kings shall see its glory and princes bow to its arising, and unitedly endeavour to promote the coming of that day in which the divine prediction will be fulfilled, From the rising of the sun even unto the going down of the same, my Name shall be great among the Gentiles, and in every place incense shall be offered unto my name, and a pure offering. Thus will the Kingdoms of this world become the kingdom of our Lord, and of his christ; and he shall reign forever and ever. As there are diversities of gifts, but the same spirit. and there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations but it is the same God which worketh all in all. But the manifestation of the spirit is given to every man to profit withall. So I believe there are amongst the various professors of the christian name who according to their respective measures are honestly labouring to promote the coming of this day. yet I must acknowledge I do esteem it a favour, that I am united with a People amongst whom purity of Doctrine, and holy order in discipline, is more eminently maintained than

amongst any other People that I know of. The Lord still continuing to fulfil his ancient promise unto us of being a spirit of judgment unto those who sit in judgment, and for strength to them that battle to the gate. It was the Lords power that first gathered our predecessors to be a People, by the same Power we have been preserved and upheld unto the present day and notwithstanding the rage of the world and of false brethren, who have departed from the true faith, as a body we are preserved, one in faith in principle and in practice. And it hath been an observation which I have frequently heard from People of other religious persuasions, and which I believe is abundantly verified That they never knew any leave friends that was ever any credit to any other People they went amongst. I din'd at Leah Kinsleys and after reading the beforementioned Pamphlet through; came to Joseph Hinchcliffes of Whinney were I had a little business, stopt Tea there, after which his son Charles Hinchcliffe a young man who has lately joined our Society by convincement accompanied me most of the way home and then return'd.

Memorandum. 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 12<sup>th</sup>. 1808 and 3<sup>rd</sup>. day of the week. This evening Samuel Hall of Sutton in Nottinghamshire and Thomas Blore came to my house and stopt a night with me, they were on a journey of business. I was gone to sup and spend the evening with my beloved friend Joseph Grayham of Denby when they came so that I had but very little of their company that evening. The next morning we had some conversation together when I understood Thomas Blore was about to live servant with Samuel Hall who was about begining the draperry business, and he was well instructed therein, having been in that line at Ashbourne in Derbyshire and Uttoxetter in Staffordshire since which he had lived at New York in America and was the first that had the Yellow fever when it raged so in that city, he gave me some account of that dreadful disorder and the manner in which it affected the afflicted, and one thing I think worthy of remark which clearly manifests that these awful visitations are from divine Providence; and out of the reach of man to account for in any other way; he said the first visitation was wholly amongst the lower class of People, when the Physicians published several tracts, imputing the cause to a want of cleanliness, and recommending greater attention to be paid thereto which was strictly complied with. The summer following It broke forth amongst the higher rank of the inhabitants, and raged amongst that class only, so that the Physicians were then forced to acknowledge that there was a hand of Providence in it. Thomas Blore appears a steady young man, fully convinced of the Truth of our religious principles, and constantly attends friends meetings, but is not accepted a member yet. They informed me of the death of Elizabeth the Wife of Robert Longden and my much esteemed friend George Young two of the convinced friends at Derby who were interred in a piece of ground purchased by friends for a burial ground; and upon which they are about to erect a Meetinghouse. After Breakfast they proceeded on their journey, and I went with George Chapman we being nominated by our last Select meeting to pay Thomas Roberts of Wooldale a visit who was a member thereof and had manifested some weakness respecting our testimony against the Militia The said visit was to a good degree of satisfaction he appearing kind and open to advise, and we had reason to believe his unfaithfulness was more for want of consideration, nor intention of violating the testimony of Truth, yet there appeared so much weakness in respect to our Testimonies, that we thought it might be best for him to resign his station as an Elder which when it was proposed to him he expressed his willingness to comply therewith, and that it might be proposed to our next Monthly Meeting. After getting a little refreshment there I went to Henry Swires of Springhouse were I stopt several hours and drunk Tea, then came to George Broadheads of Jackson Bridge were I spent the evening and supp'd. James Robinson his servant who had married his Niece accompanied me part of the way home and then return'd. I called and sat a little at cousin John Mallinsons of Birdsedge and so got home about 11 o clock at night.

Memorandum. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. 6<sup>th</sup>. 1808, and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week Our meeting at Highflatts was this day pretty large friends and others who usually attend coming up pretty fully. I had a very long testimony to bear therein first from Isai: C: 8. v: 19, 20. When they shall say unto you, Seek unto them that have familiar spirits, and unto wizards, that peep and mutter; should not a people seek unto their God? for the living to the dead? To the law and to the testimony; if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them. and afterwards had a short time from Acts C: 1. v: 11. Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus which is taken from you up into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven. and I thought upon the whole it was an open favoured meeting. Joseph Grayham and John Issott came to my house to dine, and spent the afternoon with me. and John Pickford came to drink Tea with us. They all set out for their respective homes in the evening and I set Joseph Grayham a little on his way.

Memorandum. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. 13<sup>th</sup>. 1808 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week Being our Preparative meeting day at Highflatts; The meeting was large of friends, and a considerable number of other Societies came in, so that the Meetinghouse was nearly full; It was a remarkable favoured meeting. The way of life, salvation was clearly set forth, by Christ, the Alpha and Omega the beginner carrier on and perfecter of the great work of the new creation without which none can enter the kingdom God. I had a very long testimony to bear therein first from John C: 3. v: 19. This is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. Leah Kinsley had a pretty long time next from the Parable of the Marriage of the Kings son. After which the Yearly Meeting Epistle was read. At the close of the meeting for Worship, the business of our Preparative meeting was gone through, amongst other things, The Queries were read and answered and answers thereto drawn up approved and Signed in order to be laid before our ensuing Monthly meeting. Joseph Grayham din'd at my house, and after dinner John Pickford came and spent the afternoon with us, they both stopt Tea, and between 6 and 7 o'clock in the evening set out for their respective homes, and I set Joseph Grayham a little on his way, and return'd to our family sitting. After reading, I thought we were favoured with a good degree of solemnity over our minds in silence.

Memorandum. Wakefield Monthly Meeting. Feeling my mind drawn to attend Burton Preparative meeting in my way to our Monthly meeting to be held at Wakefield I left home ye. 19<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. 1808 and 7<sup>th</sup>. day of the week betwixt 1 and 2 o'clock in the afternoon and went by Dykeside, Dakinbrook, and Cawthorne to Barnsley where I got betwixt four and five in the afternoon, rested me a little and got some Rum and Water at Thomas Dixon Waltons, and then went to Susanna Atkinsons where I drunk Tea, and spent the evening and supp'd at Thomas Walker Haighs then went to Thomas Yeardeleys where I lodged with dear John Yeardley, whose company was to me truly acceptable. On 20<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week I breakfasted at Elizabeth Dunns, and from thence went to the meeting at Burton; of the committee appointed to attend here There was Robert Whitaker, James Harrison, myself, Isabella Harris and Hannah Dumbleton attended. There was also three friends of Wakefield Meeting who were on a visit to a young Woman on her application to be a member of our Society; and the friends of their own meeting were generally there. So that it was pretty large. I sat in such a state of depression in the forpart thereof as I thought I never before experienced; so that I was ready to fear I was a burden to the living, but as I sat under this deep Baptism, a concern arose to stand upon my feet and simply relate how it had been with me, and then I was led in a very encouraging manner to speak to such a deeply Tried state from Psalms 42. v: 5. Why art thou cast down, O my soul? And why art thou disquieted in

me? Hope thou in God; for I shall yet praise him for the help of his countenance. Isabella Harris had a very long time afterwards upon the same subject, and I thought the meeting ended comfortably, at the close thereof the business of their Preparative meeting was gone through, amongst other things the Queries were read and answered, and Answers thereto drawn up approv'd and Signed in order to be laid before our ensuing Monthly meeting. Both meetings held 3 hours. After which my beloved friend Thomas Dixon Walton concluded to accompany me to Wakefield, we came to Windsor Castle where we stopt upwards of an hour and got some refreshment paid 1s 3d and then proceeded by Woolley to Dirtcar where we got to William Pickards about 5 o'clock, having had a very wet journey; After Tea I left my companion here and went to our Select meeting held at Christopher Walkers which began at 6 in the evening and held upwards of 2 hours, All our members attended except George Chapman and Leonard West who were prevented through indisposition. The Queries were read and answers thereto drawn up approv'd and Signed in order to be laid before our ensuing Quarterly Select meeting. After meeting we all supp'd here, and after supper I return'd to my companion William Pickards where we lodg'd. On 21<sup>st</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, we set out for Wakefield a little before 10 o'clock Henry Marsden accompanying us thither we rested us and got a little refreshment at Ann Thorps and then went to the meeting which was larger than I expected, it being a very Snowy day, so that friends were much wet and harassed; however it proved an open favoured meeting, the language of encouragement and caution flowing freely to many visited minds especially the youth, I had a pretty long time first from 1 Kin: C: 3. v: 9. Give therefore thy Servant an understanding heart. Afterwards Isabella Harris had a long time from Psalms 116. v: 14. I will pay my vows unto the Lord. At the close of the meeting for Worship was held our Mo. meeting for discipline Amongst the other business The Queries were read and Answers received from all our our Preparative meetings viz. Pontefract, Burton, Highflatts, Ackworth, Wakefield, Wooldale, and a General Answer was drawn up approv'd and Signed in order to be laid before at our ensuing Quarterly Meeting. In answer to the second. Query It appeared that a number of sober People continued to attend Burton, Highflatts, and Wakefield meetings and that there was some edition of this number since last year but none accepted into membership. I inform'd the friends of this meeting of my further concern of paying a religious visit to the Inhabitants of several places within the compass of our Monthly meeting. Also our friend Isabella Harris laid before us a concern that was on her mind to pay a religious visit to the prisoners confined in the house of correction in this Town. Both which concerns being solidly weighed, drew forth Testimonies of Unity and encouragement from many friends; and we were left at liberty to proceed therein as way might open. Both Meetings held 4 hours and a half. After which I din'd at William Awmacks, and at 5 o'clock had a religious opportunity with those who attended meetings but are not accepted into membership, who reside on this side of the meeting, having sat with those in the neighbourhood of Dewsbury before. After which I went to Ann Thorps and sat a little and then came to Dirtcar where I got about 8 o'clock and lodg'd at Christopher Walkers. On 22<sup>nd</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week After breakfast I went and sat a little at William Pickards, and took a glass of Brandy and water. Left Dirtcar betwixt 10 and 11 o'clock in the forenoon, and came to Crigglestone where I stop upwards of an hour at my Uncle Joseph Houghs and got some refreshment, then came by Bretton and Emley to Skelmanthorp where I stopt 3 hours and drunk Tea at Leah Kinsleys, and then came by Cumberworth home where I got betwixt 7 and 8 o'clock in the evening.

Memorandum. 4<sup>th</sup>. mo. 10<sup>th</sup>. 1808 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week Our meeting at Highflatts was large, the house being pretty well filled of friends and a few others who came in. I had a long testimony to bear from Jer: C: 12. v: 5. If thou hast run with the footmen, and they have unwearied thee, then how cans't thou contend with horses? And if in the land of peace, wherein thou trusted, and they wearied thee, then how wilt thou do in the swelling of Jordan?

I had very plain and close labour not only with those who were halting by the way, but with those who were turning from the purity of one religious profession to a conformity to the customs and fashions of this vain world, as well as the language of encouragement to the feeble but faithful wrestlers for the blessing. At the close of the Meeting for Worship the business of our Preparative meeting was gone through. I not being recovered of my illness was very much spent with the exercise of the foregoing meeting and in the night had a severe return of my complaint in that I got very little if any rest. Robert Harrison of Barnsley a young man under convincement came to my house this morning attended the meeting and spent the remainder of the day with us; I could have enjoyed his company more, if I had been in better state of health. He stopt all night, and the next morning went about some business to Holmfirth and in his return in the afternoon called and drunk Tea with us. Joseph Grayham came to dine with us, and as usual stopt the afternoon. Samuel Coward of Barnsley was at meeting and went with John Bottomley to dine and after dinner they came up to our house and stopt Tea with us.

Memorandum. 5<sup>th</sup>. mo. 8<sup>th</sup>. 1808 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week It being our Preparative meeting our meeting at Highflatts was enlarged by the Lumbroyd friends attendance but smaller than I expected, and entirely select of such as usually attend meetings. In my silent waiting therein, this language very much impressed my mind. viz.

Short is our longest day of life,  
And soon its prospects end;  
Yet on that days uncertain date,  
Eternal the years depend.

After sitting under the weight thereof a considerable time it appeared to be my place to revive it unto this Assembly and I was largely opened therefrom concerning the shortness and uncertainty of time, and the necessity of a right preparation for our final change, and the only way and means by which this could be effected was clearly pointed out viz by him who is given for a Covenant to the People, for a Light to enlighten the Gentiles and for Gods salvation to the ends of the earth. An increasing solemnity spread and prevailed over the meeting until the most distant minds appeared in some degree seasoned thereby. At the close of the meeting for Worship the business of our Preparative meeting was gone through. Both meetings held 2 hours and a half. After which my beloved friends George Chapman and Joseph Grayham came to my house to dine, we spent the afternoon comfortably together. After Tea they set out towards home, and I accompanied Joseph Grayham into his common land, and in my return home called and sat a little at John Mallinsons of Birdsedge.

Memorandum. Highflatts Monthly Meeting. 6 mo. 19<sup>th</sup>. 1808 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, our meeting at Highflatts was pretty large, and several of other Societies were there. It was a low time but towards the close there of John Bottomley had a pretty long and acceptable time in testimony from Jam: C: 4. v. 8. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. After meeting I had Joseph Grayham, my Nephew Joseph Wood of Barnsley, and Mary Sykes of Shafton to dinner. She is a young Woman that appears to be under convincement and came to my house on 6<sup>th</sup>. day to spend a few days with me. After Tea many friends came in to attend the Monthly Meeting next day we had 13 to supper and 12 lodgers viz. James Harrison of Pontefract Mg. Isabella Harris of Ackworth Mg. David Breary, John Fozzard, Isabella Brearey and Ann Thorp of Wakefield Mg. William Taylor, William Harvey, Elizabeth Dunn, Mary Sykes, Susanna Atkinson and Ann Smith of Burton Mg. But we were

obliged to get Beds for 5 of them out at our Neighbours houses. On 20<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of the week, at 9 in the morning was our Select meeting in the Meetinghouse chamber, which held above 1 hour All our members attended except Hannah Dumbleton, Joseph Brook and Dinah Woodhead not being reckoned having been for a long time incapable thro' age and indisposition. The 2 and 4<sup>th</sup>. Queries were read and considered, and Answers thereto drawn up approv'd and Sign'd in order to be laid before our ensuing Select Quarterly Meeting. I went to this meeting in a very low state of mind, at the close of the meeting I had a few words to drop in testimony, and I thought the cementing love of Truth was mercifully felt to cover our spirits. After which I got a little refreshment at Elihu Dickinsons. The Meeting for Worship began at 11 o clock. It was very large the house and chamber being quite crowded, a few of other Societies coming in, it proved a remarkable open favoured meeting, Thomas Dixon Walton had a short testimony therein first from Phil: C: 2. v: 7. But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant. Isabella Harris had a long time next from 1 Pet: C: 1. v. 24, 25. All flesh is as grass, and all the glory of men, as the flower of grass, the grass withereth and the flower thereof falleth away. But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. I next from 1 John C: 1. v: 2. The life was manifested and we have seen it. John Bottomley next from Isai: C: 3: v: 10, 11. Say ye to the righteous it shall be well with him; for they shall eat the fruit of their doings. Wo unto the wicked; it shall be ill with him. Isabella Harris next from Eph: C: 5. v: 14. Awake, thou that sleepest, arise from the dead, and christ shalt give thee light. I next from Heb: C: 3. v: 15. Today if ye will hear his voice harden not your hearts. It was indeed a season worthy of remembrance, The Gospel was preached in its own authority in the demonstration of the spirit and with Power a renewed visitation was extended unto many The true and false ministry with their ends and tendency were clearly pointed out, The one tending to gather; and the other to scatter the minds of the People from the true Bishop and Shepherd of souls, and from his own immediate teachings who yet continues to speak to the rightly gathered mind as never man spoke, not as the scribes, not as the day dreaming hirelings for his words they are Spirit and Life whereby his children who are taught of him are enabled by the quickening enlivening virtue thereof to perform that worship which is acceptable to God, and needeth not the aid of words. I was a little surprized at matters opening as they did, but heard the day after that one of the Riding Preachers amongst the Methodists was there. At the close of this meeting was our Monthly meeting for discipline The business of which upon the whole was satisfactorily conducted, amongst other things Edward Bilton and Ann Haigh were clear from all other engagements relating to Marriage and left at liberty to accomplished theirs when they and Ackworth friends see meet. Both meetings held about 4 hours. After which we had 21 to dine besides our own family, and a very great number to Breakfast before meeting; but they generally left as soon as they could after dinner, so that we had only George Broadhead and Wife and daughter to Tea in the afternoon, and Joseph Grayham who also stopp'd supper and afterwards I set him part of the way towards home.

Memorandum. 7 mo. 3<sup>rd</sup>. 1808. and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, The morning being wet, made our meeting at Highflatts smaller to day than otherwise it would have been, and those who attended were such as usually go to meetings; It was very much in the forepart thereof, by that poor deluded Woman Martha Dickinson, who had frequently been very disturbing in our Meetings But when our friend Thomas Shilitoe was for sometime in our parts the last summer and frequently attended our Monthly Meetings when he observed her rude and wild behaviour altho' not so bad as we have frequently seen her, yet he was so much affected therewith, and so sensible of the loss the meeting sustained thereby, that he moved it in the Monthly meeting requesting friends to consider of some means to prevent her from disturbing the meetings in the manner she did. Upon which the meeting directed the Overseers of Highflatts meeting in the first place to take it weightily under their care. This coming to her ears, she had behaved

better since, except going out at times before the meeting was over, until to day when she began before the meeting was gathered in her usual wild ranting manner, but after being twice spoke to, she was pretty still for a considerable time and then went out, and with her as usual a load of darkness, which by the living is sensibly felt to attend her. After which I had a pretty long testimony to bear from Jam: C: 4. v: 17. To him that knowest to do good, and doth it not, to him it is a sin. After meeting Henry Marsden, Joseph Ingram of Barnsley, John Issott and Joseph Grayham din'd at my house, and after dinner the two former left but the other two stopt Tea, we spending the afternoon very comfortably together. On 4<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, I left home about 8 o'clock in the morning and went by Bullhouse to Swinden on a visit to Jonathan Brammalls. After dinner I went to Langsett where I met with George Chapman, Elihu Dickinson and William Taylor on a visit to Thomas Earnshaw family, he and his Wife being far advanced in years and having an insane son, and a daughter who had been very poorly about 5 years. friends were desirous to enquire into their circumstances, and how they put on in the affairs of this Life, which we found better than we expected. I return'd to Jonathan Bramalls to Tea, and after Tea his daughter Ann accompanied me to John Howes of Hordron where I tarried all night but after supper she returned home. It is a very recluse but beautiful situation, and I was much delighted with being there, and with walking in the fields, and beholding the surrounding Moors and mountains, The family was also very kind. On 5<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, was the day they clipt their sheep They had 10 clippers, 2 wool winders and several waiters. I spent the forenoon there, and after dinner came to Jonathan Brammall of Swinden where I stopt until after Tea, and then came by Bullhouse home where I got about 7 o'clock in the evening being very much gratified with my journey over the Moors, the weather having been remarkably fine; and I much delighted with viewing things in their natural state.

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Memorandum. Wooldale Monthly meeting. 17<sup>th</sup>. of 7<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1808, and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week; Our meeting at Highflatts was smaller this day than it generally is, and wholly Select of such as usually attend meetings. It was a painful exercising time throughout, yet after a long suffering season altogether contrary to my expectation I found a concern to stand up and had very hard labour in a short plain and close testimony and afterwards had another short time

from Isai: C: 4. v: 1. We will eat our own bread, and wear our own apparel; only let us be called by thy name to take away our reproach. After meeting Joseph Grayham came to dine with me, stopt the afternoon and drunk Tea; and about 7 o'clock in the evening set out towards home. I accompanying him part of the way, on my return I found David Brearey and John Fozzard of Dewsbury at my house, being on their way to our Monthly meeting to be held at Wooldale the next day. On 18<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week after breakfast about 8 o'clock in the morning, I set out in company with the beforementioned friends and went by Newmill to Wooldale where we got betwixt 9 and 10 o'clock; the weather being extremely hot. I had a little business to do with a person there, and then we went to John Adamsons where we drunk Tea and tarried until Meeting time. The meeting began as usual at 11 o'clock and was very large, not only of friends; but a great many People of other Societies attended so that both the house and chamber were crowded, It was a laborious exercising time; the expectations of the People in general being too much outward; and many of the youths of our own Society (of which class there were great numbers present) sitting down too much at ease in the traditions of their forefathers, without being sufficiently concerned to know the Truth for themselves. After a considerable time in silence I found a concern to stand up having very affectionately to address this class, in the course of which I had frequently to exhort them, "to Chuse the Truth for their portion, and the God of Jacob for the lot of their inheritance." I took a pretty long time, and afterwards John Bottomley had a pretty long time from Isai: C: 40. v: 31. They that wait upon the Lord, shall renew their strength." Isabella Harris had a short time next from Zech: C: 2. v: 13. Be silent, O all Flesh, before the Lord: for he is raised up out of his holy Habitation. At the close of the meeting for Worship, the business of our Monthly meeting was entered upon, and a great deal gone thro' in much unanimity and concord. amongst other things. Joseph Samms of Ackworth meeting laid before us his intention of marriage with Mary Brady a member of Balby Mo. Meeting. Also the friends appointed last Month to visit Phebe and Mary Hinchcliffe two young women who from early life had attended Highflatts meeting; on their application to be admitted members of our Society, brought in a satisfactory report of their visit which being duly weighed; they were accepted into membership with us. Also the Yearly Meeting Epistle, a Minute of the said meeting, and the Quarterly Mo. Minutes were read. Both meetings held upwards of 4 hours. After which we got a little refreshment at John Adamsons, and then went by Tottis and Scholes to George Broadhead of Jackson. bridge to dine. After dinner the two young men from Dewsbury set out towards home but several friends from Burton meeting, and George Chapman calling stopt Tea with whom and the family I spent the afternoon very much to my own satisfaction, tarried until all the company was gone, and betwixt 7 and 8 o'clock I left there and came by Mount and Deershaw to my brother Samuel Woods of Haddenley where I stopped about half an hour and afterwards calling a little at John Mallinsons of Birdsedge I got home about 9 o'clock in the evening.

Memorandum            7<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 24<sup>th</sup>. 1808 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, our meeting at Highflatts was pretty large, a few of other Societies attending I had a pretty long testimony to bear therein first from 2 Tim: C: 3. v: 8. and 9. As Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses, so do these also resist the Truth; men of corrupt minds, reprobate concerning the faith. But they shall proceed no further, for their folly shall be manifest unto all men, as theirs also was. Afterwards Leah Kinsley had a short time from the Parable of the wise and foolish virgins. At the close of the meeting the Yearly Meeting Epistle was read. Henry Swire and his son Robert of Wooldale meeting was at our Meeting to day. They din'd and drunk Tea at my house, and we spent the afternoon comfortably together. Betwixt 6 and 7 o'clock they set out towards home, and I accompanied them a little and then return'd.

Memorandum            7<sup>th</sup>. mo. 31<sup>st</sup>. 1808 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week our meeting at Highflatts was pretty large several of other Societies attending; I had a long testimony to bear therein first from Psalms 99. v: 1. The Lord reigneth; let the people tremble; he sitteth between the cherubims; let the earth be moved. And afterwards had a pretty long time from Matt: C: 23. v: 23. Ye pay tithes of mint, and anise, and cumin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith; these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone. It was a remarkable meeting, the varied states of the People being very particularly opened and spoke to, and in the authority of Gospel ministry; and I think it may be said that the Lord reigned over this assembly and for a season all states appeared humbled before him. O how he condescends to visit mankind, yet too many instead of bringing forth fruit answerable to the favours received, are bringing forth briars and thorns, altho' we are warned in the scriptures that such are nigh unto cursing whose end is to be burned. After meeting Joseph Grayham and Elias Armitage din'd at my house and spent the afternoon, and went home in the evening. I accompanied Joseph Grayham part of the way and in my return called and sat a little at William Cockells of Moorroidnook. Mary Marsh my housekeepers Sister came to see us the night before and went home this evening.

#### The Testimony of Friends of Nailsworth Monthly Meeting in Gloucestershire against Daniel Roberts.

Whereas Daniel Roberts of Painswick in the county of Gloucester; has been an acknowledged member of our religious Society, and with us made profession of the blessed Truth, as held by the People called Quakers; who have ever borne testimony to the excellency of the Gospel dispensation; and to the sufficiency of divine Grace to redeem from all evil, and purify a People zealous of good works; but for want of duly regarding the dictates of this heavenly Principle; he has suffered himself so far to be misled by a spirit of delusion, as to expose and industriously propagate; certain visionary and absurd notions of one Joanna Southcott which are repugnant to all the religious Principles uniformly professed by friends. Inasmuch as she asserts herself to be an instrument divinely appointed for, and necessary to the Redemption of Man; and that salvation is to be attained by believing in her mission, and receiving her seal; Thereby invalidating the Sufferings of Christ, and denying the allsufficiency of him the Rock of salvation; "neither is there salvation in any other, for there is none other name under heaven whereby we must be saved." Acts C: 4. v: 12. Wherefore having a sincere regard for the welfare of him the said Daniel Roberts, and for the support of the testimony of Truth; we have been concerned tenderly to treat with, and advise him in an individual as well as collective capacity; agreeable with the rules of discipline established amongst us, with a view to convince him of the error, and dangerous tendency of the notions he had imbibed; but rejecting our Brotherly endeavours for his help, he let in evil surmisings against his friends; calling their labours of love, and exercise of Patience towards him, Persecution; and several times refused an interview, to the deputations appointed to visit him; so that after long forbearance, and waiting; in hope that mature reflection might bring him to a sense of his error; we have painfully observed that the desired effects have not been produced; but instead thereof he hath unwarrantably printed and published an account of some of our proceedings; in which he has inserted divers misrepresentations, and liberal reflections on our motives and conduct; which had uniformly been those of love, and a regard for his good. Hence it clearly appearing that he is gone out of the Unity of our Society, and that longer forbearance, or further labours would be unavailing: We feel it incumbent upon us, for the support of our Christian testimony to declare; that we cannot hold religious fellowship with him the said Daniel Roberts, and that we hereby disown him as a member of our Society: At that same time earnestly desiring, that by embracing the renewed visitations of divine Grace; which we humbly trust will be mercifully offered him; he may attain to a true sight and sense of his

error, and by evincing an humble disposition of mind, become reconciled to us, and to the Truth from which he has departed.

Signed in and on behalf of Nailsworth  
 Monthly Meeting friends held at Painswick  
 12<sup>th</sup>. of 5<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1808 by John Brewin Clerk

The above copy I took from one that Charles Blackburn had procured from one of his friends a Joannite (I suppose the original came from Daniel Roberts, as I observed in the introduction to it; something as near as I can recollect in the following words, "I have sent the denial of the Quakers, apprehending it will be a curiosity to the Believers." Upon which I observe. How much to be lamented is the situation of those who can make a curiosity of the solemn Truths contained therein. But this is not much to be wondered at when we consider that the whole of their Religion or Profession is made up of curiosity and by some well-disposed minds departing from the sure foundation and giving way to an unbounded curiosity, they have unhappily for them, been given up to strong delusions so as to believe a Lye. It was this curiosity in our Parents that led them to break the commands of the Almighty, for a desire that they might be wise, and it must be by experiencing this desire after curiosity to be plain; and the fools state to be known, that we must become wise unto salvation through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. The beforementioned Charles Blackburn in an opportunity at my house was favoured with a very powerful and extraordinary visitation under the precious influence of which it was clearly manifested to him as he himself informed me the People with whom he was to unite. But when the Lord who thus mercifully visited him was pleased to veil his presence from him for a season, instead of keeping his mind properly staid upon him, and patiently waiting his return, like Israel formally when Moses was withdrawn who were ready to say .. make us Gods to go before us he substituted the fainter Light of reason for his guide and thereby thought to comprehend the mystery of Salvation; Not duly considering, that these things are hid from the wise and prudent, and that it is only the babe and suckling state that they are revealed, hence tho' he continued to attend meetings many years, and I believe had a love for the People, he experienced very little if any growth in the Truth a state of insensibility and unbelief gradually came over him, so that notwithstanding the Lord was pleased to renew the visitations of his love to him at times both immediately and instrumentally, they proved as the morning cloud or early dew which soon passeth away. In this state of disobedience the writings of Joanna Southcott fell into his hands, and by departing from the Light which would have discovered unto him from whence they proceeded, and have enabled him to distinguish betwixt the pure living and eternal substance and the likeness he unhappily for himself, and I believe to the great hurt of many others was carried away with her wild and airy notions, zealously endeavouring to propagate the same, for having now entirely shook of it the girdle of Truth which had at times cause a fear in him of speaking his own words, he can now exercise his natural faculties without restraint to the great pain of those who are favoured to discern from whence words come, whose hearts can but lament the darkness which they at times feel to surround him, and at the same time he so far deceived as to think he sees. But O if the Light which searcheth all things yea the deep things of God once more so powerfully shine into his heart as truly to let him see his situation, then will he lie down in his shame and confusion will cover him. and as he is concerned to abide in this humbled situation until the Lord is pleased to arise for his help, then would he experience the same creative word by which the worlds were made, to bring order out of confusion by creating him anew in Christ Jesus unto good works, thus would his spiritual faculties being able to judge aright for God bring favoured clearly to distinguish betwixt what comes from God and every likeness or representation however specious the appearance may be, and as he was concerned to persevere in the obedience of faith a growth would be witnessed from the childs state in which the Father is known unto the young mans state in which the wicked one is overcome, And from this state to that of a Father who have known him that is from the beginning, and his gracious and merciful dealings with their souls in

discovering unto them the many bye paths and bringing them into that way which he hath cast up for his redeemed ones to walk in which is a way of holiness without which no man can see the Lord to his comfort. My mind is covered at this time with a desire that what is before written may be his experience, For I can record that he hath a zeal of God but not according to knowledge, being ignorant of the righteousness of that faith which comes by hearing, and that hearing by the word of God. I think I can say I have endeavoured to discharge my duty honestly to him both when he attended friends meetings and since. But for a considerable time past have felt something at times very heavy upon my mind to communicate to him which hath felt very hard for me to give up to nevertheless I have been brought into a state of resignation and have several times gone into his company with a full expectation of relieving my oppressed spirit but when with him no way hath yet opened, It always appearing to me His heart was like that Inn of old so filled with other guests, there was not yet room to receive the Truth.

Memorandum            Ackworth Monthly Meeting 19<sup>th</sup>. of 9<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1808. I set out from home to attend the said Meeting ye. 17<sup>th</sup>. of ye 9<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1808 and 7 day of the week about one o'clock in the afternoon and went by Cumberworth to Skelmanthorp were I stopt a considerable time and drunk Tea at Charles Blackburns, here Charles Hinchcliffe met me, intending to be my companion this journey, We left Skelmanthorp about 5 o'clock and went by Parkmill, Bretton and Crigglestone to Dircar were we got a little past 7, stopt a little at William Pickards and then went to Christopher Walkers were we lodg'd. On 18<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week, we breakfasted at Robert Walkers and afterwards went to their Meeting at Wakefield, having felt a particular draft to be there this day, It was pretty large several People of other Societies came in, amongst the number Thomas Hold and Mark Brier who appear to be under convincement, live at Hollowthorp near this town having been long in profession with the Methodists, but being dissatisfied have for sometime past attended friends meetings; This proved a good meeting the aforesaid men with others were very much broken and tendered, I had a long testimony to bear therein from John C: 9. v: 39. For judgment I am come into this world; that they which see not might see, and that they which see might be made blind. At the close of this meeting, The men and women who were members of the Society were requested to stop a little, together when the General Advices were read. Afterwards the business of their Preparative meeting was gone thro'. The Queries were read and Answered and I was comforted in believing that the spring of life was the ground of action with those who were immediately concerned therein, and had to communicate to them the language of encouragement. Answers thereto were drawn up and Signed in order to be laid before our ensuing Monthly meeting. Both meetings held upwards of three hours. After which we sat a little at Ann Thorps, and from thence went to John Robinsons of Fieldhouse were we din'd. After dinner John Bottomley who had also been at Wakefield meeting called upon us, and accompanied us to Ackworth, we left here a little past 3 o'clock, and went by Agbridge, Crofton, Foulby, Wragby and Hazle got to Ackworth between 5 and 6, drunk Tea at the School, and then went to our Select meeting which began at 6 and held 1 hour and a half, All are members attended except Joseph Brook and Dinah Woodhead, for whom we are not accountable, they having been long unable to attend meetings at a distance through age and infirmities and the latter wholly confined. We were favoured with the company of two Strangers viz. Margaret Binns from Liverpool in Lancashire and Sarah Brady of Doncaster who were on a visit to some Relations here. Isabella Harris had an acceptable testimony to bear before business was entered upon. The whole of the Queries were read and considered and Answers thereto drawn up and Signed in order to be laid before our ensuing Select Quarterly Meeting. At the close of the business Margaret Binns and Sarah Brady had each of them a short but encouraging testimony to bear. After which Isabella Harris was concerned in Prayer and Praises to the Almighty powerful being whose Presence had been eminently

manifested amongst us to the cementing our spirits together feeling that precious Unity which is the bond of peace. enabling us renewedly to rejoice in the Lord and in the company one of another. After meeting I sat a little at Joseph Donbavands, and about 8 o'clock left Ackworth and in half an hours time got to James Harrisons of East Hardwick were we lodg'd. On 19<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week after Breakfast James Harrison walked with me to Ackworth were I got a little refreshment before meeting at Edward Biltons. The meeting for Worship began as usual at 11 o'clock, and was larger than I have often seen it when held at this place, We were favoured thereat with the company of the two beforementioned Strangers. It was a laborious exercising meeting towards the close thereof Margaret Binns had a short testimony to bear, and afterwards Isabella Harris a longer from John C: 20. v: 27, 28. Thomas Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side; and be not faithless but believing. And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God. At the close of the Meeting for Worship was held our Monthly Meeting for discipline. The business of which was in the general unanimously conducted one instance excepted in which some warmth appeared in some, but exercised friends keeping their places; this spirit which is for contention and strife was brought under so that the meeting was not much hurt. Amongst other business the Queries were read and Answers received and read from all our Preparative meetings viz. Pontefract, Burton, Highflatts Ackworth, Wakefield and Wooldale. A General Answer was drawn up, and Signed in order to be laid before our ensuing Quarterly Meeting. Also three of the friends appointed to visit Susanna Atkinson a young Woman who had for a considerable time attended Burton meeting and in the last 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mo. applyed to be accepted a member of our Society; informed us they had paid her a second visit, and brought in something near the following report viz. That the opportunity was satisfactory, and that she expressed she believed since the former visit it had been a profitable time to her, and that they felt no objections to her being accepted into membership: The Meeting after solidly considering her case and the report concluded to accept her a member of our Society. Both meetings held 5 hours, After which my companion set out towards home, and I din'd at the School, and left Ackworth betwixt 5 and 6 o'clock in the company of William Taylor of Shafton, Samuel Coward, William Harvey, and Joseph Wood of Barnsley, came by Hemsworth and Brierley to Shafton, were we got betwixt 7 and 8 o'clock and I went with William Taylor to Timothy Sykes's were I lodg'd. On 20<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week I set out for Barnsley betwixt 8 and 9 o'clock in the morning having heard that a beloved friend of mine there, had by an inadvertant step brought an heavy exercise upon the minds of faithful friends; and caused the libertines to rejoice, Which begot a concern in my mind to pay him a visit, and after almost a sleepless night I gave up thereto, Timothy Sykes set me a little on my way and then return'd I came by Cudworth and Burton to Barnsley were I got about 10 o'clock, and before noon got an opportunity with the said friend in which I found much liberty to relieve my oppressed spirit, he appeared to receive my visit kindly and I hope the labour bestowed will be made a blessing to him. I din'd at Elizabeth Dunns, and after dinner went to Susanna Atkinsons, Samuel Coward and me being appointed by the Mo. Mg. to inform her that she was admitted a member of our Society. After we had inform'd her thereof I had much counsel and advice to communicate to her. After which we sat a little then took a Glass of wine and Water, and then came to Thomas Dixon Waltons stopt a little there and got some refreshment, Left Barnsley a little before 4 o'clock William Harvey accompanied me about three miles and then returned I came to Cawthorne were I called at Thomas Wests, they were just sitting down to Table and would have me to take Tea with them which was acceptable. I stopt about half an hour and then came by Dakinbrook and Denby home were I got about 8 o'clock in the evening.

Memorandum. 10 mo. 9<sup>th</sup>. 1808 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week Our meeting at Highflatts was very large Being fully attended by friends and many of other Societies came in. I had a long

testimony to bear therein from Jer: C: 8. v: 22. Is there no balm in Gilead is there not a physician there? Why then is not the health of the daughter of my People recovered. At the close of this meeting the business of our Preparative meeting was gone thro'. Thomas Dixon Walton of Barnsley was there and after meeting, he and Benjamin Chapman, and Joseph Grayham din'd at my house. The two former left after dinner but Joseph Grayham stopt Tea. After which I set him a piece on his way towards home and return'd to our family sitting. After reading our minds were in some degree mercifully overshadowed with the heavenly wing, In our silent waiting before him.

Memorandum            10<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 14<sup>th</sup>. 1808 and 6<sup>th</sup>. day of week Our Week day meeting at Highflatts were smaller this day than usual, it being very wet and stormy so that only 28 friends attended My mind therein was led in an unusual line of exercise, having to view the importance of making a right use of time, and the necessity of every individual of us doing our days work in the day before the night overtakes us, encouraging friends not to content themselves with bemoaning the many vacant seats in the Church or with seeing them improperly filled, but endeavour to come up in their own line of duty faithfully, and serve the Lord with an undivided heart, that so by example and Precept they might encourage the youth. I had a long testimony to bear therein first from Matt: C: 23. v: 2. 3. The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses seat. All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, that observe and do; but do not ye after their works; for they say, and do not Afterwards I had a pretty long time from Cor: C: 11. v: 1. Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of christ. It was I thought a good meeting and I felt comforted in my return therefrom: Having been enabled to discharge my duty in rebuking the forward and encouraging the diffident.

Memorandum.            11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 6<sup>th</sup>. 1808, and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, was our meeting for Sufferings at Highflatts, and the Monthly meeting having appointed John Robinson, Christopher Walker, Robert Whitaker, and James Harrison to visit such of the members within the compass thereof as continued to pay the Modus or Rate money, and to collect the account of friends Sufferings and enquire into their faithfulness respecting our testimony against Tythes Priest demands, those called Church rates and the Militia; and to advise them to an annual inspection into the state of their affairs. The meeting for Worship was not so large as usual on this occasion are being mostly select of those who usually attend meetings, I had a pretty long testimony to bear therein from Matt: C: 3. v: 14. I have need to be baptised of thee, and comest thou to me. At the close of the meeting for Worship was held the meeting for Sufferings, the Men and Women who were members of the Society sitting together; we were favoured with the company of all the friends who were under the appointment inquiry was made to the several particulars and answers given or received from all the heads of families in this meeting except one, whom Elihu Dickinson was appointed to visit and report to the adjournment of this Meeting. The account of Sufferings were collected, and it appearing from the Answers that four of our members continued to pay the Rate money they were requested to attend the meeting tomorrow at Wooldale when it was proposed holding a conference at the close of their meeting for Sufferings, with them and the friends of Wooldale meeting who continued to pay it which was the case with most of their members Both meetings held 3 hours and a half. After which James Harrison and Joseph Grayham din'd at my house, James left immediately after dinner, but Joseph stopt Tea where we had also the company of Christopher Walker, Robert Whitaker, and Elihu Dickinson, the two latter return'd about 7 o'clock but Christopher spent the evening and supp'd with us. John Robinson was with us all the time except dining at Elihu Dickinsons, and tarri'd with us all night, we were also favoured with his and James Harrison's company the night before.

Memorandum. On ye. 10<sup>th</sup>. day of ye. 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1808 departed this life our friend Mary Earnshaw daughter of Thomas Earnshaw of Langsett after a long lingering illness of upwards of five years and was buried in friends Burial ground at Lumbroyd near Penistone ye. 14<sup>th</sup>. of the same and 2<sup>nd</sup>. day of the week aged about 31 Years. Being invited I attended the said Burial, but did not go to the house, because of the distance and shortness of the days. I left home a little past 8 o'clock in the morning and went by Ing Birchworth to Penistone where I stopt at George Chapmans until a little past 11 o'clock and got some refreshment, then George Chapman and me went up together to Lumbroyd where we had to wait until near 1 o'clock before the corps came owing to the People coming in so late in the morning. The invitation was large and consisted principally of those of other Societies so that the Meeting house and chamber was pretty well filled. The People in general appeared to be raw and much unconcerned about matters of the greatest moment yet some was pretty much preserved from the gross evils of the world, perhaps more from their situation than from any religious concern of mind, living mostly in lonely and remote places scattered upon the moors, not out of the reach of Satans temptations which reaches the most recluse situations, and lays his Baits suitable to the varied inclinations of men. Yet such was the condescending regard of him whose delight is to make man happy, that notwithstanding the labour of the Meeting was rather heavy and the People hard to reach unto, but before the conclusion a good degree of solemnity prevailed and upon the whole it was a satisfactory meeting. John Bottomley had a pretty long testimony to bear therein first from Luke C: 12. v: 37. Blessed are those servants whom the Lord when he cometh shall find watching. Afterwards I had a long time from John: C: 3. v: 17. God sent not his son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved. The meeting held upwards of 1 hour and a half After which John Bottomley and me came to George Chapmans to dine where we stopt Tea, Left Penistone betwixt 5 and 6 o'clock and came together to Ing Birchworth where we parted, and I went to Denby in my way it being dark, I fell over a stone and tho' I did not feel to be much hurt at first, yet I felt more of it afterwards. I stopt 2 hours at Joseph Grayhams and supp'd, then came home where I got about 9 o'clock.

Memorandum. 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 8<sup>th</sup>. 1809 and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week Our meeting at Highflatts was this day much larger than expected It having been remarkable snowy the preceding week accompanied with an high wind so that the snow was very much drifted and the lanes generally filled so that it was pleasant to behold so many friends especially men collected many of whom had come through great difficulty. The meeting was held in silence, but I thought it was a solemn profitable time in which I was favoured with some comfortable openings. At the close of the meeting for Worship the business of our Preparative meeting was gone through and our friend Joseph Firth being chosen writing clerk at the last meeting he took his place this and I thought offered pretty well. Cousin Charles Stead Junr. and Joseph Grayham din'd at my house, soon after dinner Charles Stead set out towards home it not being prudent to be out after dark; He was and never at my house before but I was pleased with his company, there having appeared a visible alteration in him since his Brother had the misfortune to lose his life, and I have thought if he is but faithful to the present visitation he may become an useful member of our Society. Joseph Grayham stopt Tea and then set out for home. At our family sitting this evening none attended but ourselves, After reading the opportunity was silent, and I thought a low time. It is profitable for us to suffer want at times as well as to abound, and to learn in both states to be content.

Memorandum. On ye. 11<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 1809 Joseph Grayhams Wife was brought to bed of a daughter which was dead when it was born, He applyed to friends to bury it in our

burial ground at Highflatts, and obtained leave, He had intended to bury it on 6<sup>th</sup>. ye 13<sup>th</sup>. Inst. in the morning before the week day meeting but the man who made the coffin disappointed him so it was interred towards evening of that day.

Memorandum. 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 22<sup>nd</sup>. 1809 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, Our meeting at Highflatts was pretty large of men friends considering the storm, but the inclemency of the weather I apprehend prevented many Women from being there. I was first concerned therein in supplication. John Bottomley had a long time in testimony next from Psalms 14. v: 7. When the Lord bringeth back the captivity of his People, Jacob shall rejoice, and Israel shall be glad. Afterwards I had a long time from Matt: C: 15. v: 13. Every plant which my heavenly Father hath not planted shall be rooted up. It was a remarkable favoured meeting different states were opened and spoke to in the authority of the Gospel which is the power of God and in particular some upon whom the Lord in mercy had turned his hand were encouraged to come up in obedience to the discoveries they were favoured with, and give up their hearts in faithful resignation unto the Lord, who would work all their works in them and for them; and the unfaithful and disobedient were warned of the danger of continuing in that state. William Taylor of Shafton who had been on a visit to his friends and Relations in Lancashire came to my house the evening before in his return home and stopt with us two nights, Joseph Grayham came to dine with us to day and return'd home a while after dinner. William Taylor went to drink Tea at John Pickfords and my William Taylor accompanied him, they return'd to our family sitting in the evening which was held in silence, except the reading in the forepart thereof.

Taken from the Leeds Mercury

On the 28<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1804 at Whitby advertisements were dispersed throughout the town informing the inhabitants that there would be a Publick Meeting at the Theatre at six o'clock in the evening when the company of those who were desirous of attending would be acceptable

Accordingly at the appointed time great numbers attended insomuch that the Galleries Pit and Boxes were crowded, and many came who could not get in. During the time of the meeting a Female stood up and delivered a discourse which lasted three quarters of an hour, on Christian and moral duties. After which her Sister went to Prayer which ended the meeting. After the Meeting the following lines were found upon the door of the Theatre.

If reader? you have time to spare	But now the time are altered quite,
Turn over St. Matthews leaves	O reformation rare.
You'l find that once an house of Pray'r	This modern den of thieves to night
Became a den of thieves.	Becomes a house of Prayer.

The friends were Deborah Darby and Rebecca Bird.

Memorandum. Our Wakefield Monthly Meeting. 3 mo. 19<sup>th</sup>. 1809 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, I attended our meeting at Highflatts which was pretty large and satisfactory several People of other societies came in, but the meeting was held throughout in silence for excepting People come to experience the advantage of pure silence I am convinced there will be not much growth in the Truth, and for this reason Ministers frequently find themselves

concerned to lead the People thereunto by example. From the meeting I return'd home to dine and about two o'clock set out towards our Monthly meeting to be held at Wakefield went by Dykeside and down the valley through which the Dearne runs, and it being a fine day I had an agreeable walk through Woods and meadows to Parkmill, and from thence by Bretton and Crigglestone to Christopher Walkers of Dirtcar where our Select Meeting was held this evening, got there a little past 5 o'clock in time to Tea. The meeting began at 6 and held about 2 hours. All our members attended except George Chapman and Robert Whitaker the former being prevented through indisposition, The Queries were read, and considered, and Answers thereto drawn up approv'd and Signed in order to be laid before our ensuing Select Quarterly Meeting. We all supp'd and lodg'd there except John Bottomley. On 20<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, in the morning I went and sat a little at John Pickards, and after Breakfast set out for Wakefield, got there about 10 o'clock sat a little at Ann Thorps and William Awmacks. The Meeting was not so large to day as the month before, Altho' there was a very considerable number of friends attended. It was held in silence and I thought was a solid meeting. At the close of the Meeting for Worship was the meeting for discipline. We had not much business to day, but what we had was very agreeably conducted; Queries were read and Answers thereto from all our Preparative Meetings viz. Pontefract, Burton, Highflatts, Ackworth, Wakefield, and Wooldale. In answer to the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Query it appeared there was some appearance of convincement since last year, in Pontefract, Burton and Wakefield meetings, and that three persons had been admitted into membership thereby since last year viz. 1 in Burton Mg. and 2 in Highflatts Mg. A General Answer was drawn up approved and Signed in order to be laid before our ensuing Quarterly Meeting. Both meetings held about 4 hours. After which I sat about half an hour at William Awmacks and then left Wakefield in company with John Pickford, we came to Dirtcar where we stopt about 1 hour and din'd at Christopher Walkers. Left Dirtcar in company with Samuel Coward and James Arthington Wilson of Barnsley and my Nephew Robert Wood, a little of this side Crigglestone we parted with the two friends from Barnsley, and came by Bretton and Parkmill, and a little on this side parted with John Pickford, and my Nephew and me came up the valley by Dykeside to my house where we got betwixt 8 and 9 in the evening. Robert Wood stopt supper and then went home.

Memorandum. In the year 1808 The Yearly Meeting on considering the importance of the particulars contained in the 4<sup>th</sup>. Query, and it appearing from the Answers that there was a shortness in many places in duly admonishing the remiss. The said Meeting therefore recommended that the several Monthly meetings should make an appointment of a suitable number of Men and Women friends to visit all the heads of families in their respective Monthly Meetings who had youth under their care to encourage or advise as way may open up, and where Monthly meetings were too weak for this important service, they was directed to apply to the Quarterly Meeting for assistance. The said recommendation of the Yearly Meeting was read and considered in our Monthly Meeting in the 10<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1808 and the following friends appointed a Committee to confer together and move therein when and where we way might open viz. John Bottomley, Christopher Walker, William Wass, John Robinson, James Harrison, Henry Swire, Isabella Harris, Hannah Dumbleton, Mary Cudworth, Isabella Brearey, Mary Mallinson and Mary Walker, and for to make it more convenient the meetings in this Monthly Meeting were divided into three divisions viz. 1<sup>st</sup>. Pontefract and Ackworth, 2<sup>nd</sup>. Burton and Highflatts, 3<sup>rd</sup>. Wakefield and Wooldale The Committee Meeting together and endeavouring to feel their way therein several friends gave up their names for each division and in the 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. 1809 the Monthly Meeting was informed, that the visit was completed to good satisfaction, and in the following order Christopher Walker, James Harrison, Isabella Harris, and Hannon Dumbleton visited the Families in Wakefield and Wooldale Mgs. John Bottomley, Henry Swire and Mary Mallinson those in Burton and Highflatts Mgs. and John Robertson William Wass and Isabella Brearey those in

Pontefract and Ackworth Mgs. and Isabella Harris accompanied them to most of the families in Ackworth Mg.

The following is a List of heads of families visited by the beforementioned committee in the several Meetings and of their respective places of residence viz.

Wooldale Mg.

Godfrey Woodhead of Fulstone  
Joseph Woodhead of Fulstone  
Samuel Woodhead of Fulstone  
Joseph Bottomley of Shepley Woodend  
William Bottomley of Dobroyd  
George Broadhead of Jacksonbridge  
John Wood Broadhead of Tottis  
Henry Swire of Springhouse  
John Pickard of Park

Highflatts Mg.

Samuel Wood of Haddenley  
Henry Marsden of Dobroyd  
John Firth of Shepley Lanehead  
Joseph Walker of Shepley  
John Brook of Shepley  
John Haigh of Shepley  
Elizabeth Walker of Shelley Paddock  
Charles Stead of Siver Ing  
Benjamin Stead of Siver Ing

Wakefield Mg.

George Earnshaw of Crigglestone  
William Pickard of Dirtcar  
Robert Walker of Dirtcar  
John Pickard of Dirtcar  
John Robinson of Fieldhouse

Ackworth Mg.

William Snowden of Ackworth  
Robert Whitaker of Ackworth School  
Isabella Harris of Ackworth School  
Hannah Dumbleton of Ackworth School  
Samuel Whalley of Ackworth  
Joseph Donbavand of Ackworth  
Sarah Singleton of Ackworth  
Stephen Holmes of Frickley  
John Hoyle of East Hardwick

Burton Mg.

Joseph Lister of Bleachhouse  
Thomas Yeardley of Barnsley  
Thomas Walker Haigh of Barnsley

Highflatts Mg.

Joseph Stead of Toppett  
Joseph Priest of Denby  
George Chapman of Penistone  
Thomas Earnshaw of Judfield  
William Dickinson of Thurlstone  
Henry Dickinson of Strines  
Elihu Dickinson of Highflatts  
John Kirk of Highflatts  
Elihu Dickinson Tanr. of Highflatts  
John Mallinson of Birdsedge

Pontefract Mg.

James Wigham of Pontefract  
John Thistlethwaite of Pontefract  
John Leatham of Pontefract  
Joseph Johnson of Pontefract  
Joseph Johnson junr. of Pontefract  
Robert Thompson of Ferrybridge  
Simeon Hunter of Sherburn  
Thomas Haigh of Little Smeaton

Memorandum. On ye. 16<sup>th</sup>. of ye 4<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1809 departed this life Sarah Ives Wife of John Ives of Low Carr in Shepley and was buried in friends Burial ground at Highflatts ye. 21<sup>st</sup>. of the same Mo. and 6<sup>th</sup>. day of the week aged about 28 years. She was the daughter of our friend John Firth of Shepley Lane Head and was disowned for marrying a man of another persuasion by a Priest, but on her deathbed requesting to be buried at Highflatts after her decease her relations obtained that liberty, and ordered to interr her on our week day meeting day so that the People might attend the meeting. I being invited attended the burial, the invitation was to be there at half past seven o clock, The friends and her Relations at Lanehead and his Relations and the neighbours at his Mothers at Carr, and to take up the corps at 9 o clock. I left home early and at Birdsedge met with Elihu Dickinson and Martha

his Wife, and their daughter Mary and Mary Mallinson and her daughter Susanna, with whom I went to Lanehead we got there at the appointed time, and after breakfast we went to John Ives's of Carr where we sat until the appointed time for taking up the corps and then accompanied it to the burial ground at Highflatts. The meeting began as usual at 10 o'clock and held about two hours and a half, there was a considerable number of People of other Societies at the Burial and a pretty many others came to the Meeting, so that it was large and I believe I may add eminently favoured, John Bottomley had a long testimony to bear therein from Isai: C: 55. v: 3. Hear, and your soul shall live. I next from Luke C: 5. v: 12, 13. The Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean. And he put forth his hand and touched him, saying, I will be thou clean. And immediately the leprosy departed from him. John Bottomley was afterwards concerned in Prayer. After meeting being invited to Lanehead to dine, I went and spent the afternoon agreeably in company with many friends. After Tea I set out for home in company with Mary Mallinson and a daughter Susanna, stopt about half an hour at their house and got home about 7 o'clock.

Memorandum. 5<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 4<sup>th</sup>. 1809 and 5<sup>th</sup>. day of the week, This afternoon I went to Joshua Morleys of Dykeside to drink Tea, and John Whitely of the same village being deceased was and buried this afternoon in the Methodist Meeting house yard there, and there never having been any buried there before a great concourse of People attended, and I having a respect for him, he having been long a member of the Society, and his conduct more especially of later years consistent with his profession, he was generally beloved, being in a low and humble situation of Life, a pattern of resignation, industry and uprightness, went to see him laid in his grave. They took him into the Meetinghouse where as I understood they first sang a Hymn and then one of their Preachers went to Prayer, afterwards he made a few observations to the People, and then begun their form of burial service, from thence they came to the Grave and after the body was put in he read something similar to the ceremony practised by the Church of England on these occasions but not so long. From hence I return'd to Joshua Morleys, and after Tea they was mentioning that many of their Neighbours had been the last first day at Jackson. bridge to hear the much followed Newton and some of them had inform'd them that he gave public notice to his congregation of my having a Public meeting that evening at Wooldale, and that he himself attended there; which I did not know before, but when I heard I was led to admire how remarkably things opened in that Meeting.

Memorandum. 5<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 7<sup>th</sup>. 1809 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of week, our Meeting at Highflatts was very fully attended, but mostly select of such as usually attend, in the time of silence a passage in Scripture opened and dwelt much upon my mind, at length in much weakness I stood up and repeated it viz. from Jer: C: 14. v: 22. Are there any among the vanities of the Gentiles that can cause rain? or can the heavens give showers? art not thou he, O Lord our God? therefore we will wait upon thee. and was very much enlarged therefrom, labouring to draw the attention of the minds of the people from instrumental means to the means of Grace in the secret of their own hearts that so they might experience a being brought into a proper waiting state, setting before them the beauty, advantage and safety of this state, and under a feeling sense of a renewed visitation to the youth some of whom was mercifully brought under the forming hand, these I was led to encourage them to endeavour to get, and keep in a state of true resignation as clay in hand of the Potter, rather chusing to suffer affliction with the People of God than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season. At the close of the meeting for Worship the business of our Preparative meeting was gone through. Both meetings held near 3 hours. After which Thomas Earnshaw of Judfield, Benjamin Chapman, Joseph Grayham, John Issott and Elizabeth Marsden came to dine at my house, and when we got

there I found my late servant Benjamin Beever and his Wife, and little son come to see us. After dinner Charles Hinchcliffe came to spend the afternoon with us, They all stopt Tea, and soon after set out to their respective habitations.

Memorandum. On ye. 10<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 5<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1809, Joseph Brook of Wooldale departed this life; and was buried ye. 13<sup>th</sup>. and 7<sup>th</sup>. day of the week in friends burial ground there aged about 87 years. Being invited I attended the said burial, set out from home about 8 o clock the same morning and went by Newmill to Wooldale and got to the house of the deceased about half past 9. The meeting began as usual about 11 o clock and held 2 hours; It was not large yet there was a considerable number of people of other Societies attended. I had a very long testimony to bear therein from Ez: C: 18. v: 25. Ye say, The way of the Lord is not equal. Hear now, O House of Israel; is not my way equal? Are not your ways unequal. After meeting I return'd to John Brooks to dine and it being extremely hot I tarried Tea, and after Tea went with John Mallinson and his Brother Abraham, to his Brother in law William Seniors were we sat part of an hour and took a glass of Rum and Water. Then I return'd to John Brooks were I sat a little, and then came by Newmill home were I got betwixt 8 and 9 o clock in the evening.

Memorandum. 5<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 18<sup>th</sup>. 1809 and 6<sup>th</sup>. day of the week This day about 7 o clock in the evening we had a storm of Thunder and Lightning attended with hail and rain and a remarkable sudden and high wind which continued for the space of about half an hour, most part of the time the Thunder was one continued roll, and the Lightning almost without intermission, so that for some time it appeared very awful, the hail stones in some places were very large and of an uncommon size, and about Dewsbury broke many windows, but thro' divine mercy I heard no lives being lost either of man or beast.

#### The Providence of God Asserted. Taken from the Methodists Magazine for May 1809

Some years ago, David Sands and two others of the friends, or People called Quakers, were travelling in the North of England; and as they were passing through a village, consisting of a few scattered houses, David Sands told his fellow travellers, that it was impressed upon his mind to remain in the village to keep a Meeting. His companions remonstrated with him, and endeavoured to point out the impracticability of it; and, in order to prevail upon him to relinquish his design, they informed him, that the People were much engaged with the harvest; in consequence of which, the Meeting, if held, must be late, and few or none would attend. But D: S. being well acquainted with the operations of the Spirit of God upon the mind, and firm to what he was convinced was his duty, was unmoved by the arguments advanced: he therefore replied, "however late the Meeting may be, or however few may attend, I cannot be free in my mind to pass through this village without calling the People together." On his companions observing his firmness, they yielded, and directed their course towards a small house; and when they arrived at the door, they requested accommodation for themselves and their horses, informing the People at the same time, that they would make them a suitable recompense for their trouble. The request was immediately complied with, and the result of that compliance and was a kind reception and hospitable entertainment. When the People of the house were apprised of the design of their guests, they made every necessary preparation for the Meeting, while D: S. and his companions went and gave notice to the villagers respecting it. At the hour appointed, several attended; and after some time had elapsed in silence, D: S. arose and addressed the company. The manner in which he

commenced his address, was sufficient to excite surprise and enquiry in every breast. He informed his hearers, that it was impressed upon his mind, that a person among them had the instruments of death about him, and that the same Person had prepared them for his own destruction. After thus pointing out the evil itself, he then exhorted the person to desist from his awful design, and warned him of the fatal consequences which would most assuredly follow such an attempt. He also informed the People, that although he did not know the individual personally, yet he was as much persuaded of the truth of what he asserted, by his "inward eye," or the eye of his mind, as though he had seen the instruments with him the eyes of his body.

While he was thus enlarging upon the deed, which he was persuaded the person was going to perpetrate, an individual was observed to weep, and those around suspected him of being the person. D: S. concluded the whole with a suitable exhortation to the company at large and left many under serious impressions. When the meeting was concluded, the person who he was observed to weep, came up to David Sands, drew a brace of pistols from his pocket, told him that he had prepared them for his own destruction, and that he intended to put an end to his existence that same night; but on hearing there would be a meeting of the friends, he thought he would attend; and as, he supposed there would be no person to speak; he judged he could sit and meditate without interruption concerning the best means to accomplish his design. He also informed him that as soon as the instruments of death were mentioned, he was struck with horror, and that it was certainly the hand of God for good to his soul. He affirmed too, that David Sands must have known his design by divine revelation, as he had not communicated it to a single individual. I have the happiness to add, that the horrid deed of suicide was not only prevented, but the man was convinced of sin, became serious, and Satan was deprived of his expected pray. How can the sneering patrons of infidelity account for this? Both an extraordinary influence of the Holy spirit, and a particular Providence appear visible; the former, in the circumstance being revealed to David Sands; and the latter, in snatching the poor deluded man from endless ruin. And if God, in particular cases, reveals to his servants circumstances at this period, is it a thing incredible, that "holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost" in earlier times.

Memorandum. Highflatts Monthly Meeting. 6<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 19<sup>th</sup>. 1809, The day before the Monthly Meeting; Our meeting at Highflatts was large, friends coming up very fully and a pretty many of other Societies attended, It was a very favoured meeting the way unto life and salvation was clearly opened unto the People by Christ, his life sufferings and meritorious death was livingly declared, and that great mystery of his inward and spiritual appearance in the hearts of all men, was largely opened, by obedience to which his coming might be experienced the second time without sin unto salvation. I had a very long testimony to bear therein from Isai: C: 63. v: 1. Who is this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah; this that is glorious in his apparel, travelling in the greatness of his strengths? I that speak righteousness, mighty to save. Afterwards John Bottomley was concerned in Prayer. After meeting Joseph Grayham din'd at my house stopt the afternoon and drunk Tea, returning home in the evening. After dinner Thomas Hallroyd Esquire from Birkby near Huddersfield with several other Persons who had this day been on a the visit to Elihu Dickinsons Tanner, and had attended our meeting came to see me, and sat a little, Thomas had been much affected therein and expressed his satisfaction to me with being there, adding he should have been glad if there had been another meeting this afternoon that he might have had the opportunity of being there. Towards evening several friends came into lodge with us viz. John Robinson and his daughter Hannah and John Fozzard of Wakefield Mg. and Samuel Coward, and William Harvey of Burton Mg. At 9 o clock the next morning was our Select meeting held in the Meetinghouse chamber at Highflatts, it was small, Robert Whitaker, Isabella Harris and Hannah Dumbleton being from home. The 2<sup>nd</sup>. and 4<sup>th</sup>. Queries were read and considered; and

Answers thereto drawn up approved and Signed in order to be laid before our Select Quarterly Meeting. The meeting held about two hours and a half after which being faint I got a little Brandy and water at Elihu Dickinsons Tanner, and before the meeting a cup of Tea at Elihu Dickinsons. The meeting for Worship began at 11 o clock and was very large the Meeting house and chamber being very much crowded several of other Societies attending. I had a long testimony to bear therein from 1 Chron: C: 4. v: 10. Oh that thou wouldest bless me indeed and enlarge my coast, and that thine hand might be with me, and that thou wouldest keep me from evil, that it may not grieve me, and God granted him that which he requested. After a short time in silence, I had a few words more. At the close of the Meeting for Worship was held our Monthly meeting for discipline, We had not much business before us to day and that we had was amicably conducted. John Priest and Mary Hinchcliffe laid before us their intention of taking each other in marriage they were both of Highflatts meeting. Both meetings held upwards of three hours. After which we had 18 friends din'd at my house, and 9 drunk Tea, and six Supp'd, and four tarried all night viz. Thomas Walker Haigh and Wife, and Mary Sykes of Burton Mg. and her sister Anne. On the 20<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week in the morning Frances Yeardeley of Barnsley came to my house and she with my lodgers stopp'd dinner; after dinner they set out towards home, and I accompanied them to John Bottomleys of Wood were I tarried and drunk Tea, and return'd home in the evening.

Memorandum. Wooldale Monthly Meeting, 7<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 17<sup>th</sup>. 1809. On 16<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week our meeting at Highflatts was pretty large several of other Societies attending, but to me it was a low Suffering time, and held throughout in silence; In the afternoon James Arthington Wilson, being come to stop a little at Birdsedge, came to my house, and stopt Tea and Supper; we had no friends to lodge with us tonight. On 17<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, Joseph Johnson of Ackworth and Thomas Yeardeley and his Wife, and John Yeardeley of Barnsley Breakfasted with me, and after breakfast a little before 9 o clock we set out together for Wooldale, at Birdsedge James Arthington Wilson joined us and accompanied us thither, we got there about half past 10, and got Tea at Henry Swires. The meeting it was thought was not quite so large of friends as usual when held there, but great numbers of other People came in, so that the house and chamber was well filled; It was a very open favoured meeting, I had a pretty long testimony to bear therein first from Psalms 4. v: 6. There be many that say, Who will shew us any good? Lord, lift thou up the light of thy countenance upon us. Isabella Harris next from Isai: C: 40. v: 31. They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength. I next from Luke C: 10. v. 41, 42. Martha, Martha, thou art careful, and troubled about many things. But one thing is needful and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her. John Bottomley next, from Isai: C: 40. v: 11. He shall feed his flock like a shepherd; he shall gather the Lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those along that are with young. Isabella Harris next from Cant: C: 1. v: 7. 8. Tell me, Oh thou whom my soul loveth, where thou feedest, where thou makest thy flock to rest at noon; for why should I be as one that turneth aside by the flocks of thy companions? If thou know not O thou fairest among Women, go thy way forth by the foot steps of the flock. At the close of the meeting for Worship was held our Monthly Meeting for discipline, We had a great deal of business before us to day which was very agreeably conducted; among other things, John Priest and Mary Hinchcliffe both of Highflatts Mg. were cleared from all other engagements relating to Marriage, and left at liberty to accomplish theirs when they and Highflatts friends saw meet. Also Elihu Dickinson of Highflatts Mg. laid before us his intentions of marriage with Elizabeth Rothwell a member of Hardshaw Monthly Mg. in Lancashire. At the close of the business, the Yearly Mg. Epistle was read. Both Meetings held 4 hours. After which I din'd at Henry Swires in the village, and drunk Tea and about 6 o clock left Wooldale in company with James Arthington Wilson, came by Tottis and Scholes to George Broadheads of Jacksonbridge were we stopt about 1 hour and a half and took some Brandy and water; then

came by Bankhouse, and over the moor, and down Slack.lane to John Mallinsons of Birdsedge were I sat a little and got home betwixt 9 and 10 in the evening.

Memorandum. On the 20<sup>th</sup>. of ye 7<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1809 and 5<sup>th</sup>. day of the week were married at Highflatts, John Priest son of Joseph Priest of Denby, and Mary Hinchcliffe daughter of Joseph Hinchcliffe of Whinney in Shepley. At their request our weekday Meeting was held the day before the usual time, and began at 10 o clock in the forenoon. It was not large, altho' several of other Societies attended. I had a pretty long testimony to bear therein from Phil: C: 3. v: 8. 9. I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord; for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but dung that I may win christ. And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith. And after the friends had taken each other in marriage, and the certificate was read and Signed, John Bottomley had a pretty long testimony to bear from 1 Cor: C: 10. v: 31. Whether therefore ye eat or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God. The meeting held about 2 hours and a half. After which I went in company with others who were invited to the marriage, to Whinney were we din'd and drunk Tea. John Mallinson, myself, Mary Walker, and Mary Mallinson were appointed to see the orderly conducting thereof; according to custom stopt until all the company were gone. About 8 o clock in the evening I left Whinney in company with John Mallinson and Wife, and Joseph Haigh, we came together near home were I got about 9 o clock.

Memorandum. On ye. 11<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1809, and 5<sup>th</sup>. day of the week, we had a severe storm of Thunder and Lightning attended with very rain, It began a little before 5 o clock in the afternoon, and continued upwards of an hour and a half, There was the greatest flood in this neighbourhood that I had seen for many years, and the rain we understood fell heavier westwood so that considerable damage was done by the flood above Holmfirth and the neighbourhood thereof. But betwixt 9 and 10 the same evening we had another storm of Thunder and Lightning, and some of the claps were pretty heavy, The Lightning continued throughout the night the flashes following one another pretty quick, and betwixt 12 and 1 o clock in the morning there were a considerable number of loudish claps of Thunder. But betwixt 7 and 8 o clock the same morning it continued to Thunder and Lighten most of the time the flashes of Lightning were more awful, and the peals of Thunder louder than any we had had before, since the storm began. We afterwards heard a man in Saddleworth was struck dead by the Lightning in his own house.

Memorandum. On ye 31<sup>st</sup>. of ye 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1809. Mary Earnshaw, wife of Thomas Earnshaw of Langsett departed this Life and was buried in friends burial ground at Lumbroyd near Penistone ye. 4<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 9<sup>th</sup>. Mo. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of the week, aged about 72 years. On 3<sup>rd</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week, being a wet day our Meeting at Highflatts was considerably smaller than usual, yet larger than I expected especially of men friends; it was an open good meeting; The wing of the Almighty overshadowing us, under which solemn covering the language of encouragement opened and flowed freely unto various states more especially to some amongst the youth. I had a long testimony to bear therein from Phil: C: 3. v: 3. We are the circumcision, which worship God in the Spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh. Afterwards I had a short testimony addressed to a particular state encouraging to faithfulness under the different dispensations and Baptisms they might have to

pass through in order to qualify them for service from Gen: C: 49. v: 22, 23, 24. Joseph is a fruitful bough, even a fruitful bough by a well; whose branches ran over the wall. The archers have sorely grieved him, and shot at him, and hated him. But his bow abode in strength, and the arms of his hands were made strong by the arms of the mighty God of Jacob. After meeting Joseph Grayham came with me to dine, and spent the afternoon; and John Pickford came and drunk Tea with us. Being invited to attend the beforementioned burial, I concluded to go to Penistone to night; accordingly I set out from home about half past 6 o'clock Joseph Grayham accompanied me as far as his road lay were we parted, I went to Ing Birchworth to Penistone were I got a little before 8 o'clock and lodg'd at my kind friend George Chapmans. On 4<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of the week, George Chapman and me went together to Lumbroyd were we met the corps at 11 o'clock, the hour appointed by our meeting for Meetings to begin at, for the members of our Society on these occasions. This burial was large, and principally People of other Societies; the Meetinghouse and chamber being well filled and we were favoured together with a satisfactory meeting many being much broken and tendered therein and a becoming solidly appeared in all. After a long time in silence I had a very long testimony to bear from 1 Cor: 6. v: 9. Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived. And afterwards I was concerned in Prayer. The meeting held about 3 hours. After which Thomas Earnshaw of Langsett being very desirous for me to go to dine with them I complied with his request, and stopt at Langsett until betwixt 5 and 6 o'clock in the afternoon, and then left there in company with Thomas Earnshaw of Judfield, and came with him to his house were I drunk Tea and stopt about 1 hour, then proceeded dear Thomas accompanying me to Cubley were we parted, I got to Penistone about 8 o'clock, were as before I lodg'd at George Chapmans. On 5<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week I left Penistone about 10 o'clock in the forenoon, George Chapman set me a little on my way, and then return'd. I came by Ing Birchworth home, were I got about half past 11 o'clock.

Memorandum. On ye 6<sup>th</sup>. day of ye. 9<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1809 and 4<sup>th</sup>. day of the week we had the most awful and heavy storm of Thunder and Lightning that had been in this part in the course of this summer, It began to Thunder at a distance a little before noon and continued all the afternoon in different parts at a distance; but towards evening it came nearer; and betwixt 8 to 10 o'clock the Thunder was very heavy and the flashes of Lightning very awful accompanied part of the time with very heavy rain and hail; and being extremely dark it was truly an awful and alarming time. Joseph Haigh of Birdsedge called at our house during the storm and stopt all night. He who suffers not an hair of our heads to fall to the ground without his permission was pleased to preserve us from harm; and I have not yet heard of any damage except the Lightning going down Samuel Rusbys chimney of Delf house and forcing its way through a window, without hurting any of the family, or doing further damage. It had been very close for several days before the storm and mostly misty with rain at times; and uncommon hot and sultry for the time of year.

Memorandum. On ye. 4<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 9<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1809 Hannah Haigh Wife of John Haigh of Shepley departed this life and was buried ye. 8<sup>th</sup>. of the same and 6<sup>th</sup>. day of the week in friends Burial ground at Highflatts aged 77 years. I being invited to attend the said burial, left home a little past 7 o'clock the same morning, called upon Joseph Haigh of Birdsedge, we overtook Leah Kinsley and Susanna Mallinson upon the road and went to Shepley together were we got a little after the time invited for which was 8 o'clock, We breakfasted and tarried until a little past 10 and then proceeded with the corps to Highflatts: The meeting began at 11 and held upwards of 2 hours, It was pretty large of friends and others, the Meetinghouse being not quite full; and with this mixed multitude we had a pretty open satisfactory meeting. John

Bottomley had a pretty long time therein in testimony first from Rev: C: 14. v, 13. Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord, from henceforth: yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them. I had a long time next from Eccle: C: 12. v: 13, 14. Fear God, and keep his commandments; for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil. John Bottomley was afterwards concerned in Prayer. After meeting feeling unwell I rested me a little at Richard Dickinsons and got some Brandy and water which relieved me much; and then return'd to Shepley, John Haigh requesting me to dine and spend the afternoon with them; I tarried at his house until about 7 o'clock in the evening and then return'd in company with Joseph Haigh, after parting with him I call'd and sat a little at John Mallinsons and got home about 8 o'clock.

Memorandum. Ackworth Monthly meeting. I set out from home to attend our Monthly meeting to be held at Ackworth on ye. 16<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 9<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1809 and 7<sup>th</sup>. day of the week, after dinner, called at John Pickfords to be shaved, left there betwixt 2 and 3 o'clock and went to Whinny to see if Charles Hinchcliffe was going, but he could not leave home, stopt their about half an hour, and then he set me a little on my way, after parting with him, I went to Skelmanthorp were I stopt about 1 hour and a half and drunk Tea, then proceeded by Park mill and Bretton, it raining all the way thither, and so by Crigglestone to Dircar were I got about 8 o'clock and lodg'd at Christopher Walkers. On 17<sup>th</sup>. and the 1<sup>st</sup>. of the week, after breakfast, I set out for Wakefield intending to stop their meeting, got there a little past 9 o'clock, and rested me at William Awmacks; just before the time of the meeting, came in our friend Benjamin White from Pennsylvania in America who had landed at Liverpool about two months before and was proceeding on a religious visit to Friends in Great Britain and Ireland; and now was on his way to our Monthly meeting and the several particular meetings constituting the same. Being first day the friends here had had no notice of his coming however it was pretty fully attended by friends and it so happened that several of other Societies came in, Benjamin had a very long and encouraging testimony to bear from Isai: C: 1. v. 16, 17. Cease to do evil; Learn to do well. At the close of the meeting for Worship; the men and women who were members of the Society were requested to stop a little, when the General advices were read, and after the Women friends were withdrawn, the business of their Preparative meeting was gone thro' and amongst other things the Queries were read and Answered and answers thereto drawn up approv'd and Signed in order to be laid before the Monthly Meeting. The meetings held upwards of 3 hours, after which I din'd at William Awmacks and a little past 3 o'clock left Wakefield and went by Agbridge to Crofton were I got 6 pennyworth of Rum and Water at the Windmill then proceeded by Foulby, Wragby and Hazle to Ackworth School were I took up my quarters this time got there just in time to get a cup of Tea before the Select meeting which began at 6 and held near 2 hours, The Queries were read and considered, and Answers thereto drawn up approved and Signed, in order to be laid before our ensuing select Quarterly Meeting. On 18<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. day of the week, at 9 in the morning A committee of men and Women friends met to consider a suitable number of friends for Overseers of which committee I was one we sat upwards of 1 hour and a half and at the close thereof, the men friends were appointed by the Monthly Mg. to consider of two suitable friends for Clerks to said Meeting and we agreed to propose Joseph Samms of Ackworth Mg. for Clerk and Joseph Firth, Assistant who were acceptable to the Mg. and appointed accordingly. We had just time to get a little refreshment before the Monthly meeting for Worship began which was not so large as usual being a wet day. At the close thereof was the Meeting for discipline, and a great deal of business was before it to day, amongst other things the Queries were read and Answers received from all our Preparative meetings, and a General Answer was prepared therefrom to be laid before our ensuing Quarterly Mg. Also William Harvey and Susanna Atkinson both of Burton Mg. were cleared

from all other Marriage engagements and left at Liberty to accomplish theirs when they and Burton Friends see meet. Our beloved friend Benjamin White had nothing to communicate to us in this Select Mg. and the Mg. for Worship was held throughout in silence; but in this meeting Benjamin White, myself and John Bottomley was largely opened in pertinent advice upon sundry subjects, and upon the whole I thought the different sittings of this meeting were measurably favoured and satisfactory. Both meetings held near 5 hours. After which I din'd at Joseph Sams's. After dinner we had a short opportunity in which John Bottomley was concerned in testimony. I left Ackworth about half past 5 o'clock and came with William Taylor of Shafton, by Hemsworth to Shafton where we got betwixt 7 and 8 o'clock in the evening and lodg'd at Timothy Sykes's. On 19<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, The night before betwixt 11 and 12 o'clock just after I laid me down in Bed, The wind arose all of a sudden to an amazing height, and continued to after we arose in the morning I thought I never remembered such a wind at this season of the year before, and the effects thereof I saw in many places as I went along towards home to day, Some trees being blown down and many large boughs broke of others the Thatch in part taken of many Stacks and some houses and the Chivers generally blown down and Sheaves driven from one side of the close to the other, and much loss was sustained where the corn was uncut, that what with the long continued rains and this great wind many hearts felt much for the poor and others fearing that it might prove a suffering time to many. I left Shafton about 9 o'clock in the morning and it proving a fine day I had a pleasant walk home, Timothy Sykes set me about half a mile on my way and then return'd, I came by Carlton to Barugh mill where I stopt upwards 1 hour and got some refreshment, then came by Cawthorne and Dakinbrook to Denby where I drunk Tea at Joseph Grayhams stopt about 3 hours and then Joseph set me a little on my way towards home where I got about 7 o'clock the same evening.

Memorandum. In the year 1805, My mind was drawn in such a manner towards the inhabitants of several places within the compass of our Monthly meeting, as caused me to believe that it was required of me to have some religious meetings amongst them; This brought a very weighty exercise over my mind, and a few places being particularly pointed out unto me, I ventured to spread my concern before the friends of our Monthly meeting which drew from many testimonies of their unity and encouragement; and the meeting left me at liberty to proceed therein as Truth might open my way. Being thus encouraged I got through my present prospect, but before I had done, other services of the like kind appeared, thus was I gradually led on until the year 1809, when my prospects of this kind within the compass of our Monthly meeting for the present closed; I have oftens admired the Lords tender dealings with me in thus gradually opening this weighty service to me, had I had the whole opened at once, I have oftens thought I should have sunk under the weight of discouragement, but thus opening by degrees, and finding his arm to be underneath, to bear up and support, I was encouraged to proceed, always taking care to spread my concern before the Monthly meeting at least annually until the accomplishment thereof; from which I derived strength, by the unity and encouragement I received from my beloved friends, so that in some seasons when my weak faith was ready to fail, securing to the unity of my beloved friends it hath been a means of encouraging me to persevere, until I have afresh experienced him to arise, who giveth power unto them that are ready to faint, and increaseth strength unto those who have no might of their own. The following is a List of the meetings I had, where they was held, when, and what they was held in. viz.

Mo.	day	d.w.	Hr.	Place	What held in
1805					
6 <sup>mo</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	11	Hepworth	James Marsh Barn
6	9	1	11	Holm	John Beardsalls Barn
6	23	1	11	Flockton	John Milns Esquire Barn
6	30	1	11	Lepton	Hannah Jessops Barn
10	22	3	6 ½	Cudworth	John Bamfords House
10	27	1	3 ½	Mapplewell	Dissenting Methodists Mg. house
11	24	1	10	Higham	Richard Longleys Barn
1806					
3	2	1	11	Thurgoland	School
4	22	3	7	Barguhmill	Richard Scorahs House
5	4	1	11	Netherton	John Shaws Barn
5	18	1	7	Shafton	Martha Woods House
5	21	4	6	Warmfield	William Kirshaws Barn
6	1	1	11	Royd in Farnley	Matthew Lockwoods Barn
6	6	6	7	Hanging Heaton	John Hirsts House
6	22	1	11	Briestfield	George Armitage Barn
6	29	1	10	Thurlstone	Methodist Meetinghouse
8	14	5	7	Shelley	Independent Meetinghouse
8	24	1	7	Denby	Joseph Priests House
9	3	4	7	Shepley	John Brooks Barn
9	17	4	7	Skelmanthorp	School
9	21	1	6	Denby	Joseph Priests House
9	28	1	11	Thong	Methodists Meetinghouse
10	12	1	4	Thurstonland	Thomas Pomfrets House
10	26	1	11	Oxspring	Jonathan Hawksworths House
11	15	7	5	Hoylandswain	William Crowthers House
12	21	1	11	Dodworth	School
1807					
4	26	1	11	Wortley forge	John Woodcocks Barn
4	30	5	7	Ardsley	Dissenting Methodists Mg. house
5	17	1	11	Burton	Friends Meetinghouse
7	5	1	10	Annanden	John Hinchcliffes Barn
8	18	3	6	Brierley	Widow Dimonds Barn
8	31	2	6	Worsbro'dale	Thomas Woods Barn
9	1	3	7	Houghton	Thomas Newsome Barn
9	22	3	6	Fetherstone	Joseph Hepworths House
10	20	3	6	Hoyland	Walkers Foundery
11	15	1	6	Carlton	James Halls House
12	19	7	5	Wombwell	School
12	25	6	2	Notton	Joseph Hepworths House
1808					
4	19	3	6	Badsworth	Methodist Meetinghouse
5	1	1	11	Meltham	Abraham Woodheads Barn
5	15	1	11	Whitley	Methodist meetinghouse
Do	Do	Do	5	Womersley	John Dawsons Barn
5	17	3	6	Darrington	Jonathan Harrisons Barn
5	18	4	6	Kirkby	James Emmersons Barn
5	29	1	11	Bullhouse	Presbyterian Meetinghouse
6	5	1	11	Emley Park	Benjamin Steads Barn
6	26	1	10	Scholes	John Mortons Barn
8	16	3	6	Hemsworth	Methodists Meetinghouse

8	21	1	11	Lumbroyd	Friends Meetinghouse
10	18	3	6	Beal	John Moors Barn
10	19	4	6	Brotherton	John Crowthers Granary
10	20	5	5	Crofton	William Nottinghams Malthouse
10	31	2	6	Honley	Methodists Meetinghouse
11	20	1	5	Alverthorp	School
12	4	1	11	Burton	Friends Meetinghouse
12	18	1	11	Midgley	Joseph Stringers House
1809					
2	21	3	6	Stanley	Joshua Bollands House
4	10	2	6	Thornhill	Richard Crossleys House
4	16	1	10	Ryall	Adam Wearings House
4	30	1	5	Wooldale	Friends Meetinghouse
5	16	3	5	Castleford	Thomas Tealls Barn
6	8	5	6	Wrenthorpe	Thomas Legers House
7	30	1	5	Highflatts	Friends Meetinghouse
8	6	1	5	Thurnsco	William Moorhouses House
8	22	3	6	Darfield	William Robinsons Barn
8	27	1	10	Hogley	John Wimpennys Barn
12	17	1	11	Woolley	Benjamin Moodys House

From Thomas Shillitoe,

To the newly convinced Friends in West Houghton in Lancashire  
Tottenham 19<sup>th</sup>. of 10<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1807

Dear Friends

You are frequently the companion of my mind, altho' now very far separate in body; yet that precious feeling I was favoured with when amongst you; at times afresh accompanies my mind, attended with sincere breathings of soul for your Preservation, but you may not have received the Grace of God the pressures divine seed in vain; but that it may indeed bring forth in each of your minds answerable to the design of the heavenly husbandman; and then I am persuaded your number will yet be increased. Herewith are some Books for your acceptance; and if any of you are disposed to write on their receipt; (as my time with you was so short, it did not afford any opportunity to ask any Questions) such a letter will be very acceptable. My very dear Love is to you all

Thomas Shillitoe

Memorandum. On ye. 7<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1809, Godfrey Woodhead of Fulstone departed this life, and was buried in friends burial ground at Wooldale ye 11<sup>th</sup>. of the same and 2<sup>nd</sup>. day of week aged about 70 years. I being invited attended the said burial, left home about 7 o'clock the same morning; and got there to the house of the deceased about 8, set out with the corps a little past 10; The meeting began as usual at 11 and held near 3 hours; It was pretty large of friends and others, and tho' attended with heavy labour was upon the whole open and satisfactory. Isabella Harris had a long testimony to bear therein first from Psalms 90. v: 10. The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away. I next from Matt: C: 25. v: 6. At midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh. John Bottomley next from 1 John: C: 2. v: 14. I have written unto you young men because ye are strong, and the word of God abides in you. Isabella Harris next

from Lam: C: 3. v: 27, 28. It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth; He sitteth alone and keepeth silence, because he hath born it upon him. John Bottomley next in Prayer. After meeting I return'd with many other friends to Fulstone to dine, were I spent the afternoon very agreeably, Isabella Harris tarrying all night; I stopt Tea, and until 7 o'clock in the evening, and then set out towards home. Samuel Woodhead, set me on my way a little, and then return'd; I called at Henry Marsdens of Dobroyd were I stopt about half an hour and then came to John Mallinsons of Birdsedge, were I sat about half an hour, and got home betwixt 9 and 10 o'clock.

Memorandum. On ye. 16<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo 1809 Timothy Broadhead, son of Daniel Broadhead of Batty.mill in Thurlstone departed this Life, and was buried ye 20<sup>th</sup>. of the same in friends burial ground at Lumbroyd near Penistone aged about 27 years. I was gone to our Monthly meeting when the invitation came to his Burial, but got home the evening before exceeding weary the roads being so very bad, so that when my family informed me of the invitation I had no thought of attending, but on weighing found I should not be easy to omit it, but concluded to go directly to Lumbroyd without calling at the house, Accordingly I set out the same morning about 9 o'clock and went by Ing Birchworth to Penistone were I tarried until the corps came at George Chapmans, and then accompanied it to Lumbroyd were we got about the usual time. The meeting was large of friends and others, the house and chamber being both nearly full I had a very long testimony to bear therein from Matt: C: 13. v: 33 The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a Woman took and hid in three measures of meal, til the whole was leavened. I thought it was a good meeting, and it held about 2 hours. After which I went to dine at Daniel Broadheads of Batty.mill the deceased Fathers whilst I was at dinner Enoch Gouldthorp my servant in husbandry came to acquaint me there was a man waiting about some business at my house, who desired me to return as speedily as I could, accordingly I set out a little past 3 o'clock and came by Thurlstone and Ing Birchworth home were I got about 4 o'clock.

Memorandum. In the fall of the year 1802 a most barbarous and inhumane murder was committed on a Widow Smith at Flanshaw in Alverthorpe near Wakefield by a Joseph Heald and John Tirrey two young men who were Apprentice at separate houses in the neighbourhood; and as the old woman lived by herself these lads had been for a long time in the habit of going in a neighbourly way to spend the evenings with her, she living alone; and understanding she had some money by her, they formed the design of robing her and for this purpose broke into her house in the night; and murdered her in a most cruel and barbarous manner; but she having concealed the money they did not find it. The next morning John Tirrey was taken up (who was the younger of the two) on suspicion who immediately confessed the whole affair, and informed of Joseph Heald his accomplice and who it was always thought had drawn him into this, and many of the bad practices previous thereto; So dangerous is bad company how careful ought young People to be with whom they do associate, and also to resist the first suggestions of the enemy to evil, for by giving way unto these little things their strength to resist is weakened and the heart imperceptibly hardened until like Hazael formerly some have been prevailed upon to commit such evils as the very thoughts of have formerly been shocking to them, so as to make them adapt the language; Am I a dog that I should do such great evil. They were both committed to York Castle, and during the time of their confinement I attended our Quarterly meeting there, and went to see them in the Castle I very much pitied them that they should have brought themselves into this situation and sincerely desired their harms might be a warning unto others; They appeared clever handsome young men, the older not having attained the age of 21 years. Joseph Heald

appeared to be very much hardened, and I understand continued so to the last shewing no marks of sorrow or repentance, but John Tirrey appeared very penitent and I understood acknowledged the hieniousness of his crime, and the justness of his sentence. The day but one before he suffered, he wrote letters to his two Brothers, pretty much to one import, The following is the substance contained in one of them viz.

York Castle March 12<sup>th</sup>. 1803

Dear Brother

This is the last time I shall ever have the opportunity of writing to you in this world; for I am no more a brother, a brother of yours, on this side of time; but trust that Jesus christ will be my brother; and am in great hopes to sit at his right hand in the Kingdom of heaven; and that through his tender mercies he will pardon and forgive me all my Transgressions that I have committed against him. For on Monday morning I shall be no more in this world; but shall be launched into Eternity; but trust in my Redeemer that he will receive my poor soul. But dear Brother let me give you this exhortation to be humble, and seek the Lord; and fear him that has always his eyes upon all mankind; and Study to walk in the fear of the Lord, and keep his commandments; and obey your Master in all things that is right; and likewise be sure to keep the Sabbath day, and keep it holy; for you see what becomes of those that break the Sabbath: for if I had kept the Sabbath, I should never have been brought to this untimely end. So I beg of you, to let this advice of me your unfortunate Brother, sink deeply into your heart, and may the Lord bless you, is the prayer of your dear Brother

John Tirrey

Memorandum. Being appointed by our Monthly meeting in the 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1809, along with Henry Swire, to pay a visit to two young men members of Wooldale meeting viz. Daniel Archard against whom a complaint was laid for non attendance of Meetings, and embracing Principles inconsistent with Christianity and John Firth who was recommended to us some time ago from Brighouse Monthly meeting and had for a considerable time past wholly absented himself from the attendance of friends meetings and joined the Independents in their way and manner of Worship. Accordingly I left home in order to perform the said visits ye. 30<sup>th</sup>. of said Mo. and 7<sup>th</sup>. day of the week betwixt 10 and 11 o'clock in the forenoon, went to John Pickfords of Park where I stopt to be shaved and then proceeded by Newmill to Wooldale where I called and din'd at John Adamsons who married a relation of mine; after dinner I went to Henry Swires and a little past 3 o'clock we set out to visit John Firth who was put Apprentice to one Christopher Green about four miles distance from here, near unto Holm moss; we went by Holmfirth, and Hinchcliffe.mill thither, where we met with the young man at home, and had an opportunity with him out of doors he appearing not willing for us to have it in the house, altho' his Master appeared very civil and kindly invited us in; after the opportunity we return'd immediately the days being short, the roads exceeding dirty, the afternoon wet, and no moon in the evening, got to Holmfirth where we lighted a Lanthorn which we took in our Pockets and reached Henry Swires of Wooldale about 6 o'clock where I tarried all night, After Tea we drew up the following report of our visit in order to be laid before our ensuing Monthly Meeting viz.

"We have visited John Firth; but are sorry to observe, that he did not appear to receive our visit in a friendly disposition; neither did he give us any reason to expect he would attend friends meetings in the future; We apprehend no satisfaction, or use will arise from further labour at present. But at parting he said, if friends neither heard from him, nor saw him betwixt the Monthly meeting in the second month; the meeting might then act as they thought proper in his case."

Wooldale 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 30<sup>th</sup>. 1809

Henry Swire      Joseph Wood

On 31<sup>st</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week, This morning we arose early and set out soon after it was light, and went to John Wood Broadheads where Daniel Archard at present resides; who readily gave us his company, and after the opportunity we return'd from Totties to Henry Swires to Breakfast. After breakfast we drew up the following report of our visit in order to be laid before our ensuing Monthly meeting viz.

"We have visited Daniel Archard, who received us civilly; we informed him that he was charged with neglecting the attendance of our Religious meetings; and of embracing Principles repugnant to Christianity; which he acknowledged to be true, and added, To make short of it, I am confirmed and established in my belief. There did not appear to us much room in him to receive any advice; and we felt easy without communicating much, as he said the Overseers had faithfully discharge the duty of their station on to him, and he had no desire to be continued a member of our Society"

Wooldale 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 31<sup>st</sup>. 1809

Henry Swire  
Joseph Wood

Having felt for some time an inclination to be at their first day meeting at Wooldale, and my lot being now cast there on that day, I embraced the opportunity, and attended it; and according to my desire it proved to be select of friends or such as usually attend it; I had a long testimony to bear therein from Neh: C: 2. v: 20. The God of heaven he will prosper us therefore we his servants will arise and build; but ye have no portion nor right, nor memorial in Jerusalem. And afterwards had another pretty long time from 1 Cor: C: 15: v: 19. If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable. It was upon the whole a very laborious Meeting yet I was enabled to get through the service thereof so as to be favoured in the close with the evidence of Peace, the sure reward of unreserved obedience. A rightly exercised but afflicted remanent were encouraged to rise and build that the breaches made in the walls of our Zion might be repaired; and not be discouraged with the mockings and scuffings of Ishmaels seed, who were also faithfully warn'd of their danger if they continued in this state of the day of their visitation passing over their heads, so as to have no portion, right nor memorial in Jerusalem. And the beloved youth were encouraged rather to suffer affliction with the People of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin which are but for a season. The meeting held 2 hours after which I din'd at Henry Swires and after dinner I set out, Henry accompanying me to Newmill were we parted, I came to Fulstone were I called to see the Widow Dinah Woodhead, and then went to Samuel Woodheads, where I met with Joseph Firth of Shepley Lanehead a young man of whom I have a particular value being of an exemplary conduct, and consistent appearance with our profession; and if he gets deep, and dwells deep; I trust he will be a valuable member of our Society; at present he is Clerk to our Preparative meeting and Reading Clerk to the Monthly meeting. Samuel and his wife were both pressing upon me to stop Tea, which I was more easy to do as I should have Joseph Firths company as far as their house; accordingly I complied with their request, and tarried about 2 hours, and then set out, and Samuel Woodhead, and James Booth Woodhead accompanied us with a Lanthorn to Lanehead, were taking leave of them, I did very well home, the road been good; were I got a little past six o clock feeling much fatigued with my Journey and the exercise attending it; got rested a little before our Reading, the time of sitting down being as usual at 7 o clock, Besides Joseph Haigh and Leah Kinsley who reckon constantly to sit with us. John Mallinson junr. and his sister Susanna, with George Mallinson and his brother Abraham of Huddersfield and Hannah Pickard of Dircar who were on a visit at Birdsedge, came and sat with us this evening, and we were favoured with a comfortable opportunity together, a good degree of solemnity mercifully overshadowing us during the reading, and in that time of silence after the reading we experienced an increase thereof, and afterwards under the precious influence of Gospel Love, I had a pretty long testimony to bear from Joel C: 2. v. 28, 29. And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh and your sons and your daughter shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions; And also upon the servants and upon the hand

maids in those days will I pour out my spirit. The sixth day evening before I left home, James Taylor of Oldham Mg. in Lancashire came to my house to spend a few days with me, which brought me into a strait about proceeding in my Journey according to what was proposed, but on weighing it, I could not be easy to admit or alter it. The cause and service of Truth being to have the preference, and all other inclinations to give way and be subject thereto, and I had abundant cause to believe our moving therein, and my attendance of the Meeting at Wooldale was in the right time. James Taylor stopt dinner on seventh day, and return'd to my house on second day in the forenoon, in the afternoon we went to John Mallinsons of Birdsedge to Tea, and return'd in the evening, and after Breakfast next morning he set out towards home, being the 2<sup>nd</sup>. of the 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 1810 and 3<sup>rd</sup>. day of the week.

Memorandum            1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 28<sup>th</sup>. 1810 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week; our Meeting at Highflatts was large for the season of the year, it being very moderate weather; several of other Societies came in, It was mostly held in silence, In the early part thereof Martha Dickinson said a few words which I thought was more hurtful than advantageous to the meeting, she has been more troublesome that way of late than for some time before. Towards the close of the meeting at the Yearly Meeting Epistle was read and I thought a good degree of solemnity came over the minds of many during the reading thereof. Afterwards John Bottomley was concerned in Prayer. This morning John Yeardley of Barnsley came to my house, and got there just in time to get a little refreshment before the meeting; he return'd with us from the meeting, and Joseph Firth and Joseph Grayham came also along with us; after dinner John Yeardley and Joseph Grayham stopt about 1 hour and then set out to their respective habitations. Joseph Firth stopt Tea of whose company I was very glad being one for whom I have long felt an affectionate regard, having demeaned himself in a becoming manner in early life not deviating in his dress or behaviour from the plainness of our religious profession; and now hes grown to a young man, proffers fair for usefulness in the Society, if he is but sufficiently concerned to keep low and humble; having his dependence for every qualification for religious service upon that spirit without the assistance of which nothing can be done to the advancement of the cause of Truth, or the honour of that great Name. He is at present Clerk to our Preparative meeting; and Reading Clerk to the Monthly Meeting, which offices he so far fills up to the satisfaction of his friends. I have often believed if the youth of our Society was more generally concerned to keep within the bounds and limits of the unchangeable Truth as they advanced in years they would be favoured with additional blessings whereby they would be rightly qualified to fill up the vacant places of those who may be removed from works and to rewards according to their respective gifts. For as the Apostle observes 1 Cor; C: 12. v. 4, 5, 6, 7, There are diversities of gifts, but the same spirit. And there are difference of administrations but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. But the manifestations of the spirit is given to every man to profit withal. At our family sitting in the evening none was present beside our own family and two friends who usually meet with us except Ann the daughter of Jonathan Brammall of Swinden who being cousin to Elizabeth Marsh my housekeeper was come over to stop a while with us. After reading the opportunity was held in silence which I hope was not unprofitable as our minds were in some measure covered with some degree of solemnity. I have oftens thought that many families in our Society suffer great loss, for want of frequently collecting together and reading the holy Scriptures and afterwards sitting together in silence waiting for the influence of the holy spirit to enable them to approach infinite wisdom, in secret supplications for such things as or withstand in need of, and those who ask, we have his promise that they shall receive, For tho' we as a people have laid aside the customary forms of Prayer, believing them to be sacrifices which are not acceptable to the Almighty. It was the testimony of the Apostle 1 Cor: C: 14. v: 15. I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also; and I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding

also. Now it evidently appears that it is the influence of the spirit that makes these duties acceptable, and not entering upon them in the will of the creature or in a bare conformity with the letter of the scriptures or the practice of the holy men of God; and we have not this at our command it must be patiently waited for in a state of humble watchfulness see Eph: C: 6. v: 18. Praying always with all prayer and supplication and the spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance. and 1 Pet: C: 4. v: 7. Be therefore sober, and watch unto Prayer. and Eph: C: 5. v: 19, 20, Speaking to yourselves in Psalms and Hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your hearts unto the Lord; giving thanks always and in all things, unto God and the Father, in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Which is his Power, O that friends were more generally concerned to wait for it and feel after it in their families with their children, or their servants, or both; then I do believe at times they would be favoured to experience the spirit of Prayer and supplication poured forth upon them; and at other times they would experience the Truth of the Prophets declaration Isai: C: 30. v: 29. Ye shall have a song as in the night, when a holy solemnity is kept. Thus would the beloved youths to be edified, and instructed in the Truth; and in due time prepared for service in the Church militant. But alas many who are heads of families, are not qualified thus to sit down therein; their hearts being more in love with other things than the Truth, so that the mournful language of the Prophet may be adapted to such Lam: C: 4. v: 4. The young children ask bread, and no man breaketh it unto them. But what will these do in the day of account.

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Memorandum. At our Monthly Meeting held at Wakefield in ye. 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1808; Our esteemed Friend Isabella Harris of Ackworth laid before us a concern that was on upon her mind to pay a religious visit to the meeting of friends within the compass of Brighouse, Knaresborough, and Pickering Monthly Meetings; and to have publick meetings with those of other Societies in some parts within the compass of said meetings, and some adjacent places. The Meeting after solidly considering the same having unity with the friend in her concern, gave her an Minute of the said Meeting expressing thereof, and leaving her at Liberty to proceed therein as truth might open her way. Accordingly she set out soon after and went through part of the service having several Publick meetings in the neighbourhood of Leeds, but was taken so ill, that some time in the 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. she was obliged to return to Ackworth, but after she got better, she return'd to her service, and was favoured to accomplish the same to her own and friends satisfaction.

The following is a List of the Meetings of friends she visited, and the places where she had Publick meetings within the compass of Brighouse and Knaresborough Monthly Meetings. Those without date are Publick Meetings she had before her illness.

Mgs of Friends	Mo.day	Publick Mgs.	Places in which they were held
1808		Seacroft	Methodist Meetinghouse
		Chapelton	Do.
		Wortley	Independent Meetinghouse
		Woodhouse	Methodist Meetinghouse
		Hunslet	Do.
		Beeston	Do.
		For Holbeck	Frd's Meetinghouse in Leeds
1809			
Rawden	3 22	Rawden	Frd's Meetinghouse
	23	Yeaden	Methodist Meetinghouse
	24	Calverley	Barn
Rawden	26	For Guiseley	Frd's Meetinghouse in Rawden
	27	Farsley	Baptist Meetinghouse
Burial at Rawden	28		
Quarterly Mg. at Leeds	3 29		
	30		
	31	Asquith	Frd's Meetinghouse
Farfield	4 2	Addingham	Methodist Meetinghouse
	3	Keighley	Frd's Meetinghouse
Skipton	4	Skipton	Methodist Meetinghouse
Netherdale	6	Netherdale	Frd's Meetinghouse
	7	Knaresborough	Frd's Meetinghouse
Rawden	9	Burly for children	Cotton mill
Otley Mo. Mg.	10	Otley	Frd's Meetinghouse
Rawden	12	Idle	Independent Meetinghouse
	13	Silsden	Barn
Rawden	16	Bramley	Methodist Meetinghouse
	18	Eccleshill	Do.
	19	Bradford	Friends Meetinghouse
	20	Halifax	Do.
Brighouse Mo.Mg	21	Brighouse	Do.
Bradford	23	Bradford	Do.
	24	Wibsey Low Moor	Methodist Meetinghouse
	25	Clayton heights	Do.
Bradford	26	Shelf	Do.
	27	Stanningley	Do.
	28	Horton	School room
Bradford	30	Thornton	Independent Meetinghouse
	5 1	Cutler heights	Barn
Bradford	3	Shipley	Independent Meetinghouse
	4	Bingley	Methodist Meetinghouse
	5	Wilsden	Independent Meetinghouse
Brighouse	7	Elland	Methodist Meetinghouse
	8	Clifton	Maltkiln
	9	Southouram	Methodist Meetinghouse
Brighouse	10	nr Hipperholm	Barn
	11	Cleckheaton	Independent Meetinghouse
	12	Heckmondwike	Do.

Brighouse	14	Brighouse	Methodist Meetinghouse
	15	Gomersall	Schoolroom
	16	Hightown	Methodist Meetinghouse
	17	Deighton	Do.
Bradford Mo. Mg.	1?		
Halifax	21	Halifax	Methodist Meetinghouse
	22	Mirfield	Do.
	23	Sowerbybridge	Warehouse
Brighouse	24	nr Huddersfield	Frd's Meetinghouse
nr Huddersfield	25	Lindley	Methodist Meetinghouse
	26	Huddersfield	Do.
nr Huddersfield	20	Firtown	Thomas Wilsons Barn
	28	Almondbury	Barn
	30	Ripponden	Methodist Meetinghouse
	31	Kirkheaton	Barn
nr Huddersfield	6 1	Huddersfield	Methodist Meetinghouse
		for Lockwood	
	2	Lepton	Barn
nr Huddersfield	4	nr Huddersfield	Friends Meetinghouse
		for Milnsbridge	
	5	Linthwaite	Methodist Meetinghouse
	7	Marsden	Independent Meetinghouse
nr Huddersfield	8	Slaighthwaite	Barn
	9	Stainland	Independent Meetinghouse
nr Huddersfield	10	Greetland	Methodist Meetinghouse
	12	Birstall	Do.
Gildersome	15	Morley	Do.
Leeds Mo. Mg.	16		
Leeds	18	Leeds for	Friends Meetinghouse
		East parts	
	19	Pudsey	Independent Meetinghouse
Rawden	21		
	22	Horsforth	Methodist Meetinghouse
	23	Farnley	Do.
	25	Drighlington	

The following is a List of the Meetings within the compass of Pickering Monthly Meeting

Frd's Meetings	Mo.	day	hor.	Publick Mgs.	Places where held in
	8	11	6	Malton	Frd's Meetinghouse
Malton		13	2		
		14	2	Witheringham	Barn of Christopher Dales
		15	3	Malton	Methodist Meetinghouse
Pickering		16	4	Pickering	Frd's Meetinghouse
	8	17	5	Thornton	Methodist Meetinghouse
		18	6	Snainton	Rt Lyths Barn
Pickering		20	1	Pickering	Frd's Meetinghouse
		21	2	Brompton	Barn
		22	3	Allerton	Do
		23	4	Lockton	Do
		25	6	Whitby	Frd's Meetinghouse
Whitby		27	1		
		28	2	Horshar	Wm. Puckerings Barn

Whitby Mg.	29	3		
with those who had been Frds				
Whitby	30	4	Whitby	Methodist Meetinghouse
	31	5	Robinhoods.Bay	Do.
Scarborough	9	1		Return'd to Whitby, from thence Gisborough, and to Yarm on 3 <sup>rd</sup> . day; to the Burial of John Proctor, on 5 <sup>th</sup> . day, back again to Whitby, rested there until 1 <sup>st</sup> . day following.
Whitby	10	1		
	12	3	Burniston	
Scarborough	13	4	Seamer	Barn
	14	5	Filey	Coach house
	15	6	Hunmanby	Barn
Scarborough	17	1		
Pickering Mo. Mg.	19	3		
	20	4	Thornton	School
	21	5	Old Malton	Barn
	22	6	Norton	Barn
Malton	24	1		

Memorandum. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mo. 11<sup>th</sup>. 1810 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, This morning at 10 o'clock was the conference of Overseers for our Preparative Meeting at Highflatts, which is held by direction of the Monthly meeting every three months regularly; For some days before the time I had felt my mind particularly drawn to attend it, as it is left open for any friend who may feel a right concern to do so; but the morning proving wet I felt discouraged fearing they would not all get, and being desirous to see them together, but as the time drew near my concern increased, and I gave up to go, and had no cause to repent it. Our present Overseers are George Chapman, Thomas Earnshaw of Judfield, John Brook, John Pickford, Joshua Dyson, Mary Walker, Mary Mallinson, Sarah Haigh, and Leah Kinsley, all of whom attended. It was a time of favour, being owned by the presence of him, who giveth Life and liberty, and I was truly glad to feel an exercised remnant amongst them, travailing for the prosperity of Zion and the restoration of the members of our Society to primitive simplicity, and believe a lively zeal is increasing amongst them being comforted with the weighty and pertinent remarks dropt by some. I had a pretty long and encouraging testimony to bear therein from 1 Cor: C: 12. v. 4, 5, 6. There are diversities of gifts, but the same spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. The meeting for Worship which succeeded the conference was pretty large (considering the day was not very favourable) especially of men friends, and a few of other Societies came in. I had a very long testimony to bear therein from Luke C: 11. v: 21. 22. When a strong man keepeth his palace his goods are in peace. But when a stronger man than he shall come upon him, and overcome him, he taketh from him all his armour wherein he trusted and divideth his spoils. Afterwards I was concerned in Prayer. At the close of this meeting the business of our Preparative meeting was gone through. Both meetings held 3 hours. Joseph Grayham din'd with us to day, and after dinner I set him a little on his way towards home. After Tea our worthy honoured friend George Chapman came to my house to stop all night having previously acquainted me with his intentions of doing so, he returned home the next morning after breakfast; So that we were favoured with his company at our reading this evening. We had also as usual the company of our neighbour Leah Kinsley, and of Ann Bramall a young Woman from Swinden who had been at my house upwards of 2

weeks. I thought it was a profitable opportunity being crowned with the masters presence. After reading I had a short testimony to bear therein from Psalms 16. v: 11. In thy presence is fulness of joy, at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore. and afterwards Leah Kinsley from Rev: C: 3. v: 10. Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation.

Memorandum. On 27<sup>th</sup>. of the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mo. 1810, departed this Life Mary Wood Wife of my Brother Samuel Wood of Haddenley, and was buried the 4<sup>th</sup>. of ye 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week in friends burial ground at Highflatts aged about 64 years. She endured a long and painful illness with much patience and fortitude never that I ever heard of murmuring or repining at the afflicting dispensation she had to pass through, altho' she was to carry to and from Bed the most part of six years and during that time she was not able to turn herself in Bed, yet throughout she was generally serene and cheerful which made her company both pleasant and profitable. I attended her Burial left home the same morning a little past 7 o'clock in company with William Taylor at Birdsedge we met with Martha Dickinson of Highflatts with whom we went to Haddenley, got there a little before 8 o'clock which was the time the invitation was for. After the company had Breakfasted and sat a little, the corps was made up about 10, and we proceeded to Highflatts where we got about 11. Brother and Sister Doncaster from Sheffield met us there whom I was truly glad to see. The meeting was very large the house and chamber being very full it being the first of the week abundance both friends and others attended and I thought it was a solemn Meeting, Jane Doncaster had a pretty long testimony to bear therein first from Heb: C: 9. v: 27. It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment. I next from Psalms 40. v. 1, 2, 3. I waited patiently for the Lord; and he inclined unto me; and heard my cry. He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings. And he hath put a new song in my mouth; even praise unto our God; many shall see it; and fear; and shall trust in the Lord. John Bottomley next from John C: 10. v. 4, 5. The sheep follow him; for they know his voice, And a stranger will they not follow. Jane Doncaster next in Prayer. and afterwards I had a short testimony from 2 Pet: C: 1. v: 10. Give diligence in making your calling and election sure. The meeting held about 2 hours and a quarter. After which I return'd with many of our relations to Haddenley to dine, where I also stopt Tea and supper, left there about half past 8 o'clock and got home a little past 9. It was a remarkably fine day for the time of year, but about dark there was a long and heavy shower of rain, but when I came home it was again fair. The next day in the forenoon my Brother and Sister Doncaster called at my house in their way home, where we spent upwards of 2 hours and a half very agreeably together, They got an early dinner with us, and set forward again a little past 12 o'clock.

Memorandum. 3<sup>rd</sup>. mo 11<sup>th</sup>. 1810 and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week. our Meeting at Highflatts was pretty large of friends and a few of other Societies came in, Soon after I sat me down therein a little matter opened, and I sat under the weight thereof the greatest part of the meeting; towards the close I stood in much weakness life and strength gradually arose, and I was enabled to relieve myself in a pretty long testimony from Jam: C: 1 v: 8. A double minded man is unstable in all his ways. Towards the close, of my testimony the language of encouragement flowed freely to the upright in heart, and I thought the meeting ended comfortably. At the close thereof; The business of our Preparative meeting was gone through; In the reading and answering of the Queries divers remarks were made, and some advice communicated, by John Bottomley and myself. Both meetings held 3 hours and a quarter. Joseph Grayham, Job Jepson and Jonathan Hirst who lived servant with me the two last years din'd at my house. I having been for some time under an engagement to pay a visit to some acquaintance and friends who live scattered

upon the Moors; I left home a little before 4 o'clock and in order to perform the same, And William Cockell an acquaintance and neighbour inclining to accompany me, we met by appointment at the Delphs above Denby, and went by Summerford, Carrhouse, Bullhouse, and Brookhouse to Swinden where we got to Jonathan Bramalls a little before 6 o'clock where we lodg'd this and the following night. On 12<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, This day was very rainy throughout so that we kept house pretty much in the forenoon but in the afternoon we went to John Howes of Hordron Ann Bramall accompanying us thither, we spent about three hours very agreeably there and drunk Tea. and notwithstanding it was a very wet day we looked a little about us, It being a place I am very partial to on account of its situation, got back to Swinden betwixt 6 and 7 o'clock. In the evening it fell a snow which just covered the ground. On 13<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, it was a fine morning with a little frost and continued fine all the day. We left Swinden about 9 o'clock and came to Joseph Brownhills of Brookhouse where we stopt about half an hour and got some refreshment. The People in these parts live more in the ancient simplicity than in most places, and are remarkable kind and hospitable. From hence we came to Langsett where we stopt about an hour at our ancient friend Thomas Earnshaws, now in the 81<sup>st</sup>. year of his age; he was so glad to see me that he wept for joy, we took a glass of Rum and Water before we left and came by Aldermanshead to Thomas Earnshaws of Judfield where we din'd, stopt 2 hours and a half, and then came by Cubley to Penistone where we drunk Tea at George Chapmans and stopt about an hour and a half. John Pickford came whilst we was here, and we came together to Birchworth low Barr; where I parted with them and came to Joseph Grayhams of Denby where I stopt near an hour, and then came to William Cockells of Moorroidnook where I sat a little and got home a little past 8 in the evening.

Memorandum. Wakefield Monthly Meeting 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. 19<sup>th</sup>. 1810. On 18<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week, I attended our Meeting at Highflatts which was not so large as it usually is altho' several of other societies attended; It was a low wading time for a season, but after patient waiting, ability was afforded to deliver many solemn Truths which at present appeared to have some impression upon the minds of several and the meeting ended under a solemn covering. I had a pretty long testimony to bear therein first from Rev: C: 10. v. 5, 6. The angel which I saw stand upon the sea and upon the earth, lifted up his hand to heaven, And sware by him that liveth for ever and ever, who created heaven and the things that therein are, and the earth and the things that therein are, and the sea and the things which are therein, that there should be time no longer. Afterwards I had a short testimony from Ex: C: 20. v: 8. Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy. John Bottomley next from Psalms 116. v: 15. Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints. The meeting held about 2 hours, after which I return'd home, and about 2 o'clock set out to attend our Select meeting to be held at 6 o'clock this evening at Dirtcar, called at Wood upon John Bottomley who accompanied me thither we went by Dykeside, Parkmill, and Bretton to Crigglestone, near Parkmill George Earnshaw of Shepley came up with us and accompanied us to Crigglestone, we got to Christopher Walkers of Dirtcar just in time to get Tea, before the meeting began, which held upwards of 2 hours. All our members attended, except Isabella Harris who is indisposed, and Dinah Woodhead who has been long unable to get from home. and Sarah Barber who appears to be negligent in the due attendance of Meetings; and some other weakness being manifested; and number of friends were ordered by this meeting to pay her a visit. We were also favoured with the very acceptable company of our friends Joseph Birkbeck an Elder from Settle, and Ann Fairbank a Minister from Sheffield. Who also attended our Monthly Meeting at Wakefield the next day. The Queries were read, and considered, and Answers thereto drawn up approv'd and Signed in order to be laid before our Select Quarterly Mg. At the close of the business Ann Fairbank had an encouraging testimony to bear, and I thought the Masters presence measurably crowned this Assembly. After meeting we all supp'd at Christopher Walkers, and after supper I went to lodge at Robert Walkers.

On the 19<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, I return'd to Christopher Walkers to Breakfast, and after breakfast set out, and came up with George Chapman soon after I left Dirtcar, we walked together to Wakefield were we got a little before 10 o'clock, I went to George Oates's were I sat about half an hour, and then called at the White horse where I got 6 pennyworth of Wine and Water. The meeting began as usual at 11 and was large of friends, and a few of other Societies came in; It was pretty open and satisfactory. Ann Fairbank had a short testimony therein first from Lam: C: 3. v: 27, 28, 29. It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth. He sitteth alone and keepth silence, because he hath born it upon him. He putteth his mouth in the dust; if so there may be hope. I next from Gal: C: 6. v: 9. Let us not be weary in well doing; for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. John Bottomley had a pretty long time next from Isaiah C: 40. v: 31. They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not to be weary; they shall walk, and not faint. At the close of the meeting for Worship was held our Monthly meeting for discipline, We had a great deal of business before us but being very unanimously conducted, it went readily forward. The Queries were read and Answers received from all our Preparative Meetings, a General Answer was prepared therefrom to be laid before our Quarterly Meeting. In answer to the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Query it appeared; There was not much appearance of convincement since last year, but one person in Wakefield meeting had been admitted into membership thereby, and several sober persons continued to attend meetings in Burton, Highflatts, and Wakefield meetings. In Answers to the 12<sup>th</sup>. Query it appeared that 2 young men in Wakefield Mg. had suffered one month imprisonment for refusing to serve in the Local Militia, in the house of correction at Wakefield since last year. Both meetings held 4 hours. After which I din'd at William Leathams, and drunk Tea at Ann Thorps. Left Wakefield in company with John Bottomley who came with me to Dirtcar were we got about half past seven, and I lodg'd at Christopher Walkers, were I found Ann Fairbank and John Littlewood, who accompanied her on this visit, of whose company this evening I was glad. On 20<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, After Breakfast before we arose from the Table, Ann Fairbank had a sweet testimony to bear from Num: C: 21. v: 17. Spring up, O well; sing ye unto it. Soon after they set out towards home, and I went to William Pickards were I sat a little and took a glass of Brandy and water. Left Dirtcar a little past 10 o'clock and came to my uncle Joseph Houghs of Crigglestone were I stopt about 1 hour, and before I set out got some refreshment, came by Bretton to Hoyland were I called to see Mary Fisher rested me a little there, and then came by Toppett to Joseph Grayhams of Denby were I stopt upwards of 2 hours and drunk Tea; then came to William Cockells of Moorroidnook were I sat a little and got home about 7 o'clock.

Memorandum            3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. 25<sup>th</sup>. 1810 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, It was a remarkable cold day for the time of year which caused our Meeting at Highflatts to be rather smaller than usual, altho' several People of other Societies attended and some of the higher rank who came several miles. I was very low in the forepart thereof; but life mercifully arose, and I thought upon the whole it was a singularly favoured meeting. I had a long testimony to bear therein from Numb: C: 21, v. 16, 17, 18. Gather the people together, and I will give them water. Then Israel sang this song. Spring up, O well; sing ye unto it; The princes digged the well, the nobles of the people digged it, by the direction of the lawgiver, with their staves. John Bottomley concluded the meeting in Prayer and Praise. We had no company which is very unusual to dine with us to day, nor any to Tea; neither did any attend our family sitting in the evening except the two friends who usually sit with us, yet our little gathering was owned by the Masters presence; A solemn silence ensued the reading, after which Leah Kinsley had a few words to communicate, and afterwards I had a pretty long testimony to bear from Rom: C: 12. v: 11. Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord.

Taken from the Leeds Mercury 21<sup>st</sup>. April. 1810

On wednesday the 11<sup>th</sup>. Inst. was interned in the Friends Burial Ground, Pontefract, in the 31<sup>st</sup>. year of her age, Miss E. Leatham, only daughter of John Leatham, Esq. During that period when the Powers of the mind and body peculiarly qualified others for the active duties and enjoyments of life, this amiable young lady was destined by an all wise and inscrutable Providence to languish for many years under the most afflicting indisposition. She bore her sufferings with Patience and resignation, deriving her support and comforts under the trying conflict from the doctrines and promises of Christianity. The Bible was her constant companion, and by its purifying influence she was eminently fitted for that exalted state of being and happiness to which she has been called.

Taken from the Leeds Intelligencer April 23<sup>rd</sup>. 1810

Died. - A few days ago, very much respected, in the 80<sup>th</sup>. year of his age, Mr. Joseph Johnson, senior, of Pontefract, grocer, and one of the People called Quakers; he was a remarkable honest, quiet, good neighbour, a steady tradesman, a sincere friend, a kind husband, and an indulgent Parent. - A greater concourse of People were collected to see this funeral than ever was noticed on a similar occasion. Before the internment a very excellent and appropriate discourse was given by a female friend, Mrs. Isabella Harris, of Ackworth School.

Memorandum            On ye. 5<sup>th</sup>. day of ye 5<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1810 and 7<sup>th</sup>. day of the week Richard the son of Richard Priest of Broadoak in Gunthwaite, a young man wanting a few months of 21 years of age, having been up at Newmill with his Fathers Team carrying corn for a Neighbour and returning about 2 o clock in the afternoon, when he came to the Turnpike road above Birdsedge Bridge, he got into the cart, and cracking his whip the horses being young and full of keep, set off and run with great force down the hill to the bridge, and one wheel of the cart going over a stoop threw it over, and the young man out of it with such violence that he pitched upon his head, and never spoke nor opened his eyes more, he was taken to the house of Martha Langley of Birdsedge and an Apothecary, John MacGowen of Skelmanthorp was immediately sent for who with the neighbours rendered him every assistance in their Power, there was no fracture upon him whatever his hurt being wholly inward; When the event took place I was gone to see Elihu Dickinson junr. of Highflatts a young man who had been in a poor state of health for some years, but news quickly came of what had happened, and after Tea I went to see the young man, his Father was just return'd from my house when I got there, he seemed to express a desire for me to pray with him I said little to him, but sat me down and felt my mind much exercised, and concerned in secret supplication that he who were extended mercy to the thief upon the cross might be graciously pleased to be merciful unto him. I felt indeed very much for the afflicted Father and his children whose distress was inexpressible, having lost his oldest son about 10 years before by a similar accident, and about the same time of Life, and whilst he remained there, I stopt as much as I well could with them, feeling very great sympathy with them. I left about 11 o clock this evening and return'd early the next morning when he was released from his pain, departing this Life betwixt 3 and 4 o clock, I took his Father aside after breakfast and inform'd him that altho' I did not find it my place the evening before to kneel down and publickly pray unto the Almighty, yet my mind was deeply exercised in secret supplication for him; and opening unto him our believe concerning Prayer he appeared well satisfied therewith. Betwixt 6 and 7 o clock in the evening the Inquest was taken upon the body of the deceased, at which I was present; The Coroner was John Foster of Highgreen The Jury was from the Towns of Denby, and Gunthwaite, Ing Birchworth, and

Cumberworth, 3 from each Town, as no Person saw the accident but Richard Mallinson of Birdsedge no other was examined. But after they was gone the deceased's only Brother Nathaniel a pretty youth about 17 years of age who lived servant with a person in Hunchillbank came, they having been exceeding dear to each other; It was truly affecting to behold, the distress he was in when he saw his dear deceased Brother, I endeavoured to mitigate his sorrow by taking him away and conversing with him, but truly I felt very much with him and for him. On 2<sup>nd</sup>. day afternoon the coffin being ready and the family being desirous to have him at home about 16 young men of their neighbours and relations, came, and William Taylor, William Dickinson, William Dyson and Joseph Haigh and myself assisted them in taking him to Broadoak, he was very heavy, but being sufficient strength we got him well there, in our way they ordered each of us a glass of ale at Birchworth, great pains having been taken to wash his body in vinegar and brandy he was preserved sweet and having carried him carefully when the shroud was put upon him he was a pretty corps. The next day being ye. 8<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 5<sup>th</sup>. Mo. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. day of the week was ordered for the burial, and Richard Mallinson and his sister Susanna, William Dickinson, Joseph Haigh Martha Langley, Sarah Dyson and myself were invited to attend it and notwithstanding there was a snow in the morning which was afterwards succeeded by heavy rain which continued all the forenoon we all of us went except Richard and Susanna Mallinson. There was cake and Ale provided at his Fathers; and from thence we proceeded with the corps to Penistone where it was interred, and after the internment a good dinner was ordered at the Spread Eagle, and after dinner I took leave of this deeply distressed family and went and sat a little at George Chapmans and then came home in company with William Dickinson and Joseph Haigh. Throughout the whole of the time my mind felt near sympathy with this decent and deeply afflicted family and when we went with the corps home, I stopt and drunk Tea there and tarried conversing with them as long as I could to get home by daylight. May this awful and solemn event, which carries this solemn language with it, Be ye also ready, engage all of us to be prepared for our final change, as none of us know when where or how or after what manner, we may be called from works to rewards. I have further to add concerning Richard Priest junr. the deceased, That upon enquiry I understood he had an excellent moral character for sobriety, industry and a proper attention to the concerns of this Life; naturally of a cheerful disposition, but not addicted to any gross vices, being a dutiful son, a most affectionate Brother, a faithful servant as one of his Masters with whom he lived told me and that he never heard him swear an oath. I was pretty much a stranger to the family before this happened, but I thought they appeared very orderly, and had a good report among their neighbours. I sincerely desire that this bitter cup, permitted by divine providence for them to partake of, may be a means of awakening their minds to diligence in making their calling and election sure. His Brother Nathaniel appears to be for stability of conduct more like a man of years than a youth of 17. I felt much love for him, believing that if he was but settled upon the everlasting foundation the revelation of the Fathers will through the son of his love, he might if spared make an useful member of religious society. His Father had attended at times our Meeting at Highflatts for many years. Many are convinced of the Truth in their judgement, who are not willing by their obedience to confess it before men, hence they remain dwarfish in religious experience, and ignorant of the Truths of the Gospel, and though from the glimpses of Light they are at times favoured with, they may be preserved in an orderly conduct amongst men; yet remain too much strangers to the comforts of religion, and to that firm confidence, in Jesus Christ which removes the sting of death.

Memorandum. Pontefract Monthly Meeting 5<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 21<sup>st</sup>. 1810. I set out from home to attend our Monthly meeting to be held at Pontefract ye. 19<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 5<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1810 and 7<sup>th</sup>. day of the week betwixt 8 and 9 o'clock in the morning, called and sat a little at Joshua Morleys of Dykeside and then went by Bagden to Hoyland where I called to see Mary Fisher sat a little

there and then proceeded to Kexbro', stopt about 1 hour at the Old White Bear and got some refreshment, then paying 6, I proceeded by Darton, Mapplewell, and Carlton to Shafton; where I stopt about 2 hours and drunk Tea at Timothy Sykes's; Then set out Timothy accompanying me about 1 mile and then return'd, I went by Hemsworth to Ackworth were I stopt an hour at Joseph Sams' s and took a glass of Brandy and water, then went to James Harrison's of East Hardwick, got there betwixt 8 and 9 o'clock were I lodged.

On 20<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week I went to Pontefract, having for some time had a concern upon my mind to attend their first day meetings and I was glad I gave up thereto, for tho' my exercise therein was heavy, and I had very close doctrine to deliver to some states, yet I was favoured with strength fully to relieve my mind, and I believe it was a season of renewed favour unto many. The meeting began at 11 o'clock and held 2 hours, It was larger than I expected, and when I got in I found that John Bottomley there. I had a long testimony to bear therein from Hos: C: 11. v: 8. How shall I give thee up, Ephraim? how shall I deliver thee, Israel? How shall I make thee as Admah? How shall I set thee as Zeboim? John Bottomley was next concerned in Prayer. and afterwards I had a short and encouraging testimony unto more faithfulness to a particular state; believing it would be a means of their coming forward in more fruitfulness. After meeting I din'd at John Leathams, and drunk Tea at Ann Harrison's. The afternoon meeting began at 5 o'clock and held 2 hours, It was not so large of friends as the former several families living at a considerable distance in the country, but several of other Societies came in, I had a pretty long testimony to bear therein first from Isai: C: 66. v. 1, 2. The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool; but to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word. John Bottomley next from Cant. 3. v: 5. I charge you, O ye daughters of Jerusalem, by the roes, and by the hinds of the field, that ye stir not up, nor awake my love, till he please. I next from Mark C: 9. v: 24. Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief. After meeting I went and got a little refreshment at Ann Harrison's and understanding that our friend Robert Thompson of Ferrybridge was very poorly; I accompanied his Wife to their house to see him were I stopt all night.

On 21<sup>st</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, after breakfast I return'd to Pontefract in company with Hannah Ridsdale of Sherborn, went and sat a little at the Widow Ann Johnsons and at her daughter Mary Johnsons before meeting, which began at 11 o'clock and was pretty large both ends of the Meetinghouse being nearly full, and a considerable number sat upstairs. I had a pretty long testimony therein first from Eze; C: 37. concerning the resurrection of the dry bones in the open valley whereby the dead hope of Israel was revived. and afterwards John Bottomley had a pretty long time. At the close of this meeting was held our Monthly Meeting for discipline, we had not much business before us to day; but one case took up a great deal of time, many unprofitable remarks being made upon it I thought greatly to the hurt of the meeting, and to the obstructing of the exercise of the discipline with that impartiality which I believe the Truth requires. After this meeting, both having held 4 hours I din'd at John Leathams, and afterwards accompanied John Bottomley to Carlton were we drunk Tea at Benjamin Jowetts, John tarried all night there, but I went to lodge at James Harrison's of East Hardwick, Benjamin Jowett junr. accompanying me thither and then return'd.

On 22<sup>nd</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week John Bottomley came here to Breakfast, and after breakfast we came together to Ackworth were I spent some time at the school in the agreeable company of Robert Whitaker and Isabella Harris and got some refreshment there; then came to Joseph Sams's were I din'd; left Achworth betwixt 2 and 3 o'clock in the afternoon and came by Hemsworth to Shafton, stopt 1 hour and a half at Timothy Sykes's and drunk Tea, then came by Cudworth and Burton Grange to Barnsley were I got about 8 o'clock and lodg'd at John Yeardeleys.

On 23<sup>rd</sup>. and 4<sup>th</sup>. of week, after breakfast I went and spent the remainder of the forenoon at Thomas Dixon Waltons were I din'd; they were both, he and his Wife in a poor state of health, and I felt very much sympathy for them. A little past 2 o'clock in the afternoon I left Barnsley and came by Cawthorne, when I got a little past there Richard Priest of

Broadoak came up with me he kindly invited me to call at his house which I complied with; having felt so much sympathy with the family since his son was killed at Birdsedg Bridge, and that tho' it was little more than two weeks since his burial I had been twice to see them before. I stopt two hours there and then came by Gunthwaite to Denby were I stopt a little at Joseph Grayhams, then came to William Cockells of Moorroidnook were I sat a little and got home about 9 o'clock.

Memorandum. On 5<sup>th</sup>. mo. 26<sup>th</sup>. 1810 and 7<sup>th</sup>. day of the week, Nathaniel Priest of Broadoak in Gunthwaite came to pay me a visit, he got to my house betwixt 3 and 4 o'clock in the afternoon and stopt until betwixt 7 and 8 the next day in the evening; It was about 3 weeks since his Brother was killed at Birdsedg bridge and that was the first time I ever remember to have seen him, At the first sight of him I was so struck with something I immediately felt as I never remember to have been before at the sight of a stranger; When I conducted him to the corps of his Brother, the scene was too affecting for me to bear without uniting with him in tears, and such a sympathy I felt with him and the rest of the family in their sorrows on this mournful occasion, that I have visited them several times since his Brothers burial, and feeling an increasing love and regard for this dear youth, and thinking it might be a little relaxation of his sorrows I had invited him to come at this time to my house, and he appeared much pleased with the invitation, and I with his company.

On 27<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of the week in the morning I asked him whether he inclined to go with us to the meeting, or stop at my house until our return, adding I should wish him to use his own freedom, he answered he inclined to accompany us to the meeting, not having been at one before, he accordingly went with me to Highflatts; and a glorious meeting it proved, I thought I never remembered to have felt the Truth rise higher in our meeting before. I was under great discouragement before I went to it having been very poorly for several days accompanied with an heaviness and painful soreness in my breast, but not withstanding I was very largely drawn forth in publick exercise in this meeting, yet during that time I felt nothing in any respect of my complaints, but in the afternoon was very weak and sore in my inside and spitted much blood. The meeting was not so large as it usually is of friends at this time of the year, but several of other societies attended, I had a long testimony to bear therein first from Luke C: 13. v: 24. Strive to enter in at the strait gate; for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able. I was next concerned in Prayer. and afterwards had a pretty long testimony from Mark C: 10. v: 21. One thing thou lackest; go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor; and thou shalt have treasure in heaven; and come, take up the cross, and follow me. After meeting Joseph Grayham came to dine with us and stopt until after Tea. After dinner Nathaniel Priest having a mind to see the place where his Brother was killed we took a walk thither, which renewed his troubles so as to cause him to shed many tears; betwixt 7 and 8 o'clock in the evening he set out towards home, and I accompanied him about 1 mile and then return'd, We parted in much nearness of affection, and I have not been better satisfied with the company of any who have visited me of late, than I was with his, he appearing to me for stability of conduct, and solidity of expression more like a man in years than a youth of betwixt 17 and 18. and I can hardly believe but this must in some measure proceed, from having the fear of the Lord before his eyes. I thought he resembled Nathaniel of old concerning whom our Saviour bore this testimony, before he believed in him. Behold an Israelite indeed in whom is no guile. This appeared to surprise Nathaniel, who queried of him; whence sawest thou me? and he answered, before that Philip called thee when thou was under the fig tree. Nathaniel was now convinced, and acknowledged, Rabbi, thou art the Son of God; thou art the King of Israel. Jesus then answered him. Because I said unto thee, I saw thee under the fig tree, believest thou? thou shalt see greater things than these. And I cannot but think if this dear youth, is but enabled to believe in Christs inward and spiritual

appearance in the heart, unto which he hath been this day recommended, he will be favoured to see great things.

Memorandum        During the time of cleaning my house, which we are in the practice of once in the year, in order to be out of the way I paid a visit to several of my friends and acquaintance. Left home ye. 6<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 6<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1810, and 4<sup>th</sup>. day of the week about 6 o'clock in the morning and went to Park where I called at John Pickfords to be Shaved, and then went to Joseph Hinchcliffes of Whinney, where I Breakfasted and got my shoes mended; Left there about 10 o'clock, and went to John Haighs of Shepley where I tarried about 3 hours and din'd, then went to Fulstone sat a little at Samuel Woodheads, and when to Dinah Woodhead where I spent the remainder of the afternoon with her, she having been long confined to her house thro' indisposition. After Tea I left there betwixt 5 and 6 o'clock and went by Newmill to Wooldale where I sat a little at John Brooks, and afterwards at John Adamsons where I took a glass of Brandy and water, and from thence I went to Henry Swires where I lodg'd. On 7<sup>th</sup>. and 5<sup>th</sup>. of week, After breakfast I went and sat a little at Thomas Roberts's, and afterwards attended their Weekday meeting at Wooldale which began at 10 and held about 2 hours and a half, I thought it very small for the number of friends belonging thereto, and was to me a very low time, towards the close thereof I was strengthened to relieve my mind in a pretty long testimony from Matt: C. 18. v. 3. Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter the kingdom of heaven. After the meeting I got a little refreshment at Henry Swires, and then went to George Broadheads of Jacksonbridge to dine in company with his Wife a friend whom I much esteem; went by Tottis and Scholes got there a little past 1 o'clock, and stopt near 2 hours then proceeded on my journey, went by Hepworth, Oxlee and Knowls to Carlcoats, had a very pleasant walk the day being fine; called at William Earnshaws to see my cousin Martha Wood, not having seen her for many years before, I found her comfortably accommodated and provided for, which made me glad, she poor creature not being able to take care for herself, having been very deficient in her capacity from her birth. I drunk Tea there and stopt about 2 hours and then proceeded by Soffley to Swinden where I got about 8 o'clock in the evening and lodg'd at Jonathan Brammalls.

On 8<sup>th</sup>. and 6<sup>th</sup>. of week, I spent most of the day here, and it being very fine had some agreeable walks in the fields and upon the Moors; about 6 o'clock in the evening I left there and came by Brookhouse, and over Hartcliff to view the surrounding plantations lately planted by the order of William Payne, which greatly beautifies that part of the country, to Thomas Earnshaws of Judfield, where I stopt about half an hour and then came to Penistone where I got betwixt 8 and 9 o'clock, and lodg'd at my worthy friend George Chapmans.

On 9<sup>th</sup>. and 7<sup>th</sup>. of week, I spent most of the day here, I believe to our mutual satisfaction, there having been a long intimacy betwixt George and me, formed in early life, when both of us was under great religious exercise, and which is not diminished unto the present day. Left there about 3 o'clock in the afternoon and came by Cathill to Richard Priests of Broadoak where I tarried 3 hours and drunk Tea; then set out Nathaniel Priest accompanying me, we had an agreeable walk in company with each other, (a very affection regard subsisting betwixt us;) over the fields by Dunkirk to Dykeside, where we parted, he returning home; and I called and sat about half an hour at Joshua Morleys; then Joshua set me a little on my way, and I got home a little past 9 o'clock in the evening.

Memorandum.        Highflatts Monthly Meeting, 6<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 18<sup>th</sup>. 1810. On 17<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week, Our meeting at Highflatts was pretty large several of other societies attending and thro' divine mercy it proved an open favoured time; I was first concerned therein in supplication, and next a long time in testimony from Jam: C: 1. v: 16, 17, 18. Do not err, my beloved

brethren. Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. Of his own will begat he us with the word of Truth, that we should be a kind of first fruits of his creatures. Afterwards I had a pretty long time from John C: 1. v: 50. Because I said unto thee, I saw thee under the fig tree, believest thou? Thou shalt see greater things than these. Nathaniel Priest was at this meeting, and he and Joseph Grayham came with me to my house to dine. After dinner Samuel Greenwood of Todmorden Mg. and Edward Dickinson of Highflatts, came and sat a little with us and took a glass of Rum and Water. After Tea Joseph Grayham set out for home but Nathaniel Priest stopt until betwixt 7 and 8 o'clock, and then I set him on his way about 1 mile. He is a sweet spirited innocent youth, and the more we are acquainted the stronger our affection towards each other grows, indeed I love him much, and believe the visitation of the Love of God is mercifully extended unto him, and O that he may so faithfully submit thereto, as to be willing to be whatsoever the Lord would have him to be, then I believe in due time he will be brought into the beautiful and comely order of the Lords flock and family where there is bread enough and to spare; we had no lodgers to night except Mark Braer of Wakefield Mg. On 18<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, was our Monthly meeting at Highflatts, The Select meeting began at 9 in the morning, and held about 1 hour and a half all our members attended except Robert Whitaker, and Sarah Barber a Minister who is under dealing for a breach in rules of the Society; and Dinah Woodhead who hath been many years unable to attend thro' indisposition. The Queries were read and the 2<sup>nd</sup>. and 4<sup>th</sup>. considered and answers thereto prepared and directed to be sent to the Select Quarterly Meeting by our Representatives. After meeting I went to Richard Dickinsons and got a little refreshment. The meeting for Worship began at 11 and was very large, and I thought a good meeting Isabella Harris had a long and much favoured time in testimony from Isai: C :1. v: 3. The ox knoweth his owner, and the ass his masters crib; but Israel does not know, my people doth not consider. Afterwards I had a pretty long time from Rev: C: 22. v: 17. The spirit and the bride say, Come, and let him that heareth say, Come, and let him that is athirst come; and whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely. At the close of this meeting was the Meeting for discipline in which a great deal of business was gone thro', I believe to mutual satisfaction, William Grimshaw a member of Newcastle upon Tyne Monthly Meeting and Jane Wood of Highflatts meeting laid before us their intentions of taking each other in marriage. also John Brook of Wooldale meeting laid before us his intentions of Marriage with Mary Wormald a member of Brighthouse Monthly Meeting. Both meetings held 4 hours. We had 21 friends to dine, 17 to Tea in the afternoon, and a great many to Breakfast before the meeting. but only one tarried all night viz. Mary Sykes of Burton meeting, who set out towards home after Breakfast next morning.

A short Testimony from the Monthly Meeting of Hardshaw in Lancashire concerning Joseph Harwood late of Manchester deceased.

Our esteemed friend Joseph Harwood was born at Bolton in the moors in this county, in the year 1712, and was educated in the National way of Worship. About 1731, He entered into the Army, in which he continued about fifteen years; during which time, but particularly the latter part of it: his mind was religiously effected, and he became fully convinced of the Principles we profess, in consequence of which after much Suffering and deep exercise of Soul, he refused to bear Arms any longer. He was thereupon tried by a Court Martial, who treated him with great moderation and civility, attending to the remarks he made in a very solemn manner, and transmitted the minutes of his tryal to the King: who at the intercession of some of his Friends granted him a discharge. After about six months imprisonment. Soon after which he came to Manchester, in and about which place, he hath mostly resided ever since. Some years after he settled with us; he came under a religious exercise of mind to

appear as a Minister, which being accompanied with an innocent Life and conversation, was Acceptable to friends; and being faithful to the Talent received, he increased in his Gift. His Testimony tho' not often large, was sound and edifying. His conduct in a singular manner cheerful, and his deportment meek and inoffensive, which rendered him dear to us, and his company and conversation acceptable to most who knew him of various religious professions; being a person much devoted to the promotion of Peace and goodwill amongst Men; He visited the meetings of his Friends in Ireland in company with our friend Matthew Mellor deceased. And three times the meetings of Friends in Scotland, as well as many parts of this Nation. In all which labours of love, we have good cause to believe his service was acceptable, and tended to the edification of the church. Some years before his decease he grew very infirm being afflicted with an Asthmatic complaint; which rendered him unable to travel much abroad, yet he constantly attended our meetings at home when bodily ability was afforded, therein fervently labouring for the arising of divine Life, and frequently appearing in Testimony very much to our comfort.

After a few days illness his complaint beforementioned much increasing; He departed this Life ye. 12<sup>th</sup>. and was buried in friends Burying ground at Manchester ye. 14<sup>th</sup>. of the 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 1776 in the 64<sup>th</sup>. year of his age and 25<sup>th</sup>. of his Ministry, having as we believe thro' faithfulness unto Death obtain'd a crown of Life.

Signed in and on behalf of our Monthly Meeting  
of Hardshaw held at Warrington in Lancashire  
aforesaid, ye. 9<sup>th</sup>. of 4<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1776

Memorandum 7<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1<sup>st</sup>. 1810 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, Our Meeting at Highflatts was this day very large, more of other Societies attending than is usually the case, After a considerable time in silence, I stood up in much weakness, but feeling in the exercise of my Gift a gradual increase in strength, I was enabled to bear a long testimony to the Truth, opening in a convincing manner the way of Life and salvation, through Jesus christ the mediator of the everlasting covenant from Rom: C: 5. v: 8,9, God commendeth his love towards us, in that while we were yet sinners christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. Afterwards John Bottomley had a pretty long time from Matt: C: 21. v: 5. Tell ye the daughter of Sion, Behold thy king cometh unto thee, meek and sitting upon an ass, and a colt the foal of an ass. The meeting held near 2 hours and a half and I thought brok up in a very solemn manner, which solemnity I trust was mercifully experienced throughout the latter part of the meeting in some degree to overshadow the minds of all. Joseph Grayham and Nathaniel Priest came with us to my house to dine and stopt until after Tea; then I set Nathaniel Priest about 2 miles on his way towards home; we had comfortable conversation as we walked together, and I believe the manner of his Brothers death, and since his attendance at our meeting; hath made such impressions on his mind, as to beget a concern therein, to experience a real change of heart, or in other words a right preparation for his own final change. In my return I called at Joseph Grayhams and William Cockells sat a little at each place. When I got home I found Hannah Earnshaw formerly of Wooldale but now of Oldham Mg. in Lancashire at my house. She had been some time on a visit to her friends and Relations in this part, and was now come in the course of her visit to spend a little time at my house. Betwixt 9 and 10 o'clock it began to lighten much and we heard several claps of Thunder at a distance which made us apprehensive of a sore night, It continued lightning much until betwixt 1 and 2 o'clock next morning, and Thundering at times at a distance but thro' mercy it proved not so bad as we had apprehended, some of us sat up until it entirely settled and then went to bed.

On 2<sup>nd</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, in the afternoon I went to visit Elihu Dickinson junr. of Highflatts. A young man who had been many years under very great affliction of body which he bore with exemplary patience and resignation; I had oftens visited him in his illness very

much to my satisfaction; for a week past he had been considerably worse and apparently near his final change. I had a religious opportunity with him to our mutual satisfaction the power of Truth overshadowing us to the tendering of our hearts; under the influence of which, I was drawn forth in a pretty long testimony from 1 John C: 2. v.1,2. We have an advocate with the Father, Jesus christ the righteous? And he is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. After which we had a very solemn and affecting parting.

Memorandum. Wooldale Monthly Meeting; 7<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 16<sup>th</sup>. 1810. On 15<sup>th</sup>. of 7<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1810 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of week, Our meeting at Highflatts was fully attended by such as usually attend, and a few of other Societies came in, it was a low time, and held throughout in silence. After meeting we had the company of Joseph Grayham and Rebecca Pickford to dine, who also stopt Tea with us. we had 6 lodgers to night who were on their way to the Monthly Meeting viz. Thomas Dixon Walton and his Wife, William Taylor, and Robert Harrison of Barnsley, John Fozard of Dewsbury, and Thomas Bromley of Hanging heaton a young man who hath very lately begun to attend friends meetings. William Taylor got in to Tea and Robert Harrison; the others to supper. On 16<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, I set out in company with William Taylor of Barnsley, Robert Harrison, and John Fozard about 9 o clock in the morning, went by Newmill to Wooldale were we got about half past 10 I got Tea at Henry Swires's and then went to the meeting which was very large, the house and chamber being quite full, a great many of other Societies attended, I felt extremely low and discouraged in the forepart thereof, but life arose, and it proved a good meeting. Isabella Harris had a long testimony to bear therein first from Acts C: 24. v: 25. As he reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come. Felix trembled, and answered, Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee. I next from Tit: C: 2. v: 14. Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar People zealous of good works. Isabella Harris next from Acts C: 26. v: 19. O king Agrippa, I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision. John Bottomley was next concerned in Prayer. At the close of the meeting for Worship was held our Monthly Meeting for discipline. In which William Grimshaw of Newcastle upon Tyne Monthly Meeting and Jane Wood of Highflatts meeting were cleared from all engagements relating to marriage, and left at liberty to accomplished theirs when they and Highflatts friends see meet. Also John Brook of Wooldale Mg was cleared from all other engagements relating to marriage except with his friend Mary Wormald of Brighouse Monthly Mg. a notification thereof was sent to the friends of said Mg. unto whom the further care therein and of the accomplishment thereof was referr'd. Also the friends appointed to visit John Fozard of Dewsbury on his application to be accepted a member of our Society, brought in the following report viz. -

We have visited John Fozard to good satisfaction; believing he is convinced of our religious principles, and we feel no objections to his being received a member of our Society but leave the further consideration of his case to the Monthly meeting.

Dewsbury 6<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 23<sup>rd</sup>. 1810

Christopher Walker

John Bottomley

John Pickford

The meeting after solidly weighing this case, agreed to accept him a member of our Society. A great deal more business was gone through in this meeting, and the whole was agreeably conducted. At the close thereof the Yearly Meeting Epistle was read. Both meetings held near 5 hours. After which I din'd at Henry Swires's, came as far as Newmill in my return with Samuel Coward, William Taylor, Robert Harrison and our William Taylor. After parting with them I came to Fulstone were I call to see Dinah Woodhead who appears to be fast drawing towards the close of her time. From thence I went to Samuel Woodheads were I drunk Tea, and from thence came to John Firths of Shepley Lanehead were I sat a little; then came to

Birdsedge in company with Susanna, Sarah, and Hannah Mallinsons were I sat a little at their Fathers, and got home a little past 10 o clock.

Memorandum        On ye. 19<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 7<sup>th</sup> Mo. 1810, and 5<sup>th</sup>. day of the week, William Grimshaw of Sunderland in the County of Durham, and Jane Wood daughter of my Brother Samuel Wood of Haddenley, were married at Highflatts; The meeting began at 10 o clock and held near 2 hours and a half, It was pretty large of friends and others altho' the house was not quite full, yet more of other Societies came in than usual on such an occasion at Highflatts, Marriages being not so great a curiosity there as in some other places where they are less frequent I had a long testimony to bear therein first from Matt: C: 22. v: 14. Many are called but few are chosen. The friends took each other in Marriage next; and afterwards John Bottomley had a long testimony to bear from Psalms 37. v: 23. The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord. The certificate was then read and Signed, and the meeting concluded in an orderly manner, as it had been conducted throughout. A shower happening just when it broke up, we stopt a little at Richard Dickinsons, and I got some Rum and Water which was of great use to me. We then proceeded to my Brother Samuel Woods of Haddenley, where the entertainment was. The friends appointed by the Monthly Meeting to see the orderly conducting of the marriage were William Taylor, John Pickford, Mary Mallinson and Elizabeth Dickinson. The company all left a little after Tea, except those who stopt all night, and William Taylor, myself, and my Nephew Robert Wood and his wife, we stopt the supper, and about 10 o clock set out and came together to Hambleton where we parted, and we got home about quarter before 11.

Memorandum.        On ye. 17<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 7<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1810, departed this Life Dinah Woodhead, Widow of Godfrey Woodhead of Fulstone, and was buried the 20<sup>th</sup>. of the same, and 6<sup>th</sup>. of the week in friends burial ground at Wooldale, aged about 68 years, having been an acceptable Minister in our Society somewhere betwixt 20 and 30 years; but had been many years prevented from attending our religious meetings thro' indisposition. I being invited attended the said burial; left home same morning a little past 7 o clock got to Samuel Woodheads of Fulstone a little past 8. After breakfast was got over, we proceeded with the corps to Wooldale, the meeting began at 11 and held about 2 hours and a half. It was large of friends and others, altho' the Meetinghouse was not quite full, and held long in silence, being very dull and heavy in the forepart thereof. John Bottomley at length stood up and had a pretty long testimony to bear therein from 1 Thes: C: 4. v: 11. Study to be quiet, and do your own business. I next from Psalms 39. v. 3, 4. My heart was hot within me, while I was musing the fire burned: then spake I with my tongue, Lord, make me to know mine end, and the measure of my days, what it is; that I may know how frail I am. Towards the close of my testimony I had affectionately to address the youth, observing to them how the church had in many places of late been stript of worthy useful instruments in the Lords hand, intreating them to come up in obedience to the manifestations they were favoured with, and then I believed there would be raised up from the youth of the present generation a succession of testimony bearers to the Truth. John Bottomley next, having to commemorate the good example of our deceased friend, particularly in a diligent attendance of our religious meetings, while she was able, and the satisfaction this gave her in her long confinement, that she had not neglected her duty in this respect, earnestly desiring that the negligent might be stirred up to follow her example. After meeting I went with my Nephew William Grimshaw to his brother Henry Swires where we got a little refreshment, and then all came together to Samuel Woodheads of Fulstone, to dine, where I stopt Tea, and a little before 6 o clock I set out

towards home, called by the way at my brother Samuel Woods of Haddenley were I sat a little, and reached home a little past 7 o'clock.

Memorandum. 7<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 22<sup>nd</sup>. 1810, and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of week This morning my Brother Samuel Wood, and his children, William Grimshaw and Jane his Wife. Robert Wood and Sarah his Wife, Joseph Wood, and their relation Ellin Firth of Todmorden came to my house to Breakfast. We all of us went together to our Meeting at Highflatts which was this day very large, many friends from several different meetings attending and more of other Societies came in than is oftens the case, and I thought it was upon the whole a good meeting, I had a very long testimony to bear therein from Eccles: C: 11, v: 9. Rejoice, O young man in thy youth and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thy heart, and in the sight of thine eyes; but know thou, that for all these things; God will bring thee into Judgement. At the close of the meeting Joseph Firth read the Yearly Meeting Epistle. Henry Marsden and Nathaniel Priest came to us from meeting to dine, they both stopt until after Tea, and then I accompanied Nathaniel Priest near home, we had a very agreeable walk, and parted in much nearness of affection, he was desirous for me to go with him to his Fathers to dine from the meeting the next first day, which I engaged to do if no unforeseen thing prevented. I return'd by Denby were I called and sat a little at Joseph Grayhams, who accompanied me part of my way home and then returned. On 23<sup>rd</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week Jane Grimshaw desired me to Breakfast at my Brother Samuel Woods of Haddenley, her husband and her, being setting out towards her future settlement at Sunderland in the County of Durham, which I complied with. After Breakfast, they set out in a Chaise a little before 9 o'clock, It was to me a solemn parting, not believing they union was in the ordering of best Wisdom, I felt resignation.

Memorandum. 7<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 29<sup>th</sup>. 1810, and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, our Meeting at Highflatts was large, a considerable number of People of other societies attending, so that the house was nearly full. I had a long testimony to bear therein from 2 Cor: 2: v: 17. We are not as many, which corrupt the word of God; but as of sincerity, but as of God, in the sight of God speak we in Christ. John Bottomley a short time next from Matt: C: 6. v: 6. Thou when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret. Afterwards I was concerned in Prayer. Nathaniel Priest was at Meeting and having previously engaged me the first day before to go and dine at his Fathers to day if nothing particular happened to prevent me, and he informing me after meeting that their folks expected me going with him, I accompanied him to his Fathers, Richard Priests of Broad oak were I was kindly received and generously entertained by the whole family. After dinner we took a walk through their farm and returned to Tea. I spent the remainder of the time I tarried in the house, and after getting a glass of Rum and Water, set out towards home about 8 o'clock in the evening, Dear Nathaniel Priest accompanying me, It was a fine evening, and we have sweet communication together, our conversation being turned upon heavenly things; and I have reason to believe that his Brothers death has been a means of begetting a concern in his mind that he may be right prepared for his final change. This I believe hath begot a great love in him unto those whom he believes truly religious, and indeed we seem at times so nearly cemented together, as if it felt trying to separate for a season; he accompanied me this evening within about half a mile of home, when he returned, I got home about 9 o'clock.

Memorandum. 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 5<sup>th</sup>. 1810, and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, Our meeting at Highflatts was not so large to day as usual many friends being absent, and tho' a few of other societies

came in, yet not so many by far, as have attended of late. I was very poor and low in the forepart thereof, but a little matter opening, I stood up pretty soon, in great weakness, not expecting to have much to say, but to my humbling admiration, Life arose gradually, and with the increase strength, I was able to bear a very long testimony from 2 Thess: C: 3. v: 5. The Lord direct your hearts into the love of God, and into the patient waiting for Christ. A pretty long and very solemn time of silence ensued, and then John Bottomley was concerned in Prayer and Praise. Afterwards I had a short testimony to bear unto a particular state among the youth, unto whom the language of encouragement flowed freely from Dan: C: 3. v. 24, 25. Did not we cast three men bound into the midst of the fire. They answered and said unto the King, True, O King. He answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the son of God. It was a time worthy to be had in remembrance, the glory of the Lord eminently overshadowed us; may all flesh ever be silent before him, and in the depth of humility reverence his great Name, for surely his mercy endure for ever; he giveth power to the faint, and unto those who have no might he increaseth strength, he enables those who are near to acknowledge his might and to call unto those who are afar off to drawn nigh. After meeting Joseph Grayham and Nathaniel Priest came with me to my house to dine, after 4 o'clock Joseph Grayham set out towards home, his son Robert a lovely child about 3 years of age being very ill of the Hooping cough and Measles; Nathaniel Priest stopt Tea and between 6 and 7 o'clock set out towards home; I accompanied him to Denby were we parted; and I went to see dear Robert Grayham a child I was remarkable fond of, and he of me; I found him much worse than I expected, taking but little notice of anything; When his Mother told him I was there he looked a little pleasant, and I speaking to him, he put out his little hands as usual for me to take him; he sat up on my knee, but took little more notice. I was much affected to see him so poorly, and so loving; stopt a considerable time, and then came to William Cockells of Moorroidnook were I sat a little, and got home between 9 and 10 o'clock.

Memorandum. On ye. 13<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1810, departed this Life, Robert Grayham, son of Joseph Grayham of Denby, his father obtained leave of friends to bury him in their burial ground at Highflatts; were he was interred ye. 17<sup>th</sup>. of the same Mo. and 6<sup>th</sup>. day of the week aged about 3 years. I think I cannot but add, that he was a child I loved more than any I ever knew; for tho' he was naturally of a reserved disposition, yet he always manifested such a particular attachment to me, from the time of his being capable of taking notice, as never any other did; so that it exceedingly endeared him to me; and after he got as he could talk his expressions of love and regard for me, were oftens affecting to my mind; and I believe will never be erased whilst I am favoured with memory. He appeared to have a capacity and understanding far above children of his years; as his many witty expressions evidently manifested, so that I have oftens remarked it was much if he lived to be a man. He had the Hooping cough, and was scarcely got better of it, when he was seized with the Measles; he had been ill above a week, before I heard; they expecting me daily (as I was seldom so long without seeing him) prevented them from sending me word. His Father told me of his illness, on 1<sup>st</sup>. day ye. 5<sup>th</sup>. Inst., and I went to see him the same evening, the Measles were then gone of him, but the fever appeared strong, and his breathing difficult; which alarmed me much, and fearing the consequence, I came home with a heavy heart; yet he appeared very much pleased to see me when I went in, as he always did; I visited him every day after until his change came, and sometimes found him a little lightsome, but in general he was very heavily laid on, which he bore with great Patience; It being remarkable that he never cried nor smiled during his illness, and was preserved quite sensible to the last. He oftens expressed a desire to be carried to Newhouse (were he always loved to come in his health) even to the very day before his departure; and I being there towards the evening of that day clearly saw the appearance of death in his face, yet his tokens of love for me, as far as he was capable of

manifesting them were as strong as ever. He was exceedingly ill, and his looks at me were so earnest and expressive; that I tarried until I could not bear to tarry any longer; and came home with a heart full of sorrow, slept little all night, and the next morning being the 13<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, I was exceeding full of trouble; but did not go to see him, as I thought I could not bear it. Soon after 11 o'clock his Father reached my house, with the expected but sorrowful intelligence of his death, which happened about 10 o'clock this forenoon; he also inform'd me that he was favoured with an easy passage, for which I was thankful. But O the parting with this beloved child, is to me a bitter cup; may the dispenser thereof enable me to bear it with resignation to his divine will, as not to offend him, but acknowledge with one formerly; "Shall not the judge of all the earth do right." I attended his burial, left home in company with William Taylor and Mary Lockwood of Kirkburton, Joseph Grayhams Mother, who came to my house the night before, and we got there a little before the time appointed which was half past 7 in the morning. After the company had all breakfasted, I took my last solemn leave of this dearly loved child, the corps were made up, and we accompanied it to Highflatts, where we got in good time, and there being another burial the same day, they got there just after us, viz. Hannah the daughter of John Beaumont of Dearn.grange in Cumberworth, who departed this Life the 15<sup>th</sup>. of this Mo. aged about 11 months, and at the request of her Parents was buried in friends burial ground here; They being neither of them members of our Society, ordered to bring the corps so as to attend our Weekday meeting, which began at 10 o'clock and held upwards of 2 hours, These two burials increased our numbers considerably at the meeting to day especially with those of other Societies, The heavenly wing mercifully overshadowed us, and awful solemnity spread over the Assembly, strength was manifested in my weakness, and I was enabled to bear a very long testimony therein from 2 Sam: C: 12. v. 22, 23. While the child was yet alive, I fasted and wept; for I said, "Who can tell whether God will be gracious to me, that the child may live? But now he is dead wherefore should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me." After meeting I got a little Brandy and Water at Richard Dickinsons; and then return'd to Joseph Grayhams of Denby, where I din'd in company with a few friends, and their relations. The company all left after Tea, except me; I tarried with the family until about 7 o'clock, and then set out towards home, Joseph Grayham accompanied me part of the way and then return'd, I called, sat a little at John Bottomleys of Wood, and got home betwixt 8 and 9 o'clock in the evening.

Copy of a Letter from Mary Sykes to Samuel Coward

Shafton 11<sup>th</sup>. of 7<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1810

Respected Friend

It is much in the cross to my own will, that I now write unto thee, but having passed through some deep exercises of mind; I thought it might not be well to withhold any longer. I have not opened my mind to any one, I thought I felt as if thou was the most suitable Person I could apply to. For sometime it hath rested heavy upon me to become a member of the Society. If thou think it right to lay it before friends I should be obliged to thee. I shall now leave it unto him to direct his servants aright, in Truth, If thou could like to speak to me before, thou may at Burton. I remain thy respected Friend

Mary Sykes

Lines on Robert Grayham a favourite child; Son of Joseph and Mary Grayham of Denby, who departed this life ye. 13<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo 1810, he being buried at Highflatts ye. 17<sup>th</sup>. of the same, aged near three years. By Joseph Wood.

My Robert has left me, and he is gone;  
 His outward absence, now I do bemoan.  
 He was a child, to me lovely and dear;  
 I greatly did desire, his presence here;  
 His pretty tales, his pleasant company;  
 His sincere love, endeared him much to me.  
 He certainly was a fine, and witty Boy;  
 His Fathers darling, and his Mothers joy.  
 Beloved by me, as my adopted child;  
 Who in his sickness, neither wept nor smild.  
 But bore it throughout, with becoming mien;  
 Tho' great his pain, he mostly kept serene.  
 His looks at me, when near unto his end;  
 Convey'd last love, of a departing Friend.  
 Ah! now he's gone, his maker saw it best;  
 Early to take him, to eternal rest.  
 For he who gave him life, took it again;  
 I mourn my loss, yet dare not I complain.  
 But beg to be resigned, to Gods will;  
 For he is worthy, to be served still.

Memorandum      8 Mo. 31<sup>st</sup>. 1810, and 6<sup>th</sup>. day of the week This Day we have the heaviest storm of Thunder and Lightning that we have had in the course of this summer. I went to spend the afternoon at Elihu Dickinsons of Highflatts, two of his sisters my old school fellows being there, viz. Hannah Ellis of Mansfield in Nottinghamshire, and Sarah Wright of Sheffield. We spent the afternoon very comfortably together, and about 6 o clock I left there and went to William Cockells of Moorroidnook. It had been a remarkable hot day, and whilst I was there about 7 in the evening it began to Thunder and Lighten in the South at a distance, I apprehended it was likely for a sore time as it prov'd, and therefore hasted home; the storm increased and continued until about 12 o clock, There was much Thunder but the claps not so loud as I have sometimes heard, The flashes of Lightning were uncommon heavy and almost continual and many People thought they never saw it so bad before; Leah Kinsley came in, and her and me and my housekeeper sat up together until it abated; when she went home, and we to bed, and have not yet heard of any damage being done.

Memorandum.      9 mo. 3<sup>rd</sup>. 1810, and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, This morning about quarter past 7 a most awful and alarming circumstance happened at Penistone, one John Haigh a Shopkeeper there aged about 62 years, who had been some time, at times rather in a low despairing way, arose as usual, and opened the Shop windows, and swept the floor, and then went into the Kitchen to the family, and took a candle and lighted it, but his Wife and the Woman who attended on them, and did their business; when he offered to go upstairs with it, prevented him and got it from him, then he lighted his Pipe, and the servant were sent to fetch some water, he then went Smoaking up stairs, and his Wife followed him, and going into the chamber were there were several Barrels of Gunpowder, he threw his Pipe into one, at the same time getting fast hold of her clothes and saying, "We will both go together." However she got from him with difficulty he holding himself so fast that she tore the skirt of her gown from the body, and so dis entangled herself. The Town was alarmed by the terrible explosion of the Powder, and the inhabitants repairing to the place found the house all in flames, they got her out at a chamber window with a Ladder, and the servant who was a Widow and had a

child with her which was in the Kitchen was got out unhurt, but his Wife was much scorched; and very little of anything in the house was saved, His son-in-law John Firth of Chapel was repairing their house, and brought the best of their goods go thither were all consumed. The wind was strong and Southerly so that the whole of the lower part of the Town appeared for a considerable time in danger of being laid in Ashes, Many of the inhabitants got their goods out into the fields, and many houses took fire, Dr Hardys, and the Shambles with all the houses betwixt them being on the opposite side of the street took fire but by the vigilance of the People were extinguished without much damage; Those on the same side of the street were miraculously preserved by the interposition of divine Providence, at a time when all on this side of the house in flames, were expected soon to be laid in ruins; the change of the wind were all preserved, and suffered very little damage even at the Spread Eagle Inn which was under the same roof. The morning after this awful event took place; I went over to Penistone and spent most of the day at my friend George Chapmans were I saw the ruins of the house and heard the account of the alarming situation, the inhabitants were in the day before. I also understood the man and his Wife were not much respected in the Town; being generally looked upon as very high and covetous, and having a competency, had been for some time about declining business, but having a great Stock of useless goods, which by the changes of times were never likely to be sold, and he insisting to have the full value for them, nobody dare venture on the Shop; and as he could not obtain this, he fell into a low despairing way which increased upon him until he committed the horrid deed, whereby the bulk of his property were consumed, and he himself perished with it, in the flames. I write not this by way of a reflection upon the unhappy sufferers for whom I have felt much. But with earnest desires, that all may be warn'd by this awful event and guard against highmindedness and an inordinate love of the world, that so preservation may be experienced in the hour of temptation. For we read that "God resisteth the proud; but giveth grace to the humble." After the fire abated, he was dug out of the ruins, except a Leg and arm which were supposed to be burnt to ashes, and carried into the Steeplehouse where he lay all night and this morning his remains were put in a Coffin, and stood in the Steeplehouse untill he was buried, I saw him in his coffin but it was an affecting sight being burnt unto a cinder. The inquest went over him to day, and I suppose brought in their verdict Lunacy, as the usual ceremony at burials was read over him; and here I cannot but remark that very great impropriety of having one form of words to use on these occasions, For as I attended this burial which was about 2 o'clock this afternoon I observed, The Priest repeating the following words " For as much as it hath pleased Almighty God in his great mercy to take unto himself the soul of our dear Brother here departed;" and afterwards, "We give hearty thanks, for it hath pleased thee to deliver this our Brother out of the miseries of this sinful world." Upon which I remark that I cannot believe that the Almighty compels mankind to do violence to themselves, altho' he may permit it; and therefore thinks the foregoing sentences ought not to be used on such occasions as these as it seems to convey as tho' he himself was the author of the deed. I mean not by this to convey the idea as tho' I believed that the Almighty could not consistent with his Justice extend mercy to some poor and unhappy creatures who by the oppression of their spirits may lay violent hands upon themselves. I leave that unto him who is perfect in Wisdom, but to show the impropriety of being tyed unto a form of words at Burials, were the cases may be very widely different I own the repeating of the foregoing sentences on this occasion affected my mind with pain, and renewedly manifested the excellency of our testimony against all forms and ceremonies being used, into which Spirit of Truth doth not immediately lead.

Memorandum. On ye. 8<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 9<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1810. Departed this life Samuel Wood son of Robert Wood of Moorbottom in Shelley, and was buried in friends burial ground at Highflatts ye. 9<sup>th</sup>. of the same aged about three days. My Nephew Robert Wood invited me and Mary Mallinson and 3 of the women who were at the childs birth viz. Widow Turner, Joseph Childs

Wife and James Turners Wife, and his Father to Breakfast on the day of the Burial, and we all attended, and accompanied the child to the grave except the Widow Turner and Elizabeth Child, we got to Highflatts in time to inter the corps before the meeting gathered; Which was this day pretty large, the friends of Lumbroyd Mg. uniting with us, and more of other Societies coming in than usual. It was I thought an open favoured meeting, being graciously owned by the the Masters Presence in which, there is life, and in the arisings of this life the renewedly quickened mind, can drawn nigh unto God in full assurance of faith; and offer unto him an offering like Abel formerly which he graciously condescends to have respect unto. I had a pretty long testimony to bear in this meeting from 1 John C: 3. v: 8. He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the Devil sinneth from the beginning. for this purpose the Son of God was manifested that he might destroy the works of the Devil. and afterwards John Bottomley from 1 John C: 2. v: 14. I have written unto you, young men, because ye are strong, and the word of God abideth in you. At the close of the meeting the members of our Society were requested to stop, when the General Advices were read. The Women friends then withdrew into the chamber, and the business of our Preparative Meeting was gone through. The Queries were read and answered, and Answers thereto drawn up approved and Signed, in order to be laid before our ensuing Monthly meeting. I thought the minds of the friends who answered the Queries, were properly seasoned and that a considerable solemnity was over the meeting, some profitable remarks were made, and advice communicated; and I Thought truth for the present appeared to gain some ground. Both meetings held three-and a half hours. After the meeting for Worship Joseph Grayham and Nathaniel Priest went to my house, and after dinner Charles Hinchcliffe came to see us, and stopt Tea; soon after Tea, he and Joseph Grayham set out towards home; Nathaniel Priest stopt about half an hour longer, and then I accompanied him to Denby. He is a choice youth, of a remarkable circumspect conversation, his words few, and spoken with great care; the more I am acquainted with him, the more I love him, his company is dear unto me, as well as profitable. May he be blessed, with the blessing of preservation, and be favoured to know the Truth, and in due time be set free thereby, is what I earnestly covet. After we parted I came directly home, were I got about half past 7 o clock.

Memorandum. Ackworth Monthly Meeting on 9<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 17<sup>th</sup>. 1810. I left home ye. 15<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 9<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1810 and 7<sup>th</sup>. day of the week betwixt 6 and 7 o clock in the morning, and went by Denby and Gunthwaite to Broadoak were I stopt near 2 hours and got Tea, then proceeded by Cawthorne to Barnsley were I got about 12 o clock, and din'd at Frances Yeardeleys, After dinner went and sat a little at William Harveys, and took a Glass of Rum and Water, then went and sat a little at Thomas Walker Haighs, and from thence to John Yeardeleys were I stopt Tea. Left Barnsley about 5 o clock, dear John Yeardley set me on my way about 2 miles and then return'd, The evening being remarkably fine had a very agreeable walk down that beautiful valley to Burton Grange through which the river Dearne runs, with a beautiful rising wood on the North side, and the Wakefield Canal; and on the South side is the Doncaster Canal. After parting with John Yeardley I kept the footpath through Lund.wood to Cudworth, and from thence to Shafton were I got to Timothy Sykes a little before 7 o clock and tarried there all night. On 16<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week I set out a little past 8 o clock in the morning and went by South.heenley and Hemsworth to Ackworth were I got just as the friends were going to their forenoon meeting, which began at 10 and held upwards of two hours. John Bottomley was there, and Mary Tricket from Sheffield Mg. who is lately come forth in the Ministry, and at present is supplying Isabella Harris place in the School. I had a long testimony to bear in this meeting from John C: 14. v: 8. Show us the father and it sufficeth us. After meeting I din'd at the School, and attended the afternoon meeting which began at 3 and held near 2 hours, in silence. After meeting I got Tea at the School and attended our Meeting for Ministers and Elders which began at 6 in the evening and held about

1 hour and a half. All our members attended except Christopher Walker who was prevented thro' indisposition in his family, and Isabella Harris who was gone on a visit to her relations in Cumberland. The Queries were read and considered, and the answers thereto drawn up approv'd and Signed, and ordered to be taken by our representatives, to our ensuing Select Quarterly Meeting. After meeting I got a little refreshment and then left the School about 8 o'clock and went to James Harrisons of East Hardwick to supper where I lodg'd. On 17<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week I breakfasted at John Hoyls, and left Hardwick betwixt 9 and 10 o'clock in company with Samuel Coward and John Lister of Burton meeting, we came to Joseph Johnsons of Ackworth where we sat a little and got some Wine and water and cake. Our Monthly meeting for Worship began at 11 o'clock, It was smaller than I ever observed it when held here before, friends in the country being generally very busy in their harvest, and was held throughout in silence. At the close of the meeting for Worship was held the meeting for discipline, the business of which was very agreeably conducted, and in the course thereof several weighty Testimonies were borne. The friends appointed to visit Thomas Abel of Dewsbury within the compass of Wakefield meeting brought in the following report viz. We have visited Thomas Abel, to a degree of satisfaction. And appears to be convinced of our religious principles; and we do not feel any objection to him becoming a member of our Society; but the further care and consideration thereof we leave to the Monthly Meeting

Dewsbury 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 30<sup>th</sup>. 1810

Samuel Coward  
Thomas Earnshaw  
John Bottomley

This being the third visit paid him by different appointments of this meeting; after solidly considering the report and his case the meeting agreed to accept him a member of our Society. I having had it on my mind for a considerable time to pay a religious visit to the meetings of friends in Cheshire and Staffordshire, and the Meeting of Dudley in Worcestershire with a few adjacent meetings; and apprehending in my retired walking from home to this place, at the time was now come for me to mention my concern to friends, I felt under very great discouragement, having been for some time past in a poor state of health, and not being able to bear riding on horseback, I thought if friends felt no objections to it, I could not accomplish it on foot; However at the close of the business of the Select Meeting I mentioned the prospect before me, and several friends were led in the language of encouragement to me. The same evening I mentioned my case and concern to my friend James Harrison who very freely and cheerfully offered to accompany me and convey me throughout the journey in his carriage. Being thus encouraged, I ventured to spread my concern before this meeting which meeting with the full unity and concurrence of the meeting 3 friends were nominated to prepare a certificate, which was read approved and Signed; and delivered unto me. The Queries were also read and Answers received and read from all our Preparative Meetings viz. Pontefract, Burton, Highflatts, Ackworth, Wakefield, and Wooldale. A general Answer was prepared, approved and Signed in order to be laid before our Quarterly Meeting. A great deal more business was gone thro' and both meetings held 4 hours and a half. I din'd at the School, and about half past four o'clock left Ackworth in company with Samuel Coward of Barnsley, we came with Mary Sykes of Shafton, by Hemsworth to their house, where we stopt near an hour and drunk Tea, then came by Cudworth, and Burton to Barnsley where we got about half past 9 o'clock, and I lodg'd at John Yeardeleys. On 18<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week This forenoon I went and sat a little at Thomas Walker Haighs and Frances Yeardeleys, and din'd at William Harveys. About half past 2 o'clock I left Barnsley, John Yeardley accompanied me about 2 miles and then returned. It was extremely hot for the time of the year so that I walked very slow, and yet felt very much overheated, came by Higham, Banks hall and Elmhirst to Richard Priest's of Broadoak where I stopt upwards of 2 hours and drunk Tea, and then his son Nathaniel Priest set me on my way above halfway home, his company was particularly agreeable to me, came by Gunthwaite and Denby, and got to Newhouse about 9 o'clock.

Memorandum. On 9<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 22<sup>nd</sup>. 1810, and 7<sup>th</sup>. of the week, This evening we had a very heavy storm of Thunder and Lightning which continued betwixt 3 and four hours; the lightning was very quick and awful, and the Thunder the loudest we have had in this summer: It had been uncommonly hot and sultry the most so that I ever remember for more than a week before, and had every appearance of Thunder, but the season being so far advanced we scarcely expected it, nobody ever remembering such a storm so late in the year in these parts before. There was a slight shower of rain the evening before, and this morning a close mist, we expected it clearing out, but instead thereof it kept drizzling and raining all the forenoon at times, and in the afternoon there was several heavy showers, that had the appearance of thunder showers yet the mist continued. I went over to John Pickfords of Park to be shaved, and at their requests stopt Tea with them, whilst we were at Tea a neighbour said they heard it Thunder, I left there about 5 o clock and came to Martha Langley's of Birdsedge in my way I heard a clap of Thunder, stopt a little there, and then came home, saw one flash of Lightning as I came and heard a clap of Thunder, both these were in the North; After I got home the storm gradually increased until it became very awful, the night was very dark and rainy, and at times the rain very heavy; It continued until about half past nine and then abated, we perceived the Lightning at a distance some time after, but have not yet heard of any damage being done by it.

On 23<sup>rd</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week, a very fine morning and continued a remarkable fine day: Our Meeting at Highflatts was pretty fully attended by friends but not many of other Societies came in. I had a pretty long testimony to bear therein from John C: 4. v. 15, 16. Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the son of God; God dwelleth in him, and he in God. And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is Love: and he that dwelleth in love, dwelleth in God; and God in him. Afterwards I had a short time from Heb: C: 10. v. 24, 25. Let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works; Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together as the manner of some is. After meeting Joseph Grayham and Joshua Dyson came to dine with us, Joseph Grayham set out before Tea and I set him a little on his way and return'd to Tea. Joshua Dyson left about 6 o clock, I accompanied him a little, and then returned.

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Memorandum. On ye. 26<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 10<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1810 departed this life Beaumont Haigh Son of Joseph Haigh of Bog.hall in Denby and was buried in friends burial ground at Highflatts ye. 20<sup>th</sup>. of the same aged about 2 years, and on the 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week. His Parents were not members of our Society, his Father having married out, but obtained leave to bury it in our burial ground, there being several of other Societies at the burial it increased our Meeting, that the house was pretty full. It was held throughout in silence, and to me it was a very painful suffering time. I was ready to think friends had missed it in giving leave for the child to be interred here, the Fathers conduct having been at some time past notoriously scandalous, and friends admitting the interment of the child, which if they had not done, it would have manifested to the world that he was not owned by us, and Truth would have been cleared from reproach. This appeared to me to be the cause, that the most High did not condescend to own this Assembly with his Presence in which there is Life. After meeting Joseph Grayham came with me to dine, but return'd before Tea, and after dinner Nathaniel Priest came to see me and stopt until near dark. Our family sitting this evening was to me a

comfortable opportunity, Besides the friends who usually sit with us, we had the company of Charles Hinchcliffe who stopt all night. After reading a solemn time of silence ensued, and then Leah Kinsley had a short but acceptable testimony to bear from Luke C: 12. v: 24. Consider the ravens; for they neither sow nor reap; which neither have storehouse, nor barn; and God feedeth them; How much more are ye better than the fowls.

Memorandum. 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 4<sup>th</sup>. 1810, and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, was our Meeting for Sufferings at Highflatts, Christopher Walker, John Robinson, and Elihu Dickinson were appointed by the Monthly Meeting to collect the account of Sufferings, and enquire into friends faithfulness respecting our Testimony, against Tythes Priests demands, those called Church rates, the Modus or Rate money and the Militia; and to advise friends to an annual inspection into the state of their affairs, The Meeting for Worship was pretty large of friends and a few of other Societies came in. I had a long and favoured time therein in Testimony from Matt: C: 22. v. 37, 38, 39, 40. Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart; with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and Prophets. At the close of the meeting for Worship, The men and Women members of our Society sat together; the accounts of Suffering were collected, and the usually enquiries were made and Answers given and received by all the heads of families in this meeting except 4 from whom there was no account, Elihu Dickinson, George Chapman and Thomas Earnshaw of Judfield were appointed to visit them and report to the adjournment of this meeting. It was particularly satisfactory to find that no unfaithfulness appeared amongst us in these branches of our Christian Testimonies except in one friend, who had paid the Modus or Rate money but said that he did not intend to do it anymore. The others who were liable to the demand had withstood a payment of it, and some of them had Suffered distress for it. Both meetings were held 3 hours. Joseph Grayham and Nathaniel Priest din'd at my house, Nanthanial stopt Tea and set out for home a little after dark, I set him a piece on his way and then return'd; Christopher Walker came a little after Tea and stopt all night with us. At our family sitting this evening, after reading I had a short testimony to bear.

Memorandum. On 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 11<sup>th</sup>. 1810, and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of week, our Meeting at Highflatts was not large being mostly Select of those who usually attend Meetings; It was to me a low time in the forepart thereof, but Truth arose for our help and I thought before the close it was eminently favoured. I had a long testimony to bear therein from 1 Thes: C: 5. v. 22, 23, 24. Abstain from all appearance of evil. And the very God of Peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit, and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus christ. Faithful is he that calleth you who also will do it. At the close of this Meeting the business of our adjourn'd Preparative meeting was gone through. Both meetings held 2 hours and a half. My Nephew Robert Wood and Wife, Nathaniel Priest and Rebecca Pickford din'd with us to day and drunk Tea. John Pickford came for his daughter home and stopt reading and Nathaniel Priest tarried all night. The Master was graciously pleased to own sitting together this evening with his presence After reading I had a pretty long testimony to bear from 1 Chron: C: 4. v: 10. Oh that thou wouldest bless me indeed, and enlarge my coast, and that thine hand might be with me, and that thou wouldest keep me from evil, that it may not grieve me. and God granted him that which he requested. Afterwards Leah Kinsley had a short but encouraging time from Hab: C: 2. v: 4. The just shall live by his faith.

Memorandum. Wakefield Monthly Meeting, 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 17<sup>th</sup>. 1810 I left home ye. 15<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1810, and 7<sup>th</sup>. day of the week a little before 8 o'clock in the morning and went by Cumberworth to Skelmanthorp where I stopt a little at Charles Blackburns and then proceeded to cousin Samuel Steads of Parkgate where I got some refreshment, stopt at both places about 1 hour and a half and then went by Emley to cousin Alexander Hampshires of Flockton mill where I stopt about half an hour and took a Glass of wine, then proceeded by Flockton, Mugmill, and Thornhill to Dewsbury where I got about half past 2 o'clock, I took up my Quarters at George Breareys. After dinner I went to William Wass's where I stopt and drunk Tea. After I return'd to my quarters I felt a particular desire to see John Fozard but knew not the cause, soon after he came in; and after supper, we closed into silence, and I had an encouraging testimony to bear unto him from Luke C: 22. v. 31, 32. Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not; and when thou art converted strengthen thy Brethren. He was very much broken and tendered, and I believe things opened very particularly to his state, that it proved a profitable time to him. On 16<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week about 9 o'clock in the morning I set out to their meeting at Wakefield in company with John Fozard, we had profitable conversation by the way, and went by Ossett thither where we got to William Awmacs about half past 10 o'clock. The meeting began at 11 o'clock, and was to me a very exercising time, but towards the close thereof, I was enabled to relieve my mind in a pretty long testimony from Eph: C: 4. v. 3. Endeavouring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of Peace. At the close of the meeting for Worship was held their Preparative meeting, in which the Queries were read and answered, and Answers thereto drawn up approv'd and Signed, in order to be laid before the Monthly Meeting. At the close of the business I had a short but encouraging testimony to bear. Both meetings held about 3 hours. After which I came by Sandal to s of Milthorp to dine where I tarried until 4 o'clock then came to Christopher Walker's of Dircar to Tea. At 6 in the evening our Select Meeting was held here, all our members attended except Robert Whitaker who was indisposed; the Queries were read and considered and Answers thereto drawn up approv'd and Signed and directed to be laid before our ensuing Select Quarterly Meeting by our Representatives. The Advices of the Yearly Meeting to Ministers and Elders were also read, the Meeting held 1 hour and a half. On 17<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, I set out for our Monthly meeting to be held at Wakefield in company with John Bottomley, we Breakfasted by the way at Robert Walkers of Milthorp, and got to Wakefield about 10 o'clock, and having some little business to do, I got it done before Meeting. The Meeting was pretty large, and held throughout in silence; At the close thereof was the Meeting for discipline in which the Queries were read and Answers received from all our Preparative Meetings viz. Pontefract, Burton, Highflatts, Ackworth, Wakefield and Wooldale. A General Answer was prepared, approved, and Signed in order to be laid before our ensuing Quarterly Meeting. A great deal more business was gone through and the whole was unanimously conducted. Both meetings held 5 hours, After which I din'd at William Leathams. About 5 o'clock Mark Brear of Alverthorp call'd here upon me, I being going to his house to lodge, we stopt here until about half past 7 and got Tea, and then set out and got to Alverthorp about 8 o'clock. On 18<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, I left Alverthorp about half past 8 o'clock in the morning, Mark Brear set me on my way about 2 miles and then return'd, I came by Horbury to Netherton where I called at cousin John Woods soon after I got there cousin Elizabeth Walker of Shelley came in, we tarried 1 hour and a half and got an early dinner, then came together by Midgley to Emley, where we called at the Waggon and horses and got each of us a Glass of Rum and Water for which I paid 1d, stopt about half an hour, and then I came to Skelmanthorp where I rested me about half an hour at Charles Blackburns, and then came by Cumberworth home, where I got about 4 o'clock, soon after I got in my beloved friend William Midgley of Buersill near Rochdale in Lancashire came in, he had been at our Monthly Meeting, and came here to spend a few days with me at my house, which he did to our mutual satisfaction.

Memorandum. Wakefield Monthly Meeting 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 21<sup>st</sup>. 1811. I left home ye. 19<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 1811, and 7<sup>th</sup>. day of the week, having intended to set out pretty early in the morning, but my beloved friend and servant William Taylor was taken very ill the day before, and appearing no better this morning, I concluded to drop going my intended journey and stay at home to attend to him, fearing he would not take proper care of himself, but when he understood my intentions, he was not easy for me to tarry, so I got an early dinner, and set out a little before 12 o'clock, called and sat a while at Ralph Swindens of Denby and then proceeded by Dakinbrook to Cawthorne, where I called at Thomas Wests, they were just at dinner when I went in, and I sat me down and took a little with them; stopt there about 2 hours; and then proceeded to Barnsley where I got a little past 5 o'clock, and drunk Tea at William Harveys, and then went to John Yeardleys where I lodg'd, found their little Son Albert their only child, little more than one month old very ill and not at all likely to recover, for which I felt sorry but glad that the Parents appeared so much resigned to the divine will therein. On 20<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week, I breakfasted at Thomas Dixon Waltons, he was very poorly in health, and much embarrassed in his outward affairs, owing to the turn of times; and I believe now fully sensible of the loss he hath sustained by too eagerly pursuing the things of this life; and not taking heed to the repeated advice of his friends, those things now appear to lay heavy upon his spirits, and I wish it may prove a warning to others to guard against these two evils, lest they pierce themselves thro' with many sorrows. I felt much sympathy with and for him, and at parting he shed many tears. I came and sat a little at Samuel Cowards, and then went with him to their meeting at Burton, in which I had long testimony to bear from Jer: C: 6. v: 16. Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths; where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. I was opened in a very particular manner to different states to the full relief of my own mind, Truth being as I thought, this day in great dominion. At the close of the meeting for Worship, the business of their Preparative meeting was gone through, Both meetings held 2 hours, After which I called to see John Wilson where I sat a while then took a glass of Rum and Water, and then went with Mary Sykes by Cudworth to Shafton to her Brother Timothy Sykes's to dinner, William Taylor accompanied us thither, tarried all night, and return'd home to Barnsley early the next morning. On 21<sup>st</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, I left Shafton about half past 8 o'clock in the morning, and went to Wakefield in company with Mary Sykes and her sister Anne, we went by Felkirk, Cheviot and Sandal got there about half past 10, where I got a little refreshment at Ann Thorps, and then went to the Meeting which was pretty large and satisfactory, being held throughout in silence. At the close of the Meeting for Worship was held our Monthly Meeting for discipline, There was not so much business before the meeting to day as we mostly have, and I thought it was very agreeably conducted, and I thought Truth and its testimony gained some ground amongst us. It was a good meeting, and some living testimonies were borne in the course of the business to the edification and encouragement of the rightly exercised, and at the conclusion thereof, I had a pretty long testimony to bear, by way of caution to the Lords visited children to guard against the wiles of the unwearied enemy from 1 Cor: C: 11. v: 18. I hear that there be divisions among you; and I partly believe it. Both meetings held about 3 hours. After which I din'd at William Leathams and afterwards went and sat a little at William Awmacs and then came to Christopher Walkers of Dircar to Tea, and after Tea went and sat a little at John Pickards, and return'd to Christopher Walkers to supper where I lodg'd. On 22<sup>nd</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week I breakfasted at William Pickards, and left Dircar betwixt 9 and 10 o'clock, came to my Uncle Joseph Houghs of Crigglestone where I stopt about half an hour, and then came by Bretton, Parkmill, and Denbydykeside home where I got betwixt 2 and 3 o'clock in the afternoon and found William Taylor very poorly, and in need as I apprehended of medical assistance which I immediately sent for.

Wrote by Thomas Wilkinson when accompanying John Pemberton on a religious visit to the Highlands of Scotland.

While over many a height and hill I stray  
 And pick through many a Glen my devious way,  
 On every side I cast my Wandering eyes,  
 Where dales expand or rugged mountain rise  
 And still I find new pleasures as I go;  
 Whereever hills ascend or waters flow.  
 But backward oft my silent musings stray,  
 Among the charming Groves of Inveray.  
 Not fresher Lawns on Albion's bosom smile,  
 Not taller forests crown her fruitful Isle.  
 Not boulder hills our Southern skies invade,  
 Nor boast our winding vales a deeper shade.  
 Argle! wou'd other wealthy Lords agree,  
 To cloath with wood their naked plains like thee.  
 To bid the rocks with infant Forests spring,  
 And call the birds on silent hills to sing.  
 The vacant hand of poverty employ,  
 And fill their cottages with humble joy.  
 Then rocks in barren Majesty array'd,  
 Woud wrap their Limbs in beauties softest shade.  
 Among her hills then wou'd the natives stray,  
 Nor seek for happier fortunes far away.  
 Then wou'd this land increasing thousands bear,  
 And o'er the seas her cheerful mountains rear.  
 But not these bold, luxuriant scenes confine,  
 My wand'ring search, or stay an heart like mine.  
 I love to pierce the peasants humblest Cell,  
 I love to see how all my Brethren dwell.  
 And sure it fills a social mind to trace,  
 The various lots assigned to human race.  
 Peace to the humble Swain, whose simple lot  
 Is bounded by the narrow Highland Cot.  
 Joy to the noble hospitable Breast,  
 Whose pillow sinks the stranger into rest.  
 Whose ready board, his every want supplies,  
 And converse bid his drooping spirits rise.  
 Such have I found the Highland vales among,  
 Such kindness well may warm my grateful song.  
 Ye hills Farewel if e're I rest again,  
 On the soft bosom of my native plain.  
 Of Highland scenes my tongue will often tell,  
 My heart will long on Highland kindness dwell.  
 Nor will I trust, Oblivion soon efface,  
 From the remembrance of this generous race.  
 The pious toils, my lov'd companion bore  
 Where men like us were never seen before;  
 The voice of love their deepest vallies found,  
 Along the Mountains ran the Gospel Sound:  
 Sweet was the sound; and powerful was the call,  
 To heaven within; the happiness of all!

The modest Highland maid, the Aged Dame,  
 The Cottager and chief together came,  
 Silent they sat, and marvelled when they knew,  
 That Gospel Love so far its vot'ries drew.

On travelling to Coalbrookdale in the night time

1

To Coalbrookdale by night  
 I journey'd pensive, slow,  
 And tired; from Lincolns hill proud height,  
 And viewed the Vale below.

2

Dreadful the view in dusky spires  
 The smoaky columns rise  
 And fiend like form stir up the fires  
 That redden all the skies

3

Like Plegeton a river pours  
 Beneath an Iron bridge its flood  
 A Lake likes Styx tremendous roars  
 Black baneful and defiled with mud

4

Dire sounds I heard, I saw with dread  
 The fiery surges swell  
 Aghast I stopt my course and said  
 O! sure this place is hell

5

At last recovered from my fears  
 I sought the stately Dome  
 Where courtesy with kindness cheers  
 And strangers find a home

6

Received refresh'd and Edified  
 With social Christian grace  
 Beneath Abiah's roof I cry'd  
 Sure Heaven is this place

R:S.

The British prisoners in France being under great Sufferings for want of the necessaries of Life, and the Emperor refusing our Government sending them any assistance; Liberal subscriptions were set on foot and carried on for their relief throughout the nation; and friends in London having received satisfactory accounts of the care of its distribution; united therewith, and recommended the same to friends in the Country. Sending down printed accounts of their Suffering state without this aid, and recommending liberality amongst the members of our Society, and such as attended our religious meetings. When the papers were received they were read at the close of our Meeting on the first day, and the following friends were appointed to apply to the members thereof, and such as usually attended our meetings for their Subscriptions, viz. Myself unto those who resided within the Townships of

Cumberworth, Denby and Ing Birchworth. Joseph Firth unto the other parts thereof, and Benjamin Chapman to those who usually meet at Lumbroyd. The following is a List of the names of the Subscribers and the sum each gave. viz

	£	s	d		£	s	d
Richard Dickinson	0	10	0	Samuel Dickinson	0	1	0
Hannah Dickinson	0	5	0	John Mallinson	0	10	6
Susanna Dickinson	0	5	0	John Kirk junr	0	0	6
Joseph Dickinson	0	1	0	Joshua Dyson	0	2	6
of Highflatts				John Firth	0	10	6
Joseph Wood	0	10	6	Joseph Firth	0	2	6
Joseph Grayham	0	5	0	Ann Pickard	0	2	6
William Taylor	0	2	6	John Brook	0	2	6
John Pickford	0	2	6	William Pomfret	0	2	0
William Dickinson	0	10	6	Joseph Walker	0	4	6
Elihu Dickinson senr	1	1	0	and family			
Edward Dickinson	0	10	6	John Haigh	0	5	0
Mary Dickinson		7	0	George Haigh	0	3	0
Amos Blackburn		2	6	Joseph Haigh	0	1	0
Henry Dickinson	0	1	0	of Heighmoorhouse			
and son Joseph				Phebe Haigh	0	1	0
Elihu Dickinson tanr	2	2	0	of Heighmoorhouse			
John Beaumont	0	1	0	Phebe Haigh	0	1	0
Elihu Dickinson junr	0	5	0	of Bankside			
John Dickinson	0	0	6	Joseph Hinchcliffe	0	2	0
of Strines				Charles Hinchcliffe	0	1	0
Joseph Haigh of	0	1	0	Joseph Hinchcliffe junr	0	1	0
Birdsedge				John Hinchcliffe	0	1	0
Mary Aldam and	1	0	0	Ann Hinchcliffe	0	1	0
son William				Phebe Hinchcliffe	0	1	0
Joseph Haigh Senr	0	1	0	Henry Marsden	0	2	6
Joseph Haigh junr	0	1	0	Mary Dyson	0	2	0
Abraham Cooper	0	7	0	Samuel Wood	0	2	6
Joseph Priest	0	7	0	Robert Wood	0	2	6
Joseph Priest junr	0	4	0	Benjamin Stead	0	2	6
John Priest	0	4	0	Charles Stead	0	2	6
John Bottomley	0	2	6	Charles Stead junr	0	1	0
Charles Smith	0	1	0	Thomas Earnshaw	0	4	0
				of Judfield			
George Chapman	0	8	0	Benjamin Chapman	0	5	0
Thomas Dickinson	0	3	0	Daniel Broadhead	0	2	6
Jonathan Earnshaw	0	1	0	Joseph Earnshaw	0	2	0
Job Jebson	0	1	0	David Dickinson	0	0	6
William Dickinson	1	6	0				
of Thurlstone							
				Total	14	12	0

Joseph Stead was properly applied to, but refused to give anything, and he was the only friend in the whole meeting that refused the application, on the contrary several who friends did not apply to on account of their low circumstances, brought their mite, and cast it in to the Stock for the relief of those poor Sufferers imprisoned in a foreign land, Surely these will not lose their reward of him from whom all Blessings flow. But ah! poor Joseph Stead he is favoured with abundance, yet appears to have lost all bowels of compassion to his fellow

creatures. The Apostle saith, Who hath this worlds goods, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him. I believe he was rightly convinced of the Truth, and was wonderfully Blessed in his outward affairs, but his heart was too much set upon them which increasing as he advanced in years, he became so closely rivetted to them; that tho' he was always backward in contributing with the Society, yet for upwards of 1 year past, he hath wholly withheld his collection for the relief of the poor of our own Society. Our blessed Lord hath left us this caution. Take heed and beware of covetousness: for a mans life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.

At the close of our Monthly Meeting in the 5<sup>th</sup>. Mo. friends stopt a little to receive an account of the Subscriptions in each of our Preparative Meetings when it appeared that the following sums were subscribed in each Meeting; which were put into the hands of John Leatham to forward to London viz

Pontefract	27	0	6
Burton	8	3	6
Highflatts	14	12	0
Ackworth	4	2	6
Wakefield	11	17	0
Wooldale	2	8	0
Total	68	3	6

Memorandum. Pontefract Monthly Meeting 5<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 20<sup>th</sup>. 1811 I left home ye. 18<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 5<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1811 and 7<sup>th</sup>. day of the week after dinner, and went to John Pickfords of Park to be Shaved, when I was about to set out, it began to rain which caused me to stop until it wanted only a quarter of 3 o'clock, and it continuing, I thought it best to be moving forward, went by Cumberworth and Skelmanthorp to Elias Armitages of Parklane where I sheltered about half an hour, and then proceeded to Emley, the rain coming on much heavier here I call to see David Blacker at his Fathers were I stopt about an hour and a half the rain are being exceeding heavy and drunk Tea, David is now restored to a state of good health so as to be able to follow his work again; he has been raised up in a very remarkable manner as from the brink of the grave, and contrary to the expectations of himself, and all who saw him. O that he may never forget the covenants made in the day of deep distress. When the rain abated, I proceeded, and he accompanied me about half a mile which afforded me an opportunity of reminding him of the Lords mercies unto him, and exhorting him to walk worthy thereof; lest his judgment should be poured forth upon him without mercy. After parting with him, I had a fine walk to Bretton to Dircar where I got about 8 o'clock and lodg'd at Christopher Walkers.

On 19<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week, After Breakfast I went to Wakefield, got there about 10 o'clock, sat a little at Ann Thorps and took a little refreshment, then went to William Awmacks where I tarried until Meetingtime and then went in, a few of other Societies came in to day, and I had a pretty long testimony to bear therein from Psalms 89. v: 15. Blessed is the people that know the joyful sound; they shall walk, O Lord, in the light of thy countenance. At the close of this meeting was held their Preparative meeting. Both meetings held 2 hours and a quarter. After which I din'd and drunk Tea at John Robinsons of Fieldhouse, and about 5 o'clock left there and had a very pleasant walk by Heath, Warmfield, Ackton and Fetherstone to Pontefract where I got about 8 o'clock and took up my quarters at John Leathams. On 20<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, after breakfast I went and sat a little at the Widow Ann Johnsons where I took a little refreshment The meeting began as usual at 11 o'clock and was large. John Bottomley had a pretty long testimony to bear therein first from Matt: C: 6. v: 10. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. I had afterwards a short time from Mic: C: 7. v: 1. Wo is me; for I am as when they have gathered the summer fruits, as the grape gleanings of the vintage; there is

no cluster to eat; my soul desired the first ripe fruit. At the close of the meeting for Worship was held our Monthly Meeting for discipline, the business of which were agreeably conducted. In reading over the minutes of last month The report of the friends appointed to visit Joseph and John Hinchcliffe on their application to be admitted members of our Society were read, which I omitting to transcribe in my Memorandums of last month I here insert it viz.

We have visited Joseph Hinchcliffe junr. and his brother John, and find; their Parents were measurably convinced of the Truth as professed by us before the time of their birth. Joseph is now in the 22<sup>nd</sup>. year of his age, and John in the 20<sup>th</sup>. We understand they have hitherto demeaned themselves in a becoming manner, so that their conduct is of good report. From the impression upon our minds on the visit, and the enquiry then made; we believe they are convinced of the Truth of our christian Testimonies, and one of them hath suffered imprisonment for refusing to serve in the Local Militia. The opportunity with them was to our satisfaction. Having thus stated their case to be the best of our knowledge, we leave the decision thereof to the Monthly Meeting

	Henry Swire
Shepley 3 <sup>rd</sup> . Mo. 31 <sup>st</sup> . 1811	John Brook
	Joseph Wood

The Meeting having solidly considered the said report and their case; agreed to accept them members of our Society. In this meeting I return'd the Certificate given me last month, to visit the friends of Preston Monthly Meeting and parts adjacent; and to have some Meetings in those parts with People of other Societies, more particularly towards the Seashore, and gave an account of my journey, and that I was favoured to go through the prospect I had in view, so as to feel a degree of satisfaction in my return; which was minuted and the Meetings satisfaction therewith. We received an account from Brighthouse Monthly Meeting of Richard Coopers clearness from all others in relation to Marriage except his friend Louisa Thomas of Highflatts meeting; and she coming clear from the Womens meeting; This meeting left them at their liberty to accomplished it when they and Highflatts saw meet. John Bottomley spread before this meeting a concern which had been some time upon his mind to pay a religious visit to the families of friends within the compass of Highflatts Preparative meeting, and such as attend meetings but are not members of our Society. The meeting after solid consideration thereof left him at liberty to proceed therein as way might open; and it being proposed for Leonard West to accompany him through the service, it met with the approbation of the meeting and he gave up thanks thereto. Both meetings held 3 hours and a half. After dinner I left Pontefract and went to Benjamin Jowett of Carlton to Tea, were I stopt until about 8 o clock, and then went to James Harrisons of East Hardwick to lodge, Benjamin Jowett accompanying me about half way, and then return'd. On 21<sup>st</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week. I left Hardwick about 9 o clock in the forenoon, my kind friend James Harrison taking his carriage and conveying me part of my way therein, we came up by Ackworth, Hemsworth, and Brierley to Shafton, were we stopt upwards of 2 hours and din'd at Timothy Sykes's, then parting with James Harrison, I proceeded, Timothy Sykes accompanying me a little and then return'd, I came by Cudworth and Burton Grange to Barnsley were I stopt about 2 hours at John Yeardeleys and drunk Tea then went to Thomas Dixon Waltons, who I understood was very ill, but he was gone this day about 3 miles out of town, to try if the air would be of any advantage unto him; I tarried conversing with his Wife and her Mother, most part of an hour, and took a little Rum and Water; left there a little after six o clock and came by Dodworth, Silkstone and Hoylandswain to Penistone were I got about 9 o clock and lodg'd at George Chapmans. On 22<sup>nd</sup>. and 4<sup>th</sup>. of week, I attended the marriage of Richard Cooper of Huddersfield and Louisa Thomas of Thurlestone, late of Mary le bon London, which was solemnised at Lumbroid: The meeting began at 11 o clock and held near 2 hours and a half, It was large the Meetinghouse and chamber being very much crowded, great numbers of other Societies attending who behaved well, I had a long testimony to bear therein from Luke: C: 14. v: 34, 35. Salt is good;

but if the salt have lost its savour, wherewith shall it be seasoned. It is neither fit for the land, nor yet for the dunghill; but men cast it out. Afterwards the young People took each other in Marriage, the Certificate was read and Signed, and then the meeting broke up. Thomas Earnshaw of Judfield myself, and Betty Woodhead were appointed to see the orderly conducting thereof, The entertainment was at Thomas Dickinsons of Thurlstone wither we went from the meeting, were we din'd and drunk Tea. After Tea the new married couple with their Relations set out for Huddersfield, and soon after the company all left. Betwixt 6 and 7 o'clock I set out for home in company with John Cooper of Netherdenby we came together by Ing Birchworth having agreeable conversation together upon religious subjects, and he having an errand to Highflatts came with me thither, were we parted and I got home about half past 7 o'clock.

Memorandum. Whilst my Family were employed in the annual cleaning of the house, during which time I always leave home, and as I was prevented from attending the burial of my beloved friend Thomas Dixon Walton, I thought I would take this opportunity of visiting his Widow, and the friends of Barnsley. Accordingly I left home ye. 5<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 6<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1811, and 4<sup>th</sup>. date of the week about 9 o'clock in the morning, and went to Highflatts were I call to see Richard Dickinson who had been ill of a Rheumatick complaint, for which he went to Buxton, but the water has not agreeing with him, he grew considerably worse, so that his recovery appeared doubtful, and he was brought home the day before in a Post chaise, I found him better this morning, having rested pretty well in the night. I stopt with him about half an hour, and took a cup of Tea before I set out; went to William Cockells of Moorroid were I sat a little, and then went to Denby were I called at Joseph Grayhams and Ralph Swindens, sat a little at each place, and then proceeded by Dakinbrook to Cawthorne were I stopt about 3 hours and a half at Thomas Wests and din'd, then proceeded to Barnsley were I got betwixt four and five o'clock, drunk Tea at William Harveys, and whilst it was preparing went and sat a little at Frances Yeardeleys. After Tea I went to see the Widow Mary Walton stopt a considerable time with her, I found her more comfortable and resigned in mind than I expected, but rather poorly in health, and a fear attended me that she had taken her husbands complaint. From thence I went and sat a little at Thomas Yeardeleys, and at Samuel Cowards, and then went to my usual quarters in this town my beloved friend John Yeardeleys were I met with a kind reception. On 6<sup>th</sup>. and 5<sup>th</sup>. of week, I Breakfasted at Thomas Walker Haigh, and went with him to their Weekday meeting at Burton, which was a satisfactory meeting, and held about 2 hours; I had a pretty long testimony to bear therein from Eph: C: 5. v. 15, 16. Walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil. And afterwards had a short time from 1 Thes: C: 5. v: 19. Quench not the spirit. After meeting I return'd to Barnsley, and din'd at Mary Waltons, stopt there until it was near Tea time and then went to my quarters, were several friends came to see me whose company was very acceptable, poor Robert Harrison he continues to suffer much from his Mother, for bearing his testimony to the Truth as the Lord opens his way, but he is strengthened to bear all with patience, and I believe experiences, all things to work together for his good, even to the establishment of him in the faith. On 7<sup>th</sup>. and 6<sup>th</sup>. of week, After breakfast I left John Yeardeleys with an intent to leave the town immediately, but calling at William Harveys he was very pressing on me to stop and dine with him which I at length complied with; and after dinner, called to take leave of Mary Walton, and her Mother Shillitoe who hath been with her for some time. I left Barnsley about 2 o'clock in the afternoon Samuel Coward accompanying me betwixt 2 and 3 miles, and then returned, He had been mostly with Thomas Dixon Walton the two last days before he died, and confirm'd a satisfactory account I had before heard of his happy conclusion; He also gave me an account of the deep exercise he passed through previous to his declaring that nothing stood in his way. He certainly might have been more useful in Life, had he not entangled himself so much in the affairs of this World; But O what a

mercy that after all; through deep exercise he was favoured to experience a peaceful close, altho' he had no apprehension of his disorder terminating in death until the two last days of his Life; It appearing altogether hid from him, he supposing he should be brought to the brink of the grave, and raised up again. I had a pleasant walk the day being very fine, came by Dodworth, Coates, Oxspring mill, and Rough Birchworth to Thomas Earnshaws of Judfield were I got about 5 o'clock and tarried all night. On 8<sup>th</sup>. and 7<sup>th</sup>. of week, and I left Judfield betwixt 9 and 10 o'clock in the forenoon and came to Penistone, Thomas Earnshaw accompanying me about half way and then return'd, I got to my worthy friend George Chapmans about 10 o'clock. After I got there we had three heavy storms of Thunder accompanied with Rain and hail which in some places did considerable damage by breaking of windows, and detained me here considerably longer than I intended. I din'd and drunk Tea, and then it clearing up I left Penistone betwixt 5 and 6 o'clock, and had an agreeable walk by Ing Birchworth home, were I got a little before 7 o'clock.

Memorandum                      Highflatts Monthly Meeting    6<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 17<sup>th</sup>. 1811. On 16<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week, six friends got to my house to Tea, and 1 more to supper; They all lodged with me viz. John Yeardeley and his Wife, Robert Harrison and Mary Sykes of Burton Mg. John Fozard, Joseph Brearey and Isabella Brearey of Wakefield Mg. On 17<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, at 9 o'clock this morning was our Select meeting at Highflatts, all our members attended except Isabella Harris who was not return'd from the Yearly Meeting at London. The Queries were read, and considered, and Answers prepared to be laid before our Select Quarterly Meeting. The meeting held 1 hour, after which I got a little refreshment at Richard Dickinsons and afterwards went to see several friends who were come in to attend the meeting at Elihu Dickinsons, were I tarried until the meeting for Worship began, which was large of friends and a few of other Societies came in so that the house and chamber what pretty well filled I had a long testimony to bear therein first from Ez: C: 37. v: 3. Can these bones live. and afterwards had a short time from Jer: C: 12. v: 9. Mine heritage is unto me as a speckled bird; the birds round about are against her. At the close of the meeting for Worship was our Monthly meeting for discipline. There was but little business before the meeting to day, and that there was, was very agreeably conducted. After meeting we din'd 18 friends, many of them set out for home immediately after dinner, but many others called, so that we had more to Tea in the afternoon than to dine. Joseph Grayham stopt supper, and after supper I set him a little on his way towards home, and then called and sat a little at Elihu Dickinsons Tanners, and took a glass of Rum and Water, and got home a little past 10 o'clock.

Memorandum.                      Wooldale Monthly Meeting, 7<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 15<sup>th</sup>. 1811. On 14<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week, Joseph Shackleton of Holbeck near Leeds came to my house on a visit to me, and tarried until this day after dinner, and then set out for Wooldale, he got here on 12<sup>th</sup>. and 6<sup>th</sup>. of week in the afternoon to Tea. This morning was very wet, and it continued raining most of the day; which caused our Meeting at Highflatts to be smaller than usual, altho' it was considerably enlarged by friends who were there to day, from many other Meetings; and I believe it was a time of renewed visitation to many being a very open favoured meeting John Bottomley had a very long testimony to bear therein first from Matt: C: 5. v: 6. Blessed are they that do hunger and thirst after righteousness; for they shall be filled. I next from Matt: C: 12. v: 34. Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh. John Bottomley was next concerned in Prayer, and afterwards I had a short testimony from Acts: C: 24. v: 25. Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season I will call for thee. We had Joseph Shackleton, Henry Marsden, and Jonathan Shackleton of Holbeck near Leeds to dine with us, he was prevented by the rain from setting out as early as he had intended, so that he only

reached our house whilst we were in the meeting; he tarried all night and the next morning went to Wooldale to our Monthly meeting. After Tea we have 3 more lodgers came in viz. Samuel Coward, Thomas Yeardley and William Bayldon from Barnsley. On 15<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week. I set out for Wooldale in company with the three friends from Barnsley and John Bottomley, betwixt 8 and 9 o clock. Robert Harrison came here from Barnsley to Breakfast but having a horse he set out with Jonathan Shackleton; we went by Newmill and got to Wooldale about 10 o clock, were we took Tea at Henry Swires's The meeting was the largest of friends that I thought I ever saw there on the like occasion, and abundance of other People came in, so that both the house and chamber were crowded. It was upon the whole a satisfactory meeting, altho' plain close doctrine was delivered to some states, yet the language of encouragement flowed unto the Lords poor. John Bottomley had a short testimony first from Psalms 40. v: 10. Be still, and know that I am God. Esther Lees from Lancashire next, from Isai: C: 40. v: 29. He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength. I had a long time next from John C: 8. v: 33. We be Abrahams seed, and were never in bondage. Isabella Harris next a very long time for being much enlarged upon the same subject. Afterwards I had a short time from Jer: 10. chap: and 23, ver: It is not in man that walketh to direct his steps. At the close of this Meeting was held the Monthly meeting for discipline the business of which was very unanimously conducted and at the close thereof the Printed Yearly Meeting Epistle was read. Both meetings held 4 hours. After which I din'd and drunk Tea at Henry Swires's, and after Tea Joseph Shackleton, William Taylor and me came by Tottis and Scholes to George Broadheads of Jacksonbridge were we supp'd, and then William Taylor and me came home were we got about 10 o clock.

Memorandum. 7<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 30<sup>th</sup>. 1811, and 3<sup>rd</sup>. day of the week, My beloved Friend William Masters of Doxey near Stafford paid me a visit at my house, on his way to the General Meeting at Ackworth; he got to my house about 2 o clock in the afternoon; After Tea we took a walk to see several friends, and return'd to supper. I was much comforted and refreshed by his visit he being a valuable friend, and having lately appeared in the ministry. The next morning he left my house betwixt 4 and 5 o clock I set him a little on his way, we met upon the road with Joseph Firth and Ann Pickard in a Gig, and he went along with them to Ackworth, which was very acceptable he being an entire Stranger to the road having never been in Yorkshire before. On 1<sup>st</sup>. and 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. and 5<sup>th</sup>. of week, my beloved friend William Midgley of Buersill near Rochdale in Lancashire came to pay me a visit, being returning from the General meeting at Ackworth, he got here about quarter past 9 in the evening having rode fast after the meetings were over to reach here before we got to bed On 2<sup>nd</sup>. and 6<sup>th</sup>. of week, we attended our Weekday Mg. at Highflatts in the forenoon, which was pretty large 56 friends being present, It was an open satisfactory Meeting, caution, counsel and encouragement flowing freely unto such of the youth as were bending under the precious visitations they were favoured with. I was first concerned therein in supplication, John Bottomley next a pretty long time in testimony from Zeck: C: 9. v: 9. Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem. Behold, thy King cometh unto thee; he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the fole of an ass. I next from Phil: C: 3: v. 8, 9. I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my lord; for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and account them but dung that I may win Christ, And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law; but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith. In the afternoon we went and drunk Tea at John Bottomleys of Wood. On 3<sup>rd</sup>. and 7<sup>th</sup>. of week, about 9 o clock in the morning William Midgley set out towards home, and Cousin Benjamin Stead of Siver Ing in Emley Park having a daughter living servant with his Son James, he inclined to go that way to see them, and I accompanied him thither, we stopt there betwixt 2 and 3 hours and din'd; about 1 o clock he set out for home, and I went to cousin Charles Stead

having a desire to see their son Charles a young man who hath been in a poor state of health for some time, and having in his health deviated much from the simplicity of the Truth, I had felt for some time a desire to see him in his sickness, and to spend a little time with him, more especially as many apprehended it to be a consumption; but he was gone from home; I sat a little with his Mother, and took a glass of Wine, and then returned to cousin Benjamin Steads, where I stopt a little, and then came to Charles Blackburns of Skelmanthorp, and it coming on heavy rain, I stopt Tea there, after the rain abated I came to Joshua Dysons of Shelley Woodhouse where I tarried a little but the rain coming on heavier than before, I had a very wet journey home where I got about 8 o'clock in the evening.

New York Yearly Meeting 5<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1811

At our last sitting was read a Memorial from Nine Partnees Quarterly Meeting on a valuable Minister Mary Griffin. She was born in the 5<sup>th</sup>. Mo: 1710, and died aged 100 years and 6 Mos. on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. of the 12<sup>th</sup>. mo. 1810. In her 95<sup>th</sup>. year, she visited many of the Monthly meetings in this State; And in her 100<sup>th</sup>. year, She visited the families of friends in her own meeting, and was highly favoured in her communications to many individuals. Her faculties were bright to the last. A few days before she died one of her daughters went to see her, and finding her Mother better, was proposing to return home; when her Mother said I wish thee to stay another day, intimating she would see her close. On the evening of that day she called her Children and Grandchildren together, when after giving them much Paternal advice, she had a fainting fit to which She was subject; in a few hours after the fit: She fell into a deep sleep, and her spirit left her house of Clay.

Memorandum.        Burton Monthly Meeting 10<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 21<sup>st</sup>. 1811. I left home ye. 20<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 10<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1811, and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week in the company with my kind friend James Harrison who had stopt two days at my house to rest himself and horse after our return from our late journey, and to convey me to Barnsley in his carriage. We went to our meeting at Highflatts, which was large of friends, the day being very fine, and a pretty many of other Societies came in. It was a favoured meeting, and I had a long testimony to bear therein from Job: C: 5. v. 6, 7. Although affliction cometh not forth of the dust, neither doth trouble spring out of ground: Yet man is born unto trouble, as the sparks fly upward. Afterwards John Bottomley had a long time from Rev: C: 15. v: 3. Great and marvellous are thy works Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints! The meeting held about 2 hours. after which we din'd at Richard Dickinsons. Betwixt 2 and 3 o'clock William Taylor came up with the carriage, and we proceeded on our journey, went by Denby and Dakinbrook to Cawthorne, where we called to see Thomas Wests; stopt there about one hour and a half and drunk Tea, then proceeded to Barnsley, where we got about 7 o'clock in the evening, and I took up my quarters at John Yeardeleys. On 21<sup>st</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, I attended our Monthly meeting held at Burton which I thought was the largest I ever saw at this place of friends; and a few of other Societies came in. We were favoured thereat with the company of our friend Elizabeth Copeland of Hull who was on a religious visit to the families of friends in Pontefract, Ackworth, and Wakefield meetings. She was first concerned in this meeting in supplication, and afterwards had a pretty long testimony to bear from Zeck: C: 13. v: 7. Smite the Shepherd and the sheep shall be scattered; And I will turn mine hand upon the little ones. Afterwards Isabella Harris had a long time from Isai: C: 41. v: 1. Keep silent before me, O Islands; and let the people renew their strength. At the close of the meeting for Worship, was the Meeting for discipline; a great deal of business was before the meeting to day, which was conducted to good satisfaction, amongst other things William Taylor and Mary Sykes both of Burton Mg.

were cleared of all other engagements relating to marriage, and left at liberty to accomplish theirs, when Burton friends and they saw meet. Also Elizabeth Copeland produced a minute of Hull Monthly meeting expressive of their unity with her as a Minister, and in her present concern; which was read, and minuted; and the meetings satisfaction expressed therewith, and with her company here. I also returned the Certificate given me from this meeting in the last 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. and informed friends, I have been favoured to go thro' the visit I had in prospect, to my own satisfaction so as to be favoured in my return with peace. Both meetings held 4 hours. I return'd to Barnsley in company with John Fozard of Dewsbury, and we din'd at William Harveys, and drunk Tea at John Yeardeleys were we lodg'd. On 22<sup>nd</sup>. of 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, A meeting being this day appointed at Burton for the accomplishing of the marriage of William Taylor and Mary Sykes, we attended it. The meeting on this occasion was large many of other Societies attending. Thomas Shillitoe from Middlesex was there, being on his return from a religious visit to the Inns and Dram shops in different parts of Ireland, and reached Barnsley the evening before; we had also the company of Isabella Harris of Ackworth. It was a very open and satisfactory meeting. Isabella Harris had a long testimony therein first from Rev: C: 15. v: 3. Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of Saints: I next from Gal: C: 1. v. 6, 7. I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of christ unto another gospel; Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of christ. Thomas Shillitoe next from Gen: C: 4. v: 7. If thou dost well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou dost not well, sin lieth at the door. Isabella Harris was next concerned in Prayer. The friends took each other in marriage next, and the Certificate was read and Signed. After which, Thomas Shillitoe had a long testimony to bear from Matt: C: 26. v: 41. Watch and pray that ye enter not into temptation; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak. The meeting held 3 hours and a half. After which I went with the new married couple, her relations, and friends, to her Mothers at Shafton, where the entertainment for the occasion was. We din'd and drunk Tea there, and before dinner Isabella Harris had a few words to drop. Betwixt 6 and 7 o'clock in the evening I set out for Barnsley in company with John Yeardley and his Wife, Samuel Coward, William Bayldon, John Lister, Frances Yeardley, and John Twibell a Nephew of Mary Sykes's, came by Cudworth, and Burton, and with the assistance of two Lanthorns got well to Barnsley a little before 9 o'clock, where I lodg'd at John Yeardeleys. On 23<sup>rd</sup>. and 4<sup>th</sup>. of week, After breakfast, I went and sat a little at Mary Waltons and afterwards at Frances Yeardeleys where I got some refreshment. Left Barnsley about 11 o'clock, John Yeardley set me on my way about 1 mile and then return'd, I came to Cawthorne where I stopt about 1 hour at Stanhopes arms, and got some refreshment, paid 10d, then came by Dakinbrook to Denby where I stopt about 2 hours at Joseph Grayhams and drunk Tea, then came to John Bottomleys of Wood, stopt there about 1 hour, and got home about 7 o'clock in the evening.

Memorandum. 11<sup>th</sup>. mo. 3<sup>rd</sup>. 1811, and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, was our Meeting for Sufferings at Highflatts. William Pickard, Joseph Walker, and Joseph Johnson of Ackworth, were appointed by the Monthly Meeting to collect the account of Sufferings, and to enquire into friends faithfulness respecting our Testimony against Tythes, Priest demands and those called Church rates, The Modus or Rate money and the Militia; and to advise friends to an annual inspection into the state of their affairs. The meeting for Worship was large of friends and a few of other Societies came in. It proved a time of extraordinary favour, I had a long time therein first in supplication, and afterwards had a long testimony to bear from Heb: C: 10. v: 24, 25. Provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is. At close of the meeting for Worship, the men and Women, members of our Society were requested to stop together; When the usual enquiries were made and Answers received from all the heads of the families in this meeting

except 2 who were prevented attending through indisposition and old age. Elihu Dickinson and Thomas Earnshaw of Judfield were appointed to pay them a visit and report. It was some satisfaction to find that no unfaithfulness appeared in any amongst us, In any of those important branches of our Christian testimony. When the business of the meeting was gone through John Bottomley had a pretty long testimony to bear from 1 John C: 2. v: 14. I have written unto you young men, because ye are strong, and the word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one. Joseph Johnston came to our house the evening before, and after dinner to day set out for Wooldale. We had also Joseph Grayham and Rebecca Pickford to dine with us, the latter stopt until evening when her Father came to our reading, and after reading took her home with him. Charles Unsworth, Footman to Elihu Dickinson Tanner came this afternoon, and stopt Tea with us. He is an agreeable young man whom I much respect. In the evening after the family had read a solemn silence ensued, and afterwards Leah Kinsley had a short but encouraging testimony to bear. and afterwards I also had a short time from 1 John: C: 4: v: 16. God is love.

Memorandum. On the 31<sup>st</sup>. and 10<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1811 departed this life George Chapman of Peniston, and was buried in friends Burial ground at Lumbroyd near Peniston, the 4<sup>th</sup>. of the 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. following and 2<sup>nd</sup>. day of the week aged about 66 years.

Of him I may observe. That he was the son of Joseph and Mary Chapman of Banktop in Woodland, in the Parish of Hope, in the County of Derby; who brought him up in the National way of worship as professed by them; but his Father afterwards entered into Society with the Methodist; and became a Local Preacher amongst them. His Son George when grown to a young man came to live Servant with Elihu Dickinson Tanner, and to learn his business, and as there were many friends with whom he got acquainted in the neighbourhood he attended our meetings in a formal customary manner for a considerable time, Yet at certain times through the awakening visitations of the Almighty he was favoured to see the necessity there was for him to experience a change, but having greatly reformed in his outward conduct, he closed convictions, flattering himself that all would be well at last. In the latter part of the year 1773, he left Highflatts and went to live with John Farrowes of Ing Birchworth. On the 2<sup>nd</sup>. of the 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 1774 we were favoured in our meeting with the company of our friends Joseph Davies from Gloucestershire and Joseph Heath from Warwickshire, under whose powerful ministry he was thoroughly awakened to see the necessity of regeneration; and was brought under the just judgements of the Almighty for transgression; and as I had some time before been favoured to close in with the visitations of Truth in mercy extended to me; So about this time we commenced an intimate friendship with each other, which continued unimpaired and till death separated us, We were fully acquainted with each others Sorrows, and bore one anothers burdens, so fulfilling the Law of Christ we also shared in each others joys, and experimentally knew that "Two are better than one. But to return more particularly unto him; Being thus brought under the humbling hand, great indeed was the conflict of spirit he underwent, his heart felt unto him hard as an adamant stone and his Life miserable, he could not read neither could he Pray, but mourned in solitary places; Yet was concerned that he might bear patiently the indignation of the Lord because he had sinned against him, until he, the Lord was pleased to arise and Plead his cause; and a hope was at times raised in his mind which preserved from falling into the horrible pit of despair; that in due time he would bring him to the light and clothe him with his righteousness. and as he was thus exercised; the Lord was pleased to look down in mercy upon him, For one night as he lay in bed bemoaning his miserable state, all of a sudden a light shone around him as bright as the Sun at noon day, immediately the hardness of his heart was removed, and he was dissolved into a flood of tears; he arose, and kneeling down by his Bedside, wanted no words, to acknowledge unto God, his thankfulness, for the great change experienced by him. Soon after he believed it his duty to request to be united with friends, And after being visited by a Committee of friends;

the meeting complied with his request. Soon after which on the death of a Brother his parents requested him to return into Woodland, which he dare not refuse, yet it appeared trying to him to be so far separated from friends; but his love for the Truth abated not; he, considering the distance, being remarkably diligent, having 12 miles to come to the nearest meeting, over remarkable high Moors and bad roads yet rarely ever missed on first days, He also suffered much from his Father many ways notwithstanding his high profession, yet was fully satisfied he was in his place in returning to them; Many friends being drawn to visit that remote part, whereby the inhabitants were generally favoured with a knowledge of the Principles of Truth; and tho' few if any was strengthened to make publick profession thereof; yet many I believe were benefited by these visits. After living with his Parents a considerable time they took another farm and left him in possession of that in Woodland. In the year 1781 he married Sarah the daughter of Godfrey and Martha Woodhead of Peniston. They lived for sometime after their marriage in Woodland; but upon the death of her Father they removed to his place in Peniston. He was first appointed to the station of an Overseer in the Church, and afterwards to an Elder, with the continuation of his former office, which Stations he filled with propriety, discharging the duties thereof to the satisfaction of Friends. Thus persevering in dedication of heart to the Lord and his People; my mind is favoured with a comfortable hope, that he was rightly prepared for his sudden change. On the 25<sup>th</sup>. of the 10<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1811, and 6<sup>th</sup>. day of the week, he went to see a particular acquaintance, William Smiths of Cowley, and to get some Walking rods, he having employed his vacant hours much that way of late in getting and dressing Sticks, and giving them to his numerous acquaintance. But in his return he was seized with an Apoplectick fit as it afterwards appeared to be, in coming down Thurgoland bank, and received some bruises either by the fall, or by his foot sticking in the stirrup, and being carried by the horse a little way, or both, however he was found in a state of insensibility soon after, and taken to Roperhouse were he tarried all night, and proper medical assistance was immediately procured; He was got home the next day in a Chaise, but continued mostly insensible and slumbered much. On 2<sup>nd</sup>. day he appeared to come more to himself, and knew me very well, talked with me about several things but told me he believed he was going, and desired me to take care that several of his acquaintance whom he mentioned were invited to his burial. I had hopes of his recovery at that time, but he was seized with another fit on 4<sup>th</sup>. day evening; and on 5<sup>th</sup>. day morning about 9 o'clock quietly expired. He once said with great composure and solemnity, "I must leave you, but am content." I may also just add, I believe few have lived more generally beloved, or their death been more universally lamented.

I set out to attend his burial on the morning of the day in company with the William Taylor, we went by Ing Birchworth to his house at Peniston,, were we got about 8 o'clock, to Breakfast, The Corps was taken up, and interred about 11 at Lumbroyd. At which time the meeting began, and held about 2 hours and a half; Many attended it who were not invited to his Burial, so that the Meetinghouse and chamber was very full. It proved a very solid, open and favoured meeting; and I had a very long testimony to bear therein from Jam: C: 1. v: 21 Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls. and afterwards John Bottomley from Cant: C: 2. v: 7. I charge you, O ye daughters of Jerusalem, by the roes, and by the hinds of the field, that ye stir not up, nor awake my love, till he please. After meeting friends, and his acquaintance who lived at a distance went back to his house to dine; and a considerable number stopt Tea. After the company were generally gone, I having made, and kept his Will; read it to his Wife and Son; William Chapman of Sheffield and Thomas Earnshaw of Judfield being present. After it was read we dropped into silence, and I had a pretty long testimony to bear to his Son in which I had much caution, counsel, and encouragement to communicate to him, and afterwards had a short but encouraging testimony to his Widow, from Jer: C: 49. v: 11. Let thy widows trust in me. On 5<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, being under an engagement to meet a person at Denbydykeside fair today; I left Peniston betwixt 10 and 11 o'clock, and came to Denby were I stopt a little at Joseph Grayhams and then proceeded to Dykeside, got there

betwixt 12 and 1 o'clock din'd and drunk Tea at Joshua Morleys and came home with William Taylor were we got a little before six o'clock. The following was taken from the newspaper.

Leeds intelligencer, Nov: 4<sup>th</sup>. 1811.

Died on Thursday morning last in consequence of a fall from his horse, on the preceding Friday. Mr. George Chapman, aged 66. Grocer and Farmer at Peniston; one of the People called Quakers. After an inoffensive life, cheerfully employed in the discharge of every Christian piety; this worthy, and universally esteemed character; yielded up his spirit, with that blessed serenity which is the sure result of a life well spent, and of a conscience void of offence.

Memorandum      On ye. 16<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1811 departed this life Thomas Earnshaw of Langsett, and was buried in friends burial ground at Lumbroyd near Penistone ye. 20<sup>th</sup>. of the same and 4<sup>th</sup>. day of the week aged about 82 years. I attended the meeting at Lumbroyd held on the occasion. Left home the same morning about 9 o'clock, and went by Ing Birchworth to Peniston were I got about half past 10, as I was going up the street, to my great surprize I met with my esteemed Friend James Nevell of Wigan in Lancashire, he was on a journey of business, we were truly glad to see each other. I called at Benjamin Chapmans were I got a little refreshment, and then went with him to Lumbroyd. There were not many friends, but a considerable number of People of other Societies so that the meeting was pretty large and satisfactory. John Bottomley had a pretty long time therein in testimony first from Matt: C: 22. v: 12. Friend, how camest thou in hither, not having a wedding garment. I next from Luke C: 15. v: 10. There is joy in the presence of the Angels of God over one sinner that repenteth. Afterwards I was concerned in Prayer. After meeting I return'd to Peniston and din'd at Benjamin Chapmans, left there betwixt 3 and 4 o'clock, and went by Cathill to Richard Priests of Broad oak were I stopt about 2 hours and drunk Tea, then set out, Nathaniel Priest accompanying me about half a mile and then returned, I came by Denby to William Cockells of Moorroid were I sat about half an hour, and then came to Highflatts were I just looked in at Elihu Dickinsons Tanners, and his footman Charles Unsworth accompanied me nearly home, and then return'd, were I got about 8 o'clock.

Abstract of a Letter from a friend of Huntingdon Mg. to a friend of Pontefract.

Joseph Wood had an appointed meeting, for Friends only, at Huntingdon, truly he searched our Camp, and pointed out where the Idols rested. May we improve the seasonable hints, it was truly a sweet meeting; and I wish he may feel Peace in his own mind for the discharge of his duties amongst us. James Harrison acknowledged me in the Meetinghouse, I thought his a familiar face, but could not call to mind who he was, therefore concluded myself mistaken, respecting my having ever seen him.

Memorandum.      Wakefield Monthly Meeting at 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 16<sup>th</sup>. 1811. I left home ye. 14<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1811. and 7<sup>th</sup>. day of the week about 9 o'clock in the morning and went to Denby were I called at Joseph Grayhams and Ralph Swindens sat a little at each place and then proceeded by Dakinbrook to Cawthorne, were I call'd and sat about an hour at Thomas Wests, got an early dinner there, and then proceeded to Barnsley were I got about 2 o'clock, called and sat a little at William Taylors, and then went to my beloved friend John Yeardeleys were I took up my quarters; John Charlesworth a pious young man came to sleep with me, his

company was very acceptable, and our conversation tended to edification, and I hope profit to him, as he was at friends meeting at Burton next day, and I believe hath for some time past been measurably convinced of the Truth, of our religious Principles; but dying on the cross is hard work for flesh and blood. On 15<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week, After breakfast I went to see Thomas Walker Haigh who I found very weak and apparently near the solemn close of time. From thence I went to the meeting at Burton, which proved a solemn good meeting I had a long testimony to bear therein from Isai: C: 30. v: 15. In returning and rest shall ye be saved, in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength; and he would not. and afterwards I had a pretty long time from C: 45. v: 5. Seekest thou great things for thyself? Seek them not; for behold, I will bring evil upon all flesh, saith the Lord; but thy life will I give unto thee for a prey in all places whither thou goest. At the close of this Meeting the business of their Preparative meeting was gone through, amongst other things the Queries directed to be answered this quarter were read and Answered, and Answers thereto drawn up approv'd and Signed. Both meetings held 2 and a half hours. After which William Bayldon and me came to Windsor castle were we din'd paid 6d a piece eating and 4d Liquor stopt about 1 hour and then proceeded by Woolley to near Hallingthorp were we parted, William Bayldon going to his Brothers at Hollinghurst and I went by Hallgreen and Chapelthorp to Christopher Walkers of Dircar were I got about 5 o'clock our meeting for Ministers and Elders was held here this evening and began at six o'clock. The Queries were read and Answered to the 2<sup>nd</sup>. and 4<sup>th</sup>. drawn up approv'd and Signed; Also the advices to Minister and Elders were read. The meeting held 1 hour and a half. All our members attended, except Isabella Harris who was prevented through indisposition. On 16<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, After breakfast I went with Benjamin Chapman by Milthorp and Sandal to Wakefield where our Monthly meeting was this day held, sat a little at Ann Thorps, and then went to the meeting which was large considering the Storminess of the morning; and held in silence. At the close of the meeting for Worship was held the meeting for discipline, in which a great deal of business was transacted, pretty agreeably, Robert Harrisons case of Burton meeting, who was two months ago visited by an appointment of friends of this meeting, on his application to be admitted a member of our Society, being reconsidered in this Meeting. He was accepted into Membership, Also the report of the friends appointed last month to visit the friends of Dewsbury and consider of the Propriety of setting a meeting there was read; and this meeting after weightily considering the same, agreed that meetings for Worship should be held there on 1<sup>st</sup>. and 5<sup>th</sup>. days except when the Preparative meeting is held at Wakefield, when they was to unite with them and form one Preparative meeting. The meeting at Dewsbury to be held in a room hired for that Purpose, which the friends there were ordered to get fitted up. Also the friends of Barnsley were allowed to keep a meeting on 1st. day afternoons in a Room at a friends house in that Town. The Queries were also read and Answers received from all our Preparative Meetings, and a General Answer was prepared therefrom approved and Signed. Both meetings held 4 hours and a quarter. After which I din'd at Joseph Wetheralds, Left Wakefield about 5 o'clock and went by Ossett to Dewsbury in company with John Fozard, David Brearey and Titus Fozard, the last not a member of our Society but attends meetings and appears to be under convincement. We got there about 7 o'clock and I took up my quarters at George Breareys. On 17<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week after breakfast I called at Moritt Matthews's in my way to William Wass's were I din'd, left Dewsbury betwixt 1 and 2 o'clock in the afternoon, and came by Briestfield to Kirkburton where I called and sat a little at Joseph Grayham Mothers; then came by Shelley and Shepley to John Firths of Lanehead were I stopt about one hour and got some refreshment, then my dearly beloved friend Joseph Firth came on with me to Birdsedge and then return'd; his company being very acceptable to me, we being nearly united, he being a choice youth and promising fair for usefulness in the Society. May he be favoured to persevere unto the end, and receive the crown of glory. I called and sat about half an hour at John Mallinsons and got home about half past 8 in the evening.

Memorandum. On ye. 16<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 12<sup>th</sup>. of Mo. 1811. Departed this Life Joseph Priestley junr. of Denby, and was buried in friends burial ground at Highflatts ye 20<sup>th</sup>. of the same and 6<sup>th</sup>. day of the week aged about 39 years. I met the corpse at the burial ground. The meeting began as usual on these occasions at 11 o'clock and held upwards of 2 hours, and it being our Weekday meeting, it was considerably enlarged by the Burial especially with the People of other Societies. The sudden removal of this our friend in the prime of life, solemnly affected the minds of many, and it proved an open favoured meeting, I had a long testimony to bear there in from Prov: C: 8. v: 34, 35. Blessed is the man that heareth me watching daily at my gates, waiting at the posts of my doors. For whoso findeth his life, I shall obtain a favour of that the Lord. John Bottomley was afterwards concerned in Prayer. After meeting I went to the deceased Father's, Joseph Priests of Denby to dine, where I also stopt Tea; returning home in the evening I called at William Cockell's of Moorroid and Richard Dickinsons of Highflatts sat a little at each place, and then although there was a little moon, yet it was very dark occasioned by the coming in of a thick fog, I called upon Charles Farnsworth who lighted me home with a Lanthorn; we had some for religious conversation together by the way, and I was more fully convinced than ever that the Lord had turned his hand in mercy upon him; and that there was a growing concern upon his mind that he might be favoured to experience a being brought to the knowledge of the Truths and O that he may be as passive clay in hand of the Potter, and then a lively hope attends my mind, that he will form him a vessel that will shew forth his Praise. I got home about half past 7 o'clock

Memorandum. On ye. 31<sup>st</sup>. of ye. 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1811 departed this Life at Westroyds in Shepley Elizabeth Dyson, daughter of Hutchinson Dyson late of Shelley, and was buried in friends ground at Highflatts ye. 5<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 1812 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day. of the week aged about 17 years. I met the corps at the burial ground and after the corps was put into the grave a solemn pause ensued in which time my mouth was open to the following effect. "It is not in unfeeling formality, but from an apprehension of duty; and under the precious influence of Gospel love, that I revive the testimony of a valuable friend from a distant land on a similar occasion viz.

Hark! from the ground, a doeful sound;  
 Great God is this our certain doom  
 Ye living men come see the ground  
 Where ye must shortly lay.  
 Princes this must shortly be your bed  
 In spite of all your Powers  
 Ye Great, ye tall, ye Reverend heads,  
 Must lie as low as ours.  
 Mine ear attends the lay.  
 And are we still secure  
 Still marching downwards to the Tomb  
 And yet prepared no more"

During the delivery of the above, the minds of the People seemed much affected, and prepared for the service of the ensuing meeting which was considerably enlarged, by the People of other Societies who attended the Burial, and it proved an open favoured meeting. I had a long testimony therein first from Luke C: 14: 33. Whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciples. John Bottomley next from Jer: C: 10: v: 33. It is not in man that walketh to direct his steps. I was next concerned in Prayer, and afterwards John Bottomley had a pretty long testimony, principally addressed to the youth on the uncertainty of time, and the necessity of a right preparation for the final change. The meeting held about 2 hours and a half. After meeting Joseph Grayham and Charles Unsworth dined at my house and the latter stopt Tea .

Memorandum. Wakefield Monthly Meeting 1<sup>st</sup>. of Mo. 20<sup>th</sup>. 1812. I left home ye 19<sup>th</sup>. of ye 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 1812, and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, betwixt 9 and 10 o'clock in the forenoon, and went to John Pickfords of Park where I stopt upwards of half an hour, and then proceeded by Cumberworth to Shelley Woodhouse, where I stopt upwards of an hour at Joshua Dysons and got some refreshment; then set forward again, Joshua Dyson accompanying me to Wakefield, we went by Emley, Flockton, Mugmill and Thornhill to Dewsbury, where we got to Morrill Matthews's about 3 o'clock in the afternoon, we drunk Tea here, and stopt the meeting, which I suppose will be the last held in this place, where friends have met from the first conviction in this Town, and the last Monthly Meeting settled it a meeting under the cognisance of the Society; and the friends here have taken a room which they are now preparing to meet in in future. The meeting this evening began as usual at 5 o'clock and held 2 hours, I had a pretty long testimony to bear therein from John C: 21. v: 5. Children have they any meat? After meeting we went to George Breareys to lodge. On 20<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, we set out about 9 o'clock in the morning, and went by Ossett to Wakefield, got there about half past 10 where we took a little refreshment at Joseph Wetheralds, and then went to Meeting which was pretty large, and satisfactory; I had a long testimony to bear therein from Acts, C: 2. v: 39 The promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call. At the close of the Meeting for Worship was held our Monthly Meeting for discipline, the business of which was very agreeably conducted; amongst other things, the friends of Dewsbury meeting reported, "That the room they had hired for a Meetinghouse would be fitted up this week, and they proposed holding the first meeting therein next first day the 26<sup>th</sup>. Inst. and to continue holding meetings for Worship therein each 1<sup>st</sup>. day at 10 in the morning and at 3 in the afternoon; and on fifth days at 10 in the morning except when the Preparative Meeting day at Wakefield, when they are to attend there and form one Preparative Meeting; and no meeting to be held at Dewsbury on that day." The meeting agreed to the above propositions, and appointed the following friends to attend there as they might individually feel their own way open viz. Joseph Wood, Christopher Walker, John Pickford, John Bottomley, George Broadhead, Joseph Wetherald, John Yeardley, Joseph Firth, William Taylor of Barnsley. and Thomas Earnshaw. Both meetings held 3 hours. After which I din'd at William Leathams, and afterwards sat a little at Ann Thorps. Then leaving Wakefield, I came by Sandal to Robert Walkers of Milthorp where I drunk Tea, and in the evening came to Dirtcar, Robert Walkers man with whom I had been formally acquainted, whose name is James Mellard accompanying me thither, and then return'd; we got there about 7 o'clock, and I took up my quarters at Christopher Walkers. On 21<sup>st</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, I set out betwixt 8 and 9 o'clock in the morning and came to Crigglestone where I stopt upwards of half an hour at my Uncle Joseph Houghs; and then came by Bretton to Emley to my cousin Charles Stead of Siver Ing where I called to see his Son Charles who had been for a considerable time indisposed he appeared much pleased to see me, and I thought his indisposition had had a good effect upon his mind, he having of late appeared more loving to friends. When the Israelites were under affliction formerly they were concerned to seek the Lord, and he heard them; but when they were delivered from their afflictions they too frequently, forgot him who had graciously heard them in the needful time and this is too much the case in the present day; yet there are some who are favoured to retain their integrity, and feelingly to acknowledge that it is good for them that they have been afflicted. I sincerely desire that this young man if the Lord sees meet to restore him to health again may become an useful member in the Society. I was pleased with the present opportunity with him, and after dining, and spending betwixt 2 and 3 hours with him, I came to Joshua Dysons of Shelley Woodhouse where I sat about half an hour, and then came by Cumberworth home where I got about 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

Memorandum. Dewsbury Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mo. 2<sup>nd</sup>. 1812 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, etc I being one of the Committee appointed by our Monthly meeting to attend the meeting newly settled in Dewsbury as we might feel our way open, and feeling my mind drawn to attend there this day which was the second 1<sup>st</sup>. day of its being opened; I gave up thereto, but must first make a few remarks, previous thereto. On ye. 29<sup>th</sup>. ye. 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 1812, and 4<sup>th</sup>. day of the week in the afternoon James Taylor of Oldham meeting in Lancashire, and Henry Swire of Wooldale came to my house the former to stop a while with me, the latter return'd home after supper this evening. Also my much esteemed friend William Midgley of Buersill in Lancashire came to my house this evening to Tea having been with his Son at Leeds to school, and walked from Wakefield to day, he was much fatigued with his journey, and came also with the purpose of stoping a few days with me. On the 30<sup>th</sup>. and 5<sup>th</sup>. of week, in the afternoon William Midgley and James Taylor went to John Bottomleys of Wood to Tea, and return'd before dark, and John Pickford came to spend the evening with us. On 31<sup>st</sup>. and 6<sup>th</sup>. of the week, Early this morning Charles Unsworth came to my house being leaving Elihu Dickinsons Tanners where he had lived two years as footman, but being weary of that employment and desirous of learning husbandry, he having no Parents, nor Brother nor Sister and being a stranger in this country I have oftens felt much sympathy with him, and allowed him to come to my house at any time as if it was his own, and he being a well behaved youth, and religiously inclined and having manifested a disposition of late to attend friends meetings, his company was very acceptable to me and there was a growing intimacy betwixt us, so that I thinking it may in Truths be said we were near and dear to each other. I offered him at leaving to make my house his home until he met with a place where he could be instructed in husbandry, which very soon happened for Joshua Dyson of Shelley Woodhouse being in want of such a one, they agreed together until the time called Martinmas, and he made my house his home until he went thither. He accompanied me and the other friends to our week day meeting at Highflatts which was larger than usual and a solemn satisfactory meeting, I had a long testimony to bear therein from 1 Cor: C. 3. v: 9. We are labourers together with God; ye are Gods husbandry, ye are Gods building. And afterwards was concerned in Prayer. After meeting cousin Charles Stead junr. came to dine at my house, and tarried until betwixt 3 and 4 o'clock in the afternoon, I was pleased with his company, and the appearance of so agreeable a change. This afternoon William Midgley and James Turner went to drink Tea at Elihu Dickinsons of Highflatts and returned to supper. On 1<sup>st</sup>. of 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mo. and 7<sup>th</sup>. of week, about 8 o'clock in the evening, William Midgley and James Taylor set out on foot for Huddersfield proposing to take a chaise there to convey them towards home, were I understand they got that evening. About 10 o'clock this forenoon I set out for Dewsbury having my beloved friend Charles Unsworth my companion this Journey, he going to see some Relations in Heckmondwike and not being acquainted with the way was glad of the opportunity, and I was much pleased with his company. We called at John Pickfords and sat a little, and then being previously engaged to dine at Joshua Dysons of Shelley Woodhouse, we went by Cumberworth thither, were we stopt about 1 hour and a half and din'd. It had been very close and Foggy all the morning but when we left here it came on heavy rain which continued all the way to Dewsbury, Joshua Dyson accompanied us all the way to Skelmanthorp and then return'd, at Emley we called to take Shelter, but the rain continuing we proceeded by Flockton, Mugmill, and Thornhill to Dewsbury were we got betwixt 4 and 5 o'clock and took up our quarters at William Wass's were we was very kindly entertained, and comfortably accommodated, being exceeding wet and weary. On 2<sup>nd</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of the week, the forenoon meeting began at 10 o'clock and held 2 hours, None of the Committee attended here to day but myself, but our ancient friend John Robinson was here in the forenoon of whose company I was glad, several young People of other Societies came in and I thought it was an open good meeting, I had two long testimonies to bear therein the first from John C: 4. v: 23. The hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. and the other from Hab: C: 3. v: 16. My belly trembled; my lips quivered at the voice; rottenness entered into my bones, and I trembled in

myself, that I might rest in the day of trouble. After dinner Charles Unsworth set out for Heckmondwike, and I accompanied him out of the Town, and then returned to Morritt Matthews's were I tarried until the time of the afternoon meeting which began at 3 o'clock and held near 2 hours, It was much larger than the former many People of other Societies attending, so that the room was very full, and a considerable number of People were below stairs. It was an open good meeting, I had a long testimony to bear therein from Matt: C: 5: v. 15, 16. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth life to all that are in house. Let your light so shine before men that others may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven. After meeting I went directly to George Breareys were I took up my Quarters during the remainder of my stay in this town. On 3<sup>rd</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, In the forenoon I went to see Morritt Matthews's and William Wass's sat a little at each and then returned to my quarters. In the afternoon about half past 4 o'clock I set out to meet my beloved friend Charles Unsworth we having agreed to set out each of us at that time and meet by the way, but he being behind the time appointed, I did not meet with him until I got near Heckmondwike however we had an agreeable walk together to Dewsbury and drunk Tea at Morritts Matthews's, and afterwards went and sat a little at William Wass's were we took a little Rum and Water, and then went to George Breareys to sup and lodge. On 4<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week a little after 9 o'clock in the morning we left Dewsbury, it proved a misty warm wet day, and the roads were exceeding bad which made it very uncomfortable travelling we came by Thornhill and Briestfield to the Blacksmiths arms upon the Grange moor, were we got some refreshment paid 1s 5d, stopt about 1 hour and a half, and then came by Roydhouse and Shelley to Robert Woods my Nephews of Moorbottom were we rested at us 2 hours and half and got Tea, then came home were we got about 5 o'clock. On 5<sup>th</sup>. and 4<sup>th</sup>. of week having a fire in my Parlour we spent the day very comfortably together Charles Unsworth been principally employed in transcribing some writing for me. After dinner my beloved friend Joseph Firth brot me a letter, he stopt about one hour with us and then I set him part of the way home, his company being always very acceptable to me. On 6<sup>th</sup>. and 5<sup>th</sup>. of week, This afternoon after Tea my beloved friend and acceptable companion Charles Unsworth set out towards his new place at Joshua Dysons, I accompanied him upwards of half way thither, and parted with him in much nearness of affection accompanied with earnest desires that the Lord might bless him and bring him to the knowledge of his Truth which I feelingly exprest to him and which I believe is his present desire.

Memorandum            Wakefield Monthly Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mo. 17<sup>th</sup>. 1812. I left home ye. 16<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mo. 1812 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week about 3 o'clock in the afternoon my dear friend Charles Unsworth calling at my house to dine after meeting accompanied me about 4 miles on my way, went by Cumberworth and Skelmanthorp to Emley were I called at an acquaintance house and rested me near one hour, In this village I met with Timothy Sykes and William Smith the former having been holding a meeting in this town and the latter in Skelmanthorp; we went together to Bretton were we parted, I went by Crigglestone to Dircar, were I got about 7 o'clock in the evening and lodg'd at Christopher Walkers. On 17<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, I set out for Wakefield in company with John Lister of Burton meeting, got there about 10 o'clock were I called and rested me at Ann Thorps, The meeting was large and satisfactory, John Bottomley was concerned in supplication. At the close of the meeting for Worship was held our Monthly Meeting for discipline, the business of which was agreeably conducted; amongst other things Robert Whitaker and Hannah Dumbleton laid before us their intentions of taking each other in marriage, they being both members of Ackworth meeting. Both meetings held near 3 hours. After which I din'd at William Leathams, and came by Sandal to Robert Walkers of Milthorp were I drunk Tea, and afterwards came to Dircar were I got about 7 o'clock to my former quarters, James Mellard accompanying me thither and then return'd. On 18<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week I breakfasted at William Pickards, left Dircar a little before

10 o'clock, came by Crigglestone where I call to see my Uncle Houghs, and then came to George Earnshaws where I din'd, left Crigglestone about one o'clock and came by Bretton and Emley to Elias Armitages of Parklane where I rested me about 1 hour, and then he came with me most of the way to Shelley Woodhouse, where I called at Joshua Dysons to see Charles Unsworth; stopt there about 3 hours and drunk Tea, then Charles accompanied me about half way home, where we parted and I came by Cumberworth to John Pickfords of Park where I sat a little and got home about 9 o'clock.

The friends of Dewsbury having taken a room for Meetinghouse, proposed paying the Rent for it themselves; the expense of fitting it up amounting to £13 or upwards; they requested the assistance of the friends of the Monthly Mg., and some friends being sensible that the rent would fall pretty heavy upon them annually, was desirous to advance them the above sum. And Joseph Firth and myself being nominated to apply to the friends of our Meeting for their Subscriptions, the following is a List of the names of subscribers, and what each gave viz;

	s	d		£	s	d	
Joseph Wood	5	0	Brought forward	2	3	6	
John Pickford	2	0	Edward Dickinson		3	0	
Elihu Dickinson Tanr.	5	0	William Taylor		2	0	
Benjamin Chapman	3	0	John Mallinson		3	0	
Thomas Earnshaw	2	0	Mary, John, William Aldam	13	6		
Joseph Priest	3	0	Benjamin Stead		3	0	
Richard Dickinson	3	0	Charles Stead		2	0	
Elihu Dickinson junr.	2	0	Joseph Walker		2	0	
Hannah Dickinson	2	0	John Brook		3	0	
Thomas Dickinson	2	0	Charles Hinchcliff		1	0	
William Dickinson Birdsedge	3	0	Robert Wood		1	0	
John Priest	2	0	William Bottomley		2	6	
Joseph Dickinson Highflatts	1	0	Joshua Dyson		1	0	
John Bottomley	1	0	John and Joseph Firth		5	6	
Elihu Dickinson	7	6	John Haigh		3	0	
£2	3	6	Total	4	9	0	
Subscriptions in	£	s	d	£	s	d	
Pontefract	3	10	0	Brought forward	8	11	0
Burton	0	12	6	Ackworth	1	2	0
Highflatts	4	9	0	Wakefield	2	9	6
	8	11	6	Wooldale	0	17	0
				Total	13	0	0

Memorandum. On ye. 18<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 4<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1812, departed this Life Robert Kaye of Nabcroft, formerly of Lane end; and was buried ye. 23<sup>rd</sup>. of the same month in friends burial ground near Huddersfield, and 5<sup>th</sup>. day of the week, aged near 90 years. Having received from his Executors an invitation to attend his burial; I left home the same morning a little before 6 o'clock, and went by Cumberworth to my Nephew Robert Woods of Moorbottom, where I stopt near an hour and took a dish of Tea with them, then proceeded by Shelley, Kirkburton Woodsom hall, to Amberry to Huddersfield where I called about a little business at two places and then went to Joseph Mallinsons of Longroidbridge where I got about 10 o'clock, got Tea there, then met the corps and accompanied it to the Meetinghouse where we got about 11 o

clock There was a considerable number of friends and others attended the meeting which proved a satisfactory one: John Bottomley was first concerned therein in supplication; I had a long time in testimony next from 2 King: C: 20. v. 1, 2, 3. Set thine house in order; for thou shalt die and not live. Then he turned his face to the wall, and prayed unto the Lord, saying. I beseech thee, O Lord, remember now how I have walked before thee in Truth, and with a perfect heart, and have done that which is good in thy sight, and Hezekiah wept saw. John Bottomley next from Psalms 8. v: 4. What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him? I next from John C: 4. v: 22. Ye worship ye know not what. The meeting held near 2 hours and a half. After meeting I went with friends and others who were invited to the Burial to an Inn near Nab Croft were a dinner was provided for the occasion at Joseph Armitages who keeps the said Inn. Sometime after dinner I went to the house of the deceased at Nabcroft, were I drunk Tea and tarried until about 7 o'clock, and then John Cooper one of the Executors of the deceased accompanied me to Joseph Mallinsons and then return'd, I tarried there about 1 hour and then went to John Fishers of Springdale were I lodg'd. On 24<sup>th</sup>. and 6<sup>th</sup>. of week before breakfast I took a walk through their garden and shrubbery which are neat and laid out in taste. After breakfast I left here and went to Joseph Mallinsons were I sat a little and then went to Huddersfield were I called and sat a little at John Adamsons, and from thence went to Robert Firths were I stopt a considerable time, and before I set out got some refreshment. Left Huddersfield a little before 12 o'clock, and came by Amberry and Woodsom hall to Kirkburton were I called to see Joseph Grayham Mother stopt about 1 hour there, and then came by Shelley to my Nephew Robert Woods of Moorbottom, were I stopt 2 hours and a quarter and drunk Tea, then came by Cumberworth home were I got betwixt 5 and 6 in the evening.

#### A Copy of Charles Unsworth Register

Baptisms at the Parish Church of Leeds May 1793  
 Charles, son of John Unsworth, Kirkgate  
 Born May 5<sup>th</sup>. Baptized May 12<sup>th</sup>.

This is a correct copy of the Register, Witness my hand this 25<sup>th</sup>. day of March 1812. Joseph Bushby Curate Leeds.

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Memorandum.

## A Remarkable Providence

John Aldham of Annatroyd having sold his Estate in this country and being about to remove, to near Kingsbridge in Devonshire had a Sale of his Goods and farming utensils the 27<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 4<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1812 and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of the week, and I having a thought of purchasing something there attended the whole day. The Auctioneer was without doors, and in the barn until towards evening when he came into the house and went into the Chambers to sell the Beds etc A great concourse of People followed, and crowded into the chamber over the house; after some time the Summer tree gave way and the greatest part of the floor, with the People came to the bottom, I with a few others were set in the parlour, and the Shrieks of the People with the cry of, Ah! They are killed; was very alarming; and for sometime the dust came so in at the door, that we could see nothing; however thro' the merciful interposition of divine Providence, who suffereth not an hair of our heads to fall to the ground without his permission, No lives were

lost, nor any bones broken; altho' many were slightly hurt. The People in the house below hearing the crack, mostly got out of doors otherwise it might have proved fatal unto many.

Memorandum. Wooldale Monthly Meeting 7<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 20<sup>th</sup>. 1812. The evening before Robert Harrison and William Bayldon came to my house to stop all night. This morning I set out for Wooldale about 9 o'clock in company with William Bayldon and my William Taylor we called at John Pickfords of Parkhead and he went along with us, It was an exceeding wet day throughout, we got to Wooldale about half past 10, and got Tea at Henry Swires. The Meeting began at 11 o'clock and notwithstanding the wetness of the day, It was very large of friends, and a great many People of other Societies attended so that both the house and chamber was crowded. It proved an extraordinary favoured meeting. Hannah Broadhead of Leeds and Esther Lees from Lancashire, favoured us with their company. Hannah Broadhead had a short testimony to bear therein first from Isai: C: 45. v: 22. Look unto me, and be ye saved all the ends of the earth. Esther Lees next from Rom: C: 10. v: 16. They have not all obeyed the Gospel. Thomas Shillitoe next from Luke C: 22. v: 27. Whether is greater, he that sitteth at meat, or he that serveth? Is it not he that sitteth at meat? But I come among you as he that serveth. I next from Zech: C: 11. v: 1. Open thy doors, O Lebanon, that the fire may devour thy cedars. John Bottomley next from Psalms 14. v: 7. When the Lord bringeth back the captivity of his People, Jacob shall rejoice, and Israel will be glad. Isabella Harris next in Prayer and Praises to the Almighty whose Power had been renewedly and eminently manifested this day amongst us. At the close of this meeting, The men and women who were members of our Society stopped by request little together after others were withdrawn, when I returned the Certificate I had from this meeting in the last 5<sup>th</sup>. Mo. to visit the meetings of Friends in the Counties of Durham and Northumberland, and some parts of the North Yorkshire, and also to have meetings in some places in those parts with Peoples of other Societies, and gave an account of my Journey, and that I was enabled to go through the service before me, so as to be favoured in my return with the answer of Peace. Which was minuted after the Women friends were withdrawn, and the Meetings satisfaction therewith. A great deal of business was before the meeting to day which was agreeably conducted; Thomas Blakey of Wakefield Mg. Laid before us his intentions of Marriage with Margaret Fothergill a member of York Monthly Mg. Also Thomas Robinson of Wakefield Mg. and Elizabeth Hudson of Ackworth Mg. laid before us their intentions of taking each other in Marriage. At the conclusion of the business the Printed Yearly Meeting Epistle was read. Both meetings held 5 hours. After which I din'd at Henry Swires and then came with Thomas Hague of Smeaton to Fulstone were we drunk Tea at Samuel Woodheads, then I came to John Firths of Shepley Lanehead were I stopt upwards of an hour, dear Joseph Firth came with me part of the way home and then return'd, and I got home a little before 10 o'clock, were I found several friends who were called to stop all night viz. Thomas Shillitoe and his Wife, Robert Harrison, Frances Yeardley, and Elizabeth Wife of John Yeardley, all of Barnsley, who proceeded towards home the next day in the forenoon.

Memorandum. During the time that Jervis Johnson was labouring in the Gospel in America; the Rebellion in Ireland broke out, which was in the year 1798 or 9. And wonderful was the canopy of preservation which encircled his family and the few friends who resided at Antrim. Death seemed to be almost inevitable, the clang of arms, Shrieks, groans and cries of terror, pierced their ears, the Town was up in arms. They left their house, which they thought would be pillaged and burnt, and going out the back way, sought for safety in the fields, but finding themselves much more exposed to danger, they soon returned the way they went and took their refuge in their own habitation - their yard in which the battle was fought, was

throng'd with armed Rebels, and in their great haste to enter the house, they shut out their Brother Wilson Johnson and a rebel slipt in along with them, unperceived - the latter was cause of great trouble by his boisterous expressions; and it was with difficulty they prevailed on him to be quiet - reasoning with him the absurdity of destroying himself and then by his unavailing hostility - at length when opportunity occurred, they let him out, but for some time after remained in a state of suspense and great anxiety on account of their Brother, whom they hardly dared to hope was yet alive. Here also was the goodness and mercy of divine Providence evinced - for when he reached the house, he found the door shut; Death surrounding him, almost without a way to escape, or a moment to lose; he turned aside and found shelter in a hayloft, where unseen he heard the awful sounds of dreadful carnage, and saw the gushing blood of his fellow creatures, with which the ground was well nigh covered; while many lay waiting in the convulsing grasp of Death - unpitted, without a friend to administer even a cup of water to their extreme Necessity. There was a Pump in the Yard to which vast numbers flock'd to quench their thirst in the heat of battle - down whose bodies, the Vital flood ran like a torrent - among the numbers who fell that dreadful day was one young man of rank in the Army, he was desperately wounded - a ball had perforated his bowels, and they burst out - Those around him durst trust him in no house saved Jervis Johnsons, there they knew he would be safe, and their confidence was justified in the care and attention which were paid by the family to this poor sufferer during the few painful hours of his prolonged existence. Doubtless that circumstance tended to increase the respect and kindness with which the Army treated them throughout the time; and when the order was issued to burn every house in the town - it was carried into effect from that on the their right hand where the Soldiers commenced, to that on their left hand where they stopped, leaving their house only unhurt, and the rest of the town consumed. Thus remarkably fulfilling the testimony of one, who in the Quarterly Meeting, prior to their Father leaving home, had to say that in his absence, there would be Wars, and troubles would surround, but that his family would be protected beneath the canopy of Safety.

Ruth Johnsons account to Thomas Shillitoe, of a circumstance which happened to her Father Jervis Johnson, when on the aforesaid visit to America. The time Jervis Johnson was on a religious visit in America, he was perswaded from visiting I think three meetings, which lay a great distance off, the difficulty of getting to these meetings, the inclemency of the weather, and his weakly state of health, seemed to those friends, a proof that such a hard task would not be required of him, and that he might be excused from going through so much bodily fatigue. Jervis Johnson at this time gave ear to have their opinions, altho' they did not altogether coincide with his own; but they being such friends as their advice at least deserved an hearing; he was passive, and gave up to their judgment; so far at least, as to travel from the most convenient part of getting to these meetings; and afterwards found more and more inconvenient to visit them; so he return'd home but not without regret. And when the dear man was cast on his death bed he found the matter lay heavy on his mind, it appeared then if he should be spared he must go back to visit these meetings, but not finding this likely he desired a friend might be sent for, who live several miles off; when he came, he told him what his mind was burthened with, and that he thought it would be most easy to him to write to those friends, who took an active part in this matter, and give them a caution for ever interfering in like manner again, that his mind had been brought into a state of Suffering on said account, but knowing his innocence in the matter, he hoped the will would be accepted for the deed. After the letter was wrote and read to him, his mind became quite calm, so much so that he seemed fully satisfied, that all he could do was done, and that he felt himself relieved from a burden, which lay heavy on his mind, so much so, that he did not express any uneasiness about it after

Memorandum. Burton Monthly Meeting 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 17<sup>th</sup>. 1812 I left home ye. 16<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 8<sup>th</sup>. of Mo. 1812 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week betwixt 9 and 10 o'clock in the forenoon, Charles Unsworth who had been all night at my house set me on my way about 1 mile and a half and then returned to our Meeting at Highflatts, went by Denby and Gunthwaite to Richard Priests of Broadoak were I stopt betwixt 2 and 3 hours and din'd. Then his Son Nathaniel Priest accompanied me on my way about 3 miles and then return'd, went by Cawthorne to Barnsley were I got a little before 4 o'clock, and drunk Tea at Thomas Shillitoes. Attended their meeting at Barnsley this evening at 5 o'clock which was larger the room being very full, many friends being there who were come to attend the Monthly meeting to be held the next day at Burton, and several of other Societies came in; It was a pretty satisfactory meeting, Thomas Shillitoe had a pretty long testimony therein first from Job: C: 19. v: 25. I know that my Redeemer liveth. And afterwards myself from John: C: 14. v: 6. I am the way the truth, and the life, no man cometh unto the Father but by me. After meeting I took up my quarters as usual at John Yeardeleys. On 17<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, I breakfasted at William Taylors, and called afterwards upon several other friends, then went to the meeting at Burton which was very large the house being crowded and many upstairs, It was rather a low time throughout, John Bottomley a short testimony therein first and afterwards myself, and Thomas Shillitoe. After which Isabella Harris had rather a longer time. At the close of the meeting for Worship was held our Monthly meeting for discipline, and a great deal of business was before it to day, amongst other things Thomas Shillitoe and Isabella Harris's concern to have Publick meetings more particularly with the Methodists of the old and new connection in Barnsley which after being solidly weighed they was left at their liberty to proceed therein. I also laid before friends a concern which I apprehended I had felt for some time on my mind to pay a religious visit to the inhabitants of some places within the compass of our own Monthly meeting as my way might open within the present year Divers friends expressed their unity therewith and the meeting left me to my liberty, Also Thomas Blakey of Wakefield Mg. was cleared from all other engagements relating to marriage except with Margaret Fothergill a member of York Monthly Meeting, unto which Meeting the further care therein and of the accomplishment thereof was referr'd. Also Thomas Robinson of Wakefield meeting and Elizabeth Hudson of Ackworth Mg. was cleared from all other engagements relating to marriage, and left at liberty to accomplished theirs when they and Ackworth friends see meet. Both meetings held upwards of 5 hours. I return'd to Barnsley were I din'd at John Yeardeleys and drunk Tea at Thomas Shillitoes, and several friends came in the evening to spend a little time with us. On 18<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, after breakfast I went and spent a little time with Isabella Harris at William Harveys, and before I left there, I took a little refreshment; Set out about 12 o'clock, William Harvey accompanied me about 2 miles and then return'd. I got to Thomas Wests of Cawthorne before they arose from the Table at dinner, partoke a little with them and stopt 2 hours, then came by Dakinbrook to Denby were I stopt an hour and drunk Tea at Joseph Grayhams, then came to John Bottomleys of Wood were I rested about half an hour and got home about 8 o'clock.

Memorandum. On ye. 6<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 9<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1812, departed this Life Francis Broadhead of Sheffield at his Fathers Daniel Broadheads of Batty mill in Thurlstone, and was buried at Lumbroyd near Penistone ye. 9<sup>th</sup>. of the same and 4<sup>th</sup>. day of the week aged about 28 years. He was not a member of our Society, altho' he had always attended meetings, and his Parents having obtained leave of Friends to bury him there, ordered to take his corps to be there, at the time of the weekday meeting. Being invited, I left home the same morning about 7 o'clock, and met with John Bottomley upon the road to Highflatts, and we went together by Ing Birchworth to Penistone were we called at Benjamin Chapmans and got Tea; and tarried until the Corps came by, and then went with them to Lumbroyd. It was very wet most part of the day which caused them to be later than the usual time of their week.day meeting, and I

apprehended a meeting smaller, altho' the house was full, and a considerable number sat in the chamber, I was very low in the forepart thereof, But waiting in humility, Truth arose for our help, and a solemn satisfactory meeting ensued, many young People, acquaintance of the deceased, being there some of them were affected, and an awful solemnity appeared to cover the whole. John Bottomley had a long testimony to bear therein first from Matt: C: 25. v: 6. At midnight there was a cry made, Behold the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him. I next from Eccle: C: 12. v: 1. Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years drawn nigh when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them. John Bottomley was next concerned in Prayer. The meeting held upwards of 2 hours. After which I came with many other friends and Relations to Daniel Broadheads of Batty mill to dine; At Table before dinner I concerned in supplication. Then after dinner the rain abeited. and it was pretty favourable the remainder of the day. I stopt Tea and at about five oclock set out towards home, I called and sat about half an hour at Joshua Dysons of Annatroyd, and then went into the Field were Charles Unsworth was at work stopt with him upwards of half an hour and assisted him until he had done in order that he might accompany me a little towards home, but just when we had finished his Master came and called him to another job, and so I came alone and got home about 8 o clock in the evening.

Memorandum. Burton Monthly Meeting 10<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 22<sup>nd</sup>. 1812. I left home ye 21<sup>st</sup>. of ye. 10<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1812, and 4<sup>th</sup>. day of the week betwixt 1 and 2 o clock in the afternoon and went to Highflatts were I called to see Elihu Dickinson junr. who had been for many years very much indisposed, and now appeared near his final close, having lain since the evening before without taking any notice of any body, yet he continued in this state until the evening after and then departed this Life about 8 o clock I stopt here near an hour and then proceeded by Denby, Dakinbrook and Cawthorne to Barnsley, were I got about 5 o clock, and drunk Tea at Thomas Yeardleys, and afterwards went to my usual quarters at my beloved friend John Yeardleys. On 22<sup>nd</sup>. and 5<sup>th</sup>. of week, after Breakfast I called and sat a little at William Taylors and then we went together to our Monthly Meeting held this day at Burton at the request of the Committee appointed by the Quarterly Meeting to unite with a committee of our Monthly Meeting in the nomination of a suitable number of friends for Elders in this Meeting. The Committee of the Quarterly meeting all attended here viz. Charles Parker of Bentham Mg. and Henry Tuke and William Alexander of York. The meeting was large of friends and a few of other Societies came in, and was favoured with the fresh extendings of divine regard to the comfort and consolation of many minds. Charles Parker had a pretty long testimony to bear therein first from Psalms 46. v: 4. There is a river that streams whereof shall make glad to the City of God. Afterwards Henry Tuke from Acts C: 13. v: 11. Is our salvation nearer than when we believed. At the close of the meeting for Worship was a meeting for discipline, the business of which was comfortably conducted. Joseph Holmes a member of Brighouse Monthly Meeting and Elizabeth Snowden of Ackworth Meeting were cleared from all other engagements relating to marriage and left at liberty to accomplish theirs when they and Ackworth friend saw meet. Both meetings held upwards of 4 hours. In my return to Barnsley feeling much spent, I call'd at the Inn at the Old mill, got 6 pennyworth of Rum and Water, and then went to dine at William Harveys, and afterwards drunk Tea at Thomas Shillitoes and from thence went to my quarters. On 23<sup>rd</sup>. and 6<sup>th</sup>. of week I left Barnsley about 8 o clock in the morning in company with Joseph Haigh of Boghall when we came together by Cawthorne and Flashhouse were we parted, and I went by Ing Birchworth to Joshua Dysons of Annatroyd, to inform them of a Meeting to be held at Highflatts at 3 o clock this afternoon appointed at the request of our friend Stephen Grellet from New York in America of which we received information at Burton the day before, and the friends of Wooldale and Lumbroyd meetings were requested to attend there. I got to Annatroyd about 1 o clock having been very much hindered upon the road by taking shelter in heavy showers it

being a remarkably high wind and very stormy throughout the day. I din'd here and a little after 2 o'clock set out for the meeting in company with my beloved friend Charles Unsworth; we got to Highflatts just in time and went immediately into the meeting, which was very fully attended by friends and a few other People came in so that it was a large Meeting. We had been collected about an hour before the Stranger came he having been hindered I suppose by the wet and badness of the roads. At 4 o'clock he came in, and with him Sarah Hustler and her brother John of Bradford meeting Isaac Hadwin of Liverpool and John Fisher of Huddersfield Meeting. Stephen Grellet had a long testimony to bear in this meeting from 1 Pet: C: 4. v: 18. If the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear. Afterwards Sarah Hustler had a pretty long time from Isai: C: 55. v: 11. So shall my word go forth out of my mouth; it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it. The meeting held upwards of 3 hours. After which having got wet upon my Legs, and thereby very cold I went into Richard Dickinsons to warm me where I sat about half an hour and took a glass of Rum and Water. Charles Unsworth stopt with me and we came together up the Lane, as soon as we parted my beloved friend Joseph Firth came up to me, and we came on together as far as our road lay, had a little conversation before we parted, and I got home before 7 o'clock.

Memorandum. On the 22<sup>nd</sup>. day of the 10<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1812, departed this Life Elihu Dickinson junr. of Highflatts and was buried in friends burial ground to 26<sup>th</sup>. of the same and 2<sup>nd</sup>. day of the week, aged about 28 years. He got a hurt upon the Spine upwards of 7 years before, and altho' he wrought for about two years after yet it was a very great pain but after his confinement his afflictions were inexpressibly great yet I believe they were sanctified unto him, being clearly evinced by the remarkable patience with which he bore them for upwards of five years, being favoured with an evidence of his acceptance with the Almighty, and at times strengthened to impart suitable counsel and advice to others; and himself appearing entirely resigned to the divine will; oftens numbering his blessings, in the extremity of his bodily sufferings, by remarking how many were under similar afflictions who were not favoured with the like outward comforts which he enjoyed. Being invited I attended his burial went early in the morning to his Brother Richard Dickinsons with whom he lived, and where his corps lay, and were friends and others breakfasted. I assisted the family a little, and then a little before 11 o'clock the corps was taken up and interred; the meeting was not large many being prevented attending from the wetness of the day, But it was a very solemn favoured time; my mouth was first opened therein, and had a long testimony to bear from

Prepare O mortals for a future state,  
Repent in time, before it be too late;  
Death is a minute full of deadly sorrow,  
Then live today, as thou may'st die tomorrow.

John Bottomley had a long time next from Heb: C: 2. v: 6. What is man that thou art mindful of him? or the son of man that thou visitest him? I was next concerned in Prayer, and afterwards had a pretty long testimony from John C: 12. v: 36. Believe in the light, that ye may be children of the light. The meeting held 3 hours run after which I a with many other friends relations and acquaintance din'd at the deceased Fathers, Elihu Dickinson Tanners; and were many spent the afternoon and drunk Tea, and I being desired to spend the evening with the family and a few friends complied therewith, and supp'd there, after supper set out in company with Joseph Firth with whom I went as far as Birdsedge, were we parted and I got home betwixt 9 and 10 o'clock.

Memorandum. On ye.1<sup>st</sup>. day of the 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1812, and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, was our meeting for Sufferings at Highflatts, friends of Lumbroyd meeting uniting with us as usual at that time. Morritt Matthews, Elihu Dickinson and John Pickford, being appointed by our Monthly meeting to collect the account of friends Sufferings, and enquire into their faithfulness respecting our testimony against Tithes, Priest demands, those called Church rates, the Modus or Rate money, and the Militia; and to advise friends to an annual inspection into the state of their affairs. The meeting for Worship was pretty fully attended by friends, I had been very much out of health for several days before, so that I did not expect to be there, but feeling my mind particularly drawn to attend, I was enabled to accomplish it, and was strengthened to relieve my mind in a long testimony to various states from Judg: C: 5. v: 6. In the days of Shamgar the son of Anath, in the days of Jael, the highways were unoccupied, and the travellers walked through byways. And afterwards affectionately address'd the youth in a pretty long testimony from Prov: C: 23. v: 23 Buy the truth, and sell it not. After the close of the meeting for Worship the Men and Women, who were members of our Society were requested to keep their seats, When the usual enquiries were made and answers received from all the heads of families in our meeting had except Betty Earnshaw and Joseph Stead. Thomas Earnshaw was appointed to visit the former and John Brook the latter, and report to the adjournment of this meeting. At the close of business John Bottomley had a short testimony to bear from Psalms 119. v: 165. Great peace have they which love thy law; and nothing shall offend them. Both meetings held 3 hours and a half. Joseph Firth and Charles Unsworth din'd with us to day, and the latter tarried all night, Morritt Matthews came after Tea and stopt all night; so we had his company at our family sitting in the evening.

Copy of a Letter wrote by Elihu Dickinson junr. of Highflatts about three months before his decease, and addressed to Mary Russel off Highroydhill near Barnsley, which was delivered to her the day after his burial agreeable to his own direction.

Elihu Dickinson junr. Love to his much esteemed Friend Mary Russel of Highroyd hill; and may inform thee, that I feel clear, in having done my duty towards thee, whilst I continued in the body, in promoting and nourishing the good seed which I believe hath been endeavouring to grow in thee, for some time back, but as it requires more attention than all other seeds; because it is of so pure a kind, that it will not grow near anything that defiles. I think I may say that I wish and desire the growth of this little plant in thee, more than thy bodily health; and as a remedy to preserve it, I recommend thee to prune, weed and clean it at every hour. Perhaps thou may think this prescription a hard one, but if thou wishes to have an inheritance amongst the redeemed ones, that thou must think very lightly indeed of the little crosses and troubles thou will have to pass through in this uncertain life. Should it be thy lot to have a large share of Afflictions (which are said to be hard meat) I believe thou will find Patience to be a good digester; remember the road to Peace, lies through tribulations.

Being desirous that the good part in thee should continue (after I am gone) to grow stronger and stronger to the end of time here; I leave thee a small token of respect, the best I am possessed of, for encouraging as well as promoting this most important work, which is my Holy Bible, hoping, and sincerely desiring that the Almighty through his dear Son, our Lord and Saviour Jesus christ, may more and more open the eye of thy understanding, so as thou mayest fully comprehend the deep and hidden mysteries contained therein.

Ah! my dear friend it is an awful thing to behold a setting sun and our spiritual days work undone.

Perhaps thou may read these few lines when the hand that writes them moulders in the Silent Grave. Given under my hand this 20<sup>th</sup>. day of 7<sup>th</sup>. Month (commonly called July) 1812. Elihu Dickinson junr.

P.S. If my dear Sister Susanna survives me perhaps she may present this note to thee with what it contains. Farewel.

Memorandum. Wakefield Monthly Meeting 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 16<sup>th</sup>. 1812 I left home ye. 14<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1812 and 7<sup>th</sup>. day of the week, betwixt 9 and 10 o'clock in the forenoon, and went by Cumberworth and Skelmanthorp to Elias Armitages of Parkgate where I rested me a considerable time and then proceeded, by Emley to my cousin Alexander Hampshires of Flockton mill where I stopt about 2 hours and din'd. It was very uncomfortable travelling in the forenoon being misty and wet but rather better in the afternoon, yet the roads were extremely dirty. I called about a little business at James Fields of Flockton, stopt there about half an hour, and then went by Mugmill and Thornhill to Dewsbury where I got to George Brearys about half past 4 o'clock, and took up my quarters there. On the 15<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week, I attended both their meetings in Dewsbury. That in the forenoon began at 10 and held near 2 hours, there were 23 persons attended besides myself. I had a long testimony to bear therein from Luke C: 14. v: 33. Whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath he cannot be my disciple. The afternoon meeting began at 3 and held 2 hours, 29 persons attended besides myself, more of other Societies coming in than in the forenoon. I had a long testimony to bear therein from Jer: C: 13. v: 23. Can the Ethiopian change his skin or the leopard his spots? then may ye also do good, that are accustomed to do evil. and afterwards had a pretty long time, principally addressed to one state, a young man a stranger to me, and to whom I felt my mind singularly drawn in both meetings, and now felt liberty to communicate what opened from 2 Cor: C: 6. v: 2. Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation. After meeting Isabella Brearey went with me to Tea to William Wass's, and afterwards we called to see Lydia Matthews her husband being from home, and then return'd to my quarters; But before I entered the house, I met with the a man I had particularly noticed at the meeting, and being disposed to take a walk into the fields he accompanied me. His name is George Hemingway he is in the 21<sup>st</sup>. year of his age, and lives at Spinkwell near this Town, hath attended friends meetings about 6 months, and is I believe under a precious visitation; our conversation in our walk was comfortable and edifying. and after our return he spent the remainder of the evening and supp'd with me at George Breareys. After supper in a religious opportunity, I was pretty largely opened from the passage of Elijah casting his mantle over Elisha and thereby alluring him so as to leave the oxen with which he was plowing and follow him. Before bed time I set George Hemingway a little towards his home where we parted under the sweet influence of Gospel Love. On 16<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, about 9 o'clock in the morning I set out for our Monthly Meeting to be held at Wakefield, David Brearey accompanied me by Ossett thither, I called at my cousin William Steads and rested me a little, and then went to meeting which I thought large especially of men friends, it was held in silence. At the close of the meeting for worship was held the meeting for discipline, in which a great deal of business was agreeably conducted; amongst other things John Bottomley laid before us a concern that had been upon his mind for sometime to pay a religious visit to the families of friends in Wooldale meeting and others who attend the said Meeting which met with the approbation of friends, and the meeting left him at liberty to proceed therein as way may open. Also the Committees of our monthly and Quarterly meeting united sent in a report in writing; That after several conferences they had agreed to propose John Pickford of Highflatts meeting and Isabella Brearey of Wakefield meeting for the station of Elders, who were approved by this meeting and appointed accordingly. Both meetings held 4 hours and a half. After meeting I din'd at William Leathams, and after dinner called and sat a little at Ann Thorps and then came by Sandal to Robert Walkers of Milnthorp where I stopt upwards of 1 hour and drunk Tea, then Robert Walker set me nearly to Dircar, and after he return'd I went to Christopher Walkers, got there about 7 o'clock where I lodg'd. Here I met with my esteemed friends in James Harrison and Isabella Harris with whom I

spent the evening very comfortably. On 17<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, After Breakfast I set out and called at William Pickards, it was very wet and continued so all the day, I took a little Rum and Water before I left here which was about 11 o'clock in the forenoon; came to my Uncle Joseph Houghs of Crigglesstone were I stopt about half an hour, and then came by Bretton, Emley, Skelmanthorp, and Cumberworth home were I got wet and weary betwixt 4 and 5 o'clock in the afternoon.

Memorandum. Wakefield Monthly Meeting 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 18<sup>th</sup>. 1813 I left home ye 17<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 1813 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week betwixt 9 and 10 o'clock in the forenoon having for my companion this journey my beloved friend and servant in husbandry Charles Unsworth, whose company was very agreeable to me. We went by Dykeside and Dakinbrook to Cawthorne were we called to see Thomas West, stopt there about 3 hours and a half and din'd, then proceeded to Barnsley were we got about 4 o'clock, and drunk Tea at Thomas Shillitoes, and then went to my usual quarters at John Yeardleys. Attended the meeting there this evening which began at 5 o'clock, and held 2 hours. It was pretty large several other Societies came in and amongst the number a preacher amongst the Methodists, and stopt after the meeting and spent the evening with us. The meeting was pretty open and satisfactory I had a pretty long testimony therein first from Psalms 119. v: 105. Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path. Thomas Shillitoe next. I next from Rev: C: 2. v: 10. Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life. On 18<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, we set out for Wakefield were our Monthly Meeting was to be held this day a little past 7 o'clock in the morning in company with my friend John Yeardley, went by Newmillerdam to Robert Walkers of Milnthorp were my companion Charles Unsworth and me called, and were we met with many friends; we stopt here near an hour and got Tea, and then proceeded in company with Thomas Shillitoe, Robert Harrison, and Thomas Hays, by Sandal to Wakefield were we got just in time to the meeting, which was pretty large and upon the whole satisfactory altho' it was attended with hard labour, and close doctrine it was communicated to some states, yet the language of encouragement flowed freely unto the depressed, feeble, but wrestling seed. Thomas Shillitoe had a short testimony to bear therein first from Gal: C: 5. v: 17. The flesh lusteth against the spirit, and the spirit against the flesh. Isabella Harris had a long time next from Hab: C: 2. v: 1. I will stand upon my watch, I will set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved. I next from Deut: C: 33. v: 29. Happy art thou O Israel; who is like unto thee, O people, saved by the Lord, the shield of thy help, who is the sword of thy excellency! And thine enemies shall be found Liles on to thee, and thou shalt tread upon their high places. Isabella Harris a short time next from Jer: C: 9. v: 20. Hear the word of the Lord, O ye women, and let your ear received the word of his mouth, and teach your daughters wailing, and every one her neighbour lamentation. At the close of this meeting was the Meeting for discipline; the business of which went heavily on owing to many interfering therein who were not sufficiently baptized for the work; and were too much encouraged by some valuable friends, not intentionally, but by departing from their own proper gifts, and encouraging themselves in services into which they were not called or qualified by the Lord; which caused deep mourning and heavy exercise unto a poor tried remnant. Both meetings held 5 hours and a half. After which we din'd at William Leathams, and about 6 o'clock in the evening left Wakefield; it was very dark and rather dangerous at first setting out, we frequently running against posts and People we met; but when we had got about 1 mile the moon arose; and we had an agreeable walk by Ossett to Dewsbury were we got a little before 8 o'clock, and took up our quarters at George Breareys. On 19<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, After breakfast Charles Unsworth set out to see his relations at Heckmondwike, and in the forenoon I went to visit Mary Armitage, and from thence to William Wass's were I tarried until after dinner, and then set out for Heckmondwike 2 miles, got there a little before 3 o'clock were I met with my beloved friend Charles

Unsworth at his cousin Charles Whitworths, his relations received me kindly and we spent the remainder of the afternoon very agreeably there they being religious People in their way, and in profession with the Independents, and he a Preacher amongst them. After Tea we return'd to Dewsbury, were we got to our quarters about 7 o'clock in the evening. Several friends came in to see us there; and a little after they was gone, and we about preparing to go to bed, we were alarmed by the Watch with the cry of fire, and going out to see it proved to be a dry house upon the premises, but water being near and the people vigilant the building was preserved, but the wool that was drying in the stove and the woodwork within all the doors except one were consumed; this kept us up till betwixt 1 and 2 o'clock in the morning. On 20<sup>th</sup>. and 4<sup>th</sup>. of the week, we breakfasted at Morrit Matthews, and went from thence to William Wass's were we stopt some time and got a Luncheon before we set out. Left Dewsbury about 12 o'clock, and came by Thornhill, Mugmill and Flockton to see my cousin Alexander Hampshire of Flockton mill were we rested us near an hour, and got some refreshment, then came by Emley to see my cousin Charles Stead of Siver Ing, were we found his son Charles weakly, but no material alteration appeared of late he was very loving and glad of our visit. We stopt here about one hour and drunk Tea, then came by Cumberworth home were we got between 6 and 7 o'clock in the evening.

From David Sands of the State of New York in America to James Harford of Bristol.

Quebec 4<sup>th</sup>. of 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. 1812

I take my pen to inform ye, I am so far preserved in health as to continue in the field of labour. I arrived here the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Inst. after travelling 180 miles in two days; for the weather is extremely cold, Snow is about five feet deep on the level; our horses fell divers times by stepping too near the outside of the road, and the Sledge upset, however I felt no way discouraged, believing I saw my way with clearness, and tho' I suffered much from cold, as the weather glass and was said to be 44 degrees below freezing point. Yesterday I felt unwell and kept warm till evening, when I attended a meeting and took Tea with a kind English family. The meeting was much favoured and I returned well rewarded for my labour, in coming to visit to this large City, never before visited by friends on a religious motive. This evening I expect to have another meeting, whether I shall be clear then it is uncertain, but I do expect to stay many days, tho' the English and Scotch are very open and friendly to me, but I seem like one sent to open the way and make a path into this Country for some that will be sent after me: I have to contend with ice and snow in crossing large Lakes and wide Rivers; indeed it seemed strange how I got on, but way has been made beyond human calculation, by him who hath all power in Heaven and Earth to whom be glory, honour and praise for ever.

I had been under religious exercise, and public labour, almost daily for four months, so that I have had no winter quarters, and it seems to myself as if I had no time to spare. The gout continued to the first of the tenth month, when it leave me and in a few days my strength returned, and I have had but little of it since, tho' I feel pains in my feet which get very cold, and my hands and fingers which makes it difficult to write. At the present the effect of travelling is felt in a touch of my former complaint, that I make a bad hand at writing, but I hope thou wilt gather my meaning, and accept my love which I feel flow to thee as a beloved brother and father to me, when in a strange land.

I made several visits to the different parts of our Yearly Meeting after my recovery before I entered on this journey. I hope thou will be preserved comfortable in body and mind, until it may please thy good Master to give thee an easy passage to a better world which cannot be far off. I have a kind companion, who may live to see England, his name is William Cromwell. I entertain hopes of his making a good Soldier in the Lambs warfare.

From St. Johns to this place is about 212 miles, of which 150 are one continued level on the banks of the river St. Lawrence, almost like a village the whole way all settled by the French. My French served to be a good purpose.

Reasons why we cannot lend our Meetinghouses to people of other religious persuasions in a letter to a person who has applied for the use of one.

To

Respected Friend

To thy application to friends of --- requesting the use of --- Meetinghouse, we are desired, on behalf of the monthly meeting,\* to reply; and agreeably to the Apostolic precept, "to be ready to render to everyone a reason with meekness etc." we would tenderly and respectfully assign ours, for objecting to comply with thy request; in such a manner as not to wound or hurt any degree of religious tenderness; while at the same time we believe it to be our indispensable duty to maintain some testimonies, with which the desired compliance respecting the use of --- Meetinghouse seems not to Quadrature; lest we should be found destroying with one hand what we are attempting to build up with the other. We have no manner of doubt that there are very sincere, and religiously devoted minds among you (so no doubt you think there are in that church from which you conscientiously dissent and separate) but we cannot with consistency, uphold, or contribute to uphold a worship so far conducted in the will of man, as to consist in Preaching, praying, and Singing, whenever the People are assembled, whatever may be the present state of the mind whether prepared or suitable or not; nor can we countenance, consistently with the deep and awful views attending our mind respecting the nature of religion and the Christian dispensation in particular, those ordinances so called - so much contended for - Sprinkling or baptizing with Water - and the use of Bread and Wine called "the Lords Supper." which shadowy observation we think were not meant to be continued, but in our judgment tend to eclipse or cloud the clearness of the Gospel dispensation; and form a kind of virtual denial of the coming of Christ, in that glorious, superior, and spiritual manifestation which our Lord himself spoke of, and to which we apprehend the Apostle alluded, when he says "though we have known Christ after the flesh; yet henceforth we know him so no more." but they are acquainted with him in the dispensation of Light, life, and Power beyond all shadows and ceremonies; which we think have very much marred the beauty of the Christian profession, and proved a Stumbling block in the way of deep inquirers after the power of Religion; and on the other hand a false rest to many who have centred in these forms, and contended earnestly for them, and for their different modes of administration, rather than for the operation of that pure "faith which operate by love to the purifying of the heart."

Neither can we countenance sentiments that lead to a supposed reprobation of, or intentional or withholding the saving Power of Grace from any individual.

Some of your ministers also receive a pecuniary emolument for Preaching; which is totally repugnant to our sense of the dignity and purity of the Gospel Ministry. - "freely have you received freely give" which we can by no means think restricted to the first promulgators of the Gospel. These be remarks are but a very small part of what might be mentioned but we mean not hereby to enter into any argument, only simply and briefly to express why we are not free to comply with what, at first sight or on a superficial glance might seem very reasonable or desirable; we are nevertheless with sincere regard and desires for thy welfare etc

Thy Affectionate friends

\* Note. One friend observed, it was not necessary to consult the Monthly Meeting; but another deemed it more respectful both to those who applied, and those to whom the application was made.

Memorandum, Thomas Shillitoe, James Harrison, myself, Isabella Harris and Lydia Broadhead, being appointed to visit Joshua Earnshaw and Esther his Wife, of Thurlstone on their application to be reinstated members of our religious Society; by our Monthly Meeting held at Wakefield the 18<sup>th</sup>. of the 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 1813. Accordingly it was agreed to meet at their house on the 29<sup>th</sup>. of said month and 6<sup>th</sup>. day of the week at 11 o'clock in the forenoon. I left home the said morning and went by Ing Birchworth to Thurlstone where I got a little before 11 o'clock, called at William Dickinsons and sat a little, and then went to Joshua Earnshaws, where I found Lydia Broadhead got there before me, but the other friends were not come; whereupon we concluded to go and dine at Daniel Broadheads of Batty mill and just when we were about to sit down to dinner a Boy came to inform us the friends were come, and we immediately return'd thither. the opportunity held it until the horse to o'clock, Thomas Shillitoe appeared first therein. Lydia Broadhead dropt a few words next. Isabella Harris had a pretty long time was next, and afterwards James Harrison dropt a few words. I thought there was much suitable counsel and advice communicated unto them, and sincerely did I desire that they might profit by the opportunity, believing there was some stirrings of good in them, yet a painful jealousy seized my mind lest the visitors with an over hasty zeal for their good, should heal the wound of the daughter of Zion deceitfully, and so cause them to take up a false rest, and the work being marred upon the wheel, they should again settle down in a state of formality, and when temptations was suffered to overtake them, they should not be able to stand as in the evil day. This caused it to be a time of inexpressible exercise to me and my mouth throughout was closed in painful suffering silence. After opportunity Lydia Broadhead and me return'd to Daniel Broadheads to dine; and the other friends or went to Benjamin Chapmans of Penistone; and after dinner we followed them thither, having before agreed to draw up the report to lay before the Monthly meeting there. A report was accordingly drawn up which confirm'd my feeling in the opportunity and which I dare not sign, this caused us a long sitting and much entreaty was used to prevail upon me to sign it, but I dare not comply, but told them I submitted to their judgment, and if they was easy to sign it I had no objection, which at length was done but rather reluctantly by one friend. It was after dark before the business was finished and there being no Moon, I concluded to stop all night, and the friends here having their Beds full I got one at the house of Elizabeth Woodhead an acquaintance of mine, and after Tea Lydia Broadhead went with her Brother Daniels, I spent the evening in company with the friends who were very kind open and three, but Oh my soul felt sorrowful even unto death. I had a very comfortable Bed, but such was the distress of my poor mind that I never closed mine eyes to Sleep. On the 30<sup>th</sup>. and 7<sup>th</sup>. of week, Felt no better this morning. After Breakfast we had an opportunity with Benjamin Chapman, he having given way to intemperance, and we found him the day before in a state of intoxication, this brought an additional burden upon several of our minds, which in this opportunity we were enabled to throw off: being strengthened to labour, honestly and faithfully with him. Isabella Harris appeared first Thomas Shillitoe next, myself next and afterwards Isabella Harris was concerned in Prayer. About 10 o'clock the friends set out for home, but Benjamin Chapman and his Mother being pressing for me to stop dinner I complied with their request, but let none know the deep and painful feelings I was under. After dinner I set out towards home and Benjamin Chapman came a little with me which afforded me an opportunity of giving him a little advice which he took kindly, and we parted friendly, I came by Ing Birchworth home where I got betwixt 3 and 4 o'clock. About five o'clock Nathaniel Priest came to stop all night with me I was much pleased to see him altho' I did not enjoy his company as at some other times, but endeavoured to wash and anoint that I might not appear unto men to fast, but sackcloth was my covering underneath. On 31<sup>st</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week. This morning when I awoke my mind was quiet and tranquil, the distress I had laboured under was removed, Light and life dispelled death and darkness and I was favoured to see that I had been preserved in the way of my duty, and to feel the reward of obedience; and to remember the testimony of holy writ. That when we have done the will of God we have need of patience that we may receive the Promise. This was a day throughout of high favour, such as I have seldom

experienced, Surely I might say, every heart knows its own bitterness and a stranger intermedleth not with his joy. Soon after I sat down in our meeting at Highflatts, we were mercifully overshadowed with the winner of ancient goodness; the meeting was pretty large several of other Societies attending; I was raised up to bear a very long testimony therein from Isai: C: 21. v: 12. The watchman said, the morning cometh, and also the night; and if he will inquire, inquiry ye; return, come. Had a short testimony next and. John Bottomley next in Prayer and afterwards I had a short time in exhortation. After Tea Nathaniel Priest, Charles Unsworth and myself being set together in my Parlour, we closed into solemn silence and afterwards I had a short testimony to bear unto them from 1 Pet: C: 1. v: 24, 25. All flesh is as grass, and all glory of men as the flower of grass, the grass or withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away; but the word of the Lord endureth for ever. After this opportunity Nathaniel Priest set out towards home, and I accompanied him a little and then return'd. Our family sitting this evening was much favoured John Kirkham junr. And James Hinchcliffe the attended after reading I had a pretty long testimony to bear from Luke C: 24: v: 32. Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the Scriptures! Afterwards Leah Kinsley from Mark C: 11. v: 22. Have faith in God. When this opportunity was over I set out to Highflatts Elizabeth Dickinson having some company at their house who had been at meeting to day and some of them much affected therein, having given me a kind invitation to go and see them, I took Charles Unsworth with me for company. There was John Rothwel and wife, William Payne, and John Kirkman there the last not usually attending meetings. They all appeared much pleased to see me and I spent about one hour and a half pretty agreeably with them. We supp'd there, and got home a little past 10 o'clock.

Memorandum. Wakefield Monthly Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mo. 15<sup>th</sup>. 1813 I set out to attend our Monthly meeting to be held at Wakefield ye. 4<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mo. 1813 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, but previous thereunto, I attended our meeting at Highflatts which considering the storminess of the morning was larger than I expected, and proved an open satisfactory Meeting. I had a very long testimony to bear therein from Isai: C: 3. v: 12. As for my people, children are their oppressors, and Women rule over them. O my People, they which lead thee cause thee to err, and destroy the ways of thy paths. Afterwards John Bottomley had a long time from Psalms 119 v. 1, 2, Blessed are the undefiled, who walk in the law of the Lord. Blessed are they that keep his Testimonies and that seek him with their whole heart. The meeting held near 2 hours and a half. After which I returned home to dine, and after dinner proceeded on my journey, my beloved friend Charles Unsworth accompanying me to Wood were I called upon John Bottomley, stop there near half an hour, and thence we set out, and went by Dikeside, Hoyland and Bretton to Crigglesstone were we parted, and I went to Christopher Walkers of Dircar, got there little past six o'clock were, I lodged. The afternoon proved very stormy and the last 2 miles was exceeding heavy rain so that I was both wet and weary when I got in. On 15<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week I set out early and went to Robert Walkers of Milnthorp to breakfast, then proceeded by Sandal to Wakefield were I called and sat a little at Ann Thorps, and then went to Joseph Wetheralds were I stopt a little and got some refreshment, and from thence went to the meeting, which was pretty large and open, Thomas Shillitoe had a pretty long testimony to bear therein first being opened very acceptability upon sundry subjects. John Bottomley had afterwards a long time from Matt: C: 6. v: 10. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. At the close of this meeting was our Monthly Meeting for discipline and a great deal of business was before it to date, but there being also a solemn covering over as which kept down the Light talkative spirit, the business went sweetly forward and was very unanimously conducted, and there having been an Assize held at York by special commission on account of the alarming disturbances which had happened in the west part of this county, in the early part of last Month, and 17 persons having since suffered

death for Murder and different kind of burglaries and having ever since they suffered felt my mind deeply affected on their account, and sympathy to flow in my heart towards their suffering families left behind accompanied with a concern to pay them a religious visit in the love of the Gospel, but it appearing so unusual a thing it had brought an uncommon exercise over my mind which increasing with weight, I thought the time was come to lay my concerns before the meeting, and having previously acquainted our friend Thomas Shillitoe therewith, and he uniting in a concern to accompany me, gave me leave to mention his also to the meeting; after a seasonable time I stood up and inform'd the meeting in nearly the following words, that I had for some weeks passed been under a weighty exercise of mind to pay a religious visit to the families of those in Huddersfield and the neighbourhood thereof, who had lately suffered death at York, and having previously acquainted our friend Thomas Shillitoe therewith he united with me in this concern that, and I had his approbation to mention it to the meeting, desiring friends we it well, and act therein as best wisdom might direct, Thomas Shillitoe added a few words after I had done. A weighty solemnity covered the meeting at the time, many friends expressed their unity therewith, and several were led to speak encouragingly to us; and the meeting made a minute expressing of their unity, leaving us our liberty not only to visit the families of the sufferers but also their near connections as might open a. Both meetings held near 4 hours and a half. Our friend William Midgley of Buersell near Rochdale met me here, he came in the Coach and intended to walk with me to my house were he was going to spend a few days. We din'd at William Leathams, with many other friends and amongst the number our friend Isabella Harris who having heard of our concern, felt her mind engaged to unite with us in the visit to the beforementioned families, and obtained the leave of the Elders for that purpose. After dinner we came by Sandal to Robert Walkers of Milthorp were we stopt Tea, and then came to Dircar, Enoch Gouldthorp who formerly lived servant with me, but now lives here, accompanied us thither, were we got a little past six o'clock, to our friend John Pickards, were William Midgley lodg'd, but after sitting a while there, I went to Christopher Walkers as my usual quarters in this place were I tarried all night. On 16<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, in the morning I went to breakfast at John Pickards, and a little before 9 o'clock we left Dircar and came to Crigglestone were we call to see Frances Barker a young woman who hath joined as Society by convincement, and is at present with her father who keep an Inn in this Town, we stopt here upwards of an hour, and got some Rum and milk, then proceeded on our journey; the wind was very high, and met us which made it very difficult travelling; we called at Michael Buckleys who keeps the Toll gate in Bretton and rested a little there, then came by Emley to cousin Benjamin Steads of Siver Ing, were we din'd, cousin Charles Stead junr. came and tarried with us whilst we stopt, he yet continues poorly, I was much pleased with his company, and before we left had a very satisfactory opportunity with him in which I had a long testimony to bear from Isai: C: 12. v: 2. I will trust, and not be afraid: for the Lord Jehovah is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation. We stopt here about 3 hours, and then set out and came by Cumberworth to Newhouse were we got a little past 6 in the evening.

Memorandum. Wakefield Monthly Meeting 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. 15<sup>th</sup>. 1813. I left home the 14<sup>th</sup>. of 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. 1813 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week about 8 o'clock in the morning, Being very much indisposed by a bad cold, which so much affected my breathing as to make travelling very difficult to me, nevertheless by taking time and great care I was favoured to get through the journey so as not to be worse in my return, and with more ease than I could have expected, my Charles Unsworth went a little with me, and then return'd. went by Cumberworth, and Skelmanthorp to Elias Armitages of Parkgate were I rested me about half an hour, and then proceeded, Elias Armitage accompanying me as far as Midgley, we called at Emley to see Joseph Gill a young man who had lived near Birdsedge, rested us there about half an hour, and then went by Midgley to Netherton were I stopt about one hour and a half and din'd at my

cousin John Woods, then went by Horbury and Flanshaw to my dear friends Mark Breasers of Alverthorpe, were I got about 3 o'clock, and were I took up my quarters this night. After Tea I went to Wakefield to attend our Select meeting Mark Braer accompanied me that there, stop at a Relations house until the meeting was over, and returned with me to his house; the meeting began at 6 o'clock and held upwards of 1 hour and a half. All our members attended except Hannah Whitaker, Before the business was entered upon Thomas Shillitoe had a short testimony to bear. The Queries were read, and answered, and a General Answer drawn up approv'd and Signed in order to be laid before our ensuing Select Quarterly Meeting. After the business was gone through John Bottomley had a pretty long testimony to bear. After meeting Thomas Shillitoe going to lodge at Henry Soulbys, took us with him thither, were we stopt about 1 hour and I took a glass of Rum and Water, and then we return'd. On 15<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, at 9 o'clock in the morning I attended in the Womens Meetinghouse at Wakefield a committee upon business, which held near 2 hours. Betwixt this and going to the meeting for Worship I got a little morsel at William Awmacs. The meeting for Worship was large the day being fine. I had a short testimony to bear therein first from Jer: C: 8. v: 22. Is there no balm in Giliad? is there no physician there? why then is not the health of the daughter of my People recovered? Thomas Shillitoe next from John C: 15. v: 4. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself except it abide in the vine no more can be ye, except ye abide in me. Isabella Harris a pretty long time next from Mark C: 5. v: 28, 29. If I may but touch his clothes, I shall be made whole. And straight away the fountain of her blood was dried up; and she felt in her body that she was healed. John Bottomley next in Prayer. At the close of this meeting was held our Monthly Meeting for discipline and a great deal of business was gone through therein amongst other things, Myself and Thomas Shillitoe returned the Minute of last meeting and inform'd this that we had been able to go through the prospect before us, so as to be favoured after our return with the sweet reward of peace. Also our friend Thomas Shillitoe laid before this meeting a further concern that was upon his mind to visit those who were alike circumstanced with some who had suffered death but had been discharged upon Bail from their imprisonment, and also expressed Isabella Harris' concern to unite with him therein, and request that I might accompany them if I felt freedom and the meeting felt unity with the prospect I felt not much on my own mind towards it nor no objection against accompanying them; the meeting after some consideration left us at our liberty to proceed therein as away opened which was announced by the Clerk. There being no necessity of a minute, most of them residing within the compass of our own Monthly Meeting, or on the borders thereof. Also the Queries were read and Answers received from all our Preparative meetings viz. Pontefract, Burton, Highflatts, Ackworth, Wakefield and Wooldale. In Answer to the second Query account was given of some little appearance of convincement in Burton Mg. But none had been admitted into membership in any of our meetings since last year. Both meetings held 5 hours and a half. After meeting I din'd at Joseph Wetheralds, took a little Brandy and Water at Ann Thorps; then came by Sandal to Robert Walkers of Milthorp were I drunk Tea. and afterwards came to Dircar, Enoch Gouldthorp accompanying me thither were I got about 8 o'clock and lodg'd at Christopher Walkers. On 16<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week after breakfast, I went and sat a little at William Pickards, and before I left took a glass of Rum and Water. Left Dircar about 10 o'clock and came by Crigglestone to Bretton were I rested me about half an hour at Michael Buckleys, then came by Emley to cousin Charles Steads of Siver Ing, in the Park: were I din'd, and stopt near 2 hours, then my dear Cousin Charles Stead junr. who yet continues a little weakly, set me a little on my way and then return'd, and I came to my Nephew Robert Woods of Moorbottom, stopt there upwards of an hour and and drunk Tea, then came by Cumberworth home, were I got about quarter past 6 o'clock.

Lines composed by the late - Bellingham a little before he suffered death, in the summer of 1812, for Shooting and Murdering - Percival the Prime Minister, as he was entering the Parliament House.

The hour of my departures come  
 I hear the voice that calls me home  
 Now O my God let sorrow cease  
 And let thy servant die in Peace  
 Not in mine innocence I trust,  
 I bow before thee in the dust;  
 And through my Saviours blood alone,  
 I look for mercy at thy throne.  
 I leave the world without a tear,  
 Save for those friends I lov'd so dear;  
 To heal their sorrows Lord descend,  
 Ah! to the friendless prove a friend.  
 I come, I come at thy command,  
 I give my Spirit to thy hand;  
 Stretch forth thy everlasting Arms,  
 And shield me in these last alarms.  
 The hour of my departures come,  
 The conflicts o'er the victory's won,  
 Now O my God let sorrow cease;  
 And let thy servant die in peace.

Copy of a Letter from Joseph Fisher late of Bristfield to his Wife etc. Wrote the day but one before he suffered

York. Castle 14<sup>th</sup>. January, 1813

Dear Wife

I hope this will find you and my children all in good health. I hope you will take this patiently. Dear Wife I wish you to stick close to my children, and bring them up in the fear of God, and live so your self, and put all your trust in your maker, and he will help you through this world, and he will be your Saviour in the world to come if you put your trust in him. Dear Wife I wish you to take this patiently, for I hope I am going to a better place, where I hope we shall meet to part no more. Dear Father and Mother, I send my kind love to you, hoping it will find you in good health, and take things patiently, for I am preparing to meet my Saviour, and I hope you will do the same, and I beg you would look upon my Wife and Children with compassion for my sake, and do not lay anything to her charge for me. Dear brother Nathan, I send my kind love to you, hoping it will find you in good health; and I hope you will instruct my Children, and I hope you will pay the School wages for my oldest son Nathan, and help my poor Wife a little when she is in need if you can, and I wish you to remember me to all my Brothers and Sisters; and God bless you, it is all I can do for you. Farewel. Sentence is passed on 14 of us, and we are going to be executed on Saturday ye. 16<sup>th</sup>. There's me and John Swallow and John Batley of them. So no more at present from your ever tender and affectionate Husband and Father. God bless you all Amen

Farewel. Farewel

Memorandum On ye 4<sup>th</sup>. day of ye 4<sup>th</sup>. month 1813 departed this life, at his Fathers house, John Firths of Shepley Lanehead; Edward Firth Apprentice to a Grocer in Pontefract, but being poorly came to his Fathers, about 9 weeks before his dissolution; were he continued

weakly but stirred abroad except the last week of his time. He was interred in friends burial ground at Highflatts ye 8th of the same Mo. aged about 20 years. It being the 5<sup>th</sup>. day of the week. Being invited I attended the said Burial, left home the same morning a little past 7 o clock, the invitation being for 8, called at Parkhead upon John Pickford who accompanied me to Shepley Lanehead, were we got in due time. After the company had all breakfasted the corps was taken up about 10 o clock and we proceeded to Highflatts. The meeting on the occasion was large of friends and others, and during the time of silence the Power of Truth was comfortably in dominion, to the Solemnizing of the minds of the People, who mercifully arose higher under the Publick exercise thereof to the tendering of the spirits of many. I had a very long testimony to bear therein from Heb: C: 2. v: 14, 15. Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; and through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil, And deliver them who through fear of death were all their life time subject to bondage. After a short time in silence I had affectionately to address the youth, and stood a pretty long time from Job: C: 21. v: 13. They spend their time in wealth, and in a moment go down to the grave. The meeting held 2 hours and a quarter. Having been for some time rather unwell and feeling much exhausted with the exercise of the meeting, I called at Richard Dickinsons were I got a little suitable refreshment, and then went with his Sister Susanna to John Firths to dinner, spent the afternoon there, and betwixt 7 and 8 o clock, I set out for home in company with William Taylor who had been assisting them all day. In our way we called and sat a little at John Mallinsons of Birdsedge and got home betwixt 8 and 9 o clock.

Memorandum Joshua Schofield visit. When Thomas Shillitoe and myself were on the visit to the families of those who suffered death at York in the 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 1813 we met with this young man Joshua Schofield; he coming into the house when we was set with Thomas Smith Parents of Sutcliffe Woodbottom in Hipperholme, he having suffered for being concerned in the murder of William Horsfall. We thought Joshuas feet was providentially directed to the place at the time, he then living with his Parents near there, and being in the 22<sup>nd</sup>. year of his age. I was particularly led to speak to him, he was broken and dissolved in a flood of tears, having I believe to view how remarkably providence interposed in the sparing of his Life; and the unprepared state he was in for so solemn a change. He having been imprisoned and liberated upon Bail. It was indeed a season of extraordinary visitation unto him, and was again renewed at a meeting we had at Halifax the day but one after, when after meeting I got a private opportunity with him in conversation. We parted at this time in much affection feeling nearly attached to each other. On 30<sup>th</sup>. of 4<sup>th</sup>. Mo. following and 6<sup>th</sup>. day of week he came to my house to see me, he got there in the afternoon in time to Tea. On 1<sup>st</sup>. of 5<sup>th</sup>. Mo. and 7<sup>th</sup>. of week, In the forenoon we went and sat there little at John Bottomleys of Wood and towards evening at John Pickfords of Parkhead. The remainder of the day we spent in reading and conversation in my parlour. On 2<sup>nd</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week, he went with us to our meeting at Highflatts, which was favoured and I believe he felt a share, matters opening therein suitably to his present state. I was first concerned in supplication and afterwards had a long testimony to bear from John C: 5. v: 25. Verily verily I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the son of God; and they that hear shall live. John Bottomley next calling upon us to examine our title deeds to the kingdom lest we should be found wanting when called upon to quit mortality. The meeting held near 2 hours and a half. After dinner Joshua Schofield set out towards home, he being going the next day to Leeds to work at his own business which is that of a Cropper. I went with him a little behind Shepley were we parted, he expressing his satisfaction with the visit, saying his mind was much easier than it was. And I am sure his company had been truly acceptable to me. In my return I called and drunk Tea at John Haighs of Shepley, and afterwards sat a little at John Firths of Lanehead. After I got home Charles Unsworth and me went to Highflatts to see Leah Kinsley

She got there with an intent to attend meeting, but was taken so suddenly ill that she was obliged to stop at Sarah Hinchcliffes were they thought she would have died before the meeting broke up. After meeting they got her to Elihu Dickinsons were we met with her and found her better, but not able to bear up. We called in our way home at Elihu Dickinsons Tanner were we stopt about 1 hour and then came home.

Memorandum. On 6<sup>th</sup>. day of the 5<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1813 departed this life Ralph Swinden of Denby, and was buried in friends Burial ground at Highflatts ye 9<sup>th</sup>. of the same and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week aged about 85 years. He was educated amongst friends, but left the Society, and went into the army, when he had advanced in years, he came to Denby having gained a settlement there by serving the last 40 days under his Indenture. Some time after he came here he began to attend friends meetings again, and coming under a religious concern of mind, he was very diligent therein not only on first days, but on other days of the week; omitting no opportunity until within two weeks of his departure when he could attend. His conduct in other respects manifesting the sincerity of his desire, To use all diligence in the making of his calling and election sure. He never applyed to be reinstated into membership; Perhaps his poverty might stand in his way, by thinking that other People might think he had some outward thing in view by the change observable in his conduct. But obtained leave whilst living to be buried amongst friends. A few neighbours were invited to his burial and a breakfast prepared for them, and at the close of our Weekday meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup>. day before, a friend stood up and informed the meeting, that he was deceased, and his body was to be interred in our burial ground the first day following, and such friends as were desirous to accompany his corps to the grave, their company would be acceptable, to be at his house about half past 9, as the corps would be taken up a little past 10. Accordingly Charles Unsworth and me set out about 9 o clock on the 1<sup>st</sup>. day morning, and got there by the time appointed, many friends attended, so that there was no want of bearers, and those who chose had a cup or more of Coffee, The corps was taken up at the time proposed, and we proceeded with it to Highflatts, and interred it in due time for the meeting, which was very large. The Meetinghouse below stairs been quite full and crowded. It being the time when Lumbroyd friends attend here, and many people of other Societies besides those invited to the Burial came in. It was a solid good meeting, I had a very long testimony to bear therein from 2 Cor: C: 5. v: 17,18. If any man be in christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold all things are become new. After all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus christ. At the close of this meeting the business of our Preparative meeting was gone through, and at the close thereof John Bottomley had a pretty long testimony to bear from Matt: C: 5. v: 16. Let your life so shine before men that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. Briefly observing therefrom that he believed this had been the principal concern of the deceased in the latter part of his life not only in the due attendance of religious meetings, but in other parts of his conduct, and having visited him near his end, he expressed he felt the blessed effect thereof, adding I do not feel that anything stands in my way. He expressing a desire he felt that this might be all our concern in Life, and experience in the close thereof. Both meetings held 2 hours and a half.

Memorandum. Pontefract Monthly Meeting 5<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 17<sup>th</sup>. 1813. I left home ye. 15<sup>th</sup>. of ye 5<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1813, and 7<sup>th</sup>. of week betwixt 1 and 2 o clock in the afternoon and went by Cumberworth to Skelmanthorp were I called about a little business at Charles Blackburns stopt about half an hour, and then went to Elias Armitages of Parkgate were I sat about half an hour, and then proceeded by Emley to Bretton were I rested me about half an hour at Michael Buckleys with whom I had some religious conversation to satisfaction. Then went by

Crigglestone to Dircar were I stopt about 1 hour and a half at William Pickards and drunk Tea; and then proceeded to Milnthorp were I got a little before 8 o'clock, and took up my quarters at Robert Walkers. On 16<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week, I set out about quarter past 10 o'clock and went by Sandal to their meeting at Wakefield which owing to the wetness of the day was smaller than usual when Dewsbury friends unite with them. It was a pretty open satisfactory meeting. I had a long testimony to bear therein from Matt: C: 5. v: 6. Blessed are they that do hunger and thirst after righteousness; for they shall be filled. At the close of this Meeting the business of their Preparative meeting was gone through both meetings held 2 hours and a half. After meeting John Fozard of Dewsbury being walking to Pontefract we joined as companions thither, and din'd together at Joseph Wetheralds; left Wakefield about half past 3 o'clock, and it being showery we had to take shelter by the way, went by Heath and Purston to Pontefract were we got about 7 o'clock and took up our quarters at John Leathams. On 17<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, we breakfasted at Ann Johnsons, and from thence went to Joseph Johnsons were we got a little refreshment before we went to Meeting, which began as usual at 11 o'clock, and was a large and satisfactory meeting. I had a long testimony to bear therein first from John C: 21. v: 18, 19. When thou wast young, thou girdest thyself, and walkedst whither thou wouldest; but when thou shalt be old, thou shalt stretch forth thy hands, and another shall gird thee, and carry thee whither thou wouldest not. This spake he, signifying by what death he should glorify God. John Bottomley a pretty long time next from Acts C: 7. v: 34. I have seen, I have seen the affliction of my People which is in Egypt, and I have heard their groaning, and am come down to deliver them. At the close of this meeting was held our Monthly Meeting for discipline the business of which was very agreeably conducted. Amongst other things William Pickard Junr. of Wakefield Mg. was cleared from all other engagements relating to marriage except with his friend Mary Awmack a member of Thirsk Monthly Mg. A certificate thereof was sent to friends of said Monthly Mg. unto whom the further care therein and of the accomplishment thereof was referred. Also William Leatham of Wakefield Mg. laid before us his intention of marriage with Margaret Walker a member of Brighouse Monthly Mg. Also John Bottomley and myself spread our united prospects of paying a religious visit to the meetings of friends within the compass of Brighouse Monthly Meeting and to have some meetings within the compass of said Mg. with those of other Societies; after solid consideration and several friends expressing their unity therewith; The meeting ordered us a Minute expressing the same and leaving us at liberty to proceed as way might open. The meeting with the former held 3 hours and a half. After dinner I went and sat a little at James Wighams, and left Pontefract in company with Thomas Earnshaw of Judfield, William Leatham walked with us to Carlton were we drunk Tea at Benjamin Jowetts, and afterwards went to James Harrisons of East Hardwick were we lodg'd, got there about quarter past 8 o'clock. On 18<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, After Breakfast we came to Ackworth were I parted with Thomas Earnshaw he going directly home, and I went to the school were I spent the day very agreeably with my friends there, Left about 6 o'clock in the evening dear Robert Whitaker accompanying me about 2 miles and then returned, came by Hemsworth and South Hiendley to Shafton were I got a little before 8 o'clock, and lodg'd at Timothy Sykes's. On 19<sup>th</sup>. and 4<sup>th</sup>. of week, I left Shafton about half past 8 o'clock in the morning, Timothy Sykes accompanied me about half a mile and then return'd, I came by Cudworth and on the banks of the canal to Barnsley were I got about half past 10 o'clock and took up my quarters at John Yeardleys. The afternoon I spent mostly in writing preparatory to the journey we was about to proceed upon. On 20<sup>th</sup>. and 5<sup>th</sup>. of week, I attended Burton Weekday meeting which for some time past hath been held at John Yeardleys of Barnsley. It began at 11 o'clock and held 2 hours 26 persons attended, and amongst the number John Roebottom of the neighbourhood of Ardsley and his Mother were there he appears to be under convincement having attended Friends meetings on first days for half a year past, and I thought the countenance of this young man did me good, and his solid sitting amongst us evinced the concern of his mind. It was a low time to me in the forepart of the meeting, but Truth arose, and we were favoured to rejoice in the Lord, and in the company one of another. I had a pretty long testimony to bear

there in from Psalms 27. v: 4. One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my Life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to enquire in his temple. Afterwards I was concerned in Prayer. Betwixt 3 and 4 o'clock in the afternoon I left Barnsley, Robert Harrison accompanied me three miles, and then returned, came by Cawthorne, Dakinbrook and Dykeside to John Bottomleys of Wood where I stopt about half an hour, and got home betwixt 7 and 8 o'clock in the evening.

Memorandum. Highflatts Monthly Meeting 6<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 14<sup>th</sup>. 1813. The night before we had 6 lodgers, who all got in to Tea except one, viz. John Yeardley and Wife, William Bayldon and Robert Harrison of Barnsley, and Isabella Brearey and Joseph Brearey of Dewsbury Mg. This morning The Meeting of Ministers and Elders began at 9 o'clock and held near 1 hour and a half. All our members attended except Thomas Shillitoe who was out on a religious visit, and Robert Whitaker and Wife the former being disappointed of a horse. It was a good meeting the Queries were read and Answers to the 2<sup>nd</sup>. and 4<sup>th</sup>. drawn up approv'd and Signed in order to be laid before Select Quarterly Meeting. At the close of the business Isabella Harris and myself had each of us a short testimony to bear. After meeting I got a cup of Tea at Richard Dickinsons. The Meeting for Worship began at 11 and was very large of friends, and many People of other Societies attended so that both the house and chamber were crowded, and the most high was graciously pleased to crown this large Assembly with his presence and feed those who were prepared to receive it, with the bread which nourishes the soul up unto eternal life. I had a pretty long time there in in testimony first from 1 Cor: C: 15. v: 14. If christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain. Isabella Harris had afterwards a long time from Psalms 89. v: 28. My covenant shall stand fast with him. At the close of this meeting the business of our Monthly Meeting was entered upon and very amicably gone through, amongst other things William Leatham of Wakefield Meeting was cleared from all other engagements relating to marrying except with Margaret Walker a member of Brighthouse Monthly Meeting; The friends of the said Monthly Meeting were informed thereof by our certificate unto whom the further care therein, and of the accomplishment thereof was referr'd. Also John Bottomley and me returned the Minute of last month authorising us to visit the meetings of friends within the compass of Brighthouse Monthly Meeting, and to have a few meetings with the inhabitants of some places; and gave an account of our visit which was expressed by minute to be very satisfactory to the meeting. Both meetings held near 4 hours. We breakfasted many friends this morning and after meeting din'd 20. George Hemingway a young man under convincement from near Dewsbury stopt with us 3 nights after meeting. His company was very pleasant to me, and I hope his stay was profitable to him, having a tendency to his establishment in the Truth.

Memorandum. Being down at Barnsley on business respecting Taxes, on the 28<sup>th</sup>. of the 6<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1813, and 2<sup>nd</sup>. day of the week, I stopt all night at my much esteemed friend John Yeardeleys; and on the 29<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of the week in the morning feeling my mind drawn to visit John Rowbottom and his Mother, who appear to be under convincement of friends principles, having for sometime duly attended Burton meeting; They living at a place called Honingley near Ardsley about 2 miles from Barnsley, and acquainting John Yeardley with my prospect he accompanied me thither after breakfast. We found they was a pretty large family, and the young man told us he was in the 32<sup>nd</sup>. year of his age and. It appeared that the Mother and this son had been in a seeking way for a long time, that they formerly lived near Chausworth in Derbyshire, from whence they removed about 6 years ago to this place, leaving some to their children who were married, and settled there, who also were in a seeking state. She told us She had long been dissatisfied with all outward forms of Worship, and had left them all,

and read the Scriptures on first days, that she had withstood the persuasions of all in not having any of her children sprinkled, and found peace in so doing; That she was wholly a stranger unto friends and their principles, until some time after she came into these parts, when by attending their meetings, and reading their books, she found their principles to correspond with what the Lord had revealed to her, and her understanding to be more and more opened, and now she was desirous for those she had left behind, that they might have some Books, that had been so useful to her, in confirming her in the Truth of what she had believed. I told her she brought to my remembrance the Parable of the lost piece of Silver; That having experienced her candle lighted, the house swept, and the lost piece of Silver found. She was desirous that others might be brought to the same experience, that they might rejoice together. We stopt upwards of an hour with them and our visit to them was very much to our satisfaction. John Rowbottom accompanied us part of the way to Barnsley, and then return'd, parting with us very affectionately. We came thro' Wosbro' dale back and got to Barnsley just in time to dinner.

Memorandum. I have not been in the practice of keeping any account of my visits to particular meetings in our own parts, but having for a long time had a view of visiting the meeting at Lumbroyd, I thought I felt most easy to make a few remarks thereon. One 7<sup>th</sup>. day morning a Person came into my house and inform'd me that Benjamin Chapman had again been guilty of the shameful sin of excess in drinking, and other reproachful conduct whilst in a state of intoxication; I was much affected with sorrow on hearing of it, considering the labour that had been bestowed upon him, privately and by an appointment from the Monthly Meeting. However a concern came weightily upon my mind, to attend their meeting and afterwards get an opportunity with him. Accordingly the next morning being the 1<sup>st</sup>. of the week and 25<sup>th</sup>. of the 7<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1813, I left home betwixt 8 and 9 o'clock in company with my beloved friend and servant Charles Unsworth, we went by Summerford, and over Rodmore heights into Thurlston. bank were I was surprized to see the alteration that was making since I was that way before in building and inclosing; an Act of Parliament having been obtained for inclosing the waste grounds within that Township. We called and stopt about half an hour at Daniel Broadheads of Battymill were we got a little refreshment and then went the footway to Lumbroyd. The meeting is considerably reduced of friends but several of other Societies attended to day which is not usual at that place, and amongst the number a Soldier whom I particularly noticed for the solidity of his behaviour. It was a pretty open satisfactory meeting, and I was satisfied my being there was in the right time various states were opened and spoke to, The unfaithful were solemnly warned of their danger, and the feeble wrestlers in spirit were encouraged to persevere and not faint in their minds. I had a long testimony to bear therein to the full relief of my mind from Isai: C: 1. v: 8, 9. The daughter of Zion is left as a cottage in a vineyard, as a lodge in a garden of cucumbers, as a besieged city. Except the Lord of hosts had left unto us a very small remnant we should have been as Sodom, and we should have been like unto Gomorrah. At the close of the meeting the Yearly Meeting Epistle was read. After meeting we went home with the Benjamin Chapman of Peniston, just as the meeting broke up there was a clap of Thunder, and it continued Thundering and Lightning with some rain most part of the afternoon. The Soldier who was at meeting was here, he being a relation of Benjamin Chapmans his name is William Wilkins, and he is about 28 years of age, and has been in the army about 8 years, and most of the time abroad in South America, Holland, Portugal and Spain, from the last place he was but newly come to England. He appeared to be an intelligence sensible young man, and gave me a very particular account of the countries they had been in, their produce, and the customs and manners of the inhabitants. also the horrors of war and the difficulties attending it. He appears to be a thoughtful man, and spoke reverently of the favour of Providence in preserving him so as he never received a wound when multitudes fell on the right hand and on the left. I was much pleased with his

company and conversation. Thomas Earnshaw came before Tea, I having requested him to unite with me on the visit to Benjamin Chapman. After Tea we sat with him in his chamber, and dealt very plainly and honestly with him, laying before him in plain terms his sorrowful misconduct, and the awful consequences of it to himself if he persisted in, and the reproach it brought upon the Truth; the divine Power accompanied the word, and reached his understanding, so that he was very much affected, wept much, and was very loving and tender desiring that friends would forbear taking his case at this time to the Monthly meeting, and hoped he should be preserved from falling into such temptations in the future. We was favoured with peace in thus fully relieving our minds to him. and if it should prove the means of reclaiming him from the errors of his ways, may the Lord have the glory. Betwixt 7 and 8 o'clock it being fine we set out for home, and had a very pleasant walk thither, Benjamin Chapman and his relation accompanied us upwards of half a mile and then return'd, we parting in a very friendly manner; came by Ing Birchworth to Newhouse were we got about 9 o'clock.

Memorandum. On ye 15<sup>th</sup>. of ye 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1813, departed this Life Sarah Broadhead wife of John Wood Broadhead of Wooldale and at her own request was buried in friends burial ground at Highflatts on the 19<sup>th</sup>. of the same Mo. and 6<sup>th</sup>. day of the week, aged about 35 years. I attended the meeting held on the occasion, There was a considerable number of friends there, and a few of other Societies; it was upon the whole a satisfactory Meeting, and I had a long testimony to bear therein from John C: 10. v: 37, 38. And if I do not the works of my Father believe me not. But if I do, though ye believe not me, believe the works; that ye may know and believe that the Father is in me, and I in him. The meeting held 2 hours.

Towards the fall of 1813, I paid a religious visit to several Counties in and towards the West of England and some parts of Wales; and having a Meeting with the friends of Dudley in Worcestershire on 22<sup>nd</sup>. of 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1813 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, I found a concern upon my mind to have a Publick meeting with the inhabitants in the evening which was very large; and on the day but one after I receive the following anonymous Letter, directed to Joseph Wood at Joseph Cotterills Bewdley viz.

Excuse the inportunity of one, who, though a stranger to your person, is no stranger to the excellent spirit by which you are actuated; and forgive me if, for a few moments, I trespass upon your candour and patience. I have often attended upon the ministrations of those who men have agreed to call eloquent, but I never felt myself more completely elevated above the fashionable vanities of this world than by your truly christian and apostolic address. The impression which it has left upon my mind is greater than anything I ever before experienced. May that impression be deep, solid and lasting! May it not resemble the morning cloud or the early dew, which appeareth for a little while and then vanisheth away. But may it be as the shining light which shineth more and more unto the perfect day.

I have long felt a desire to communicate with some friend, to whom I might, without fear or danger, impart my real sentiments; and if I am not greatly mistaken, I have at length found that friend. The circumstances under which I am placed are of a very peculiar nature, and I know of no one to whom I can more safely unbosom myself than to you. This however must be a work of time. It will require some advice and discussion before the change which I have meditated can be finally resolved upon. If you feel inclined, therefore, to communicate that advice and to enter into that discussion; you will favour me by writing, in answer to this, a few lines directed for P. 2, to be left at the Post Office Dudley till called for; at the same time subjoining your address, and pledging yourself to make no enquiries as to my name or place of abode. If this request, strange as it may now appear, should be complied

with, you will perhaps, at some future period, have the satisfaction of reflecting that one seal at least has been added to your ministry; and I shall have cause to recollect, with feelings of the liveliest gratitude, the day which brought me acquainted with such a man. Any further explanation would, at this time, be quite unnecessary. In the hope therefore, of receiving a speedy answer to this communication, and in reliance upon your secrecy, I subscribe myself with sincere Affection

Your Friend

Dudley Augt. 22<sup>nd</sup>. 1813

P. S. I penned this Letter yester night, and had some thought of sending it during your stay at Dudley; but finding this impracticable, and learning that you would be at Bewdley tomorrow, I thought it would be advisable to direct to you at Joseph Cotterills there. I have also been informed that Job Pitt from Marshall Williams's proposes meeting you at Bewdley in the course of tomorrow, unless something take place to prevent him; and although I would willingly undergo any suffering for conscience sake, I shall feel greatly obliged, if for the present, you keep this communication a secret from him and all others, Dudley friends in particular. Please to favour me with a reply, directed as above, and sent so as to reach Dudley by Thursday or Friday, relating in what part of Yorkshire you reside, and when you hope to be at home. My usual abode is at no great distance from the centre of Yorkshire, and I shall remain in this Town but a few weeks longer; so that if you feel a wish to extend this correspondence, the thing may be done without any particular inconvenience on either side. I think it necessary to conclude as I began, by stating that I am a stranger to your person, and that you were unknown to me, by report or otherwise., till Yesterday.

Your Friend

23<sup>rd</sup>. Augt. 1813

Memorandum. On ye. 26<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1813, Sarah Leatham, widow of William Leathem of London in the County of Middlesex, Merchant; departed this Life at her house at Fetherstone in the County of York, and was buried in friends burial ground at Burton ye. 2<sup>nd</sup>. of ye 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo 1814 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week aged about 78 years.

She was not in membership having married a first cousin, and not been reinstated since, altho' she duly attended friends meetings and had in her lifetime obtained leave to be buried in friends burial ground at Burton. I was at her own request invited to attend her burial, and received the invitation to meet the corps at Burton. Accordingly I left home on ye. 1<sup>st</sup>. of ye. 1<sup>st</sup>. 1814 and 7<sup>th</sup>. day of the week, betwixt 8 and 9 o'clock in the morning, and went to John Bottomleys of Wood where I sat a little and then proceeded by Dykeside and Dakinbrook to Ellin Waltons of Hollingroid where I rested about half an hour, and then went by Cawthorn to Barnsley, got there a little past 1 o'clock and took up my quarters at John Yeardeleys. This afternoon I drunk Tea at William Taylors, and afterwards went and sat a little at Mary Waltons and then return'd to my quarters. On 2<sup>nd</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week, a little before 10 o'clock my Charles Unsworth got to Barnsley and was my acceptable companion the remainder of this Journey. After getting Tea at William Taylors, we went to Burton expecting to meet the corps there about half past 10. But the road been bad for the Hearse and Coaches, it was a little past 12 before they got there. Great was the concourse of People who were collected, waiting their coming. After the corps was interred the Meetinghouse chamber and stairs were crowded with People, and some stood without. The behaviour of the whole was very becoming the solemnity of the occasion, and I thought it was a very highly favoured meeting. Soon after we were collected Thomas Shillitoe stood up and had a pretty long testimony to bear from As the tree falls so it lieth; and as death leaves judgment will find; there is no repentance in the grave. Isabella Harris had a very long time next from Job C: 30. v: 23. I know that thou will to bring me to death, and to the house appointed for all the living. I had a

long time next from Psalms 23. v: 4. Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Isabella Harris next from Hos: C: 11. v: 8. How shall I give thee up, Ephraim? how shall I deliver thee, Israel? How shall I make thee as Admah? How shall I set thee as Zeboim? Afterwards James Harrison appeared twice with a few words. The meeting held upwards of 2 hours. After meeting Charles Unsworth went with William Harvey to dine, and Thomas Shillitoe and Isabella Harris and her daughter went with the Relations of the deceased to the Sine of the Volunteer in this village where a very comfortable dinner was provided for the occasion. After dinner, and the company were all gone, Thomas Shillitoe and me came immediately to Barnsley were we drunk Tea at William Harveys, and went directly to the meeting held at John Yeardeleys, which was larger than usual, several of other Societies who had been at Burton, and whose minds I doubt not had been reached, by the Power attending the word this day preached there, attended here this evening. I had a long testimony to bear therein from Acts C: 13. v: 43. Continue in the grace of God. and afterwards had a pretty long time from Numb: C: 11. v: 13. Give us flesh, that we may eat. The meeting held 2 hours. On 3<sup>rd</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, we set out after getting some refreshment, a little past 7 o'clock in the morning, and came to Thomas Wests of Cawthorne to Breakfast were we stopt upwards of 1 hour and a half and then came by Dakinbrook and Dykeside home, were we got about quarter past 12 o'clock.

Memorandum. Wakefield Monthly Meeting 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 17<sup>th</sup>. 1814. I left home ye 16<sup>th</sup>. of ye 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 1814 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week about 11 o'clock in the forenoon, under some discouragement. The weather being very severe, there being a deep snow upon the ground, which had lain for the most part of 3 weeks, and I could not hear of any friend likely to accompany me; When I got to Carrbridge, I met with Charles Hinchcliff and his Brother Joseph of Whinney going to Highflatts meeting. I told them where I was going and asked Charles if he would go with me, he readily agreed thereto, and was my acceptable companion this journey. It now began to snow, and continued doing a little throughout the day so that the trods filled with the snow that fell, and made it wearisome getting along; we went by Cumberworth to Skelmanthorp were we stopt about an hour and a half at Charles Backburns and din'd, then proceeded to Emley rested a little there, and afterwards at Michael Buckleys of Bretton, and then went by Crigglestone to Dirtcar were we got betwixt 5 and 6 in the evening and lodg'd at Christopher Walkers. In the evening Christopher collected his family together, when he read a chapter in the Scriptures and afterwards each of the family one. After which we closed into silence, and I had a pretty long testimony to bear, first expressing my unity with the practice they was in, and the advantages they might individually derive from it, and then directing them to that divine principle in the secret of their own hearts by believing in which and obeying its dictates that change may be experienced which would make their lives comfortable and their latter end happy. I thought it was a comfortable opportunity. On 17<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, After breakfast we set out for Wakefield where our Monthly meeting was this day to be held went by Milnthorp and Sandal thither. The meeting was unusually small especially of Women friends owing to the severity of the weather. In the meeting for Worship Isabella Harris had a pretty long testimony to bear from John C: 8. v: 39. If you were Abrahams children, ye would do the works of Abraham. At the close thereof Thomas Shillitoe of Burton Meeting requested the men and women friends to stop a little together when after a short pause he spread before us a concern which had been long on his mind to pay a religious visit to friends in America. After being a little weightily before friends it was proposed to refer the further consideration thereof to our next meeting which was acceded to. The Women friends then withdrew and the men proceeded upon the business of the meeting. The different cases which came before the meeting were in the general pretty amicably concluded, yet I had to lament at this time as well as some others the multiplicity of words without life, which

sometimes prolong meetings very unprofitably, divine counsel being thereby darkened. Both meetings held upwards of 4 hours. After which we din'd at John Robinsons of Fieldhouse, and in our way thither I called and sat a little at Ann Thorps. After dinner we came by Sandal to Robert Walkers of Milnthorp; and drunk Tea at Mary Cudworths who is removed into part of his house. After Tea we came with Ann Pickard to Dircar were we got about 7 o'clock, and were my companion and me lodg'd as before at Christopher Walkers. On 18<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, After breakfast we called and sat a little at William Pickards were we took a little Rum and Water before we set out; left Dircar about 10 o'clock and came to Crigglestone were we tarried about half an hour at George Earnshaws, and then came to Bretton where we rested us a considerable time at Michael Buckleys, and then came to Emley, and a little on this side my companion and me parted, he going to see Charles Stead, and I came to Parkgate were I stopt near an hour at Elias Armitages, and then came to Skelmanthorp were I called and got some refreshment at Doctor John Mac.Gowens, and afterwards called to see John Drake the Schoolmaster a pious man and a preacher among the Baptists who always appeared very kind and loving to friends, he had been long indisposed, but I was glad to find him much better. He appeared much pleased to see me, and before I left he ordered me a glass of Brandy and Water. From thence I came by Cumberworth and Dykeside to John Bottomleys of Wood were I got a little after dark, drunk Tea, and rested me a considerable time there and then came home were I got betwixt 7 and 8 o'clock in the evening.

Memorandum. Wakefield Monthly Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mo. 21<sup>st</sup>. 1814. I left home ye. 19<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mo. 1814 and 7<sup>th</sup>. day of the week, about 9 o'clock in the morning, in company with James Arthington Wilson of Barnsley, we called and sat a little at John Bottomleys of Wood, and then proceeded by Dykeside, Dakinbrook and Cawthorne to Barnsley were we got betwixt 12 and 1 o'clock and were I took up my quarters at John Yeardleys. After Tea I spent part of the evening at George Alletsons and took a glass of Rum and Water. On 20<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week, I breakfasted at William Taylors, and afterwards went and sat a little at Frances Yeardleys and at Samuel Cowards, and then went to their meeting at Burton which was held in silence. At the close thereof was held their Preparative meeting. and at the conclusion of business I had a pretty long testimony to bear from 1 Tim. C: 2. v: 13. I suffer not a woman to teach. After meeting I returned to Barnsley were I din'd at Mary Waltons were Thomas Shillitoes resides; and drunk Tea at Robert Harrison's, and at 5 o'clock attended the meeting in Barnsley which was held in silence. At the close thereof, I procured an opportunity with a young man named John Wood who is in the 18<sup>th</sup>. year of his age and who hath attended friends meetings for some time, I observed him in the meeting at Burton and felt my mind particularly drawn unto him accompanied with a concern to sit with him altho' I did not remember to have seen him before. The opportunity fully relieved my mind he is a precious youth, was much broken and tendered therein; and I had a long testimony to bear from Jer: C: 10. v: 23. It is not in man that walketh to direct his steps. On 21<sup>st</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week about 7 o'clock in the morning I set out for Wakefield were our Monthly Meeting was to be held this day in company with Thomas Shillitoe and Samuel Coward went by Newmillerdam to Robert Walkers of Milnthorp, were we got Tea, and stopt 1 hour then proceeded by Sandal to Wakefield, The meeting was very large and I thought much favoured, I had a long testimony to bear therein from Lam: C: 3. v: 27. It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth. At the close of this meeting the men and women who were members being requested to stop together, The concern of our friend Thomas Shillitoe to visit friends in America being revived, many friends expressed their sympathy with him under his concern, and a Committee of friends were appointed to prepare a Certificate of the Meetings concurrence therewith to be produced at our next meeting. The Women friends then withdrew, and the Men entered upon the business of the meeting, we had not so much before us to day as at some other times, but in general it was agreeably conducted, a good degree of

solemnity overshadowing us, yet the meeting was considerably prolonged by unnecessary and unprofitable remarks, made by a friend whom I much esteem, and who is valuable when preserved in his proper place, in the exercise of his gift, but when from under it is I think one of the weakest of men, and has many times done much hurt in our meeting for discipline, and towards the close of this he introducing a matter as he had done many times before very improperly threw the meeting into considerable confusion, and I in my zeal against much disorder expressed myself too warmly on the occasion, which brought sorrow over mine own mind, which was succeeded with the thankfulness, that not only the Lords rod, but his staff comforted me. The case of Joseph Breary of Dewsbury Meeting on his application for to be admitted a member of our Society, which was referred from our last meeting to the consideration of this, being revived, after a time of weighty consideration he was accepted a member of our Society. Both meetings held 4 hours and a quarter. After getting a little refreshment which William Leatham had sent to the Meetinghouse for friends, I came by Sandal to Robert Walkers of Milnthorp were I stopt Tea, and then came by Dirtcar were I got a little past six o clock and lodg'd at Christopher Walkers. On 22<sup>nd</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, I breakfasted at William Pickards, and a little past 9 o clock left Dirtcar and came to Crigglestone were I stop upwards of half an hour at my Uncle Joseph Houghs, then came to Bretton were I rested me a considerable time at Michael Buckleys, then proceeded by Emley to Elias Armitages of Parkgate were I stopt 1 hour and a half and got some refreshment, then came by Skelmanthorp to my Nephew Robert Woods of Moorbottom were I stopt about an hour and a half and drunk Tea, and got home betwixt 6 and 7 o clock in the evening; having had fine weather throughout this journey.

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*No. 1 Long Book examined by James Harrison and approved*

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Newhouse 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 12<sup>th</sup>. 1812

Respected Friend  
Benjamin Chapman

That near unity which ever subsisted betwixt thy worthy Father and me, from the time of his being brought to the knowledge of the ever blessed and unchangeable Truth; the remembrance thereof, hath oftens raised in my mind a sincere regard for thee, accompanied with earnest desires, that thou might be favoured to walk in his footsteps. But ah! how hath my mind, with many others of thy well wishing friends been affected with sorrow on thy account since thou gave thyself up in such a shameful manner to the unnecessary frequenting of Alehouses, and drinking to excess, so as to exceed all that I have ever before known in our Society: I say, I have not only pitied but greatly lamented thy case, and have earnestly desired that thou might be favoured to find a place of repentance and amendment for the time to come; For I will assure thee thy character is very gravely injured thereby, both amongst friends and others, not only in respect to the evil itself, but by endeavouring to cover it, in saying thou has only had so and so, when they know to the contrary; also by pretending to have business at this place or the other; when they have well known thou has had none, but to get Liquor. These things I have frequently heard remark'd by

many, with this addition, that there was no regard to be had to thy word, and that thou would very soon run through what thy parents had endeavoured for, if thou did not alter; These things have oftens affected me very deeply, and this morning I thought I could not be easy without writing to thee, and I will assure thee it is out of real regard, and love for thee; accompanied with earnest desires for thy recovery, from these dreadful evils, which have brot great reproach upon thyself, and upon the blessed Truth. To get intoxicated, and debase man below the brute creation is a great evil, but to seek to cover it with an untruth, is adding sin to sin. Now there is this encouraging language in the Scriptures viz "Joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons that need no repentance." I would therefore in a few words, and in that love which earnestly desires thy present and future welfare, earnestly intreat thee to seek unto the Lord for help, that he may be graciously pleased to enable thee to experience an overcoming of these evils, for thou can never overcome them by thine own strength: Resolutions made in the will of man are frequently broken when the next temptation presents. But if there is an humble seeking unto Christ for help, and a sense of weakness, and from a real abhorrence of the evil; thou may be favoured to experience, that he is able to save to the uttermost all who thus come to God by him. This is what I much desire for thee, and then the end of my writing to thee would be fully answered, who am thy truly well wishing friend

Joseph Wood

For Benjamin Chapman  
of Peniston.

Newhouse 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 13<sup>th</sup>. 1812

Beloved Friend  
Charles Unsworth

Being renewedly favoured to feel the sheddings abroad of divine Love, and the fresh extendings thereof to follow in my heart towards thee my dearly beloved friend, and faithful companion, accompanied with that saying of the wise man left upon record, "A word fitly spoken is like Apples of Gold in Pictures of Silver." I am encouraged altho' it may but be in a few words, to manifest my continued sincere regard and undiminished love for thee, by communicating a little of what hath opened before the view of my mind to thee. The Psalmist saith. "Great peace have they which love thy law; and nothing shall offend them." It is this pure Peace, that I much desire thou may be favoured with which is the product of loving the divine law wrote as by the finger of God in the secret of the heart; agreeable to the testimony of the Prophet, when favoured to view the abrogation of the Mosaic dispensation by the coming of Christ; and the privilege that would follow to mankind in an universal manner under the new Covenant dispensation. "I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God and they shall be my People." And the more thou art in love with this inward law, the more thou will delight to meditate therein, and thereby experience the blessing resulting therefrom." Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful: But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season." May thou not only love this inward law and meditate therein both day and night; but manifest thy love by coming up in obedience to its discoveries; and tho' the way of its leadings may be in the way of the Cross, and may subject thee to the appellation of a fool, and to the scorn and derision of thy former acquaintance; yet it will most assuredly bring that peace to thy own mind which nothing in this world can give; nor which none in the world can deprive thee off; and in this state of mind nothing can offend thee: For tho' as our Saviour observes, "It must needs be that offences come; but wo to that man by whom the offence cometh." So that the wo is not to them to whom the offence cometh, but to them by whom it

cometh. For the former being engaged in obedience to the divine Law, meet with what outward tryals mockings and scoffings they may, are preserved in Peace; and sometimes favoured with thankfulness that they are accounted worthy by their great Master to suffer reproach for the Truths sake, and bearing their Testimony thereunto; by coming up in obedience to the manifestations of duty. Therefore, Thank God my dear friend, and take courage; that so thou may be favoured to adapt the language of a servant of God formerly. "Behold, the Lord God will help me; who is he that shall condemn me? Lo they all shall wax old as a garment; the moth shall eat them up." Farewel dear friend, and may the most high bless thee, and keep thee from all evil; and lead thee in the way everlasting, is the earnest desire of thy sincere friend and Brother

Joseph Wood

For Charles Unsworth  
of Annatroyd

Newhouse 9<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 17<sup>th</sup>. 1812

My dear Friend  
Charles Unsworth

My Spirit renewedly salutes thee, in that Love which according to our respective measures of divine Grace hath knit and united us together, even as the heart of one man; sincerely desiring that as the Lord in his abundant mercy hath been pleased to visit thy poor soul with the day spring from on high, and to begin a great and glorious work in thee; so nothing on thy part may hinder the progress thereof, but that thou may be willing that Amalek or the first nature may be entirely destroyed without any reserve; even under a pretence of doing sacrifice to Almighty God seeing that he hath declared by his Prophet "Hath the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and Sacrifices as in obeying the voice of the Lord; Behold to obey is better than sacrifice; and to hearken than the fat of rams." And as thy mind I humbly trust hath been happily turned unto the true light which enlighteneth every man, and which clearly manifests what we ought to do, and what we ought to leave undone; May thou come up in obedience to the discoveries thou art favoured with; not consulting with flesh and blood; nor putting off clear manifestations of duty, to more convenient seasons, for the Lords time is not only the best but the only time; and one simple act of obedience to the Lords requirings is more acceptable unto him, than all the offerings in the will of the creature. And as I believe the Lord by his Power is at work in thee, to bring thee off from all the worlds ways, customs, fashions, and language, which are vain; so I desire that through thy disobedience thou may not Quench his holy spirit; But remember Christs declaration, "Every plant which my heavenly Father hath not planted shall be rooted up." Give up therefore freely to the discoveries of the true light; be not afraid of the Worlds dread laugh, or to be by the world accounted a fool." Fear ye not the reproach of men, neither be ye afraid of their revilings" Thus wilt thou be favoured to experience the Light in thee to shine brighter and brighter unto the perfect day, and know in thine own experience that it is the more sure word of Prophecy unto which the Apostle advices the believers to take heed as unto a light that shineth in a dark place until the day dawn and the day star arise in their hearts. I must now conclude after desiring thee when thou art concerned to supplicate the Lord on thine own account, that thou may remember me; that I may be strengthened to do the will of God on earth, so as to be favoured to lay down my head in peace. I am my dearly beloved friend, thy constant faithful Friend

Joseph Wood

For Charles Unsworth  
of Annatroyd

Newhouse 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 15<sup>th</sup>. 1812

My Beloved Friend  
Charles Unsworth

Since thou became a resident in my house, it has many times bore with considerable weight upon my mind, to address thee with a few lines: and then again I have thought, that as our lots are now cast in one house there was no necessity of writing; having frequent opportunities of conveying anything that may be upon our minds verbally to each other. But this did not appear to be a sufficient excuse; for it opened in my mind, that by writing thou would have it to read at any time; and perhaps something contained therein might be of use to thee, if I should be numbered to the silent grave, and leave thee exposed to the temptations incident to man in passing through this vale of tears. This made me willing to take up my pen and in the first place to acknowledge, the satisfaction it hath been to my mind, in observing since divine Providence hath brought us together; no disposition in thee to frequent vain, or even unprofitable company: but I hope rather to shun them: The frequenting of such company, having been a means of laying waste many precious visitations, and hindering the progress of the work of regeneration. Man must cease to do evil, before he can learn to do well; and if he cease to do evil he must shun the path which leads thereunto, and then a way will open for him to learn to do well. Thou has I apprehend felt thy mind drawn to attend friends meetings; I am not one of those that would compass Sea and Land to gain proselytes. But as I apprehend thou believes it to be thy duty, I would advise and encourage thee to faithfulness and diligence therein. Remembering that we are accountable to the most high for every neglected opportunity put into our hands; and when assembled endeavour to shut out all wanderings of the mind, thus will thou be enabled to pray to thy Father which is in heaven in secret, and he will reward thee openly, by the lifting up of the light of his glorious countenance upon thee; whereby thy heart will be broken, and thy spirit contrited before him; and thou enabled to worship him without the aid of words, agreeable to his own appointment in Spirit and in Truth: Thus also will thy heart be opened to see into the Truth of those testimonies delivered unto us as a people to bear, and as thou feels thyself called to unite in testimony thereunto, altho' it may be in what may appear little matters, consult not I beseech thee with flesh and blood; but wait diligently upon the Lord that he may be pleased to strengthen thee to give up to the heavenly vision. This is confessing Christ before men, and those who thus continue to confess, he has promised he will confess before his Father and the holy Angels. Thus as thou art exercised in the path of obedience to the manifestations of duty, altho' in the way of the cross, for this is the way in which the Lord leads his People; by which they are crucified unto the world, and to the language customs and fashions thereof, and the world unto them, having no desire to conform thereto, but rather to live an humble self-denying Life. Choosing (with Moses) rather " to suffer affliction with the People of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season. Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompense of reward." O may this not only be thy choice, but may thou not regard what the world may say or think of thee; may thou not fear the reproach or revilings of men; but follow on to know the Lord, by obeying his commands manifested unto thee by the Light to be thy duty; then will he preserve thee from the great snare into which many visited minds have fallen, of taking up a rest by the way like Ephraim formally. "Ephraim is a cake not turned." Consequently not fit for use, not prepared to fill up his designated station in the body. But on the contrary, may thou be willing by a total surrender of thine own will to the Lords; That he may wash thee, and strip thee; and then I have no doubt but he will also clothe thee with his own robes of righteousness, and arm thee with the breastplate of salvation; whereby thou will be enabled to resist the Devil, who will not fail to assault thee with his temptations of various kinds, in order if possible to ensnare thee; but by resisting, he will flee; and drawing nigh to God, he will draw nigh to thee; and be a present helper in the very time of need: And thus persevering in due time he will bring thee into the beautiful and comely order of his flock and family, where there is bread enough and to spare, and thus when thou art favoured to see the sitting of the Lords servants, the

attendance of his Ministers and their Apparel etc. Thou will be made to acknowledge that notwithstanding the accounts thou had heard were excellent: yet one half had never been told thee; and thus will thy peace flow as a river, and thy righteousness as the waves of the sea. O my dear friend may thou oftens Query within thyself; how much owest thou unto thy Lord. May thou consider his superintending providential care over thee from thy childhood unto the present day; how when left a poor desolate orphan, having none to provide, or take care of thee; he opened the heart of Relations to take thee under their care; who got the learning sufficient for thy station in Life; and after thou was able to provide for thyself, when cast among strangers, who turned their backs upon thee. He raised thee up in the needful time, one who made thee a home, same as an house of thine own; and thus provided thee with a faithful friend, that sticketh closer to thee than a Brother: For true Friendship having that which is divine for its original; these as Solomon observes, "Love at all times." And this love unites nearer than any outward relationship can. Now my dear friend, having found such a friend; mind thou lose him not, by any imprudent act; do nothing thou knows will grieve him; but on the contrary, manifest thy love by doing every little kindness in thy Power: Thus will thou experience more and more the advantage of having a faithful friend both temporally and spiritually. Solomon saith, "two are better than one because they have a good reward for their labour. For if one fall, the other will lift up his fellow; but wo to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up." Again, "If two lie together then they have heat; but how can one be warm alone." Thus he sets forth the value of faithful religious friendship; as one of the greatest blessings we can be favoured with in Life. So that if one cool in his zeal to God the other endeavours to increase a warmth in him by timely advice or admonition. Or if one thro' unwatchfulness falls the other is ready to lend him an helping hand. Therefore be sure thou keep true to thy friend, for the contrary is the highest pitch of ingratitude, and to be guilty of this sin, renders a man odious both to God and man. Finally may the Lord bless and keep thee from all evil, and lead thee in the way everlasting, is the earnest desire of thy real friend

Joseph Wood

For Charles Unsworth  
of Newhouse

Newhouse 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 28<sup>th</sup>. 1812

Respected Friend  
Benjamin Chapman

David altho' a man highly favoured of the Lord, yet through unwatchfulness in the hour of temptation, fell into many gross evils; but through deep sorrow, and sincere repentance, was again restored into favour with him; who according to the Prophet's declaration. "He retaineth not his anger for ever, because he delighteth in mercy." Now these transgressions of his are recorded in holy writ, not that we should fall into these or other evils, but that we might be preserved therefrom, and from the sorrow inseperable from sin of what kind so ever it may be. Now we find he was so humbled under a sense of his transgressions, that he was ever desirous of the reproof of those who through mercy had been favoured to experience preservation, and therefore saith," Let the righteous smite me it shall be a kindness, and let him reprove me, it shall be an excellent oil, which shall not a break my head." When I last wrote thee, I thought thou might perhaps think I was close with thee; but if we really love one another as we ought, it will lead us to deal honestly one with another; and I can assure thee, it was from a real regard for thy present and future welfare, and from an apprehension of duty that I engaged in it; and have reason to believe thou looked upon it in kindness, and that it hath proved to thee as oil, not to hurt, but rather to heal. And as I hope thou hath been more watchful of late, I much wish to encourage thee therein; that thy conduct in every respect may be an honour to thy profession. And I feel most easy to observe to thee

that I much wish thy late disappointment may not make thee do anything rashly; but rather have a tendency to cause thee to look unto the Lord for instruction and direction in the matter of such importance; as thy comfort in this life much depends upon it; and thy future welfare may be much endangered by a wrong choice. And I believe if thou art thus concerned he will provide thee a suitable helpmeet, even such a one, as may with thee, be concerned to walk in all the commandments of the Lord blameless. This is what I much desire for thee, and before I conclude, I would just add; Mind not high things, many have brought ruin upon themselves, and their posterity by aiming at things above their circumstances; and those who may have appeared their friends, and perhaps may have been the forwardest to encourage them in this vanity; when they have thereby brought them into trouble, are the most forward to blame them for it. Mind therefore I beseech thee to keep within thy circumstances, and not to be desirous to appear above them, for these are always held in the greatest esteem. And may the Lord bless and preserve thee from every thing that will wound thy own soul, or bring any reproach upon the the blessed Truth thou art making profession of: Is the sincere desire of thy affection friend

Joseph Wood

For Benjamin Chapman  
of Peniston

Newhouse 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 31<sup>st</sup>. 1812

Beloved Friend  
John Pickford

That precious cementing Love which nearly united our Spirits in our early acquaintance; I believe through the various vicissitudes we have since had to pass through, hath remained inviolable; and I hope been rather increasing in the root: as I have many times felt the renewings thereof to flow in my heart towards thee; and under this influence of Love to God and man this morning it came into my heart to Salute thee with a few lines, acknowledging the precious evidence I was favoured to feel when the report of the united Committee was read at the Monthly Meeting, and thy name proposed for an Elder; I thought I could have acknowledged, that both the proposal and appointment were divine in its origin. Believing thee to be one that can travail in spirit at times with the poor Ministers, and are thereby qualified to hold up their hands, as Aaron and Hur held up the hands of Moses; and thou may remember, "When Moses held up his hands, then Israel prevailed; and when he let down his hand Amalek prevailed. So that they sat on each side of him to stay his hands, and they remained steady to the going down of the sun." I believe there is great instruction in this to us of the present day; and great use in Elders sitting with Ministers in the Gallery; not only to the Ministers but also to the People, and as thou has now broke the Ice by taking thy proper seat therein last first day, I would have thee to continue it; I believe thou will find it to redound to thy own Peace of mind, and to the strengthening of thee to fulfil the duty of thy station, and that it will be also of advantage to the Society. Our blessed Lord saith, "The Scribes and Pharisees sit in Moses seat. All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, that observe and do; but do not ye after their works for they say, and do not. It sometimes happens that we who are engaged in the work of the ministry are both from home, when it is certainly the duty of an Elder to break up the meeting; whilst we have had none in this Station to sit in the Gallery, it hath fallen to the lot of those who sit underneath to do it; many of these have taken their Fathers seat, without inheriting their Fathers virtues; Thus meetings have sometimes been very unseasonably broken up, to the great sorrow of the rightly exercised: Altho' it is better to observe and do by complying therewith, than to cause confusion. These things I hope will now be remedied by thee taking thy proper seat and fulfilling thy office. Solomon saith "Every wise woman buildeth her house, but the foolish plucketh it down with her own hands." Thus it is when the wise neglect their proper business, the foolish step in, and

under a pretence of building, lay waste the work. That I much wish thy encouragement to enter cheerfully into the several duties of thy Station; firmly believing thou will then see of the travail of thy soul and be satisfied; and conclude with real respect thy sincere Friend

Joseph Wood

For John Pickford  
of Parkhead

Newhouse 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 2<sup>nd</sup>. 1813

Esteemed Friends  
John and Mary Haigh

We have a unwearied enemy to war with, that is continually watching for our unwatchfulness; We are also favoured with a secret Monitor, that continues to lift up a standard against him; until its voice be quenched by human reason, which sometimes prevails and silences for a season the voice of this inward monitor. But such is the mercy of the Almighty that he hath also preserved a few as Watchmen upon the walls of our Zion who are favoured to see this subtil enemy at a distance, and give an alarm before he approach too near, that so we may be favoured to escape his snares. The Apostle drops this excellent advice to the believers formally, "Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand in the evil day, and having done all to stand." My friends this evil day, I look upon it to be the hour of temptation which comes upon all to try them, and if possible to make us believe there is little in this thing or the other, which in the light we have seen to be our duty; There is little neglecting in the due attendance of religious meetings, but believe him not; for he is a liar, and the father of lyes. For to be diligent therein is a duty we owe unto him from whom all blessings to flow; and who can bless or blast all our endeavours, and if we are but favoured to put on the armour of God, and stand nobly against the wiles of the enemy in this respect, I believe we shall find out our outward concerns will not suffer thereby, and our inward man will grow stronger and stronger in the Lord, and in the power of his might and thou shall we be enabled to fill up our proper portion of Labour in the Church, to our own Peace, and the edification of the body. But in the course of my Life I have never observed, any, to be of much use, who could easily neglect this duty; but on the contrary there hath been a gradual dwindling, until the Love that they have formerly felt to God and man, has been at so far lost, that they have settled down in empty formality as "Trees whose fruit withereth, without fruit, twice dead, plucked up by the roots." I thought this morning I felt something of a necessity to encourage you, to be as diligent as you can in the assembling of yourselves with your brethren, that so you may be favoured to come forward in usefulness, and in the end lay down your heads in peace. this is the sincere desire of your affectionate Friend

Joseph Wood

For John and Mary Haigh  
of Shepley

Newhouse 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 5<sup>th</sup>. 1813

My dear Cousin  
Charles Stead junr.

It now appears a long time since I had the pleasure of enjoying thy company; the time when I proposed calling to see thee, proved so exceeding wet, that I dare not stop any where for fear of catching cold; and the last Monthly meeting, the snow was driven so deep in many places with us, that I dare not attempt to attend it not being very well. But altho' I have been thus deprived of visiting thee; I can assure thee thou has frequently been the companion of my thoughts, accompanied with earnest desires, that in this thy solitary

confinement through indisposition of body, by which thou art prevented from meeting with thy friends; thou may be favoured in thy private retirement, to feel the presence and power of the living God to overshadow thee, to the tendering of thy heart and contriting of thy spirit, and strengthening thee to come up in obedience to every manifestation of duty, he may be pleased to favour thee with. One formerly saith in humble confidence of the Lords teaching to the waiting soul. "Thou wilt shew me the path of Life: in thy presence is fulness of joy, at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore" I trust this is thy experience, that the Lord continues to shew unto thee in thy humble waiting upon him, the path in which thou ought to walk, to be favoured with the renewings of that Life which is hid with Christ in God. And as thy obedience keep pace with the knowledge that thou art thus favoured with; he will fill thy heart with that joy which flows from his presence, and enable thee to worship him in Spirit and in Truth. For altho' it is the duty of all whilst health permits, to be as diligent as they can in the assembling of themselves together, as the manner of some is; and I doubt not but thou hast oftens lamented thy neglect of duty herein, since the Lord hath been mercifully pleased to visit thee with his day spring from on high, yet he is no hard master, he is not requiring impossibilities of us, remember his gracious promise, "I will have mercy, and not sacrifice." Upon every truly repenting mind, and when these through affliction, are deprived of the privilege of attending religious meetings, he is pleased to enable them to worship alone in his presence, as it is humbly waited for, and sought after; causing them secretly to acknowledge, "The Lord is good unto them that wait for him, to the soul that seeketh him." I have oftens been led to admire the mercy and long forbearance of the Almighty with poor man ; he calls, he wooeth, he inviteth; but blooming youth in too general a manner turn a deaf ear to all divine instruction; putting off these precious visitations to some future or more convenient season, forgetting the Lords days without number, by refusing to take up their daily cross and follow him, yet how evidently does he fulfil his own declaration. "As I live saith the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way, and live; turn ye, turn ye, from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel." Thus he continues to renew his calls in mercy to the rebellious, and when they still continue to refuse the offers of his love; then he sometimes visits by his judgments of various kinds, yet mixed with mercy; sometimes with sickness, as has been the case with thee, and an unspeakable favour it is to thee, that thine heart has been inclined under this visitation to bow unto his Power, and submit thy neck unto the yoke of Christ, and learn of him who is meek and lowly of heart; and I humbly hope if he sees meet to take thee hence by the present complaint; if thou hold out until the end, thou will find rest unto thy soul, and be favoured with that foretaste thereof which will remove the sting of death: And if he sees meet to restore thy health again; I much desire thou may never forget his mercies to thee in the day of thy distress; but that the remainder of thy days may be dedicated to the Lords service, and that thy whole conduct through life may convey the inscription unto others of Follow me, as I follow Christ. I sometimes think I should be glad if consistent with the divine will, that thou might be raised up again, hoping thou might be useful unto others; and perhaps have from well grounded experience to tell what great things he hath done for thy soul. But it is best to endeavour in all things to be resigned to the divine will; with desires that this may be thy happy attainment, I conclude and remain thy loving Cousin

Joseph Wood

For Charles Stead junr.  
of Siver Ing in Emley Park

Newhouse 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 12<sup>th</sup>. 1813

Beloved friend  
Thomas Earnshaw

The very low and almost desolate state of your meeting, I have been led to conclude in my mind, that oftens viewed by thee with no small degree of discouragement, so as to make thee at times ready to adapt a language similar unto that of the Prophet. "O Lord God, forgive, I beseech thee; by whom shall Jacob arise? for he is small." By whom, or in whom, shall that wrestling seed arise, and prevail; which cannot sit down in a state of ease and indifferency of mind, but travail and labour, that they may be favoured to obtain the blessing. It is not that the Lord hath forgotten to be gracious unto his people, or hath forsaken them, that we have many times to sit therein, as in the parched places of the desart but because of that sorrowful ease which so generally prevails; little exercise of mind being experienced for the arising of that life which is the crown and glory of our Assemblies; hence the living have oftens to sit, where the uncircumcised in heart and ear sit, who continue to resist the Holy.ghost; in a state of Suffering with that Seed, oppressed in the hearts of many, even as a cart loaded with Sheaves; and perhaps to remain in this burthened and oppressed state, at times many days; being ready to cry out with Baruch formerly, when he was greatly dismayed. "Wo is me now! for the Lord hath added grief to my sorrow; I fainted in my sighing, and I find no rest." But remember the Lord knew the discourage state of his mind, and sent the Prophet with this encouraging message unto him. "Seekest thou great things for thyself? seek them not; for behold I will bring evil upon all flesh, saith the Lord: but thy life will I give unto thee for a prey in all places whither thou goest." That I have thought in the present low declining state of things, it is not a time for thee to expect great things, but if greater desolation should yet come, which I very much fear will be the case, remembering the state of the Church formally, unto whom the language of the Spirit was. "Because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spew thee out of my mouth." I say I cannot help fearing that this will be the case with more amongst you. Yet I do believe thy life will be preserved for a prey, and this will be enough for thee: and perhaps thou may yet be favoured to see the travail of thy soul and be satisfied. "For I say unto you that God is able of the stones to raise up children unto Abraham." Therefore be not too discouraged or cast down, but what thine hand findeth to do, do it with all thy might. This I believe is the way for a revival, and to be favoured with true Peace. I remain thy loving and sympathizing friend

Joseph Wood

For Thomas Earnshaw  
of Judfield

Newhouse 4 mo. 26<sup>th</sup>. 1813

Esteemed Friend  
Thomas Shillitoe

The day after the Quarterly Meeting at Leeds I was at the request of a friend in his company; who asked me if I intended accompanying Isabella and thee, on the visit to those prisoners discharged upon Bail; I answered I had not felt much concern on mine own mind, but a liberty to join with you, if ye proceeded in it. He remarked if we did, it ought to be very cautiously, and not without leave of the magistrate, as their cases were different from the others. He said several friends had spoken with him upon the subject, and were of the same opinion. In short I found that friends were pretty generally of one mind that we had better drop it if we could be easy so to do. I had intended being at our Monthly meeting at Burton, but was prevented, when I thought we might have had a conference upon the subject. However I found upon enquiry that the Magistrate is not at home, nor likely to be for a considerable time; That the larger number of these men resided contrary to expectation within the compass of Brighthouse Monthly Meeting; and therefore it would be a breach of order to

visit them without a Minute from our Monthly Meeting. And many having lost their work by being in prison; were gone into different parts to procure work; These things with many friends as it appears having no unity with it. I thought it best to inform thee of them; and also that I feel most easy to decline it. However I do not mean by this to discourage you except ye feel alike liberated. But as there is no Minute upon our Books, if you feel the will accepted for the deed, I think it may not be amiss; however at present, until proper credentials, and leave of the Magistrate can be obtained; and friends more fully satisfied that the concern is right. I hope my freedom in writing, will have no unfavourable construction put upon it, seeing that I am alike implicated in the concern; and was particularly desired by several friends, If you went to accompany you, who at the same time acknowledge, that if we felt easy; they believed it would be best to drop it. With dear love to thee thy Wife and Daughter, I remain thy affectionate Friend

Joseph Wood

For Thomas Shillitoe  
of Barnsley

Newhouse 6<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 24<sup>th</sup>. 1813

My dear Friend  
Joshua Scholefield

Thine of the 20<sup>th</sup>. Inst. I duly received, and was truly glad to hear of thy health, a blessing which we ought to be truly thankful for; also that thou was in full employ; and that thou should be glad to meet me next first day, an opportunity I should gladly have embraced, had not something altogether unexpected by me, fallen out to prevent me. However I may say, I feel myself very deeply interested in thy welfare, in respect to things of this life, but in a more abundant manner in respect to the welfare of thy poor never dying immortal soul; Believing that if thou art but concerned above all things, to take Christs advice. "Seek first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness, and all things shall be added unto you." That is all things needful for the accommodation of these bodies; and tho' whilst poor man is walking according to the prince of the power of the air the spirit which now worketh in the children of disobedience, he is a child of wrath; and has no disposition in this state to seek after the true and saving knowledge of Almighty God. Yet such is the Lords compassionate regard towards the workmanship of his hands, that at certain times and seasons, he is visiting man in this state, not that he should continue therein; but thro' sincere repentance received the forgiveness of sins that are past, by virtue of the blood of Christ, shed for the remission thereof, and henceforth walk before him in newness of life. Now my dearly beloved friend. The mercy of the Almighty has been very eminently manifested unto thee, not only in sparing thy life when many of thy companions suffered an untimely death. Thus affording the time and space to repent. But also in visiting thy poor soul with his day spring from on high, of which I am living witness, at the time when I first saw thee; how wonderful the Lords Power was manifested to thee; even to the breaking of thy rocky heart, and contriting of thy spirit, causing thee to tremble before him, that thy Soul might rest in the day of trouble. Now this I am perswaded was the day of the manifestation of the Lords Power unto thee. The day of Gods visitation unto thy soul; The time in which thou art called upon to seek the Lord and I am perswaded if thou art concerned to seek him, not only whilst he is to be found, but where he is to be found, and that is within; that thou wilt be favoured to find him to thy souls solid comfort and satisfaction. It was the language of the most high through the mouth of his servant the Prophet. "seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near. Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts, and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him, and to our God for he will abundantly pardon." O my dear friend may a sense of the Lords mercies to thee, never be forgot by thee; But may thou be preserved in a fear of offending him in thought, word or deed; so that when

temptations to evil may present, thou may be favoured with strength to resist the Devil, and he will flee; Or when sinners entice thee consent thou not unto them Thus will thou experience. "the fear of the Lord is a fountain of life, to depart from the snares of death." and as thou art thus concerned thou may, "cease to do evil; thou will be favoured to "Learn to do well;" and experience the Lord by his spirit not only to reason with thee, but in due time to blot out all thy transgressions, and remember thy sins and iniquities no more. "I will heal their backsliding, I will love them freely; for mine anger is turned away from him." O may this be the experience of my much beloved friend, is at this time the breathing of my spirit, and not only so, but that thou may follow on to know the Lord, and experience his goings forth prepared as the morning, and his comings in unto thee, to be as the former and latter rain upon the earth. Please to write again or come and see me soon; I am with dear Love to thee thy truly affectionate and well wishing friend

Joseph Wood

For Joshua Scholefield  
of Leeds

5<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 31<sup>st</sup>. 1814

Respected Friend  
Thomas Bottomley

The consideration of Registering the children of those who have forfeited their unity with friends, upon application of a Parent or Parents; came weightily under the consideration of our Quarterly Meeting some time ago, when it appeared to be the sense of the said meeting; that Monthly Meetings ought to be more cautious of recording the Births of such, than some had been: And tho' the meeting did not wish any to be refused, who felt a real religious scruple upon their minds, and whose conduct was consistent with our religious profession. For as our blessed Lord observes. "A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Wherefore (addeth he) by their fruits ye shall know them." Therefore it appeared to the meeting, there could not be any religious scruple, against the children being baptised or sprinkled with water, by those who had so lately submitted to it themselves; or had manifested no religious scruple against acknowledging the Power of an Hireling Priest to join together in the solemn covenant of marriage; except these had been favoured through repentance to experience a change of heart, manifested unto the world, by a sober and orderly conduct amongst men; and by a due attendance at our Religious Meetings, and bearing a faithful Testimony against the Payment of Tythes, Priest demands, or those called Church rates; and not to being in any manner concerned with the Militia. Now it was the judgment of that meeting that Monthly meetings should be more cautious in future, and that if these fruits did not appear, and they did not like to sprinkle them at the Steeplehouse. Friends should give them a form to record them in their Bibles, which is a legal Register and may be admitted as such in a court of Law. Now at our last Monthly meeting a Birth note for a child of thine was produced, but not read, that the meeting or no part thereof might be prepossed in their judgement one way or other by knowing who it was: The case was solidly before the meeting, and the judgment thereof was that it would not be proper to admit it to be registered amongst friends, and the Meeting nominated us to inform thee thereof. Which we now do in much tenderness and real regard for thy welfare; earnestly desiring that it may prove a means of bringing thee to a consideration of the privileges which by giving way to the temptations of the unwearied enemy thou hast justly forfeited. Inclosed have sent thee a copy of a form if thou chuse to record it in thy Bible. And before we conclude may express our sincere desire, that thou may seriously consider that thou art passed the meridian of life, and fast hastening to the silent grave; and altho' thou may have formerly had only a traditional belief of our principles, and supported our testimonies in an outward form, yet if thou art favoured to know the Truth for thyself, thou will then be favoured to feel

the force of them, and to support them from principle. That this may be thy experience is the earnest desire of thy sincere and well wishing friends

Joseph Wood  
John Pickford

For Thomas Bottomley  
of Height Nr Thursteland

Newhouse 6 mo. 1<sup>st</sup>. 1814

Esteemed Friend  
Charles Kaye

I have not forgot the question thou asked me some time ago, altho' at the time I had not the opportunity to explain myself to thee; and neither have I since, being as thou knows pretty much engaged; yet not only thee, but the question hath been frequently in my remembrance, which to the best of my knowledge was this.

If friends would have any objection to thee becoming a member of our Society. Now altho' we are not of those who are compassing sea and land to gain proselytes; neither do we wish an increase of numbers, without our joy being thereby multiplied; yet the hearts of a remnant do rejoice, when from a clear convincement of the Truth of our religious Principles, manifested by a consistent conduct, any are looking towards uniting with us: and as our practice of admitting members is attended with more caution, and widely different from any other Society I know of; I think it not amiss to give thee a little information respecting it. When any have attended our meetings until they are fully satisfied respecting our Principles, and are bearing an uniform testimony with the faithful amongst us, and believing it to be their duty to be united in outward fellowship with us; they generally mention their concern to some friend, requesting him to inform friends thereof, he then mentions it to the Preparative meeting; If the person thus applying do not duly as he can attend meetings not only on first but on week.days, or is not consistent in his Apparel with what Truth leads its faithful followers into; then the Overseers are requested to pay him a visit, which they do; and impart to him such counsel and advice as may open; and the case is left until his way open to make a second application. For as the attendance of Meetings and plainness of Apparel are obvious to the eyes of all; and we know that Truth leads thereto; altho' we are sorrowfully sensible that many who are members by Birthright only, very much deviate therefrom, not only in neglecting the due attendance of week.day meetings; but also in conforming to the world instead of experiencing a being transformed by the renewings of their minds: yet we are particularly careful not to add to this number, but that such as join the Society may manifest they are convinced of their duty in these respects: and if this is the case when their application is laid before the Preparative meeting, the representatives are then desired to lay it before the Monthly Meeting; The said meeting then appoints two or three friends to pay him a visit; and if they are satisfied in the sincerity of his convincement, and believe it may be the right time for him to be united, they report accordingly to the ensuing Monthly Meeting; and if no objections appear in the minds of any, he is admitted to into membership, and two friends are appointed to inform him thereof; and at the time to will sit down quietly with him, that if a word of advice may open upon their minds they may be enabled to communicated with a proper authority. If the friends appointed by the Monthly meeting to visit person applying, are not fully satisfied, or do not believe it to be the right time for his admission, they report accordingly; and then at a suitable time a visit is paid him; and this is sometimes renewed several times until friends are fully satisfied, and see their way clearly, and then he is admitted as before. Thus my dear friend, I have given thee a pretty circumstantial account of our Societys practice and care of the admission of its members by convincement which I doubt not will be to thy satisfaction; and I feel nothing discouraging in my mind towards thee, but on the contrary believe thou art sincerely desirous to be what the Lord would have thee to be.

And as the Prophet observes, "O Lord I know that the way of man is not in himself; it is not in Man that walketh to direct his steps." May thou therefore endeavour to keep thine eye single unto the Lord that he may be pleased to direct thee aright, Thus will thou be favoured clearly to see thy duty, and the right time to move therein. For it is one thing to see what we ought to do, and another to receive a command to do it. "The vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lye; though it tarry; wait for it; because it will surely come, it be will not tarry." With the salutation of endeared love to thee I conclude and remain thy truly loving affectionate and well wishing friend

Joseph Wood

For Charles Kaye  
of Shepley

Newhouse 6<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 14<sup>th</sup>. 1814

Beloved Friend  
John Wood

The remembrance of that precious cementing love which so feelingly overshadowed our spirits, in the first opportunity we had together; hath not been forgot by me; and the strong desires I at that time felt for thy welfare, hath been frequently renewed when I have been led to remember thee; and more especially of late have felt such strong desires for thy welfare, as hath caused me to apprehend it to be my duty to address a few lines unto thee; I trust under the precious influence of that Love; which seeketh not thee, or thine; not to gather thee to an outward profession, but that thou may believe in the Light which shineth in darkness, and discovereth unto man not only his state and condition, but the way and means by which he may be brought out of this state of death and darkness into Gods marvellous Light; even by receiving him in this the way of his coming, in the day of the visitation of his love unto them. For it is said, "I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee; behold now is the acceptance time; behold now is the day of salvation." As much as to say man cannot procure the seasons himself: But he who willeth not the death of a sinner, but had rather that all should return repent and live; is graciously pleased at certain times and seasons, to call, to woe, to invite, and to draw men from the evil of their ways unto himself; and it is in these seasons only that man have power to come unto Christ, agreeable unto his own testimony, "No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him." Now those who receive him in this the day of his visitation, which implies believing in the light and coming up in obedience to the manifestations thereof; they are favoured in due time to experience the promise fulfilled in them," As many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his Name; Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. "This is consistent with the experience of the wise men who came out of the East to Jerusalem at the time of the birth of our Saviour, there was an enquiry raised in their mind when they beheld the star, now the appearance of this star unto them was the cause of this enquiry. "Where is he that is born King of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him." But it appears whilst they were in Herods court they saw not the star which had thus far directed them on their way, for it is written, "When they had heard the King, they departed; and lo the star which they saw in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was." How instructive a passage how clear a Type of the real work of regeneration effected in man by believing in the Light, and following faithfully the leadings thereof until he experience a death unto sin, and a new birth into righteousness without which our Saviour observes man cannot see the kingdom of God. Wherefore believing that the day spring from on high hath visited thee, and feeling that love to flow in my heart unto thee which earnestly desirous thy present and eternal welfare; I am concerned to revive the language of the Apostle to the

believers formally with strong desires that it may be thy chief concern. "That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; And be renewed in the spirit of your minds; And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness, and true holiness." Remembering that altho' many are called, the choice is in Christ, that those only are chosen who are found in him: agreeable unto the testimony left upon record, "As he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love." But my dear friend in the way to this attainment thou must be willing to come under the discipline of the cross, and abide under it, for those that would reign with Christ must suffer with him, not only many inward and spiritual conflicts, but must patiently bear the reproaches and revilings of men. The Apostle saith, "All that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution." But let none of these things discourage thee, but rather rejoice if thou should be found worthy to suffer for Christs sake. Neither be afraid of leaving all to follow him, confiding in his gracious promise. "Every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my names sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit eternal life." I conclude with much respect thy real friend

Joseph Wood

For John Wood  
of Barnsley

Newhouse 7<sup>th</sup>. mo. 16<sup>th</sup>. 1814

Beloved Friend Samuel Brown

Under the precious influence of that love, which at the birth of our blessed Lord composed the Angelic song of "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill towards men." Do I at this time tenderly and affectionately salute thee, sincerely desiring that "Grace, mercy and peace, from God the Father, and Christ. Jesus our Lord. "may abound, and more and more be multiplied in thy experience. For whatever might be thy motive in thy first attendance at our religious meetings; I have no doubt upon my mind but the Lord hath visited thee by his Grace; because I firmly believe his Love is universally extended unto the whole human race, during the day of his visitation unto them: So that he will be clear of the blood of all men, and the condemnation of those that perish will be of themselves; because they have rejected the teachings of the Grace of God in the secret of their own hearts, which would enable them to deny all ungodliness, and the worlds lusts, and teach them to live soberly righteously and godly in this present world; and so be prepared for an admittance into that kingdom into which none who are unholy or impure can come; agreeable to the testimony of holy writ. "There shall in no wise enter into it anything that defileth, neither whatever worketh abomination, all maketh a lie; but they which are written in the Lambs book of Life. "Now I appeal to thee if thou has not from early life, felt a secret something within thee, which at certain times and seasons hath reproved thee from evil, and raised desires in thy mind that thou might be enabled to overcome the evil, and be favoured to attain a state of purity and holiness. Well this is that divine Grace which hath appeared unto all men, and which if believed in, and obeyed, would operate as a little leaven which a Woman took and hid in three measures of meal until the whole was leavened. And therefore my friend suffer me to advise thee, as I believe the Lord is mercifully striving with thee by his Grace; not to Quench the spirit, but believe in it, by turning thy mind unto it, and obeying its manifestations. It leadeth unto repentance, it bringeth into mourning over him whom man hath pierced with his sins, it baptizeth into the likeness of his death, that as he died for sin, man might die unto sin, and live unto God. And in this humiliating state mans judgment is taken away, his will is resigned to the divine will, so far as to be willing to become as clay in the hand of the Potter. Then doth the Lords mercy appear through him who was wounded for mans transgressions, and by whose stripes the remnant of those who are saved, are healed.

Then as these are daily exercised that they may, "Continue in the Grace of God." that is fully obey the manifestations of the divine will, they experience a growing in Grace, and know fulfilled in them." The work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever. And my people shall dwell in a peaceable habitation, and in sure dwellings, and in quiet resting places." O stop not short of the knowledge of this attainment, but believe in, and follow the light; so that thou may be a child of the light; an heir of God, and joint heir with Jesus christ. And guard against sitting down in religious Meetings in a state of ease of mind, as tho thou had nothing to do but to sit in an orderly manner to hear what others may have to communicate For when the sons of God formally presented themselves before the Lord Satan presented him also; and he presents himself in the present day; and it is necessary to keep up the warfare against him with spiritual weapons which will not be withheld from those who are concerned to gather unto the grace of God, and light under his banner, until every thought be brought into captivity to the obedience of Christ. It is in this state of pure silence that man is favoured to worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness and in newness of life; it is in this state that they are favoured to experience their strength renewed to run with patience the race that he points out unto them. These know meetings to be precious unto them, they do not let outward things hinder their attendance but are rather longing for the meeting day; that by humbly waiting upon him they may experience the promise." Ye shall have a song as in the night, when a holy solemnity is kept."

With strong desires that thou may be favoured to know the Truth in thy experience, and by continuing in his word, may be set free thereby;

I remain thy faithful and affectionate Friend

Joseph Wood

For Samuel Brown  
of Shepley

Newhouse 8<sup>th</sup>. mo. 12<sup>th</sup>. 1814

Beloved Friend  
Joseph Brearey

Whilst I hear with sorrow the remarks which are made of the levity of conduct, which appears in some of the young men of your meeting, when they attend our Monthly Meetings; notwithstanding their pretensions of being under conviction, which if it was really so I am perswaded it would not be the case: I rejoice in beholding thy diligent attendance at those meetings, and thy exemplary deportment when there, in what ever company thy lot is cast; and it is from an apprehension of duty, and a desire to encourage thee in the path of virtue, that thou may experience a growth in the Truth; and a right preparation and qualification to fill up thy proper place in the body, that I am engaged to address a few lines unto thee, Solomon saith "Better is a poor and a wise child than an old and a foolish king who will no more be admonished." May thou therefore my dear friend endeavour to keep in the innocency and simplicity of a little child, poor and honest; depending upon him for wisdom and strength to direct thy steps aright, and then I believe thou will be favoured at times to partake of those blessings which flow from the Lords presence, and which makes truly rich, and wherewithall no sorrow is added, and thus will thy conduct continue to convey this instructive language unto others, follow me as I follow christ. It is abundant easier to learn to talk of the Truth, than to walk in the Truth, the former like Kings that will not bear admonition, are wise in their own eyes and prudent in their own sight. "There is a generation that is pure in their own eyes, and yet is not washed from their filthiness," a very dangerous state. The latter tho' frequently tryed with deep poverty, and at times have to partake of bitter morsels, yet they dare not put forth their hands to steal to enrich themselves; and at times are enabled to acknowledge from renewed experience that, "To the hungry soul every bitter thing is sweet." Thus the Lord leadeth about his children, and instructeth them, preserving them in

every trying dispensation, even as the apple of his eye, causing them to shine as lights in the world, and to be in Life and conversation preachers of righteousness unto others. O saith my soul that the number of these may increase, whose countenance may bewray them that they are the disciples of christ; The weightiness of whose spirits may have a tendency to season the spirits of others; that so the knowledge of the Lord and his Truth may spread and prevail in the earth and many may come into the Church by Christ the door; and not by climbing up some other way be accounted Thieves and Robbers, at a time when all will wish to be acknowledged by him, by being set on his right hand, as his sheep that have heard his voice, and faithfully followed him. With the salutation of endeared love to thee I remain thy affectionate friend

Joseph Wood

For Joseph Brearey  
near Dewsbury

Newhouse 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 30<sup>th</sup>. 1816

Esteemed Friend  
Elizabeth Dickinson

I hope thou will excuse the liberty I take in addressing a few lines to thee, as I have no view to give offence to any; nor nothing short of an apprehension of duty would have made me willing to engage therein. I with many other faithful friends have oftens been of late painfully exercised in beholding a disposition in some of our youth, whose conduct and appearance are both very inconsistent with the Truth they are making profession of desirous to place themselves in our religious meetings in the face of the People; which seats I have ever thought ought to be filled with friends whose appearance at least is consistent with our profession. Now I feel a liberty to request of thee (not doubting but when thou seriously considers it, thou will see the propriety thereof;) not to promote but rather discourage members of our society whose dress and demeanour is so inconsistent with the Truth, from taking their seats under the Gallery; and whose light and irreverent carriage may be cause of stumbling unto sober enquirers; and is painfully seen and felt by the rightly exercised. When I was a youth these conspicuous seats were filled with solid grave ancient friends, who were weightily exercised in spirit for the arising of Life, whose countenances being enlivened by the pure Truth, were made a blessing to the meeting; I well remember the effect it had upon my mind, when I have seen the tears trickled down their venerable cheeks. At this time the light airy inconsistent youth would have thought it a reproach to themselves to have attempted to place themselves in the face of the meeting. But of late some of the inconsistent youth; whose dress and light and airy carriage manifest little sense of religion, appear to have a liking to place themselves in these seats, to their own hurt, and the hurt of the meeting. But I hope all who love the Truth will continue to discourage it without respect of persons. With real respects to thee, I remain thy sincere friend

Joseph Wood

For Elizabeth Dickinson  
of Highflatts

Newhouse 10<sup>th</sup>. mo. 19<sup>th</sup>. 1816

My dear Friend  
Thomas Shillitoe

It was during our Quarterly Meeting at Leeds, that I felt so much sympathy with thee under thy prospect of paying a religious visit to the Publick houses in Barnsley and its neighbourhood; as induced me after deliberate consideration upon the subject, to enquire

of thee if any friend had offered to accompany thee in that service; and finding no one had, I thought I felt resigned to give up thereunto; if thou and friends felt no objection, and thou expressing thy satisfaction therewith; I mentioned it to several of our friends at Leeds, and to several others after my return home, were all cordially united with me in the prospect, expressing their satisfaction therewith, and encouraged me therein. But since my return, either from cold taken in that journey, or from some other cause, have been in a very poor state of health; so as to prevent me attending our own meeting, and not knowing how long I may continue in this state, (if the Lord should be pleased to raise me up again;) I thought it best to inform thee thereof; and if thou please to send me a few lines, when thou think to commence the said visit; if I am so far restored as to think it prudent, shall endeavour to attend at the time. If not, I believe that the resignation of my will, will be accepted for the deed; and my sympathy and best wishes will attend thee through thy arduous engagement, with earnest desires, That as thy day is, so thy strength may be; and that many may thereby be turned from the evil of their ways; and thou be favoured at the close thereof, with that blessing of Peace, the sure reward of unreserved obedience. I am with dear Love to Self and Wife thy truly affectionate friend

Joseph Wood

For Thomas Shillitoe  
of Barnsley

Newhouse 11<sup>th</sup>. mo: 1<sup>st</sup>. 1816

Respected Friend  
Thomas Camm

Understanding thou art naturally of a very irritable temper, and very apt to give way to passion, in which state Man loses his reason I would therefore earnestly request of thee, to endeavour to be still and cool thy mind in reading these lines; as I have no desire to offend thee; but rather to reach to the pure witness for God in the secret of thine own heart, that so if possible thou may be favoured to experience a place of repentance, and obtain forgiveness of the Almighty before thou go hence to be of men seen no more. The hearts of many of thy friends have been much troubled at thy conduct since thou came to reside within the compass of this meeting; not only on thine own account, but also from the reproach thou has brought upon the pure Truth, and many have been concerned privately to labour with thee, if possible to reclaim thee from the evil of thy ways; but instead of this labour having the desired effect, hath not the scripture testimony been fulfilled in thee, "Evil men and seducers shall wax worse, and worse, deceiving, and been deceived." Now is not this thy case, art not thou much more guilty of unnecessarily frequenting of Alehouses and drinking to excess, and awful to relate in the frequent habit of profane swearing. Hath not friends done all in their power by private labour, is it not necessary then for the Society to be clear from the reproach thy conduct hath brought upon it, by testifying their disunity therewith. Remember in the case of Achan, the children of Israel could neither journey forward nor stand before their enemies while he remained in the camp. Also the case of the leprosy under the law if it was infectious, they was to be set without the camp until they was healed. Thus in our Society if private labour prove ineffectual, and they refuse to hear the Church, it is necessary for the Truth to be cleared, by setting the offender without the camp for healing; That so the Lord may be pleased to own our Assemblies with his presence, which will not be the case if true judgement is not placed upon the head of the transgressor. Now my friend as thy conduct in drunkenness and profane swearing, has far exceeded any that I have ever known in our Society; Friends can do no less than lay thy case before our next Monthly Meeting except thou can clear thyself of these charges, betwixt and the Preparative Meeting; and O how I desire that thou may so hear the church, as to be enabled truly can to condemn thy past conduct, and that thy

future, may manifest thy sincerity therein. With warmest wishes for thy welfare I conclude thy sincere and well wishing friend

Joseph Wood

For Thomas Camm  
of Annatroyd

Newhouse 3<sup>rd</sup>. mo: 3<sup>rd</sup>. 1818

Beloved Friend  
Mark Brearer

When I shook hands with thee at our last Monthly Meeting held at Wakefield, a secret intimation immediately presented, that thou was in a tossed unsettled state of mind; which if not guarded against might be of awful consequence unto thyself and others. I was then altogether a stranger from whence this arose: but on the same day being company with some other friends of your Meeting, I felt the same intimation, and on harkening to their conversation thy name was mentioned as one of the number who I believe have given way to too much unprofitable conversation about removing to America, whereby the minds of many have been brought in to such an unsettled state; as not to be able to ask counsel of God in a matter of so great a moment as a removal from a settled place of abode hath ever have been esteemed by faithful friends: and much more so to such a distance as America. This appears plain by the advice of the Yearly Meeting recorded in the Book of Extracts viz. "We feel it our concern to caution friends to be very circumspect, how they remove themselves and families, from the places of their residence; It having been observed that the dissolving of old, and forming of new connexions, have in many instances been attended with effect so prejudicial to a growth in the Truth, both in the heads and younger branches of families; especially where the inclination to such removals hath a originated in worldly motives. We recommend friends, both young and old, in these cases to give close attention to the pointings of divine wisdom, and also time to consult experienced Friends, previously to their fixing a resolution of changing their situation." Had this advice of the body been attended to, I am persuaded thou my beloved friend with many others would have been preserved out of the snares of our unwearied enemy. For I think I have clearly seen that an enemy hath done this, who careth not which way if he can but unsettle the poor mind, knowing that if he can do this; wisdoms voice which is only heard in the pure stillness cannot be heard, and thus poor man is left to himself, who is not able to direct his steps aright; and so Satan who hath power to transform himself into an Angel of light set himself up to be guide, and many precious visited minds have thus missed their way, and instead of coming forward in usefulness, the divine work has been laid waste in them; and they have become as unsavoury salt which is good for nothing but to be trodden under the foot of men. I hope better things of thee, or rather would gladly hope; believing if thou art but sufficiently concerned to get deep, and to dwell deep, so as to experience all the willings and running as of the creature silenced; thou'll not only hear the Shepherds voice but be favoured to distinguish betwixt it and the voice of the enemy. It is an easy matter if our dwelling be in the light to know at duty, because every divine requiring is in the way of the Cross, but if I our own will be in it, there is much reason to fear that it is the work of the enemy, and it matters not which way if he can put prevail over us. He is still reasoning that the fruit of the tree is not only good, but pleasant to man's inclination, and desirous to make him wise. Man hearkens to his voice and partakes thereof, he is thereby lulled into a state of spiritual stupefaction, agreeable to the parable of our blessed Lord. "Didst not thou sow good seed in my field, from whence then hath it tares? He saith unto them an enemy hath done it. "Look at these things my be loved friend, and receive instruction, that so thou may be blessed with the blessing of preservation, and have a word in season unto others, to preserve them from that unsettled state in which the enemy gains

advantage. In that love which changes not do I conclude and remain thy truly affectionate friend

Joseph Wood  
For Mark Braer  
of Alverthorp

Newhouse 3<sup>rd</sup>. mo: 10<sup>th</sup>. 1818

Esteemed Friend  
James Willan

Thy Letter I have carefully read and weightily considered the contents thereof; and should be very sorry to throw anything in thy way to discourage thee from faithfulness to manifest duty. Thou appears to have wrote with brotherly freedom, and feeling my mind impressed with a concern to write to thee upon the subject of applying to become a member of our religious Society, I shall use the same freedom to thee. I believe it is right for any society in the admission of members, to be fully satisfied that they are one with them in principle and in practice. Now we as a People profess to behave ourselves as quiet and peaceable subjects, under whatsoever form of government we are placed, not following those that are given to change, nor mixing with the World in conversation upon political subjects. Believing that we are called to shew forth unto the World in Life and conversation that the blessed reign of the Messiah the Prince of peace is begun, Therefore saith the Epistle of the Yearly Meeting 1775. "We cannot consistently join with such as form combinations of a hostile nature against any, much less, in opposition to those who may be placed either in sovereign or subordinate authority; nor can we unite with or encourage such as indecently asperse or revile them. For it is written "Thou shalt not speak evil of the ruler of thy People." Now how far thou may have seen this to be thy duty I know not, but believe many have suffered great loss, by giving way unto conversation upon those subjects, which the faithful amongst us have ever found to be their duty cautiously to avoid, as our Kingdom is not of this world. And where any have indulged themselves therein it has been observed they have not grown in the Truth, nor come forward in usefulness as otherwise they might; and it is to be feared some have proved stumbling blocks in the way of sober enquirers who know the intermeddling with these things is altogether inconsistent with our religious profession. I have therefore thought in respect to thy application it might be best to waive it a while; there is a time to see things, and a time to put them in practice; and it is necessary in a matter of so great importance to try the fleece both wet and dry. And when this is done the right method of proceeding will be to speak to a member of your own meeting who will take it forward to the Preparative and Monthly Meeting. I conclude with real respect thy sincere friend

Joseph Wood

For James Willan  
of Dewsbury

Newhouse 1<sup>st</sup>. mo: 27<sup>th</sup>. 1820

Dear Friend  
Henry Bromley

I cordially salute thee under the fresh flowerings of that Love which changes not, and which sincerely desires thy preservation, growth and establishment in the ever blessed and unchangeable Truth. Christ.Jesus declared, "I am the way the Truth and the Life, no man cometh unto the Father but by me." and in another place. "No man can come unto me except the Father which have sent me draw him." Now as all mankind have sinned all are in a state of death; For the wages sin is death, and the dead cannot quicken themselves, so that

every good desire raised in the mind proceeds from a visitation of the Love of God, who in these seasons would draw all men unto Christ in whose name or power alone salvation is to be experienced; salvation from sin whilst here and from the awful consequences thereof hereafter. Now I am perswaded it was the most high by his holy spirit that I felt sensibly moving upon thy unstable mind at our first acquaintance that brought thee very near and dear to me, being made sensible, that if thou was but willing in this the day of the Lords power, to become as passive clay in his hand; he would in his own time bring order out of confusion, and establish thy feet upon that Rock against which the gates of hell shall never prevail. But this is not an instantaneous but a gradual progressive work. Therefore we are advised to believe and walk in the Light that we may become the children of the Light; we are also told, If any man will be Christs disciple, he must take up his cross and follow him: This has proved a stone of stumbling and rock of offence unto many, who are desirous to have the crown at last, but are unwilling to live under the discipline of the holy cross of christ which crucifies unto the world with its affections and lusts; and thus prepares man to unite with purified spirits in celebrating their Redeemers praise throughout the endless ages of Eternity. It is from a belief that the master is come, and calling for thee; my much beloved friend that I feel anxiously concerned that nothing may be kept alive in thee that the Lord hath appointed for destruction; but that which he hath appointed for the sword may be given up to the sword, and that which he hath appointed for the hammer and the fire may be given up without any reserve thereunto; then I believe in due time thou will be favoured to experience thy peace to flow as a river, and thy righteousness as the waves of the sea. Be not afraid my beloved friend to become a fool for Christ's sake, for all who will be truly wise, must first be willing to become fools, that they may be wise. Regard not the worlds dread laugh, but let Moses choice be thine, rather to suffer affliction with the People of God than to enjoy the pleasures of sin which is but for a season. Thou hast tryed what sin will do for thee, however pleasingly gratifying it might be to thee in the commission thereof, it hath had its sting in the end; Remorse of conscience and better reflection. O then as the Lord in great mercy, hath caused his glorious day spring from on high to visit thee; attend faithfully to that measure and manifestation of his Holy spirit in the secret of thy heart. This is that seed unto which all the promises of God are made; that precious elect seed which can never fall, by which man may be redeemed out of the fall, by bringing forth a birth in him of its own divine and heavenly nature; and thus being born not of corruptible, but of that incorruptible seed, and word of God which lives and abides for ever, he cometh to have peace with God through our Lord and Saviour Jesus.christ. But in the way to this attainment many deeply trying and humiliating dispensations are to pass through; the unwearied enemy will not easily let go his hold; he assaults man with varied temptations, if possible to counteract lay waste the Lords work thus begun. But keep thine eye single unto him who hath been thy morning light, he is able to save to the uttermost all who come unto God by him: look not upon the temptation to lust after it, but look unto him who was tempted like unto us in all things but without sin. He nobly overcame, and will not only succour, but enable all those who look unto him for help to know an overcoming through him. Therefore be encouraged to resist all the temptations of this unwearied enemy, and he will flee, draw nigh unto God, and he will draw nigh unto thee. He will be strength in thy weakness, riches in thy poverty, and a present help in every needful time. It is unto him, and unto the teachings of his pure and spiritual Grace in the secret of thy own heart that I wish to leave thee, and earnestly to recommend thee, that so thou may be favoured to experience an establishment in that most holy faith which works by love to the purifying of the heart, and finally received an inheritance amongst all those who are sanctified. I remain thy Loving and sincere friend

Joseph Wood

for Henry Bromley  
of Dewsbury

Newhouse 2<sup>nd</sup>. mo: 29<sup>th</sup>. 1820

Esteemed Friend  
Benjamin Marsden

Thy kindness in preparing the way for the late meeting held at Ing Birchworth, and doing whatever lay in thy power for the accommodation of the People, is gratefully remembered by me; and demands my acknowledgement thereof; and also to inform thee for thy encouragement, of my belief that thou will not lose thy reward from him, from whom all blessings flow. Who declared unto his disciples. "He that receiveth you receiveth me, and he that receiveth me, receiveth him that sent me." And as thou not only received us, but did very much open the way; when the Lord was pleased to send us amongst you; I cannot but believe that thou will not lose thy reward, but that it may prove a means of thy understanding being more and more opened into the mysteries of that kingdom which stands not in outward observations but in righteousness peace and joy in the Holy Ghost, which mysteries remain to be hid from the wise and prudent of this world, but are revealed unto babes and sucklings. O this child's state, this humble waiting state, in which the Father reveals his heavenly will unto his children; through the agency of the spirit of his beloved son Jesus Christ our Lord, and gives power faithfully to perform the same; and favours with the award of peace for every simple act of obedience; which is far more acceptable unto him than all that man can do in his own will way or time. O that every visited mind might wait for the discovery of the Lords will, and be faithful to the least manifestations of duty, manifested in the Light, then would they be favoured to have fellowship with God, and the living one with another, and know the blood of Jesus Christ his son to cleanse from all sin. And may thou my friend be more and more brought into a state of willingness to become as passive clay in the Lords hand, that so the Creator of Jacob, and former of Israel, may wash thee and strip thee, cloathe thee, and arm thee, with his own beautiful robes of righteousness, is the sincere desire of one who according to my measure travails for the prosperity of Truth and righteousness in the earth, and who am thy sincerely affectionate Friend

Joseph Wood

For Benjamin Marsden  
of Ing Birchworth

Newhouse 4<sup>th</sup>. mo: 10<sup>th</sup>. 1820

My dear Friend  
Huitson Dearman

Notwithstanding the excellent advice communicated to thee, by Letter from thy Cousin Backhouse of York; which for a season appeared to relieve my mind from the exercise I had felt on thy account. But as the time drew nearer that I was likely to leave this part (at least for a season ) the concern for thy present and future welfare revived in such a manner, that I apprehend I shall be most easy to add my mite by way of encouragement unto thee, to pursue the path of piety and virtue, as the alone way to true peace here and hereafter. I believe thou has at times felt when under the humbling visitation of Truth, desires raised in thy mind similar unto one formerly when he expressed this language. "Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian." that is to take up thy cross, and follow Christ, by denying thyself of the vain gratifications of a delusive world, which can but be enjoyed for a short space, and in the end have their sting, even bitter remorse; may thou encourage these good desires, rather "Choosing to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin, which are but for a season." Thou art about to change thy situation, from a quiet country place, to a populous and dissipated Town, thou will experience different temptations to beset thee, which of thyself thou cannot withstand; but help is laid upon one, who is mighty to save, and able to deliver unto the very uttermost. Keep thine eye single unto him, then will thy whole body be full of Light; by which thou will not only be favoured to see

the varied snares of the enemy but also the way to escape them. Deviate not from that becoming plainness of Apparel which Truth leads its faithful followers into. Be not ashamed of the cross of Christ, it remains to be the power of God unto salvation; Remember that by making the wise choice beforementioned, Moses was highly favoured of the Lord; and by persevering therein, he became an eminent Instrument in the Lords hand for the good of others. This may be thy case if thou art willing and obedient in the day of his Power, and that it may be so is the earnest desire of my mind, who according to my measure travails for the prosperity of Zion, and the enlargement of her borders, and who am thy sincere and truly well wishing friend

Joseph Wood

For Huitson Dearman  
of Highflatts

Newhouse 1<sup>st</sup>. mo: 31<sup>st</sup>. 1821

Beloved Friend  
William Rhodes

We have oftens talked of thee, and oftner thought of thee, since our lot was cast in Coldheindley; and remembers with gratitude thine and thy Masters kindness, and hope thou will not lose your reward. We desire thee to give our united kind love to thy Master; and accept a double share thereof thyself, from us who feel deeply interested in thy welfare; and who at times have been favoured with ability to petition; that the God of all Grace, who hath mercifully called thee to his eternal glory by Jesus.christ; may after that thou hast suffered for a while; stablish, strengthen, settle thee; upon that everlasting foundation and Rock of ages; the Revelation of the Fathers will through the Son of his love; and those who are wisely building upon this foundation; hearing and obeying the divine will, revealed unto them through that measure or manifestation of the divine spirit, which is given to every man to profit withal; against these the gates of hell shall never be suffered to prevail. My dear friend, I can truly say the first time I spoke with thee, which was at our last Monthly Meeting at Wakefield; I felt something which nearly united my spirit unto thee in love; and tho' separated at some distance from each other, have oftens felt the renewings thereof since; accompanied with a belief that thou art not only the called, but if found faithful, will be chosen in him; in whom the choice hath been from the foundation of the world. May thou therefore be like minded with the Apostle who declared. "One thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth towards those things that are before, I pressed towards the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ.Jesus." Therefore despise not the day of small things, but remember for thy encouragement to faithfulness, that it is those who are faithful in the little that are to be made ruler over more; and one simple act of obedience to divine manifestations, is far more acceptable to Almighty God, than anything man can do in his own will, or in conformity to what he may have read the Lord may have required of others: The first not being a legal, but an evangelical obedience; even the obedience of faith, which worketh by love to the purifying of the heart. But whatsoever is done in the will of the creature, or in a bare conformity to the outward letter, are no other than the works of the law, by which no flesh shall be justified, as saith the Apostle. "Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus.christ, even we have believed in Jesus christ that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law, for by the works of the Law shall no flesh be justified." Great indeed is the mystery of godliness, and tho' he is hiding the mysteries of his kingdom, from the wise and prudent of this world; ye from all those who are seeking to comprehend them in their own Wisdom, and by their searchings for them in the letter, without the aid of that spirit, which searcheth all things, yea the deep things of God. Yet blessed be his Name, he is revealing them unto babes and sucklings; even so Father for so it seemed good in thy sight. My beloved

friend, I feel far more for thee, than either my tongue or pen is called upon to express; and nearly do I sympathize with thee, believing if thou art faithful, thou will experimentally find, that the way to the kingdom is by the cross: for indeed according to my experience every religious duty is in the cross to the natural inclination of Man, and it is no easy matter to become a fool in our own eyes, and in the eyes of others; yet there is no other way to become truly wise. Therefore it is with me to say unto thee, regard not the opinions of Men, or what they say, do, or think of thee. "Fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul; but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell." It is this pure holy fear of the Lord that has proved to many, and I doubt not will unto thee; for all others in whose hearts it is; a foundation of life preserving from the snares of death. It is this fear that hath made many willing to leave all and follow him faithfully in the way of his leadings. It is this fear that hath been their preservation in the hour of temptation; which all are tried with, and enabled them to know an overcoming, through the power of Christ strengthening them. And this fear will be thy preservation from error, on the right hand, or the left; if thou keep thine eye single unto it. Therefore it is in my heart to say unto thee, Thank God and take courage. Be not ashamed to confess Christ before men, then will he guided thee safely by his counsel; and confess thee at a time when we shall all wish to be acknowledged by him. I conclude with much affection thy truly loving, and nearly sympathizeing friend

Joseph Wood

For William Rhodes  
of Coldheindley

Newhouse 2<sup>nd</sup>. mo: 27<sup>th</sup>. 1821

My much beloved Friend  
Joseph Brearey

That peculiar love I have long felt for thee, and that hope which I had long cherished, that let others do as they may, thou would be preserved coming forward in the line of obedience, and thus be prepared for usefulness in the Church of Christ: increased my sorrow of heart at seeing, and more painfully feeling, what I experienced when I last saw thee at Wakefield; and on hearing the many remarks made upon it. Some of sorrow in seeing one who had been held up as a good example for others to look up unto, now manifestly deviating from that self denying path in which the faithful have ever been, and I am perswaded ever will be led. Others observing with ridicule, that one who had joined the Society by conviction, and for some time walked consistent with his profession, was now becoming like one of them. These and many other such like remarks mine ears heard, whilst my heart was filled with sorrow with what I had seen and felt, which confirmed the truth of their remarks. O the danger I have seen of visited minds associating themselves too much with company, and not of those who may be looked upon of the worst sort neither; and if my feelings deceive me not, here thy loss hath entered. How much more profitable it would be to be exercised in sitting alone and keeping silence; studying ..... that we might be favoured with ability to do our own business ..... these rightly exercised ones meet together they are favoured to experience as "Iron sharpeneth Iron so doth the countenance of a Man that of his Friend." Thus are they instrumental in building one another up in the most holy faith, and this is the real benefit of society. But to return after I got home from Wakefield my sorrow from what I had seen and felt increased, my sleep departed from me, my countenance was sad, altho' I was not sick, the exercise of my mind was very great, but I saw no way to relieve myself. I thought about writing to thee; and again considered, how seldom anything that may be communicated is of use when once the enemy hath blinded the eye. I relieved myself a little by informing my Charles of the cause of my sorrow, who I believed shared with me in my suffering, and I apprehended informed thee a little of my exercise, which I did not for bid him to do, as he brought me a letter from thee which I was truly glad to receive; for by the

contents thereof I believed thou yet stood open to the advice of thy best friends; this encouraged me to communicate to thee what the Lord may be pleased to open through a poor weak Instrument; and may the Lord be pleased to bless it unto thee for thy help and recovery out of the snares and temptations of the unwearied enemy lest the Lord should cease striving with thee, and thou be taken captive by him at his will. There is one remark in thy letter I cannot wholly pass over in silence, knowing that it is the language of all who have suffered the enemy to blind the eye, that hath once been opened by the miraculous power of Christ; "I have no wish to appear plainer on the outside than I am in the inside" Now I would just ask thee was it not in obedience to the Spirit of Truth that thou was led into that becoming appearance which for many years thou hast made; and will the same spirit lead thee back again, to wear those things I knew would once have been a burden to thee to wear; and a grief to see other professors of Truth wear. There are but two spirits, which influence the whole race and bulk of mankind; and Servants we are to which of them we yield ourselves Servants to obey; and profess what we will or whatever may have been our former experience, if we are not led by the spirit of Christ we are none of his. and this will never lead any to build again the things they have once by obedience destroyed. The Apostle saith, "If I build again the things which I have destroyed, I make myself a transgressor." So that I believe instead of the unfaithful sheltering themselves with saying: They desire not to appear better than what they are; it would be better for them carefully to examine the cause why wrong things manifest themselves, and then I believe they would be favoured to see, That an enemy hath done this, but observe it was whilst men slept; Not whilst they was watching unto Prayer for preservation. Now being favoured to see the cause, and zealously concerned to have it removed; when removed, the effect would cease. The tree being good, the fruit will be good also: and if the heart be right, our appearance will be also. Our worthy predecessors bore a faithful testimony against the customs and fashions of a degenerate world; not only in cut, but in colour; and many sealed their testimony with their blood. And I have oftens thought it will be much better for those in the great day of account, who wholly leave the profession; than those who continue therein; and are unfaithful to what they do profess; for these are as it were trampling the blood of the faithful under their feet. "The blood of all the Prophets, which was shed from the foundation of the World may be required of this generation. From the blood of Abel unto the blood of Zacharias which perished betwixt the Altar and the temple; verily I say unto you, it shall be required of this generation." Of what generation? of this generation who profess the Truth in words but in actions deny it. I have penned the foregoing remarks in abundance of Love, sincerely desiring that thou may be favoured fully to return unto thy first Love, and receive ability to do thy first works that thy Candlestick may never be removed out of its place: But that thou may be prepared to fill up the place intended for thee in the Church militant here on earth, and finally join the glorious Church triumphant far above the heavens. And under the influence of that Love which I trust hath directed my pen, do I conclude with much real regard for thee, thy sincere and truly well wishing friend

Joseph Wood

For Joseph Breary  
of Dewsbury

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Places	30

Memorandum Wakefield Monthly Meeting 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo 21<sup>st</sup>. 1814. I left home ye. 19<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. 1814 and 7<sup>th</sup>. day of the week, after breakfast, called at John Mallinsons of Birdsedge to see him, he having been for some time very poorly, and from thence went to be shaved at John Pickfords of Parkhead, left there betwixt 9 and 10 o'clock and went by Cumberworth to my cousin Charles Steads of Siver.Ing in Emley.Park were I tarried near 4 hours and din'd, spent most of the time with cousin Charles Stead junr. in his room upstairs to our mutual satisfaction, he still continues very poorly, but I believe his indisposition has been so far sanctified unto him as to bring him to the knowledge of the Truth. Before I left this place I went and sat a little at my cousin Benjamin Steads were I took a glass of Rum and Water and then proceeded by Emley to Bretton were I rested me a little at Michael Buckleys, and then went by Crigglestone to Christopher Walkers of Dirtcar, were I got betwixt 6 and 7 o'clock, and lodged there. On 20<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week. I attended their meeting at Wakefield got there a little before the time and rested me at William Awmacks. The meeting was pretty large, and I had a long testimony to bear therein from Matt: C: 22. v: 12. Friend, how camest thou in hither, not having a wedding garment. James Harrison had a pretty long time next

from John C: 12. v: 38. Who hath believed our report. I next from Psalms 4. v: 6. There be many that say. Who will show us any good? Lord, lift thou up the light of thy countenance upon us. At the close of this Meeting the business of their Preparative meeting was gone through amongst other things the Queries were read and Answered, and answers thereto prepared and directed to be laid before the Monthly meeting. Both meetings held 3 hours. After which I din'd at Joseph Wetheralds; and after dinner went to William Leathams were I met with Robert Whitaker, Leonard West and James Harrison we being appointed by our last Monthly Meeting to prepare a Certificate of the meetings unity with our beloved friend Thomas Shillitoes concern to visit friends in North America, and William Leatham having kindly offer'd us a room for the service after it was done, we drunk Tea there, and then we went to our Select meeting which began at 6 o'clock and held 1 hour and a half, all our members attended except John Bottomley, Isabella Harris, and Isabella Brearey who were prevented by indisposition. The Queries would read and answered and answers prepared to lay before our ensuing Select Quarterly Meeting. After meeting I went to Joseph Wetheralds were Mark Brearer met me and took me with him to his house at Alverthorp were I lodg'd. On 21<sup>st</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, After breakfast I returned to Wakefield were our Monthly meeting was this day held, and John Donbavand, William Adamson and Samuel Evans of Ackworth School having been committed prisoners to the house of correction in this town for one Month for refusing to serve in the Local Militia, I called to see them and found they were comfortably accommodated, and that the Magistrates were disposed to shew them every kindness in their Power, and they appeared cheerful and easy under their confinement. I understood they came in to the prison on 6<sup>th</sup>. day before. From hence I went to cousin be William Steads were I sat a little and took a glass of Wine, and then went to the Meeting which notwithstanding it was a very wet was large. I had a long testimony to bear therein first from 2 Tim: C: 2. v: 19. The foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. Afterwards Thomas Shillitoe, Setting forth the advantage of Prayer and the necessity of continuing instant therein for our preservation and growth in the Truth. At the close of this meeting was held our Monthly Meeting for discipline in which a great deal of business was gone thro' which was very unanimously conducted. Amongst other things, The friends appointed last month to prepare a Certificate of the Meetings unity with Thomas Shillitoes concern to visit friends in America, produced the same which was read approved and Signed. Also John Heppenstall a member of Balby Monthly Meeting and Hannah Shillitoe of Burton meeting laid before us their intentions of taking each other in marriage. Also the Queries were read and Answers received from all our Preparative Meetings. Pontefract, Burton, Highflatts, Ackworth, Wakefield, and Wooldale. and a General Answer prepared therefrom to lay before our Quarterly Meeting. In answer to the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Query it appeared that there was some little appearance of convincement in some of our Meetings since last year, and one had been admitted into membership thereby in Wakefield Mg. In answer to the 12<sup>th</sup>. Query, 3 young men of Ackworth Mg. were prisoners in the house correction at Wakefield for refusing to serve in the Local Militia. Both meetings held 5 hours and a half. After which I din'd at William Leathams, and after dinner called and sat a little at Ann Thorps, and then came to Christopher Walkers of Dircar, got there about 8 o'clock were I lodg'd. On 22<sup>nd</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week After breakfast I came and sat a little at William Pickards and took a glass of Rum and Water, then came to my Uncle Joseph Houghs of Crigglestone were I tarried a considerable time, and before I left got some refreshment; set forward again about 11 o'clock, and came by Bretton and Parkmill, and up the valley to Dykeside were I rested me a little at Captain Joseph Woods, and then came to John Bottomleys of Wood, stopt there about 1 hour and a half and drunk Tea. and got home about half past 5 o'clock.

The British Nation receiving distressing accounts from different parts of Germany of the almost unparralleled Sufferings of the Inhabitants there, occasioned by the ravages of the

Armies; Liberal contributions were set on foot for their relief by the different Societies, and the people called Quakers, looking upon all mankind as Brethren by Creation, not only greatly promoted the same, amongst the People in general, but made collections at their respective Meetings for their help, in which all who attended, were at liberty to contribute. The following is an account of what was collected in our Meeting at Highflatts, and by whom, in the third. Mo. 1814. Those marked thus + are not members of our Society.

	£	s	d		£	s	d
Elihu Dickinson & son	2	0	0	Brought Forward	7	10	6
Mary Dickinson	0	5	0	+Charles Unsworth	0	1	0
Elihu Dickinson Tanner	1	1	0	William Taylor	0	3	0
Richard Dickinson	1	1	0	John Brook	0	7	0
Hannah Dickinson	0	5	0	John Firth & son	1	0	0
Susanna Dickinson	0	5	0	William Bottomley	0	6	0
+Joseph Haigh				Mary Dyson	0	2	0
Heighmoorhouse	0	2	6	Samuel Walker	0	2	0
+Amos Blackburn	0	1	0	Joseph & Edward			
+John Beaumont	0	2	0	Walker	0	1	0
+Samuel Brown	0	5	6	Joseph Wood	0	10	0
+George Haigh	0	5	0	John Pickford	0	3	0
+Charles Kaye	0	2	0	Charles Stead	0	2	0
+James Haigh	0	2	6	Henry Marsden	0	2	6
+Jeremiah Wilkinson	0	1	0	William Dickinson	0	10	6
+Phebe Haigh	0	1	0	+Joseph Stead	0	5	0
+John Haigh	0	1	0	+Ann Hinchcliff	0	1	0
+Hannah Radley	0	1	0	Mary Haigh Shepley	0	2	0
Joseph Priest	0	5	0	+John Langley	0	1	0
+Charles Smith	0	2	6	Lumbroyd Mg.	0	15	6
Ann Walker	0	1	0	Richard Mallinson	0	3	0
John Priest	0	2	0	Benjamin Stead	0	3	0
+Martha Haigh	0	3	6	+Abraham Cooper			
Joseph Hinchcliff	0	2	0	& Sons	1	0	0
Joshua Dyson	0	2	0	+James Hinchcliff	0	0	6
Samuel Wood	0	3	0	John Mallinson	0	5	0
+William Pontefract	0	5	0	Charles Stead junr.	0	5	0
Robert Wood	0	3	0	Joseph Walker	0	5	0
	7	10	6	Total	14	7	0

Memorandum. Burton Monthly Meeting 4<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 18<sup>th</sup>. 1814. I set out from home the same morning, being the 2<sup>nd</sup>. day of the week, about 6 o'clock, and when I had got a little on my way John Pickford came up with me, and accompanied me all the remaining part of the way thither, we went by Dykeside, Dakinbrook and Cawthorne to Barnsley where we got about quarter past 9 and took Tea at William Harveys. After Tea we went and sat a little at Ellin Haighs and from thence went to Burton where our Monthly Meeting was this day held, It was the smallest I ever saw here in this month owing to the day being very wet altho' several People of other Societies attended, and I thought the Meeting for Worship appeared likely in the forepart thereof to have been eminently favoured but the current of life which for some time circulated amongst us appeared to be suddenly obstructed, and the meeting ended under a cloud. I had a long testimony to bear therein first from Mic: C: 5. v: 7. The remnant of Jacob shall be in the midst of many People as a dew from the Lord, as the showers upon the grass,

that tarrieith not for man, nor waiteth for the sons of men. Afterwards James Harrison stood a pretty long time long time Isai: C: 59. v: 1. The Lords hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy that it cannot hear. At the close of this meeting, the meeting for discipline was held the business of which was agreeably conducted, amongst other things John Heppenstall of Balby Mg. and Hannah Shillitoe of Burton meeting were cleared from all other engagements relating to marriage and left at liberty to accomplish theirs when they and Burton friends see meet. Both meetings held 3 hours. After which I return'd to Barnsley were I din'd and drunk Tea at Robert Harrisons, and then went to my quarters at John Yeardleys, were John Wood an innocent youth who is under convincement, and several other friends came to spend the evening with me. On 19<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, I breakfasted at Mary Waltons, and afterwards went and sat a little at Robert Harrisons, and before I left got a Luncheon; set out a little past 11 o'clock in company with John Bottomley, we came to Cawthorne were we din'd at Thomas Wests, stopt about 2 hours, and then came by Dakinbrook and Dykeside to John Bottomleys of Wood were I drunk Tea, and stopt near an hour, and got home betwixt 5 and 6 in the evening.

Memorandum. Sarah Lamley from Worcestershire, and Ann Fairbank of Sheffield Meeting in the course of their religious visit to the families of friends in our Meeting, was at my house ye 9<sup>th</sup>. of ye 5<sup>th</sup>. mo: 1814 and 2<sup>nd</sup>. day of the week, were they din'd and drunk Tea with us. They sat with the family in our house before dinner, the opportunity was eminently favoured the language of encouragement flowed freely unto those who might at times be favoured to be clothed as with the royal robes and clearly manifested to be those whom the King delighted to honour, but were again stripped and had to sit at the Kings gate clothed with sackcloth and ashes mourning for the deliverance of the People, and at times had to experience not only the want of bread but of water, the brook being dried up, but he who provided for the Prophet formerly by sending him to the Widow of Zarepath whose meal and oil failed not until the Lord sent rain upon the earth would provide for his humble and dependent children in the present day, sustaining them in the time of famine and of drought until he was pleased again to favour with plenty. My family consisted of myself William Taylor and Charles Unsworth who attended meetings. Ann Fairbank had a pretty long time first from Jer: C: 17. v: 14. Save me, and I shall be saved: for thou art my praise. Sarah Lamley had a long time next from Est: C: 4, 5, 6. Concerning Mordecai and Esther and their deeply trying situation and deliverance. Ann Fairbank had a short time next. Sarah Lamley a pretty long time next from 1 Kin: C: 17. Concerning the Prophet Elijah being fed by the ravens at the brook Cherath and when the brook was dried up, being sent to a widow whom the Lord ordered to sustain him until he was again pleased to send plenty. Afterwards she had a long time particularly addressed to William and Charles from Matt: C: 5. v: 6. Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled. Benjamin Chapman being at my house, who had lately been disowned, and having assigned over his property to two persons; he had left Peniston about 3 weeks before, and having no other place to be at I had taken him under my care until he met with a place, and after Tea being set together in my parlour we unexpectedly closed into silence, and had an opportunity with him, which appeared to be a renewed and extraordinary visitation extended, he was very much broken and tendered, and I wish it may prove a season of lasting advantage. Sarah Lamley had two pretty long testimonies first and afterwards Ann Fairbank a pretty long time. The Parable of the Prodigal son was beautifully opened, and the necessity for watchfulness in the time of temptation, and keeping in the fear of the Lord, was set before him.

Memorandum Pontefract Monthly Meeting 16<sup>th</sup>. of 5<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1814 I left home ye 14<sup>th</sup>. of ye 5<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1814 and 7<sup>th</sup>. day of the week in the forenoon and went to John Pickfords of Parkhead and from thence to my Nephew Robert Woods of Moorbottom were I din'd; left there about 1 o'clock and went by Skelmanthorp to Parkgate were I rested me about half an hour at Elias Armitages, and then he set me on my way down the valley to Parkmill and then returned, and I went by Bretton to Crigglestone were I drunk Tea at George Earnshaws, and afterwards sat a little at my Uncle Joseph Houghs; got to Dircar about 6 o'clock were I lodg'd at Christopher Walkers. On 15<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week, I went to Robert Walkers of Milnthorp to Breakfast, and from thence went by Sandal to Wakefield in company with Enoch Gouldthorp their servant in husbandry who had formerly lived with me 3 years. We got to Wakefield just in time to the Meeting which was large, Dewsbury friends uniting with them to day, and a pretty many of other Societies came in, It was an open meeting and I had a pretty long testimony to bear therein from John C: 3. v: 19. This is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. At the close of this Meeting the business of their Preparative meeting was gone through. Both meetings held 2 hours. After which I din'd at John Robinsons of Fieldhouse, and betwixt 2 and 3 o'clock left them and went by Agbrigg to Heath were feeling a necessity I called at the old horse and groom and got 6 pennyworth of Rum and Water, and then proceeded by Purston to my usual quarters at John Leathams of Pontefract were I got about 6 o'clock. On 16<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week; This morning I breakfasted at Mary and Elizabeth Johnsons and afterwards went to Ann Harrisons, and got a little refreshment there before I went to the meeting, which I thought was smaller than usual. We was favoured thereat with the company of 2 Strangers viz: Sarah Lamley and Ann Fairbank, Isabella Harris had a pretty long testimony to bear therein first from Prov: C: 18. v: 10. The name of the Lord is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it and is safe. and afterwards Ann Fairbank from John C: 5. v. 39, 40. Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life; and they are they which testify of me. And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life. At the close of the meeting for Worship was our Monthly Meeting for discipline, the business of which was agreeably conducted. Our friend Sarah Lamley from Worcestershire a member of the South Monthly Meeting in Warwickshire produced a certificate from the said meeting expressive of their unity with her concern to visit the Meetings and families of friends in this county, and to have Publick meetings with the inhabitants of some places as her way may open. Also Ann Fairbank produced a Minute of Balby Monthly Meeting expressive of their unity with her concern to visit the Meetings and families of friends in this Monthly Meeting, through which service the said friends united as companions. The Certificate and Minute was read and a minute made expressing our satisfaction therewith, and with their company here. Both meetings held 3 hours. After dinner I went to Benjamin Jowets of Carlton to Tea, and from thence in company with Joseph Birkbeck and several others from Ackworth. School as far as Houndhill, I went to James Harrisons of Hardwick were I got about 8 o'clock, and were I tarried all night. On 17<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, I left Hardwick about 10 o'clock in the forenoon, and James Harrison accompanied to Ackworth were we din'd at the School, and tarried until betwixt 2 and 3 o'clock in the afternoon, and then I preceeded on my Journey, James Harrison and Joseph Birkbeck setting me a little on my way, I came by Hemsworth to Shafton were I stopt about 1 hour and a half at Timothy Sykes's and drunk Tea and then he came with me about half a mile, were we parted, and I came by Cudworth and Burton.grange to Barnsley were I got to John Yeardeleys betwixt 8 and 9 o'clock, there I met with Sarah Lamley and Ann Fairbank who had entered upon their service of visiting families in this meeting I supp'd with them here and tarried until bedtime and then went to sleep at Robert Harrisons. On 18<sup>th</sup>. and 4<sup>th</sup>. of week. I returned to breakfast with the friends at John Yeardeleys, and after taking a solemn and affectionate farewell of them, I came and sat a little at William Taylors, and from thence came to William Bayldons were I din'd, and tarried until 3 o'clock, then came by Higham, Banks.hall and Elmhirst to Richard Priests of Broad.oak were I stopt about 1 hour and a half and drunk Tea, then came by Gunthwaite and Denby, Nathaniel Priest coming with me

upwards of a mile and then return'd. I called and stopt about half an hour at Elihu Dickinsons Tanr. of Highflatts, and took a glass of Rum and Water, and got home betwixt 8 and 9 o'clock in the evening.

In the 5<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1814, Sarah Lamley from Worcestershire a member of the South Monthly Meeting in Warwickshire and Ann Fairbank of Sheffield paid a religious visit to the families of friends and others who pretty duly attend Meetings in our Preparative Meeting. The following is a List of the order in which they were visited. Those marked thus + are such as one or both of the heads of families were disowned but continued to attend Meetings. and thus \* such as attend meetings but were not accepted into Membership

5<sup>th</sup>. mo. 3<sup>rd</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of Week

Mary Dysons of Westroyds}

\* Charles Kaye of Shepley}. - Both sittings at John Firths

4<sup>th</sup>. and 4<sup>th</sup>. of Week

\* James Haighs of Bankside

+ George Haighs of Heighmoorhouse

\* Joseph Hinchcliffs of Whinney. - 2 sons are admitted members

John Brooks of Shepley

John Haighs of Shepley

5<sup>th</sup>. and 5<sup>th</sup>. of Week

+ Benjamin Walkers of Shelley. - Wife and children members

Benjamin Steads of Siver Ing

+ Joseph Steads of Parkgate } These two sittings at Benjamin Steads

\* Elias Armitage of Parkgate}

Charles Steads of Siver Ing

Robert Woods of Moorbottom

6<sup>th</sup>. and 6<sup>th</sup>. of Week

Weekday Meeting at Highflatts

+ Charles Smith of Bankbottom} together

+ Samuel Brown of Shepley }

Samuel Wood of Haddenley. - these two sittings at John Firths

7<sup>th</sup>. and 7<sup>th</sup>. of Week

Henry Marsdens of Dobroyd

William Bottomleys of Dobroyd

Joseph Walkers of Shepley

\* James Wilkinsons of Shepley

John Firths of Shepley Lanehead

8<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of Week

William Pontefract of Thursteland - - at John Firths

Meeting at Highflatts, and a Publick Meeting at 6 in the evening there.

9<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of Week

John Bottomleys of Wood

\*Samuel Dickinsons of Wood

Joseph Woods of Newhouse

Leah Kinsley of Newhouse This sitting at Joseph Woods  
Elihu Dickinsons Tanner at Highflatts

10<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of Week

+John Beaumonts of Dearngrange  
John Pickfords of Parkhead  
John Mallinsons of Birdsedge  
\*Joseph Haigh of Birdsedge  
William Dickinson of Birdsedge - The 2 last sittings at John Mallinsons  
+William Haigh of Highflatts, at Elihu Dickinsons

11<sup>th</sup>. and 4<sup>th</sup>. of Week

John Kirks of Highflatts  
+Sarah Hinchcliffs of Highflatts  
Mary Haighs of Highflatts  
Richard Dickinsons of Highflatts  
+Abraham Beaumont of Highflatts  
Henry Dickinsons of Strines  
+John Dickinson of Highflatts The last 3 sittings at Elihu Dickinsons

12<sup>th</sup>. and 5<sup>th</sup>. of Week

+Abraham Coopers of Netherdenby  
\*Ellin Swinden of Denby  
Joseph and John Priests of Denby  
Joseph Haighs and Joseph Haigh junr. together both of Boghall  
Jonathan Dickinsons of Strines  
+John Dickinsons of Strines The last 3 sittings at Elihu Dickinsons  
Elihu Dickinsons Clothier of Highflatts

13<sup>th</sup>. and 6<sup>th</sup>. of Week

Weekday meeting at Highflatts  
Joshua Dysons of Annatroyd, in Meetinghouse  
Sarah Chapmans of Peniston  
James Dickinsons of Folley at Thomas Dickinsons  
William Dickinsons of Thurlstone

14<sup>th</sup>. and 7<sup>th</sup>. of week

Thomas Earnshaws of Judfield  
Joshua Earnshaws of Thurlstone  
+Daniel Broadheads of Thurlstone  
David Dickinson of Thurlstone  
+Enoch Dickinsons of Thurlstone at Thomas Dickinsons  
Thomas Dickinsons

5<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week

Meeting at Lumbroyd  
William Leppingtons of Langset in Meetinghouse

Memorandum. Having an inclination to go and see some of my friends and acquaintance who lived towards the Moors in the West part of Peniston Parish; during the time my family was engaged in the general clean of the house. I left home ye. 8<sup>th</sup>. of the 6<sup>th</sup>.

Mo. 1814, and 4<sup>th</sup>. day of the week, betwixt 7 and 8 o'clock in the morning and went by Summerford to Joshua Dysons of Annatroyd were I sat about half an hour and then proceeded by Royd and Shorehall to Lumbroyd were I attended their Weekday meeting which began at 10 o'clock when I got there I found friends collected, 9 in number, and sat down amongst them, It was a satisfactory meeting and I had a pretty long testimony to bear therein from Psalms 37. v: 25. I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken. After meeting I went with my beloved friend Thomas Earnshaw to his house at Judfield to dine were I tarried all night. In the afternoon we had a pleasant walk in the plantations and new Inclosures belonging to William Payne. On 9<sup>th</sup>. and 5<sup>th</sup>. of week about 9 o'clock in the morning I set out to see Sarah Chapman who at present resides with William Leppington of Langset; went by Middopstones and had a delightful walk up that beautiful valley to Langset were I din'd and drunk Tea with Sarah Chapman at William Leppingtons. I also went to Benjamin Crosleys, and looked over the house, from whence my Great-Grandfather Joshua Green came from to Newhouse; I was much pleased with seeing the habitation of my ancestor where a meeting was held in the early time of friends, and in which house there is a room which continues to bear the name of Green.parlour. After Tea I set out for Swinden, and called by the way at Joseph Brownhills of Brookhouse were I stopt about half an hour, and then went to Jonathan Bramalls of Swinden were I tarried two nights. On 10<sup>th</sup>. and 6<sup>th</sup>. of week, in the afternoon Elizabeth Bramall and me went to William Bagshaws of Hordron, he having married Mary the Widow of John Howe the week before, and settled there, we had an agreeable visit, stopt several hours and drunk Tea and then return'd. On 11<sup>th</sup>. and 7<sup>th</sup>. of week, I left Swinden about 10 o'clock in the forenoon and came by Soffley to Carlcoates were I stopt about 2 hours and a half at Esther Earnshaws and din'd, then came by Slaidbrook, Thuskinholes and Maythorn home, were I got betwixt 3 and 4 o'clock in the afternoon. The weather had been remarkably fine throughout this journey, and the Commons in Langset and Thurlstone Townships being inclosing the face of the country was much changed since I was in that part before, and I was much entertained with observing the great alterations which have taken place in those parts.

Memorandum. Highflatts Monthly Meeting 6<sup>th</sup>. mo. 20<sup>th</sup>. 1814. The afternoon before being the 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, several friends came to my house, and the following lodged with us that night viz. my Brother Daniel Doncaster of Sheffield, Thomas Hays of Barnsley, John Robinson and his daughter Hannah of Wakefield Mg. and Ann daughter of Cousin Benjamin Stead of Emley.Park. Our Meeting of Ministers and Elders began at 9 o'clock in the morning It was small several our members being absent, Thomas Shillitoe, Robert Whitaker and his wife being from home and Isabel Brearey unwell. The Queries were read and the 2<sup>nd</sup>. and 4<sup>th</sup>. considered and Answers thereto prepared approved and Signed; and directed to be laid before our ensuing Select Quarterly Meeting. The meeting held about 1 hour, after which I took Tea at Richard Dickinsons and tarried until the meeting for Worship began which was not so large as sometimes altho' there was a large appearance of friends, and several of other Societies came in, and altho' things opened in a very plain and close manner therein, yet I thought it was a good meeting, those who were afar off were invited to draw nigh and those who were near, was strengthened to acknowledge the Lords might. I had a long testimony to bear therein first from Joel: C: 2. v: 15. Call a solemn Assembly. John Bottomley a pretty long time next from Psalms 8. v: 4. What is man, that thou got mindful of him? and the son of man that thou visitest him? William Wass a short time next from 2 Cor: C: 5. v: 20. Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us; we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God. Isabella Harris a pretty long time next from Matt: C: 21. v: 13. My house shall be called the house of prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves. I next from Rom: C: 11. v: 21. If God spared not the natural branches, take heed lest he also spare not thee. At the close of this meeting was held the meeting for discipline, the business of

which was comfortably conducted to satisfaction. Both meetings held 3 hours and a half. James Harrison of Pontefract meeting, and Isabella Harris of Ackworth slept at my house to night, and set out for home the next morning after breakfast. Cousin Ann Stead came on 7<sup>th</sup>. day and stopt with us most of a week. We din'd 15 friends today.

Memorandum. David Dickinson of Thurlstone was born in the year 1746, and married Martha Haigh a friend of Wooldale Meeting; they had 8 children together, 3 sons and 5 daughters who lived to Mens and Womens estate, after the children were grown his Wife had poor health, and during the time of their childrens infancy and whilst his Wife lived, friends assisted them at times with Legacy Money, and in her last slickness they had for a short time 5 shillings a week from the Monthly Meeting. She departed this Life in the 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1810 aged about 63 years. After her decease he kept on the house, and lived alone for some time, but corn being very dear and other provisions also, and he advanced in years, friends at different times handed him to the amount of £3 2s of Legacy money, but in the 9<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1813, he being then in the 67<sup>th</sup>. year of his age, returned the money to the meeting informing friends he could put on, and that he was not easy to keep it, as others might be in more need of it. This disinterested principle which hath so much of the mark of real Christianity, appeared to me so rare an instance in the present day in our favoured Society that I thought a short anecdote thereof worthy a place in my memorandums. In the rise of friends, it was looked upon to be a duty by their industry to support themselves and their dependants, and altho' they suffered much from imprisonments and spoiling of their goods yet such was the blessing of the Almighty upon them, that their wants were few and easily and cheerfully supplied. The minds of others being so far redeemed out of the world as to look upon nothing of the things which they possessed to be their own, so that they freely contributed unto the real wants of others, which were not many all being convinced of the Truth of the Apostles doctrine 1 Tim: C: 5. v: 8. But if any provide not for his own, and especially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel. But in process of time many becoming members of the Society by Birthright, and others departing from their first love too many forgot their duty unto God, themselves and families by an unwarrantable dependence upon others, instead of honestly endeavouring for their own support, neglecting the commandment revived by the Apostle Rom: C: 7. v: 7. "Thou shalt not covet." and the many excellent scripture exhortations unto industry and the blessing of the Lord upon it. Solomon saith Prov: C: 6: v: 6. Go to the ant thou sluggard, consider her ways and be wise; Which having no guide, overseer, or ruler, Provideth her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest. and again in C: 30. v: 23. The ants are a people not strong, yet they prepare their meat in the summer. This points out not only the duty but the practice of every truly religious person to use their best endeavours whilst young and in health to lay up something against old age, sickness or infirmities, that they may have something to help themselves, and not be burdensome unto others, remembering the words of our Saviour as revived by the Apostle Acts C: 20. v: 35. It is more blessed to give than to receive. When I am led to view the great departure of some of this class of our Society from ancient purity, I cannot but lament their situation, believing that amongst other evils it hath a tendency to mark the beauty of our Zion. But when I consider that such crept into the church in the Apostles days and were cause of trouble unto them as mentioned in the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Epistle to the Thessalions C: 3. v. 10, 11. For even when we were with you this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat. For we hear that there are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all but are busy.bodies. It can hardly be expected in this day of great declension, that we should be free from such. But whilst I mourn the situation of these fearing they see not the evil thereof, I am comforted in beholding many virtuous exceptions in the lower class of our Society who by their industry, frugality and economy are an honour to their profession,

clearly manifesting to the world they are one in faith in principle and in practice with our worthy predecessors.

Memorandum. On 26<sup>th</sup>. of 6<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1814, departed this life at her Son in laws Robert Walkers of Milnthorp, Mary Cudworth widow of Abraham Cudworth of Painthorp; and was buried in friends burial.ground near Wakefield ye. 1<sup>st</sup>. of ye. 7<sup>th</sup>. Mo. and 6<sup>th</sup>. day of the week, aged about 56 years. Being invited I set out to attend the said burial betwixt 6 and 7 o'clock the same morning and went by Cumberworth to Skelmanthorp were I rested me sometime at Charles Blackburns, and then went to Elias Armitages of Parkgate, were I tarried the longer, waiting for him who was going to Clayton, we went together to Parkmill, and then parted; and I went by Bretton and Crigglestone to Christopher Walkers of Dirtcar were I stopt and got some refreshment, and then proceeded to Robert Walkers of Milnthorp were I got betwixt 12 and 1 o'clock, The Relations and friends who lived at a distance din'd, The neighbours and friends of the meeting were invited for 2 o'clock; The meeting was appointed to begin at 4 to give some friends time to get there from the Quarterly Meeting at York. The corps were taking up about 3 o'clock and 2 coaches were prepared to take the Relations and some distant friends to Wakefield and back 6 in each Coach, a place in one being reserved for me which was very acceptable, as the day was very hot, and I grow the less able to bear walking We got to the Meetinghouse in due time, the meeting was large many of Societies attending so that the great end of the Meetinghouse was nearly full. I had a long time in testimony therein first from Job C: 14. v. 1, 2. Man is born of a Woman is of few days, and full of trouble. He cometh forth like a flower, and is cut down; he fleeth also as a shadow, and continueth not. John Bottomley had a pretty long time next from Psalms 40. v. 1, 2, 3. I waited patiently for the Lord; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry. He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings. And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God. Isabella Harris had a long time next from Psalms 39. v. 3, 4. Whilst I was musing the fire burned; then spake I with my tongue, Lord, make me to know mine end, and the measure of my days, what it is; that I may know how frail I am. At the close of the Meeting which held near 3 hours, I had to remark our satisfaction with the quiet orderly behaviour of many throughout the Meeting; and then observed that the unsettled state of others by keeping going out most of the meeting time had been cause of sorrow to us not only on their account, from the loss they sustained, but the hurt it was to the meeting, and tho' we was pleased with the company of such as were disposed to sit with us and behave well, yet we could not look upon the frequent going out as commendable behaviour, and I thought I had seen more of it at this place, than any other where my lot had been cast, and the reason of my remarking it was from a desire that it might be avoided in the future. From the Meetinghouse we proceeded to the Grave.yard about 1 mile were a great concourse of People assembled and after the corps was put in the grave Isabella Harris had a long testimony to bear. From the grave.yard I return'd in one of the Coaches to Milnthorp were we got a little before 9 o'clock we drunk Tea there, and stopt some time after, and then I came with Christopher Walker to Dirtcar were we got a little before 11 o'clock, and I lodg'd at his house. On 2<sup>nd</sup>. and 7<sup>th</sup>. of week, Yesterday I received an account of the death of Ann Johnson widow of Joseph Johnson of Pontefract with an invitation to me to attend her burial She departed this Life the 28<sup>th</sup>. of 6<sup>th</sup>. 1814 and was buried in friends burial ground at Pontefract ye. 3<sup>rd</sup>. of ye. 7<sup>th</sup>. Mo. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of the week aged about 72 years. I left Dirtcar about 9 o'clock, and went by Milnthorp, Walton, Crofton, Foulby, Wragby, and Hazle, to Ackworth, It being very hot I walked slow, and rested me by the way at the Sign of the Spread.eagle in Wragby were I got 6 pennyworth of Rum and Water, got to Ackworth.School about half past 12 o'clock. After dinner Elizabeth Coggeshall from Rhode.Island in America in the course of her religious visit to these parts, and her companion Mary Jefferys from Wiltshire, came here in order to attend the meetings at this

place tomorrow. I was much pleased to see them, and stopt here until 4 o'clock then went by Houndhill to Benjamin Jowetts of Carlton, where I stopt a considerable time and drunk Tea, then proceeded to Pontefract where I got about 8 o'clock and lodg'd at John Leatham's. On 3<sup>rd</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week, about 10 o'clock I went to the house of the deceased, where I took a cup of Chocolate. The meeting began at the usual time or at least was so ordered viz: 11 o'clock, but it was rather after before we left the house and the corps was interred before the Meeting. A great concourse of People of other Societies attended whose behaviour was very commendable, the Meetinghouse both ends and the Loft were very much crowded, and many stood without. It proved a very solemn open and highly favoured meeting. Isabella Harris had a long testimony to bear therein first from Eccle: C: 7. v: 2. It is better to go to the house of mourning, than to go to the house of feasting. I next from Isai: C: 40. v. 6, 7, 8. The voice said, cry, and he said, what shall I cry? All flesh is grass, and all the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field: the grass withereth, the flower fadeth; because the spirit of the Lord bloweth upon it: surely the people is grass. The grass withereth, the flower fadeth; but the word of our God shall stand for ever. John Bottomley next in Prayer. Thomas Shillitoe had a long testimony next from Matt: C: 6: v: 20. Lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven. Isabella Harris next in Prayer. Afterwards I had a short testimony to bear from Heb: C: 4. v: 2. The word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it. Having briefly to observe, that a door of utterance had been mercifully opened and I felt a desire that it might have entrance in each mind, by faith in Christ the divine word: and then had affectionately to address the children of the deceased and afterwards concluded with the salutation of Gospel Love, unto all states and conditions present and bade them Farewel. The meeting held 3 hours. After which the Relations and distant friends dined at Joseph Johnsons the son of the deceased. I received this morning by Leonard West Elizabeth Coggeshalls love to me, and her request for my company at a Publick meeting to be held at 6 o'clock this evening at Ackworth. I took Tea here and set out a little after 5 o'clock for Ackworth, went in the School Sociable with Leonard West, Isabella Harris and Sarah Snowden, got there just in time to the meeting where a pretty many of other Societies attended, so that the Meetinghouse and Loft were pretty well filled but not crowded. Elizabeth Coggeshall had a very long testimony to bear therein from Rev: C: 14. v: 6, 7. I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting Gospel to preach unto them that dwelt on the earth, and to every nation and kindred, and tongue and people. Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgments is come; and worship him that made heaven and earth and the sea and the fountains of waters. At the close of the meeting I had to remark that not only at this time but at some others it had given me much concern when a friend had been under the exercise of their gift and took their seat again, observing some immediately arise and go out, I believed this had been a loss to many, and was desirous it might be avoided, and then I doubted not but many would from their own experience have to acknowledge the best wine had been reserved until last. The meeting held about 2 hours and a half. After which I lodged at the School. On 4<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, After breakfast Elizabeth Coggeshall and Mary Jeffrey set out to a meeting at Pontefract, and I tarried conversing with Isabella Harris until a little past 10 o'clock, and then came by Ackworth.moortop and Hemsworth to Timothy Sykes of Shafton where I din'd, stopt betwixt 2 and 3 hours, and then came by Cudworth and Burton to Barnsley where I took up my quarters this time at Robert Harrison's, got there a little before 5 o'clock. After Tea I went and sat a little at Thomas Shillitoe's, when I returned I found John Wood at Robert Harrison's he stopt with me until bedtime of whose company I was glad he being an innocent youth and I believe growing in the Truth, O that he may be blessed with the blessing of preservation. On 5<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, I breakfasted at John Yeardeleys and stopt until near 11 o'clock, then came and sat a little at Ellin Haighs, and afterwards din'd at Robert Harrison's. Left Barnsley about 2 o'clock, Robert Harrison set me on my way 2 miles and then return'd. I came by Cawthorne and Dakinbrook to Dykeside where I drunk Tea at Joshua Morleys stopt about 1 hour and a half. and then came to John Bottomleys of Wood where I tarried near an hour, and got home about 8

o'clock in the evening. When travelling this journey it was mostly fair but very hot, and walking mostly in the foot ways through the closes, the field flowers being in their glory it was very delightful.

Memorandum. Wooldale Monthly Meeting 7<sup>th</sup>. mo: 18<sup>th</sup>. 1814. 7<sup>th</sup>. mo. 17<sup>th</sup>. 1814 and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week. This morning came to my house John Issott of Ladyhouse and Abraham Kaye of Lockwood, the latter being also under conviction, they stopt with us until after Tea and returned home in the evening. Their visit was acceptable, there appearing a good deal of sincerity in them and I hope it would be profitable unto them. Our meeting at Highflatts was large to day, more of other Societies attending than usual; It was a good meeting, and I had a very long testimony to bear therein from Jude v: 4. There are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation; ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into the lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ. Afterwards I had a pretty long time from Matt. C: 6. v: 34. Take therefore no thought for the morrow. The meeting held 2 hours and a quarter. In the afternoon Thomas Shillitoe and William Bayldon from Barnsley, and John Fozard, Joseph Brearey and George Brearey from Dewsbury came to my house after Tea, Thomas Shillitoe went to Wooldale, the other 4 friends lodg'd at my house. On 18<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week about 8 o'clock in the morning I set out to attend our Monthly meeting to be held this day at Wooldale Charles Unsworth being my companion; and William Bayldon and Joseph Brearey accompanying us thither, we got to Wooldale betwixt 9 and 10 o'clock, where we rested us and took Tea at Henry Swires's. The meeting for Worship was large many both friends and others attending yet I think I have seen more in former years the house and chamber being not quite full We had the company of 1 Stranger viz: Esther Lees from Lancashire, she was about entering upon a religious visit to such as through misconduct had been disowned by friends and resided in some part of Highflatts, Lumbroyd and Wooldale meetings. In this meeting Esther Lees had a short testimony to bear therein first, having the language of encouragement unto the poor in spirit. Thomas Shillitoe next a pretty long time having livingly to declare, That the way to become truly rich, was to be willing first to become poor, to sell all and simply give ourselves up to follow Christ. Isabella Harris had a long time next from Psalms 127. v: 1. Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it; except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain. At the close of this meeting the men and women members of our Society were requested to keep their seats and others desired quietly to withdraw. I then informed friends that I had for some time past been under an exercise of mind from an apprehension of duty to pay a religious visit to the meetings of friends in Westmorland and some parts of Lancashire, and a few meetings in the adjoining counties and also to have some meetings as way may open with the inhabitants of some places in those parts, more particularly within the compass of Swarthmoor Monthly Meeting. Many friends expressed their unity therewith, and had to communicate the language of encouragement to me, not only of the Elder rank but some of the exercised youth whose mouths had never before been opened on these occasions, and a minute was prepared expressive of the meetings unity and sympathy with me in my prospect, and a committee of friends were appointed to prepare a Certificate to the same effect for the approbation of our next Meeting. After the minute was read Isabella Harris expressed a concern that was on her mind to have a Publick Meeting this evening in this place which being cordially united with, friends were desired to exert themselves in giving notice thereof to their neighbours in their respective situations in this neighbourhood. The Women friends then withdrew and each Meeting entered upon their separate concerns, we had not much business before us to day but what we had was agreeably conducted, amongst other things Esther Lees certificate expressive of the unity of the friends of Marsden Monthly Meeting with her beforementioned concern was read, and a minute made of the meetings satisfaction there with, and with her company here. At the close of the meeting the Yearly Meetings

Epistle was read. The meetings held 4 hours and a half. After which we din'd and drunk Tea at Henry Swires's, and in the evening attended the Publick Meeting which began at 7 o'clock and held upwards of 2 hours and a half; It was not large the Meetinghouse not being near full, and was hurt by the length of time it was in gathering yet upon the whole it was a solid satisfactory meeting, the People in the general behaving reverently, and some of them appearing to be sensibly affected with good. Isabella Harris had a very long testimony to bear therein first from 1 Cor: C: 12. v: 7. The manifestation of the spirit is given to every man to profit withal. I had a long time next from Col: C: 1. v. 26, 27. The mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, that now is made manifest to his saints: To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is christ in you, the hope of glory. Afterwards Isabella Harris and myself had each of us a short exhortation unto the People. After meeting we got a little suitable refreshment at Henry Swires's, and then came with George Broadhead by Totties and Scholes to his house at Jacksonbridge, got there betwixt 10 and 11 o'clock were we lodg'd. On 19<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, we left George Broadheads about 8 o'clock in the morning, and had a pleasant walk by Bankhouse, and Hilltop, and over the Moors, and by Birdsedge home, were we got by 9 o'clock in the forenoon.

Memorandum. On ye 21<sup>st</sup>. of ye 7<sup>th</sup>. Mo 1814, departed this life Joseph Priest of Denby, who was buried in friends burial.ground at Highflatts ye 24<sup>th</sup>. of the same and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, aged about 77 years. Being invited I attended the said burial, the invitation was for 8 o'clock, and I left home a little past 7 in the morning met with John Mallinson upon the road, and we went together to the house, were we got by the hour appointed. Coffee and Tea were prepared for the company; and a little after 10 o'clock we set out with the corps, and reached Highflatts in due time; The meeting was very large a great concourse of People of other Societies attending, so that the house and chamber was very full, and the behaviour of the People throughout becoming the solemnity of the occasion. Our friend Esther Lees from Lancashire was at the meeting, being about entering on a religious visit to such within the compass of our Preparative meeting as had been disowned by the Society, and stood in that situation; and not only those who continued to attend meetings, but those also who had declined it; if they were free to receive it. In this meeting she had a pretty long testimony to bear first from Mark C: 10. v: 17. What shall I do that I may inherit eternal life. Afterwards I had a very long time from John C: 1. v. 15, 16. He that cometh after me is preferred before me; for he was before me. And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace. At the close of the meeting, Joseph Firth read the Yearly Meeting Epistle in a solid and weighty manner, the baptizing power of Truth being eminently over the assembly, the solemnity continued unto the close. The meeting held upwards of 2 hours. After which being much exhausted with the heat and exercise thereof I called at Richard Dickinsons and got some suitable refreshment; and then at John Priests request return'd to Denby were I din'd and drunk Tea, spending the afternoon agreeably with the relations of the deceased and a few select friends. Left Denby betwixt 7 and 8 in the evening and got home betwixt 8 and 9.

Memorandum. On ye 24<sup>th</sup>. of ye 7<sup>th</sup>. Mo.1814, departed this Life Sarah Stead daughter of Charles Stead of Siver.Ing in Emley; and was buried in friends burial.ground at Highflatts ye. 29<sup>th</sup>. of the same, and 6<sup>th</sup>. day of the week aged about 28 years. I was invited but did not go to the house, on account of the distance; She had forfeited her right to membership when very young but continued to attend meetings, and her parents obtained leave for her to be buried in friends burial.ground, and ordered to bring the corps at the time of our Week.day meeting. This morning before Breakfast my beloved friend William Masters from

Staffordshire came to my house to spend a little time with me. He was returning from the General Meeting at Ackworth and purposed reaching my house the evening before, But a heavy storm of Thunder and Lightning coming on, he with some other friends stopt all night at Cawthorne. Our Weekday meeting begins at 10, and we got there near that time, it was about half past when the burial came, and friends considering the distance waited until they reached there. The meeting was considerably enlarged by People of other Societies who attended the burial, and was open and satisfactory. Esther Lees had a pretty long time in testimony first from Isai: C: 48. v: 17. I am the Lord thy God which teacheth thee to profit, which leadeth thee by the way that thou should just go. Afterwards I had a very long time from Mark C: 10. v: 15. I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, shall not enter therein. The meeting held 2 hours. After meeting we got a little suitable refreshment to Richard Dickinsons and then return'd to my house. In the afternoon we went to Tea to Joseph Firths of Shepley Lanehead. On 30<sup>th</sup>. and 7<sup>th</sup>. of week, This afternoon we went to Tea at Richard Dickinsons of Highflatts, were we had also the company of our friend Esther Lees. After Tea we went together to Elihu Dickinsons were we supp'd. After which we accompanied Esther Lees to John Mallinsons of Birdsedge were she lodg'd; we sat a little there and then returned to my house. On 31<sup>st</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week, Our meeting at Highflatts was large the Meetinghouse being pretty well filled many of other Societies attending, Esther Lees had a long time therein in testimony first from 1 Kings C: 18. v: 21. How long halt ye between two opinions? If the Lord be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him. William Masters a short time next from Psalms 68. v. 11, 12. The Lord gave the word: great was the company of those that published it. Kings of armies did flee apace; and she that tarried at home divided the spoil. I had a long time next from 2 Cor: C: 8. v: 9. Ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus.christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich. The meeting held 2 hours and a quarter. Esther Lees and Joseph Firth and his Wife din'd with us to day at my house. After dinner William Masters set out towards home, and Joseph Firth being going to Sheffield they went off together. Soon after Elizabeth Lees sat with Benjamin Chapman in my parlour, and after the opportunity, she proceeded on her visit. After dinner John Mallinson came and stopt tea with us, and after Tea, he and Hannah Firth went off together. Then Charles Unsworth and me took a walk to Robert Woods of Moorbottom, soon after we got there Esther Lees came in, intending to lodge there that night. We spent a little time agreeably with her, and supp'd there, then return'd home, were we got betwixt 9 and 10 o'clock.

In the summer of the year 1814, Esther Lees from Marsden Monthly Meeting in Lancashire, under an apprehension of religious duty, and with the unity and approbation of the friends of said Meeting, paid a religious visit, to such as had been disowned by the Society and were not reunited; in Highflatts and Wooldale Preparative Meetings. Not only to such as continued to attend meetings, but also to those who had declined it, if they were free to receive it; She came to our Monthly Meeting held in Wooldale in the 7<sup>th</sup>. Mo. were she produced her Certificate from the friends of Marsden Monthly Meeting which was read, and the next day she entered upon her service in Wooldale meeting, and got through those of that description in the course of the week; and came to our meeting at Highflatts, on the 24<sup>th</sup>. of ye 7<sup>th</sup>. month and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week and after Meeting began her visit to such as resided within the compass of our Preparative meeting. Those not marked are such as attended meeting and those marked thus + such as have declined attending. The following is a list of those she visited, and the order in which she visited them.

On 24<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week  
 Meeting at Highflatts  
 George Haigh of Heighmoorhouse  
 Benjamin Walker of Shelley

25<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week

Joseph Stead of Parkgate  
 + Mary Ives of Lower.Carr  
 Both sittings at Benjamin Steads of Siver.Ing

26<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week

+Caleb Dickinson of Folley  
 + Hannah Dickinson of Folley  
 + John Dickinson of Folley  
 The 2 last together  
 + Susanna Wilkinson of Thurlstone  
 + Dorothy Roebuck of Thurlstone  
 Elijah Dickinson of Thurlstone

27<sup>th</sup>. and 4<sup>th</sup>. of week

Daniel Broadhead of Peniston  
 Meeting at Lumbroyd  
 + Joseph Earnshaw of Snowdenhill at Judfield  
 Hannah Green of Judfield  
 + Joshua Roberts and Judith his wife of Eclands  
 + Ann Battye of Thurlstone, at Thomas Dickinsons

28<sup>th</sup>. and 5<sup>th</sup>. of week

+ Jonathan Earnshaw of Ing.Birchworth at Thomas Dickinsons  
 Abraham Cooper of Netherdenby

29<sup>th</sup>. and 6<sup>th</sup>. of week

Samuel Dickinson of Wood  
 Meeting at Highflatts  
 Enoch Dickinson of Thurlstone, in Highflatts Meetinghouse  
 Martha Haigh of Highflatts  
 Sarah Hinchcliff of Highflatts  
 Abraham Beaumont of Highflatts  
 The two last sittings at Elihu Dickinsons

30<sup>th</sup>. and 7<sup>th</sup>. of week

William Haigh of Highflatts  
 John Dickinson of Strines  
 Joseph Haigh junr. of Boghall  
 + Mary Rusby of Slate.Delph

31<sup>st</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week

John Dickinson of Highflatts  
 Meeting at Highflatts  
 + Jonathan Dickinson of Thurlstone, in Highflatts Meetinghouse  
 Benjamin Chapman of Newhouse  
 Hannah Beaumont of Dearngrange

1<sup>st</sup>. of 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week

+ Ann Turner of Copleyhouse  
 + Hannah Ives of Heater  
 + Rebecca Ives of Lower.Carr  
 Together at Heater

She got through the said visit to the relief of her own mind: and to the solid satisfaction of faithful friends, who rejoiced in the belief that the Visitation of divine Love was renewed unto those who were as the outcasts of Israel and the dispersed of Judah; and it evidently appeared that he who engaged her in this arduous service, went before her and prepared her way; by the cordial reception she generally met with amongst the visited, not one refusing to sit with her, so that all she had a prospect of were visited, except Ellin Kaye of Emley who was to have met her at her Fathers, but thro' misunderstanding did not.

The Crown Prince of Sweden to his Son the Day after the Capture of Lubeck

My dear Oscar

"the People of the Lubeck assisted Gustavus the 1<sup>st</sup>. in restoring liberty to his country; I have just paid this debt of the Swedes, Lubeck is free." I had the happiness of gaining possession of the city without Bloodshed, this advantage is dearer to me than a victory in a pitched Battle, even though it might not cost me many Men. How happy are we my Son when we can prevent the shedding of tears, How sound and quiet is our asleep. If all Men would be convinced of this Truth, there would be no more conquerors; and Nations would be governed only by just Kings.

Your affectionate Father

Charles John

Lubeck 9<sup>th</sup>. of Decr. 1813

Memorandum. On ye 7<sup>th</sup>. day of ye 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1814 departed this life Joseph Haigh of Boghall in Denby; and was buried the 10<sup>th</sup>. of the same, and 4<sup>th</sup>. day of the week in friends burial.ground at Highflatts aged about 65 years. I was invited but did not go to the house being unwell, but attended the meeting, Notice was given on first day that on the present occasion our week.day meeting would be held today, It was not large altho' a little enlarged by a few neighbours, and Relations. I had a pretty long testimony to bear therein from Eph: C: 5. v: 14. Awake, thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and christ shall give thee light. Afterwards I was concerned in Prayer. The Meeting held upwards of 2 hours, and I thought near the close was remarkably overshadowed.

Memorandum On ye 6<sup>th</sup>. day of the 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1814, a part of the Committee appointed by the Quarterly Meeting to visit the Monthly and Preparative Meetings in our County, were at our Meeting at Highflatts viz George Sanders of Whitby, Isaac Taylor of Hemsley Mg. William Alexander of York, Thomas Scantlebury of Sheffield and William and Rachel Rountree of Pickering Mg. and it being the first day of the week, The meeting was very fully attended by friends, and several of other Societies came in. It proved a time of very extraordinary favour, George Sanders was first concerned therein in supplication, Rachel Rountree had a long time in testimony next, and afterwards George Sanders had a very long time. I believe it was time of renewed visitation unto many who had been trifling away their precious time, who were encouraged to close in therewith, whilst the hands of the rightly exercised were renewedly strengthened, and they encouraged not to grow weary nor faint in their minds, for in due season these would reap if they did not faint. At the close of this meeting the Men and Women members of the Society were requested to stop together When 1<sup>st</sup>. 2<sup>nd</sup>. 3<sup>rd</sup>. and 4<sup>th</sup>. Queries were read in course, and Answers to the 1<sup>st</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. drawn up in writing. The 2<sup>nd</sup>. was read but not answered but we reminded the intent thereof was to put us

individually upon a self-examination whether or no any religious advancement was experienced. The 4<sup>th</sup>. was read and answered, and many profitable remarks were made upon these three Queries. The Women then withdrew and afterwards The 6<sup>th</sup>. Query was read and answered, and much weighty caution and advice communicated thereupon. The 10<sup>th</sup>. was also read and the answer thereto committed to writing. The 11<sup>th</sup>. was read but no remark made thereon Several testimonies were afterwards borne by the Strangers, myself and John Bottomley tending to stir up the pure mind, and encourage friends to faithfulness, that there might be more fruitfulness. The remaining part of the business of our Preparative meeting was gone thro' and the whole concluded under an humbling sense of the presence of him who is the crowning glory of our Assemblies. The whole having held 4 hours.

Memorandum. Wakefield Monthly Meeting 12<sup>th</sup>. mo: 19<sup>th</sup>. 1814 I left home ye. 17<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 12<sup>th</sup>. mo: 1814 and 7<sup>th</sup>. day of the week, after breakfast, went to John Pickfords at Parkhead to be shaved, left there about 11 o'clock. It was a very windy blustery day more especially in the afternoon, accompanied by heavy showers of rain, I went by Cumberworth and Skelmanthorp to Elias Armitages of Parkgate were I rested me about 1 hour, and then preceded by Parkmill to Bretton, were I took shelter at an house stopt about an hour and then proceeded, by Crigglestone to Dircar, got there about 5 o'clock were I took up my quarters at Christopher Walkers. On 18<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week, After breakfast I went to Robert Walkers of Milnthorp sat a little and took a glass of wine, then went by Sandal to Wakefield, were I got just in time to the Meeting which began at 11 o'clock and was pretty large being considerably increased by convincement, and of late by removals from other Meetings into this Town. I was fully satisfied I was in my place in being here to day and was strengthened to relieve my mind of what appeared to be required of me, and I thought it was a satisfactory meeting. I had a long testimony to bear therein first from 1 Sam: C: 15. v: 22. Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice. Afterwards I had a pretty long time from Gal: C: 6. v: 14. God forbid that I should glory save in the cross of our Lord Jesus.christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world. At the close of this meeting was held their Preparative meeting. After which I din'd at Joseph Wetheralds, and after dinner Henry Soulby who some years ago married Mary Barber a member of our society, and hath of late more diligently attended friends meetings; sent a friend to invite me to his house. I went and spent the afternoon agreeably there, and drunk Tea he gave me a kind invitation to his house at any time. At 6 in the evening our Meeting of Ministers and Elders began which held 2 hours, All our members attended except John Bottomley, John Pickford and Hannah Whitaker who were prevented by indisposition. The Queries were read and the 2<sup>nd</sup>. and 4<sup>th</sup>. answered and Answers thereto prepared to be laid before our ensuing Select Quarterly Meeting. After meeting I returned to Henry Soulbys were I got a little refreshment, and then went with Mark Brear to his house at Alverthorp, who came to Wakefield to accompany me thither were I lodg'd. On 19<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, After breakfast I returned to Wakefield where our Monthly meeting was this day held. It began for Worship at 11 o'clock and notwithstanding the day was wet, it was very large and held in silence. At the close thereof was held the meeting for discipline Before the Men and Women separated, I delivered in my Certificate given me from this meeting in the 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. last and gave an account of my visit, with which several friends expressed their satisfaction, and a Minute was made expressive of the meetings satisfaction therewith. The remainder of the business which came before this meeting was agreeably conducted. Both meetings held 4 hours. After which I din'd at William Leathams, and about 5 o'clock went in company with Thomas Bromley by Ossett and Hanging.heaton to George Breareys of Crackenedge by Dewsbury, got there about 7 o'clock were I lodg'd. On 20<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week in the forenoon I went to William Wass's, were I stopt near 2 hours and got an early dinner, left Dewsbury about 12 o'clock and came by Thornhill, Mugmill, and Flockton to cousin Alexander

Hampshires of Flockton.mill were I rested me near an hour, and took a glass of wine, then came by Emley, Skelmanthorp and Cumberworth home were I got about 5 o'clock.

Memorandum. On ye. 10<sup>th</sup>. day of ye. 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 1815 departed this Life Thomas Roberts of Wooldale, and was buried in friends burial.ground at Wooldale ye. 14<sup>th</sup>. of the same and 7<sup>th</sup>. day of the week aged about 77 years. Having received an invitation I found drawings in my mind to attend the said burial, and set out the same morning and went to John Pickfords of Parkhead, left there betwixt 8 and 9 o'clock, and got to Wooldale betwixt 9 and 10, were I took Tea at the deceaseds house. The Meeting held on the occasion began at 11 and was pretty large, of friends and People of other Societies, and was eminently favoured, his daughter Esther Lees from Lancashire was there, and had a pretty long testimony to bear therein first from Numb: C: 23. v: 10. Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his! I had a very long time next from 1 Thes: C: 5. v: 6. Let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober. and afterwards was concerned in Prayer. The Meeting held upwards of 2 hours after which I returned to Judith Roberts's were I din'd, and left Wooldale about 3 o'clock in company with Henry Swire who was going about business to Highflatts; we came together to Parkhead, were I stopt a little at John Pickfords, and then came to John Mallinsons of Birdsedge, were I drunk Tea, stopt 1 hour and a half, and got home at about half past 6 in the evening.

Memorandum. Wakefield Monthly Meeting ye. 16<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 1815. I left home ye. 15<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 1815, and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, about 12 o'clock, in the company of my Charles Unsworth, we went by Cumberworth to Skelmanthorp were we rested us a considerable time at Charles Blackburns, and then preceded by Parkmill Bretton and Crigglestone to Dircar were we got about 5 o'clock and took up our quarters at Christopher Walkers. In the evening the family collected as usual to read the Scriptures, and during that time of silence after reading, my mouth was opened in exhortation. On 16<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, After breakfast, we went to Wakefield sat a little at Ann Thorps and then went to the Meeting which began at 11 o'clock, It was the largest collection of friends I ever before saw at this place, and was I thought a satisfactory meeting. I had a long time to bear therein from Matt: C: 6. v: 34. Take therefore no thought for the morrow. At the close of the Meeting for Worship was held our Monthly meeting for discipline, the business of which was very agreeably conducted; amongst other things the friends appointed to visit Thomas Hayes of Barnsley on his application to be admitted a member of our Society, brought in a report that they had visited him a second time to good satisfaction: the meeting after solidly considering his case and the report, agreed to accept him a member of our Society, and appointed Robert Harrison and me to acquaint him therewith. Both meetings held 3 hours. After which we din'd at William Leathams, sat a little at Henry Soulbys, and drunk Tea at John Spences and afterwards sat a little at Ann Thorps, and then left Wakefield and came by Sandal to Milnthorp were we got about 8 o'clock, and lodg'd at Robert Walkers. On 17<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, we left here about 9 o'clock in the morning, Charles Unsworth for home, and I to pay a visit to some friends and acquaintance, went by Cheviot and Felkirk to Shafton were I stopt about 4 hours with Timothy Sykes's, and din'd; then proceeded by Cudworth and Burton to Barnsley, were I got about half past 4 o'clock, and drunk Tea at Robert Harrisons. From thence I went to my quarters at John Yeardeleys, were in the evening Robert Harrison and me discharged the duty of our appointment by informing Thomas Hayes, that he was admitted into membership with us; the opportunity was satisfactory, and I had two short testimonies to bear therein. On 18<sup>th</sup>. and 4<sup>th</sup>. of week in the forenoon I went to William Taylors, and Ellin Haighs sat a little at each place, and called upon Samuel Cowards, then return'd to my

quarters. In the afternoon I drunk Tea at Thomas Yeardleys, and supp'd and spent the evening at William Bayldons. On 19<sup>th</sup>. and 5<sup>th</sup>. of week I attended their week.day meeting, in which I relieved my mind in two pretty long testimonies the first from Prov: C: 16. v: 33. The lot is cast into the lap: but the whole disposing thereof is of the Lord. and the other from Matt: C: 6. v: 22. The light of the body is the eye; if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light. After meeting I din'd at William Harveys and drunk Tea at Mary Waltons, and in my return to my quarters called and sat a little at George Alletsons and John Listers. On 20<sup>th</sup>. and 6<sup>th</sup>. of week I purposed seting out for home this morning, but it proved very Snowy and continued most of the day, wherefore I spent it very agreeably with John Yeardley and his Wife. On 21<sup>st</sup>. and 7<sup>th</sup>. of week, the morning was pretty fair and continued so most of the day, I left Barnsley about 10 o'clock found the Snow deep, but there was got a pretty good trod, called at Thomas Wests of Cawthorne were I din'd and stopt upwards of 4 hours, then came by Dakinbrook and Denby home were I got about half past 5 o'clock.

Daniel Roberts of Painswick in Gloucestershire, having been disowned by our Society for embracing and propagating the wildly enthusiastical notions of Joanna Southcott, (who afterwards manifested herself fully to be carried away with strange delusions) Thro' his influence as was supposed his children afterwards sent in their resignation of membership to the Monthly Meeting, which was accepted, But sometime afterwards upon mature reflection his younger Son addressed the following Letter to the Monthly Meeting viz.

To the Friends of the Nailsworth Monthly Meeting.  
Esteemed Friends

Being sincerely desirous of effacing the offence estrangement painfully separated my Name from the religious Society in which I was educated, and whose principles I have ever adopted no less from choice than Precedent, I avail myself of this opportunity, to request that I may again be considered as a member of its Communion.

In embracing this measure, I deem it incumbent on me to state, that I have neither sentiment to disavow, nor Principles to alter, and that I am merely endeavouring to retrieve a step, which nothing but motives of a domestic nature would have occasioned.

I have been additionally encouraged by the friendly interest of several valued individuals of my acquaintance, who have kindly suggested the probability of its favourable reception, and submitting the whole to your delicacy and candour, I remain respectfully your Friend

Oade Roberts

Painswick 11 mo: 6<sup>th</sup>. 1814

Memorandum. On ye. 10<sup>th</sup>. day of the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mo. 1815, William Leppington of Langset, departed this life, and was buried in friends burial.ground at Lumbroyd ye. 13<sup>th</sup>. of the same, and 2<sup>nd</sup>. day of the week, aged about 53 years. Being invited I attended the burial, did not go to the House, owing to the distance and want of ability of body, but met them at the Meeting House; left home same morning betwixt 8 and 9 o'clock, and went by Ing Birchworth to Penistone were I rested me and took a little refreshment at Daniel Broadheads, then went to Lumbroyd were I got at the time appointed for the meetings to begin held on these occasions, but had to wait about an hour before the corps came. The friend died of an epidemical Feaver which raged much in that village, and took away several. So that they wisely invited very few, besides the inhabitants thereof; in all of whose houses the distemper was, so that a serious young man told me that not above three or four in the village old or young but had either had it or were in it. The meeting was the smallest I ever attended on the like occasion, there being

but 17 persons there besides myself, but it was very remarkably favoured, an almost universal tenderness and brokenness of Spirit appearing, the minds of the People being much humbled under the present awful visitation of Providence. I had a long testimony to bear amongst them from Jam: C: 4. v: 14. What is your life? It is even a vapour that appeareth for a time, and then vanisheth away. After meeting I return'd to Penistone and din'd at Daniel Broadheads, left there betwixt 3 and 4 o'clock, and came to Thurlstone were I called to see Sarah Chapman, stopt with her about 2 hours and drunk Tea then came to Joshua Dysons of Annatroyd were I rested me a considerable time and took a little refreshment, and had a fine moonlight walk home, were I got about 8 o'clock in the evening.

Memorandum. Wakefield Monthly Meeting 20<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. 1815. I left home ye. 19<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. 1815, and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week betwixt 9 and 10 o'clock in the forenoon and went by Cumberworth to Skelmanthorp were I stopt near an hour at Charles Blackburns and took a little refreshment, then preceded by Parkmill, Bretton and Crigglestone to Dirtcar were I din'd at Christopher Walkers, stopt about 1 hour and a half and then went to Wakefield were I got betwixt 4 and 5 o'clock, and took up my quarters at Henry Soulbys. After Tea I went to our Select Meeting which began at 6 o'clock and held 1 hour and three quarters. All our members attended: The Queries were read and answered and Answers thereto drawn up approv'd and Signed and directed to be laid before our ensuing Select Quarterly Meeting by our representatives. On 20<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, our Monthly Meeting for Worship began at 11 o'clock; It was large and satisfactory, Thomas Shillitoe had a long testimony to bear therein from Acts C: 14. v: 22. We must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God. Afterwards I had a pretty long time from John C: 10. v: 1. He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbereth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. At the close of this meeting was held the meeting for discipline, a great deal of business came before us to day which was agreeably conducted, amongst other things the friends appointed last month to prepare my certificate, produced the same which was read and approved, and Signed by the meeting at large. Also John Fozard was cleared from all engagements relating to marriage except with Phebe Hinchcliff of York Monthly Meeting, and the friends of that Meeting informed thereof by our certificate. Also William Bayldon of Burton meeting was cleared from all engagements relating to marriage except with Mary Maw junr. of Gainsborough Monthly Meeting in Lincolnshire, and the friends of that meeting inform'd thereof by a Certificate. The Queries were also read, and Answers received from all our Preparative Meetings viz. Pontefract, Burton, Highflatts, Ackworth, Wakefield and Wooldale\* In answer to the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Query it appeared there was some little appearance of convincement since last year, in Burton and Wakefield meetings, and that 1 person in each meeting had been accepted into membership thereby since last year. In answer to the 12<sup>th</sup>. Query it appeared, that John Donbavand, Benjamin Evans and William Adamson of Ackworth, who was imprisoned last year for refusing to serve in the Local Militia had been discharged, after 24 days of confinement in a house of correction at Wakefield. Also for the same offence Benjamin Donbavand, had been imprisoned in the same place, and discharged after being confined about the same length of time. He was a member of Pontefract meeting. Both meetings held about 5 hours and a quarter. After which I din'd at John Spences, and after taking Tea at Henry Soulbys, had a very pleasant moonlight walk up the meadows to Dirtcar were I got about 8 o'clock and lodg'd at Christopher Walkers. On 21<sup>st</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, I breakfasted at William Pickards and left Dirtcar about 9 o'clock in the morning and came by Crigglestone to Bretton were I stopt near an hour at Michael Buckleys and had some religious conversation with him which I believe was not unprofitable he confessing to the Truth in many things. From thence I came by Emley to cousin Charles Steads of Siver.Ing were I din'd and after dinner went and sat a little at cousin Benjamin Steads. Stopt at both places about 3 hours, and then proceeded, my dear cousin Charles Stead junr. setting me on my way near 1

mile and then returned, He hath been in a very weak state for upwards of 4 years, yet he murmurs not thereat, but on the contrary acknowledges his belief that this affliction has been in mercy permitted unto him. Our conversation together was comfortable and edifying and we parted under a feeling of that love which distance cannot separate nor time wear out, and I came by Cumberworth home where I got about 5 o'clock.

\*and a General Answer was prepared approved and Signed; and directed to be laid before our ensuing Quarterly Meeting to be held at Leeds, by our Representatives.

On ye. 8<sup>th</sup>. day of ye. 5<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1815. In the course of my religious visit to Derbyshire I had a Publick Meeting in the Methodist Meetinghouse at Melbourn in the said County, see the following Letter.

Extract of a Letter from a Clergyman's Wife to her Friend in London, dated Stanton, May 9<sup>th</sup>. 1815.

"When ye see Mrs Jasper Capper thank her with my love for the trouble she has taken ---- Yearly Meeting is at hand, I pray that it may be a spiritual and profitable time to that Society, and that the light of the holy spirit may shine upon all their minds, and that they may be strengthened and encouraged in their Christian Warfare. - My daughter Susan heard one of their Society preach yesterday at Melbourn, and she says, never in her Life, did she hear anything at all equal to him, either in manner (which was truly solemn) or matter - the doctrine she says was wholly scriptural - every person in the Chapel seemed greatly affected, and some even to extreme agitation."

Memorandum. Ackworth Monthly Meeting 9<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 18<sup>th</sup>. 1815. On 14<sup>th</sup>. and 9<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1815 and 5<sup>th</sup>. day of the week, James Harrison of Hardwick came to my house and brought his carriage on purpose to take me back with him to the Monthly Meeting to be held at Ackworth the 2<sup>nd</sup>. day following, knowing that I had been very unwell of myself and lame of one leg, but I was got considerably better, yet I esteemed it a particular favour not being yet able to bear too much fatigue. On 15<sup>th</sup>. and 6<sup>th</sup>. of week He attended our Weekday meeting at Highflatts, and after meeting we din'd at Richard Dickinsons. This afternoon, he and John Pickford visited Thomas Camm of Annatroyd at my house, being appointed for that service, on receiving his certificate. After Tea James Harrison and me went and sat a little at John Bottomleys of Wood. On 16<sup>th</sup>. and 7<sup>th</sup>. of week, we set out betwixt 9 and 10 o'clock in the forenoon, and went by Denby, Hoyland, Bretton, and Crigglestone to Dircar; where we din'd at Christopher Walkers; and after dinner the River being low we crossed it at the Ford near the Ferry and went to Wakefield where we alighted at John Spences; James having some business in the Town, after he had finished it, we drunk Tea and then set out immediately; before we got out of Town we perceived a storm approaching, and concluded to put up at the White Bear Inn at the end of the bridge, and before we got well into the house it came on with great violence; the rain was exceeding heavy, the Thunder very loud, and the lightning awful, we tarried the most part of 2 hours until it abated and then had a pleasant ride by moonlight to my companions house; went by Agbridge, Crofton, Fowlby Wragby, and Ackworth to Hardwick where we got a little past 9 in the evening. On 17<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week, James Harrison took his carriage and conveyed me to Pontefract where we alighted at John Leathams and in my way to their meeting I called at Mary and Elizabeth Johnsons where I met with John Bottomley and Leonard West who had come from Ackworth this morning to attend Pontefract meeting, which began at 11 o'clock and held near 2 hours and a half. It proved an open favoured meeting a fresh visitation being extended to divers who were tenderly affected therein. 38 persons attended, most of them being of the younger class. I had a long testimony

to bear first from John C: 21. v: 18, 19. Verily, verily, I say unto thee, when thou wast young, thou girded thyself, and walked wither thou wouldest; but when thou art old, thou shalt stretch forth thy hands, and another shall gird thee, and carry thee whither thou wouldest not. This spake he, signifying by what death he should glorify God. John Bottomley next from a verse of Addisons. How are thy servants blest, O Lord. How short is their Defence! Eternal wisdom is their guide, Their Help Omnipotence. I had a pretty long time next from 1 Thes: C: 4. v: 11. Study to be quiet, and do your own business. John Bottomley had a pretty long time in Prayer next, and afterwards myself in testimony from 1 Kin: C: 18. v: 21. How long halt ye between two opinions? if the Lord be God, follow him? but if Baal, then follow him? After meeting I din'd at John Leathams, and about 4 o'clock in the afternoon left Pontefract, James Harrison kindly conveyed me in his carriage to Ackworth were I took up my quarters at the School. At 6 in the evening I attended our Select meeting which held upwards of 2 hours, all our members were there except Robert Whitaker and Isabella Harris who were from home and Isabella Brearey who were indisposed. But we had the company of 2 Elders strangers viz. William Manley of London, and Joseph Birkbeck of Settle. and 1 Minister viz. Mary Tricket of Sheffield Meeting. The Queries were read and Answers thereto prepared, approved and Signed and directed to be laid before our ensuing Select Quarterly Meeting. At the close of the business Mary Tricket had a pretty long and acceptable testimony to bear. On 18<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week. Being one of the Committee appointed by the last Monthly meeting to consider of a number of suitable friends for Overseers, we met for that purpose at 9 o'clock this morning in the Library, and got thro' the business in little more than 1 hour. At 11 o'clock was the meeting for Worship which was the largest I ever saw at this place, pretty many Men having to sit in the Loft. I had a pretty long testimony to bear therein first from Matt: C: 5. v: 4. Blessed are they that mourn; for they shall be comforted. John Bottomley next from John C: 5. v: 4. He that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life. At the close of this meeting was held our Monthly Meeting for discipline. In which John Pickard of Wakefield Meeting was cleared from all engagements relating to marriage except with Jane Satterthwaite a member of Swarthmore Monthly Meeting in Lancashire; a notification thereof was sent to said Meeting unto whom the further care therein and of the accomplishment thereof was referred. The Queries were also read and Answers received from all our Preparative meetings viz. Pontefract, Burton, Highflatts, Ackworth, Wakefield, and Wooldale, and read and a General Answer prepared approved and Signed, and directed to be laid before our ensuing Quarterly Meeting. Also the Committee appointed last meeting to consider of two suitable friends for Clerks to this meeting, proposed Joseph Firth of Highflatts Meeting for Clerk, and John Donbavand of Ackworth for Assistant who were acceptable to the meeting and appointed accordingly. We had a great deal of business before the meeting today, and there was diversities of sentiments upon it, but a good degree of condescension appearing, it got readily forward, and was comfortably conducted. Both meetings held near 5 hours. After Tea I went and sat a little at Joseph Johnsons and took a glass of wine, and then went to James Harrison of Hardwick were I lodg'd. On 19<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, about 2 o'clock in the afternoon I set out, and James Harrison kindly took his carriage and set me on my way by Ackworth, Hemsworth, and Brierley to Shafton; were we called at the Widow Ann Sykes's and drunk Tea, and afterwards went and sat a little at her son Timothy Sykes's, stopt in Shafton about 1 hour and a half, and then James Harrison and me parted and I came on foot by Cudworth, and Burton to Barnsley were I got betwixt 8 and 9 o'clock and lodg'd at John Yeardeleys. On 20<sup>th</sup>. and 4<sup>th</sup>. of week after breakfast I went to see William Harveys, and Mary Waltons sat a little at each place and then went to Robert Harrison were I din'd, left Barnsley about 1 o'clock and came by Cawthorne, Dakinbrook, and Dykeside to John Bottomleys of Wood, were I drunk Tea, and got home about 6 o'clock, and did not find my leg any worse for walking which was cause for humble thankfulness to my mind, many having thought I should never be able to walk any distance of it more, and that it would continue a sore unto my end, but now I may acknowledge that thro' divine Mercy it is not only healed but the swelling and inflammation is entirely ceased.

## Recollections of London. 1808. By Thomas Wilkinson.

Yet other objects drew me from my home,  
 The crowded city and the princely dome.  
 Were not the views that led me on the way.  
 But I have seen the worthies of our day;  
 And with their Names I'll sanctify my lay.  
 I saw a Kendal innocent and old,  
 Yet strong in faith maintain the good Mans hold.  
 Saw ancient Colley in th' Assembly rise,  
 And light prevail,d from him who rules the Skies.  
 Saw Birkbeck still with persevering mind,  
 Tho' he has left so many years behind.  
 Saw Wilkinson, who in his early days,  
 Sounded the Trumpet of immortal praise.  
 Saw Sterry's zeal her christian life adorn,  
 Saw female piety presided in Horne.  
 Heard her sweet voice inspiring counsel bear,  
 And fraught with love, her drooping brethren cheer.  
 And serious Conran, lowly and resign'd,  
 For meekness kept the anchor of his mind.  
 Saw humble Forster, who the better part,  
 Has early chosen with a single heart.  
 Saw solid Price, concern'd for zions weal,  
 Saw Cash, that feels, and makes the stranger feel.  
 Saw Alexander, fervent for the Truth,  
 And strength vouchsaf'd to dedicated Routh.  
 Saw gentle Gurney, with a sweet address,  
 Allure her friends to Heaven and happiness.  
 Saw Fowlers gift with love divine abound,  
 Her precepts life, her voice of heavenly sound.  
 The virtuous Tukes, that as a bulwark stand,  
 Saw long loved Braithwaite join the chosen band,  
 Saw Charity and zeal in him unite,  
 Saw Special West divide the word aright.  
 Persuasive Phillips. - Thoughtful Howarth saw,  
 Afraid to step beyond his Masters law.  
 Saw Abbott to her friends so truly dear,  
 In life correct, in testimony clear.  
 Of mind enlarg'd with moderation crown'd,  
 Saw christian care a Bevans counsel bound.  
 Saw powerful Grubb, that sounds her Masters praise,  
 In streets, in markets, prisons and highways.  
 Saw Stacey, long and unremitting keep,  
 A watch for him who ordered (feed my sheep.)  
 I would proceed for still a pious train,  
 Of those I love, and belov'd by Heaven remain.  
 Who here have met to serve with reverent awe,  
 The God of all above, and all below.

While other Worthies are dispersed far,  
 Who in their Counsel urge a Christian war.  
 Who toil thro' barren wastes, and toil, and pray,  
 That darkened men may see the Gospel day.

While many a pious mind I trust is known,  
 To walk with God, tho' seen by him alone.  
 Oh! Blessed Society! didst thou but know,  
 Thro' thy fair Gates what numerous favours flow.  
 Whispering thy mental ear, a voice is found,  
 To warn thee of the ills that here abound.  
 To speak sweet peace for meek obedience paid,  
 To call thee back, where're thy feet have stray'd  
 To comfort thee; and from a source divine,  
 A pure and living Ministry is thine.  
 From place to place by simple duty led,  
 Thy servants are. The holy one their head.  
 Thus thou art taught, when as on holy ground,  
 A Discipline encloses thee around.  
 A rampart wall, strong, beautiful and just,  
 Oh may it never crumble into dust.  
 Then Wolves may howl without and Lions bray,  
 In vain. For none within need feel dismay.  
 There are who wish to weaken and divide,  
 But quiet in thy goodly tents abide.  
 There thou art safe protected from above,  
 Love thy enclosure, and thy watchword love.  
 And you my Brothers, Friends whose years are few,  
 On your green leaves receive the early dew.  
 That falls from Heaven to cherish and refine,  
 The plant in you, that plant that is divine.  
 I see your Sisters dear with modest eyes,  
 A lovely train in Truths enclosure rise.  
 Their hearts are tender to th' inviting call,  
 That to the path of peace solicits all.  
 Ah! Stay and help them thro' this vale of tears,  
 We know how much a little help endears.  
 But some of you are wandering from the fold,  
 That held our tender youth in time of old.  
 Your looks betray you and your alter'd dress,  
 An alter'd mind from truths plain way confess.  
 My spirits grieved within the house of prayer,  
 To meet from man, the hard unfeeling stare,  
 The cold indifferent apathy of ruin,  
 Thro' which a callous hearts too plainly seen.  
 Yet such an humble look would deign to wear,  
 Were monarchs present, or were rulers near.  
 Forgive my freedom, but its plain to view,  
 The Fishermen are not the men for you.  
 Nay it might lower too much your Crest of pride.  
 To own him Lord, whom meek on Calvary died.  
 But you are born with Spirits to ascend,  
 And well you know this world must have an end.  
 Then be consistent. - Glory your desire,  
 To Life and immortality spire.  
 But if you seek an everlasting crown,  
 You here most wholly yield what weighs you down.  
 Else it will plunge you in the Gulph below

Oe'rwhelm'd and left in never ending woes.  
 Then look at him who meek on Calvary died,  
 He waits for you with mercy at his side.  
 A first desire to him, one step is made,  
 Heavenward my friends, and he your steps will aid.  
 He'll lead you to the brook, whose waters pure,  
 Can wash the Soul till not a stain endure,  
 He'll comfort you - Your innocence restore,  
 His only mandate. (go and sin no more.)  
 Led from these paths; which to the gates below  
 Downward descend, what comfort will you know  
 While softened looks, and innocence of air,  
 Will minds disposed to think of heavenly declare.  
 I scarce can tell the pleasure I have found,  
 Of lonely sighs to hear the lowly sound.  
 On aged cheeks to see the tender tear,  
 A sure presage that happiness is near.  
 Then with what inward gladness must I view,  
 The precious drops on Youths more blooming true.  
 Now be not wroth while over you I mourn,  
 I wish you well. I covert your return,  
 For your return, how would the Church be glad,  
 Now bathed in tears disconsolate and sad.  
 O shun the world, I mean its broader way,  
 Its pleasure promise what they never pay.  
 Gay smiles, the morn of folly's gilded reign,  
 But evening brings anxiety and pain.  
 There are who rise with bold adventurous wing,  
 Like early birds amid the uncertain spring.  
 But such we've seen when sudden tempests roar,  
 Fall to the earth, and fall to rise no more.  
 Ingenious youth attend my closing strain,  
 That ne'er to you may be renewed again.  
 Your tender minds unoccupied by care,  
 For heavenly thoughts have greater room to spare.  
 Cultur'd by pious Parents if you've been,  
 On young fair branches let the fruit be seen.  
 If early left, or left more wide to stray,  
 There is arm arrests you on the way.  
 Arrests to gather, be compliant then,  
 And you may walk among the sons of men.  
 With christian boldness, modesty and truth,  
 The best the brightest ornaments of youth.  
 Yet life's a conflict, and the worst I know,  
 That steering mortals have to undergo.  
 Is not to meet the brush of foes unkind,  
 Or altered friends, but rule a wandering mind.  
 Yet he that made can keep it also pure.  
 He bade us watch, and if we do we're sure.  
 Remember friends, and it may be a stay,  
 To your young minds and help you on the way.  
 Here one by one at dear forefathers rose,  
 And kept their ground among surrounding foes.

Confiscations, Banishments endured,  
 Now scourged and now in loathsome Gaols immur'd.  
 Followed their Master through the gates of death  
 And penn'd their praises with their dying breath.  
 Such pious firmness moved a wandering land,  
 Fell persecution stay'd her scorpion hand;  
 The effect of Truth consenting Senates saw,  
 And let our faith in freedoms channel flow.  
 Then toils and troubles now are felt no more,  
 We have at dwelling on a quiet Shore.  
 But they first bought it, for us pav'd the way,  
 To the calm quiet of our easier day.  
 Then let us not unheeding and unkind,  
 Cast all their zeal and suffering on the wind.  
 You yet are tender to the tales of woe,  
 You yet have hearts to feel and tears to flow.  
 Go read their sufferings with attention due,  
 I'll leave the issue and my theme pursue.  
 Our rulers and Neighbours where we dwell,  
 Respect our Principles and treat us well.  
 But they're discerning. Let it not be told,  
 We're not the People that we were of old.  
 Sure it would be a lamentable change,  
 From the plain path, our Fathers trod to range.  
 Preside at public Dinners there to pass,  
 For skill in eating, or to push the glass.  
 Or call at Inns with consequential air,  
 Upbraid the waiter. Stigmatise the fare.  
 It will not do to bully for respect,  
 I'd rather sit me down beneath neglect.  
 And tis my thought since breeding first began,  
 That gentle manners make the Gentleman.  
 Mistake me not. - I am not one on high,  
 Who looks around him with consorious eye,  
 I'm but a Brother made of flesh and blood,  
 And with a mind oft destitute of good.  
 I'm no unfeeling slanderer of Youth,  
 But only not afraid to speak the Truth.  
 To man when danger round the Camp appears,  
 And save from overthrow unpractised years.  
 I am not one I trust of Churlish mind,  
 That can give no joy in Youthful Sallies find.  
 Their lively spirits buoyant, brisk and free.  
 When uncontaminated pleases me.  
 With sportive smiling innocence at play,  
 I'd always rather joined than turn away.  
 I'm one where good and evil are at strife,  
 And tho' not wreckt upon the sea of life.  
 I cannot say my peace with heaven is made,  
 For oft in the dust my hopes on laid.  
 I'm subject yet to tryals weak and frail,  
 To human passions that my peace assail.  
 Yet sometimes in my heart I feel a love,

To Truth and things, all other things above.  
 And sometimes see indubitably clear,  
 The Testimony we're all called to bear.  
 And when it simple principles I thwart,  
 The Derelictions heavy on my heart.  
 But when obedient to its inward call,  
 The inward Peace that follows passeth all;  
 I write. - And with your happiness in view,  
 As if I would not, could not, part with you.  
 My love is great. - Else with solicitude,  
 Almost Paternal. I'd not thus intrude.  
 With joy unspeakable, I now record,  
 That young in years; We've some that fear the Lord  
 Who seek on earth to do his holy will,  
 And knowing it their Cheerfulness fulfill.  
 Tho' at his feet, their wrong desires resign,  
 He gives them back his own blest gift divine.  
 The Parent thus to his submissive Child,  
 Is ever kind, compassionate and mild.  
 He is our Parent, In his holy fear,  
 If thro' this sinful world our course we steer;  
 What ills we shun, what seasons of distress,  
 Remorse will spare us, and our ills be less.  
 He is our Parent. - Can a Name be found  
 Of higher import, or of loftier sound.  
 Than Sons of God? I tremble while I write,  
 And grateful tears fast gushing dim my sight.  
 I can no more. - If unallured by this,  
 What can allure us to immortal bliss.

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Memorandum. 10<sup>th</sup>. mo. 29<sup>th</sup>. 1815, and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, was our Meeting for Sufferings held at Highflatts, the friends of Lumbroyd meeting uniting with us on this occasion. The Meeting for Worship was large being pretty fully attended by those who usually attend meetings: The forepart thereof was low and deeply exercising but life arose and crowned the close with a precious solemnity; after a long time in silence, I was concerned in supplication, and afterwards had a pretty long testimony to bear from Matt: C: 12. v: 42. The Queen of the South shall rise up in the judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: for she came from the uttermost part of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and behold a greater than Solomon is here. At the close of this meeting, the Men and Women who were members of our Society were desired to keep their seats. Christopher Walker, John Bottomley

and Samuel Coward were appointed by our Monthly Meeting (and all attended) to collect the account of Sufferings, and enquire into friends faithfulness respecting our testimony against Tithes, Priest.demands those called Church.rates and the Militia: and to advise friends to an annual inspection into the state of their affairs. The account of Sufferings were collected, and the usual enquiries made and answers given or received from all the heads of families in our Preparative meeting except 3, Thomas Earnshaw and Elihu Dickinson were appointed to visit them and report to the adjournment of this meeting. Both meetings held upwards of 4 hours. Samuel Coward din'd at my house and immediately after set out to Wooldale. Christopher Walker came directly after dinner and tarried all night with us. Our family sitting at 7 o'clock this evening was a favoured opportunity, we had the company of Christopher Walker, Leah Kinsley and Charles Kaye and Samuel Brown of Shepley. I had a pretty long testimony to bear therein from John C: 16. v: 12. I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. Afterwards Leah Kinsley had a pretty long exhortation. On 30<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week. The friends being to be at Wooldale to day. My mind was much exercised in the night about attending there, and after I gave up to it I felt relieved from the exercise and my mind settled in a solemn quiet. After Breakfast John Bottomley call'd at our house, and I walked with him to Wooldale, we set out a little past 8 o'clock and went by Newmill got to John Brooks of Wooldale about quarter before 10 were we took a little refreshment, and then went to the Meeting which began at 10. It was pretty fully attended by their members and was an open satisfactory meeting counsel and encouragement freely flowing to the feeble and faithful wrestlers in spirit for the blessing. John Bottomley had a pretty long testimony to bear first; From Luke C: 12. v: 32. Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. I next from Isai: C: 26. v: 4. In the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength. At the close of the Meeting for Worship, The Men and Women sitting together, the account of Sufferings were given in and read; and the usual enquiries were made, and Answers thereto, given or received from all the heads of families in this meeting. Both meetings held 2 hours and a quarter. After meeting I din'd at Henry Swires and after dinner I went about a little business to Joshua Broadheads and from thence to see our ancient friend Judith Roberts were I stopt a considerable time, and return'd to Tea at Henry Swires were I lodg'd. On 31<sup>st</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week. In the forenoon I went to John Brooks were I din'd and betwixt 2 and 3 o'clock in the afternoon, I left Wooldale and came by Newmill to Shepley, were I drunk Tea at John Haighs, and tarried near 2 hours, and got home between 6 and 7 in the evening, being well satisfied with this little act of obedience to apprehended duty.

Wakefield Monthly Meeting 11 mo. 20<sup>th</sup>. 1815                      I left home ye. 18<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1815 and 7<sup>th</sup>. day of the week having my beloved friend Charles Unsworth for my companion this journey; we left home about 9 o'clock in the morning, and went by Cumberworth to Skelmanthorp were we stopt about half an hour at Charles Blackburns and took a little refreshment, then proceeded by Emley to my cousin Alexander Hampshires of Flockton.mill were we din'd; stopt about 2 hours, and then went by Flockton, Mugmill and Thornhill to Dewsbury were we got to William Was's betwixt 3 and 4 o'clock in the afternoon, took Tea there, and in the evening went to George Breareys of Crackenedge were we took up our quarters. On 19<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week we attended the forenoon meeting at Dewsbury which began at 10 o'clock and not withstanding some painful cases had occurred, two of their members having been guilty of disorderly conduct viz. David Breary having got married by a Priest and consequently was disowned, and Morrith Matthews case being at present before the Monthly Meeting for entangling himself with a young Woman in a very imprudent and reproachful manner, yet I found the Meeting considerably increased in number since I was there before, 36 persons attending this forenoon, and I understood since I had the Meeting at Batley 4 or 5 from there frequently attended and some of them duly both on first and week days. William Wass had a short testimony to bear in this meeting from Matt: C: 10. v: 38. He

that taketh not up his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me. The afternoon meeting began at 3, 49 persons attended, I had a pretty long testimony to bear there in from John C: 19. v: 41. In the place where he was crucified there was a garden; and in the garden a new Sepulchre, wherein was never man yet laid. After meeting I drunk Tea at William Wass's. This afternoon Charles Unsworth went to see his relations at Heckmondwike and return'd hither in the evening. On 20<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week about 9 o'clock in the morning we set out for our Monthly Meeting to be held at Wakefield, Joseph Brearey accompanying us thither, It rained a little and Froze, the roads being very slippery and difficult travelling, Joseph Briggs of Hanging.heaton a person who appears to be under convincement having attended friends Meetings several years, overtook us upon the road and went along with us, we went by Hanging.heaton and Ossett; and got to Wakefield just in time to the meeting which was pretty large, and held in silence except a few words dropt by James Harrison. At the close of the Meeting for Worship was the meeting for discipline, we had not much business today, and what we had was very agreeably conducted. Both meetings held 2 hours and a half. After which we din'd at William Leathams, drunk Tea at John Spence's, and afterwards sat a little at Ann Thorps and then came up the valley to Dirtcar were we got betwixt 6 and 7 o'clock in the evening and took up our quarters at Christopher Walkers. On 21<sup>st</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week we breakfasted at William Pickards junr. and betwixt 9 and 10 o'clock in the forenoon left Dirtcar we found the road increasingly slippery and very dangerous of getting a fall in travelling, came by Crigglestone, Bretton and Emley to Cousin Charles Steads of Siver.Ing, having received an invitation from his son Charles to call to see him, we found him still very weakly, but loving and glad of our visit, and we were comforted with his company. We din'd here and stopt upwards of 3 hours and then called and sat a little at cousin Benjamin Steads, and from thence came to Charles Blackburns of Skelmanthorp were we drunk Tea and tarried near 2 hours, and then came by Cumberworth home were we got betwixt 7 and 8 o'clock in the evening.

Memorandum. On ye. 1<sup>st</sup>. day of ye. 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1815 departed this life Sarah Walker, Wife of Christopher Walker of Dirtcar, and was buried in Friends burial.ground near Wakefield ye 6<sup>th</sup>. of the same Mo. and 4<sup>th</sup>. day of the week aged about 84 years. Being invited I left home ye 5<sup>th</sup>. of the 12<sup>th</sup>. mo. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. day of the week about 10 o'clock in the forenoon, and John Pickford being from home, I called at William Cockells of Dykeside to be Shaved; and proceeded from thence by Bagden, Parkmill and Bretton to Crigglestone were I rested me a considerable time at George Earnshaws, and then went to Christopher Walkers of Dirtcar were I got a little before 4 o'clock, very weary not being very well, and the road extremely bad. Much company coming in this evening, I lodg'd to night at William Pickards junr. On 6<sup>th</sup>. and 4<sup>th</sup>. of week, The friends of their meeting, and the Neighbours being invited to Breakfast at 8 o'clock, we set out with the corps at half past 9; 3 pair of Chaise were ordered from Wakefield to take some of the Relations, and some particular friends thither and back, and I had a seat ordered in one of them which was very acceptable to me, feeling great weariness with the fatigue of my journey. Many more friends met us at the Grave.yard, and after the corps was put in the grave Thomas Shillitoe had a pretty long and weighty exhortation. We then proceeded to the Meetinghouse. The Meeting was large of friends and others; the Masters presence was near, his power was felt, the minds of many was solemnised thereby in times of silence, and prepared to receive the testimonies of Truth. O may they lastingly profit thereby. I had a long testimony to bear first from Matt: C: 22. v: 14. Many are called but few are chosen. Isabella Harris next from Gen: C: 28. v: 16. Surely the Lord is in this place; and I knew it not. William Wass next a short time from Acts C: 26. v: 28. Almost thou perswadest me to be a christian. Isabella Harris a long time next from Isai: C: 55. v: 1. Come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy and eat. After meeting we return'd immediately to Christopher Walkers were we got about half past 2 o'clock. After dinner

Thomas Shillitoe requested the relations of the deceased and a few friends to sit down together, in which opportunity he had a pretty long testimony to bear. Most of the company leaving this afternoon, I slept here to night. On 7<sup>th</sup>. and 5<sup>th</sup>. of week, after breakfast I went and sat a little at William Pickards and before I set out took a little refreshment, left Dirtcar a little past 10 o'clock it was rather a stormy day, and the roads very dirty, and I had been very unwell in the night, but by taking time I got on better than I had expected, went by Crigglestone to Bretton were I rested me at Michael Buckleys, then came by Parkmill and Skelmanthorp were I stopt a considerable time at Charles Blackburns and took a little refreshment and then came by Cumberworth home were I got a little before 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

Memorandum. Wakefield Monthly Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mo. 19<sup>th</sup>. 1816. I left home ye. 18<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mo. 1816 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week about 11 o'clock in the forenoon, after taking an early dinner I went by Cumberworth, Skelmanthorp, Parkmill and Bretton to Crigglestone were I rested me about 1 hour at George Earnshaws and took a little refreshment, and then proceeded to Christopher Walkers of Dirtcar, got there about 5 o'clock were I took up my quarters. In the evening the family collected as usual to read the Scriptures, and after reading I had a pretty long testimony to bear from John C: 5. v: 39. Search the scriptures. Being led to set forth the advantage of thus collecting together to read the Scriptures, and afterwards of retiring into stillness that we might be favoured to feel that power rightly to open our understandings into the Truth of what was read. Also the privilege we was favoured with in having those sacred writings which testified of the many mighty miracles wrought by our saviour in that prepared body of flesh given him to do his heavenly Fathers will in; and what he did and suffered for us, and how he purchased for all men a measure or manifestation of his holy spirit which convinceth man of sin and leads those who believe therein and obey its requirings out of sin into all truth. I felt thankful for the relief experienced by me in this opportunity having felt a concern upon my mind before I left home to be favoured to sit with them. On 19<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, This day our Monthly meeting was held at Wakefield, and after breakfast I went thither, sat near an hour at Ann Thorps and then went to the Meeting; there was a large collection of friends there, but not so many as I have seen, or expected; the day being remarkably fine. James Harrison first appeared therein in supplication, I next a long time in testimony from Jer: C: 8. v: 22. Is there no balm in Gilead? is there no physician there? Why then is not the health of the daughter of my people recovered. At the close of this meeting was the meeting for discipline, and we had pretty much business before us to day, but being agreeably conducted, it got readily through. Both meetings held a little above 3 hours. After meeting I din'd at John Spence's, and thence came up to Robert Walkers of Milthorp were I drunk Tea, and then came to my quarters at Christopher Walkers of Dirtcar were I got about half past 6 o'clock. On 20<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, I breakfasted at William Pickards junr. and about 9 o'clock left Dirtcar and came by Crigglestone to Bretton were I rested me about an hour at Michael Buckleys. He informed me the people were generally well satisfied with the Meeting I had there last month, and was desirous they might be favoured with more, which I trust the Lord will grant if they are found worthy. From thence I came by Emley to cousin Charles Stead of Siver. Ing were I din'd, found my beloved cousin Charles Stead junr. yet weakly but in hopes of being better, and I thought he looked better. Leaving there I called and sat a little at cousin Benjamin Steads, and before I left took a little refreshment. I stopt a little longer than I should have done it beginning to rain, but not offering to mend, and having tarried at both places 3 hours, I set out and came by Cumberworth home. The wind was very high and the rain heavy so that I got but slowly forward, and reached home about 6 in the evening.

Memorandum. Barnsley Monthly Meeting 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. 18<sup>th</sup>. 1816. After getting an early dinner I left home about 11 o'clock on the 16<sup>th</sup>. of the 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo. 1816 and 7<sup>th</sup>. day of the week, and went by Denby and Dakinbrook to Ellin Waltons where I rested me near an hour and then proceeded by Cawthorne to Barnsley where I got about 4 o'clock in the afternoon and took up my quarters at John Yeardeleys. On 17<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week. This day the first meeting was held in the new Meetinghouse in this Town; the forenoon meeting began at 11 o'clock, there was but few friends attended besides those of their own meeting but altho' friends had cautiously avoided any information of the meeting to those of other Societies, yet a great number attended, but the Meetinghouse being laid open it was not near full. I had a very long testimony to bear therein from John C: 16. v. 12, 13. I have yet many things to say unto you, but she cannot bear them now. Howbeit, when he, the spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth. At close of this meeting was held their Preparative meeting in which amongst other business, The Queries were read and answered; and Answers thereto prepared approved and Signed in order to be laid before our Monthly Meeting to be held the next day. Both meetings held 3 hours and a quarter. After which I din'd at Robert Harrisons, and drunk Tea at Thomas Yeardeleys. The afternoon meeting began at 5 o'clock It was much larger than the former, more friends attending were come to be at the ensuing Monthly Meeting: and many more of other Societies coming in, the Meetinghouse was pretty well filled. I had a long testimony to bear therein first from 1 Cor: C: 14. v. 29, 30. Let the Prophets speak two or three, and let the other judge. If any thing to be revealed to another that sitteth by, let the first hold his peace. James Harrison had a short time from John C: 16. v: 7. It is expedient for you that I go away; for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you. Afterwards I had a longer time than before from Acts C: 25. v: 18. To turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified, by faith that is in me. In my former testimony I was led to shew the beautiful order which ought to subsist amongst the Ministers of Christ in this Gospel day; and in this I was led largely to declare what their mission was, not to gather the People unto themselves, but to the gift of God in their own hearts, that all might be favoured to be taught immediately of God, and being settled under his teaching be favoured to its experience in due time an establishment in Truth and righteousness. The meetings this day were eminently favoured, and the behaviour of the People very becoming the solemnity of the occasion, and very different to what I ever saw before in this Town, which I did not fail to acknowledge at close of this meeting, by informing them that not only their company had been acceptable, but their behaviour worthy of commendation, adding my desire that if any thing had been communicated which had not been rightly comprehended by them, that instead of entering into conversation one with another about it, they might like the noble Bereans formally examine the Scripture for themselves and see if these things are not so; withall coming unto him who alone can rightly open their understandings into the truths contained therein; then saluting them in the fresh flowings of Gospel love, I bade them Farewel. At the close of this meeting was held our Meeting for Ministers and Elders, all our members attended except John Bottomley and Isabella Harris who were prevented through indisposition. The advices to Ministers and Elders was read therein. Also the Queries were read and Answers thereto prepared, approved and Signed and directed to be laid before our ensuing Select Quarterly Meeting. Both meetings held near 4 hours. After which I returned to Robert Harrisons, and John Yeardeleys having more company come to their house I tarried here all night and lodg'd with my dear friend Joseph Brearey. On 18<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, I breakfasted with Thomas Shillitoe. The meeting for Worship was this day large of friends and many other Societies attended. I had a pretty long testimony to bear therein from Rev: C: 2. v: 10. Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life. The language of encouragement to faithfulness flowed freely to some deeply tryed exercised minds who were under the preparing hand of the Lord for service. Afterwards Thomas Wetherald dropt a few words. At close of this meeting was our Monthly meeting for discipline. Having received an account from Richmond Monthly meeting of the decease of our valuable and much esteemed

friend William Sowerby who departed this life the 17<sup>th</sup>. day of last month, and that their Monthly meeting was about preparing a testimony concerning him, and as he had resided about 19 years of his time at Ackworth, they was desirous of our Monthly meeting uniting with them therein, upon which Robert Whitaker wrote to me requesting me to prepare a few lines against this time, which I did by way of a brief memorial of his services whilst amongst us, and our good esteem of him as an Elder and Minister. Which was read in this meeting, and without any alteration fully approv'd and Signed by the Clerk on behalf thereof, and ordered to be copied into our Monthly meeting Book, and Robert Whitaker was appointed to forward a copy thereof to some friends of Richmond Monthly meeting. The Queries were also read and Answers thereto from all our Preparative meetings viz. Pontefract, Burton, Highflatts, Ackworth, Wakefield and Wooldale; and a General Answer prepared approved and Signed in order to be laid before our ensuing Quarterly Meeting. In answer to the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Query it was remarked that there was some little appearance of convincement since last year in Burton and Wakefield meetings, and 1 person in the latter had been admitted into membership. It was also agreed, that as the meeting was now fully removed from Burton to Barnsley, that in the future it should be called Barnsley meeting. A great deal more business was before the the meeting today, and the whole was very agreeably conducted. Both meetings held 5 hours and a half. After which I din'd and drunk Tea at William Harveys. and in the evening returned to my quarters at John Yeardleys, and in my way thither called and sat a little at George Alletsons were I took a glass of wine. On 19<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of the week. After breakfast I went to William Bayldons were I tarried until betwixt 11 and 12, getting a little refreshment before I set out towards home, James Harrison and James Arthington Wilson accompanied me on my way about 2 miles and then return'd, and I came by Cawthorne to Ellin Waltons were I rested me above an hour, and then came by Dakinbrook and Dykeside to John Bottomleys of Wood were I stopt about 1 and a half, and drunk Tea, and got home a little past 7 o'clock in the evening.

Memorandum. Barnsley Monthly Meeting 4<sup>th</sup>. Mo: 15<sup>th</sup>. 1816. I left home ye. 14<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 4<sup>th</sup>. Mo: 1816 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week about 12 o'clock and went by Denby, Gunthwaite, Elmhirst, and Higham to Barnsley, were I got to Thomas Yeardleys betwixt 4 and 5 o'clock in the afternoon and drunk Tea there, At 6 in the evening I attended their afternoon meeting which was a little enlarged by the friends of other meetings, who were come to attend our Monthly meeting to be held here the next day, and more by People of other Societies coming in, so that the Mens end of the Meetinghouse was nearly full. John Bottomley had a pretty long testimony to bear therein first from 1 Thes. C: 4. v: 11. Study to be quiet, and to do all your own business. I had a long time next from Isai: C: 45. v: 22. Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth for I am God; and there is none else. Afterwards I had pretty long exhortation principally addressed to the friends of this meeting. After meeting I went and took a little refreshment at Robert Harrisons and then went to my quarters at John Yeardleys. On 15<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, After breakfast I went and sat a little at John Listers and from thence went to the meeting which was very large of friends, and a pretty many of other Societies came in, so that a considerable number sat in the other end of the Meetinghouse which was laid open. Elizabeth Woodhead dropt a few words therein first. I was next concerned in supplication. Thomas Shillitoe had a long time in testimony next being opened with this sentence. A Christians life is a continual warfare, shewing from many passages the necessity there was for those whose minds had been divinely favoured to keep up this daily warfare against the world the flesh and the wicked one, lest being ensnared by the enemy the latter end of any should be worse than the beginning. At the close of this meeting I requested the Men and Women, members of our Society to stop a little together, when I spread before them a concern which had been increasingly with weight upon my mind for a considerable time to pay a religious visit to the meetings of friends in the North of Lincolnshire, part of

Nottinghamshire, Balby Monthly Meeting in this County, and a few adjacent meetings; also to have meetings with People of other Societies in some of those parts as way may open. Many friends expressed their unity therewith, and from several the language of encouragement flowed freely unto me; A Minute of the Meetings approbation and unity with my concern was made, and Joseph Firth, John Pickford and Henry Swire were appointed to prepare a Certificate expressive thereof against our next meeting. The Women friends then withdrew and the Men entered upon the further business of the Meeting; A great deal came up before us to day which was comfortably and agreeably conducted, Amongst other things Richard Dickinson and Ann Camm both of Highflatts meeting laid before us their intentions of taking each other in marriage. Both meetings held 4 hours. After which I din'd at William Bayldons, drunk Tea at William Harveys, afterwards went and sat a little at George Alletsons, and then return'd to my quarters. On 16<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, After Breakfast I went to Robert Harrisons were I tarried some time and before I set out took a little refreshment; Left Barnsley about half past 11 o'clock, Samuel Coward accompanied me about 1 mile and then return'd. I came to Cawthorne were I din'd at Thomas Wests stopped about 3 hours, and then proceeded called at Ellin Waltons and sat a little, and then came by Dakinbrook and Denby were I stopt a considerable time at John Priests and took a little refreshment, leaving there I called and sat a little at John Bottomleys of Wood, and got home betwixt 7 and 8 o'clock in the evening, being better in health than when I left it.

Memorandum. On ye. 11<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 5<sup>th</sup>. mo: 1816, and 7<sup>th</sup>. of the week in the forenoon Lydia Lunt Wife of Thomas Lunt of the city of Chester came to my house and paid us an acceptable visit. She had been with a child at Ackworth.School and called upon us in her return. On 12<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week she accompanied us to our meeting at Highflatts which altho' attended with close labour was a very satisfactory meeting many different states were opened and spoken to in the authority of the Gospel. I had a long testimony to bear first from Heb: C: 11. v: 6. Without faith it is impossible to please him, for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. Afterwards I had a pretty long time from Psalms 119. v: 37. Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity. At the close of this Meeting the business of our Preparative meeting was gone through. On 13<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, This morning Lydia Lunt set out towards home, I had been many times very kindly entertained by her and her husband who both joined our Society by convincement before their marriage, and I may add her visit here was pleasant unto us, I sent Charles Unsworth with her to Huddersfield in my Neighbour John Mallinsons cart; I accompanied them to Shepley were we breakfasted at John Haighs, and then they proceeded and I returned home.

Memorandum. Pontefract Monthly Meeting 5 mo 20<sup>th</sup>. 1816. I left home ye 18<sup>th</sup>. of ye 5<sup>th</sup>. mo: 1816 and 7<sup>th</sup>. day of the week after breakfast and went to John Pickfords of Parkhead to be shaved, left there betwixt 9 and 10 in the morning, and went by Genwell and Hozins to Cousin Charles Steads of Emley Park were I stopt 3 hours and din'd; then proceeded my dear cousin Charles Stead junr. who yet continues very weakly, accompanied me near a mile and then returned. I went by Emley to Bretton were I rested me at Michael Buckleys, and then proceeded to Crigglestone were I drunk Tea at Joseph Pickards, stopt near 2 hours; and then proceeded to Dircar, were I got betwixt 6 and 7 o'clock, and lodg'd at Christopher Walkers. On 19<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week, I went to their meeting at Wakefield got there, and rested me until meeting time at William Awmacks. The meeting was large to day the friends of Dewsbury uniting with them, several who appeared to be under convincement attended, and a few of other Societies. I had a long testimony to bear therein from Gal: C: 1. v: 6, 7. I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of christ, unto another Gospel.

Which is not another, but there be some that trouble you, and would prevent the gospel of christ. At the close of this meeting, the business of their Preparative meeting was gone thro'. After which I din'd at John Spence's, and betwixt 3 and 4 o'clock left Wakefield for Pontefract where our Monthly Meeting was to be held the next day. John Robinson accompanied me thither; we went by Heath, and as we was going up the hill into Warmfield we met a man who spoke friendly to us, and walked back with us, when we got opposite his house he kindly invited us to call and rest us, we accepted his invitation, and stopt near an hour, having some religious conversation with him to satisfaction, he appearing to be in an enquiring state; his name is William Womack. From hence we proceeded by Snydal, Acton, and Featherstone to Pontefract got there about 7 o'clock, where we drunk Tea at Mary and Elizabeth Johnsons, and afterwards I went to my usual quarters at John Leathams. On 20<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week I breakfasted at Mary and Elizabeth Johnsons. Afterwards called at Joseph Johnsons, and went to Ann Harrison's where I took a cup of Tea before I went to Meeting. The meeting was very large, Isabella Harris was first concerned therein in supplication. I had a pretty long time in testimony next from 1 Chron: C: 14. v: 15. When thou shalt hear the sound of going in the tops of the Mulberry trees, that then thou shalt go out to battle; for God is gone forth before thee. Isabella Harris next from Heb: C: 10. v: 25. Not forsaking the assembling of our Souls together as the manner of some is. Afterwards I had a short time upon the same subject. At the close of this meeting was held the meeting for discipline, and a great deal of business was before it to day but being agreeably conducted, it was readily got through: Amongst other things the friends appointed last month to prepare a Certificate expressive of the Meetings unity with my concern to pay a religious visit to the North of Lincolnshire, part of Nottinghamshire, Balby Monthly meeting etc. produced the same, which was read approv'd and Signed by the meeting at large. Also Richard Dickinson and Ann Camm both of Highflatts Meeting were cleared from all other engagements relating to Marriage, and left at liberty to accomplish their marriage when they and Highflatts friends saw meet. Also Benjamin Grimshaw a member of Newcastle upon Tyne Monthly Meeting and Ann Pickard of Wakefield meeting laid before us their intentions of taking each other in marriage. Also the friends appointed to visit William Pontefract of Thursteland in Wooldale meeting, on his application to become a member of our Society, having paid him two visits brought in a satisfactory account of their belief in his sincerity, which being duly considered by the meeting, he was admitted into membership with us. Both meetings held 4 hours. After dinner I went to Benjamin Jowetts of Carlton to Tea and afterwards to James Harrison's of East Hardwick, Benjamin Jowett junr. accompanying me thither and then returned; reached there about 8 o'clock where I lodg'd. On 21<sup>st</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, I set out early this morning and Richard Ellis James Harrison's man being going for coals I rode with him in the cart to Ackworth where I breakfasted at the School stopt 2 hours, and then proceeded by Hemsworth and Brierley to Cudworth where I din'd at Samuel Lavers, stopt upwards of 2 hours and then came by Burton to Barnsley Samuel Laver set me on my way upwards of 2 miles and then returned. I got to John Yeardeleys betwixt 4 and 5 o'clock where I lodg'd. On 22<sup>nd</sup>. and 4<sup>th</sup>. of week, After breakfast, I went and sat a little at Thomas Yeardeleys, and left Barnsley betwixt 9 and 10 o'clock in the forenoon dear John Yeardeley set me on my way about 2 miles and then return'd. I came to Thomas Wests of Cawthorne where I took a Luncheon and stopt near 2 hours then came to Ellin Waltons where I rested me a little, and then proceeded by Dakinbrook and Denby home, where I got betwixt 3 and 4 o'clock in the afternoon. The fourth day before I left home I was suddenly seized with a violent pain in the small of my back, and it continuing made it very doubtful to me how I should be able to perform this journey, and I felt much discouraged about it; however I concluded to try but expected I should be obliged to return, however by walking slow, and resting oftens, I was able to perform it beyond my expectation, and to return home in Peace, altho' I frequently felt very weary in body.

Memorandum. On ye 23<sup>rd</sup>. of ye 5<sup>th</sup>. mo: 1816, and 5<sup>th</sup>. day of the week, were married at Highflatts Richard Dickinson of Highflatts, and Ann Camm of Annatroyd daughter of the late Herbert Camm of the city of York. The meeting began at 11 o'clock and held upwards of 2 hours, It was pretty large many of other Societies attending and altho' I went to it under a feeling of discouragement, yet it proved an open satisfactory meeting. I had a long testimony to bear therein first from John C: 8. v: 24. If ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins. The young People took each other in marriage next and afterwards I had a pretty long time in testimony from 2 Cor: C: 6. v: 17, 18. Come out from among them, and be ye separate saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing, and I will receive you; And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters saith the Lord Almighty. The marriage certificate was then read and Signed. and at the close of the meeting I had a short exhortation to drop. After meeting we took a little refreshment at Richard Dickinsons and then went up to his Father Elihu Dickinsons of Millbank were we din'd and drunk Tea. Joseph Firth, myself, Mary Mallinson and Hannah Firth were appointed to see the orderly conducting of the Marriage, and the workmen being invited to supper and the supper prepared for them at Richard Dickinsons, Joseph Firth and me attended there and tarried until they departed unto their respective homes, We then returned to Elihu Dickinsons to supper, and after supper came home, were I got betwixt 10 and 11 o'clock.

Memorandum. Wooldale Monthly Meeting 7<sup>th</sup>. mo. 15<sup>th</sup>. 1816. 7 mo. 13<sup>th</sup>. 1816, just before we went to Bed, James Harrison of Pontefract Mg. and Isabella Harris of Ackworth came to my house, intending for Lumbroyd meeting the next day and for the Monthly meeting at Wooldale the day following. On 14<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week, The morning was very wet and continued a very heavy day of rain throughout, The friends who came to my house then concluded to attend our meeting at Highflatts, and I think their conclusion manifested itself to be in the ordering of best wisdom. The meeting was pretty fully attended by friends, and a few of other Societies came in, It was a time of peculiar favour, James Harrison had a pretty long time therein first in testimony from Zeck: C: 2. v: 13. Be silent, O all Flesh, before the Lord; for he is raised up out of his holy habitation. Isabella Harris had a long time next; She was first led in an encouraging manner unto the rightly exercised, and then had close labour with the careless and unconcerned, and under a sense of a renewed call extended, had to entreat them to make a right use of proffered mercy lest the midnight cry should be heard, and they be found without Oil in their lamps. I next from Matt: C: 2. v: 2. Where is he that is born King of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the east, and are come to Worship him. Isabella Harris had a pretty long time next from 1 Cor: 9. v: 22. To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak; I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some. After meeting the friends stopt at Elihu Dickinsons and went from thence to Wooldale. In the evening cousin William Wood and Benjamin Holme of Bradford Mg. came to stop all night with us, they were exceeding wet and weary. On 15<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week I set out for Wooldale were our Monthly Meeting was to be held to day betwixt 8 and 9 o'clock in the morning in company with the beforementioned friends and Charles Unsworth we went by Newmill to Wooldale got there about 10 o'clock, and took up our quarters at Henry Swires. The meeting for Worship began at 11 o'clock, It was smaller than usual of friends, but more of other Societies attended, so that the Meetinghouse and chamber was very full. Hannah Broadhead of Leeds was there. It proved a remarkable open favoured meeting. I had a long testimony to bear therein first from 1 Pet: C: 5. v: 10. The god of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, as that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, establish, strengthen, settle you. Isabella Harris next from John C: 21. v: 5, 6. Jesus saith unto them. Children have you any meat? they answered him, no. And he said unto them, Cast the net on the right side of the ship, and ye shall find. they cast therefore, and now they were not able to draw it for the multitude of fishes. William Wood had a short time next from Psalms

42. v: 1. As the heart panteth after the waterbrooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God. Hannah Broadhead next in Prayer. At the close of this meeting I had to remark That there had for several years past, appeared a disposition in the people not in profession with us to attend the meeting here at this time which I was not about to discourage, believing many had experienced an increasing solemnity over their minds thereby, but I had also been sensible that they had suffered loss by their late attendance, but as this had not been the case to day, but they had generally observe the hour appointed well, I hoped they had profited by it, As God may be acceptably worshipped in silence, or the heart prepared to receive, if he should see meet instrumentally to communicate, and after a short time more in exhortation. I informed the People they were at liberty to withdraw, and requested the Men and Women members of our Society to keep their seats. The meeting being then opened, I delivered in my Certificate given me in the last 5<sup>th</sup>. Mo. and informed friends, that I had been favoured to go through what I had in prospect so as to feel in my return the sweet reward of peace, and solid satisfaction in my own mind in giving up to apprehended duty, which was minuted and the meetings satisfaction therewith. I also had further to observe, my sense of the state of things in those parts, and the great openness I found amongst People of other Societies. Afterwards James Harrison informed friends that he was very well satisfied in giving up to accompany and assist me throughout this journey; and then had a pretty long testimony to bear from Wisdom of Solomon C: 5. v, 4, 5. We fools accounted his life madness, and his latter end to be without honour; How is he numbered among the children of God and his lot is among the saints. Hannah Broadhead next from Jer: C: 9. v: 21. Death is come up into our Windows, and is entered into our palaces. The Women friends then withdrew into their apartment to transact the affairs belonging to their own sex, and the men proceeded upon their business which was very amicably conducted, and at the close thereof the Printed Yearly Meeting Epistle was read. Both meetings held 4 hours. After Tea Charles Unsworth and me went by Tottis and Scholes to George Broadheads of Jacksonbridge, and they being desirous for me to tarry all night and I feeling very weary agreed to stop, but Charles Unsworth went home to night, leaving here betwixt 7 and 8 o'clock. On 16<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, I set out betwixt 9 and 10 in the morning and came up to Benjamin Broadheads of Mearhouse were I called to see my cousin Martha Wood who was lately removed thither from our neighbours Stephen Fields, I stopt a little there and then came by Hollinghouse and Ebsinhouse to Henry Marsdens of Westroids, were I rested me a little, and then came to John Haighs of Shepley, were I stopt about 3 hours and din'd there, and from thence came to my beloved friend Joseph Firths of Lanehead were I drunk Tea, and stopt 2 hours, and then came to John Pickfords of Parkhead were I rested me a little and got home betwixt 5 and 6 o'clock.

Memorandum. On ye. 4<sup>th</sup>. day of ye. 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1816, departed this life Joshua Earnshaw of Thurlstone, and was buried in friends burial.ground at Lumbroyd near Penistone ye. 8<sup>th</sup>. of the same aged about 53 years. On ye. 4<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1816, departed this life Mary Walton Widow of Thomas Dixon Walton of Barnsley and was buried in friends burial.ground at Burton ye. 9<sup>th</sup>. of the same and 6<sup>th</sup>. day of the week, aged about 29 years. I being invited attended both these burials, Left home ye. 8<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1816 and 5<sup>th</sup>. day of the week betwixt 7 and 8 o'clock in the morning and went by Ing.Birchworth to Thurlstone, got to Joshua Earnshaws the deceased's house a little before 9. After breakfast we proceeded with the corps to Lumbroyd and after the internment retired to the Meetinghouse which was well filled with People both below and above stairs, a great many of other Societies attending, and it proved an open favoured meeting. I had a very long testimony to bear therein from Acts C: 10. v. 34, 35. I perceive that God is no respecter of persons; But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him. The meeting began at 11 o'clock and held 2 hours. From thence I returned to Thurlstone and din'd at the Widows, and it being very hot I stopt Tea, and about 5 o'clock set out for Barnsley to attend the burial of

Mary Walton, John Earnshaw the son of the deceased set me a little on my way, he is at present an hopeful youth in the 19<sup>th</sup>. year of his age, and this afforded me an opportunity of giving him such advice as opened which appeared to be cordially received and we parted in near affection. I had a pleasant walk by Hoylandswain and Silkstone to Barnsley got there about quarter before 8 o'clock were I rested me sometime at Robert Harrisons and took a little refreshment, and then went to my usual quarters at John Yeardleys. On 9<sup>th</sup>. and 6<sup>th</sup>. of week I went after breakfast to the house of the deceased now Thomas Shillitoes, and after the company was collected, and such as chose had got Coffee or Tea, we proceeded with the corps to the Meetinghouse in Barnsley, 5 Postchaise and 1 gig being provided to convey the relations and some particular friends, and a seat was allotted me in one of them. The meeting was appointed to begin at 10 o'clock and it held near 2 hours and a half. Many of other Societies attended, and it was a solemn satisfactory meeting. Ann Broadhead had a short testimony to bear therein first from Rev: C: 14. v: 13. Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord. Jane Doncaster had a pretty long time next from 1 Cor: C: 10. v: 31. Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God. I next from Rom: C: 6. v: 16. Servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience and took righteousness. John Bottomley next from Cant: C: 2. v: 3. As the apple tree among the trees of the wood, so is my beloved among the sons. Jane Doncaster next in Prayer, Isabella Harris a long time next in testimony from Jer: C: 17. v. 9, 10. The heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked; who can know it? I the Lord search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings. From hence we proceeded with the corps to Burton were she requested to be buried A many of the inhabitants of the village joined the company in the burial ground, and before the corps was interred, Isabella Harris had a pretty long testimony to bear from Gen. C: 47. v: 9. Few and evil have the days of the years of my life been. After the internment we returned to Barnsley were we din'd and drunk Tea at Thomas Shillitoes, and after Tea just before my Sister Doncaster and the other friends from Sheffield set out we had an opportunity together in which she had a pretty long testimony to bear from Psalms 58. v: 11. Verily there is a reward for the righteous: verily he is a God that judgeth in the earth. Afterwards I return'd to my quarters. On 10<sup>th</sup>. and 7<sup>th</sup>. of week, After Breakfast I called and sat some time with Susanna Alletson and before I left took a Lunch, then it went to Thomas Shillitoes were I din'd, and afterwards sat a little at Thomas Yeardleys, and before I set out took a little refreshment. Left Barnsley betwixt 2 and 3 o'clock in the afternoon in company with John Bottomley, we came by Cawthorne to Ellin Waltons were we rested us, and then came by Dakinbrook to Denby, were we parted, I called and rested me a little at William Fenwicks, and then came home were I got about quarter past 7 in the evening.

Some improvements being made to the Meetinghouse at Highflatts in the year 1816, The expense of which amount to £14.19. 3. and Robert Wood and Richard Mallinson being appointed to apply to Friends for their Subscriptions to defray the same. The following is an account of what each friend subscribed viz.

	£	s	d		£	s	d
Elihu Dickinson	2	0	0	Brought forward	11	5	6
Edward Dickinson	0	10	0	Samuel Walker	0	5	0
Elihu Dickinson Tanr.1		11	6	John Haigh	0	10	0
Richard Dickinson	1	11	6	John Brook	0	10	0
Joseph Wood	1	0	0	Charles Hinchcliff	0	4	0
John Mallinson	0	15	0	Joseph Hinchcliff	0	4	0
William Dickinson	0	5	6	Thomas Camm	0	5	0
John Pickford	0	10	0	Benjamin Stead	0	5	0

John Firth	1	0	0	Charles Stead	0	5	0
Joseph Firth	0	10	0	John Priest	0	10	0
William Bottomley	0	10	0	Samuel Wood	0	5	0
Henry Marsden	0	4	0	Robert Wood	0	7	6
Mary Dyson	0	2	0	Richard Mallinson	0	5	0
William Taylor	0	6	0	Jonathan Dickinson	0	3	6
Joseph Walker	0	10	0	Joseph Dickinson			
				Strines	0	2	6
				Joseph Dickinson			
				Highflatts	0	3	0
				Total	15	10	0
				Paid	14	19	3
				Remains	0	10	9

Memorandum. On ye. 22<sup>nd</sup>. day of ye. 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1816, departed this Life Amelia Broadhead, daughter of the late Thomas Broadhead of Jacksonbridge aged about 25 years. She not being a member but having attended meetings from a child, her Mother obtained leave of friends to bury her in Friends burialground at Wooldale ye. 25<sup>th</sup>. of the same Mo. and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week. Being invited I met the corps at the Meetinghouse, but did not go to the house, Left home betwixt 8 and 9 o'clock in the morning, Charles Unsworth going along with me, and John Bottomley called upon us and accompanied us thither; the day being hot we walked slowly, went by Newmill to Wooldale were we got a little past 10 o'clock and rested and took a little refreshment at Henry Swires, then went to the meeting which was large many of other societies attending. It was dull and heavy in the forepart thereof but when the Lord ariseth his and our souls enemies are scattered, which was at this time renewedly experienced, Truth being in considerable dominion towards the close thereof. John Bottomley had a long testimony to bear therein first from John C: 15. v: 5. Without me ye can do nothing. I next from Luke C: 10. v: 40. Martha was cumbered about much serving, and came to him, and said, Lord, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? Bid her therefore that she help me. The meeting held about 2 hours, After which we din'd at Henry Swires, and after dinner I went and sat a little with our ancient friend Judith Roberts, and return'd to Tea, about 5 o'clock we left Wooldale, Henry Swire and his son Robert accompanied us to Newmill and then return'd, and we came to John Mallinsons of Birdsedge were we sat about half an hour and got home about quarter past 7 in the evening.

Memorandum. Ackworth Monthly Meeting on 9<sup>th</sup>. mo: 16<sup>th</sup>. 1816,. I left home ye. 14<sup>th</sup>. of the 9<sup>th</sup>. Mo: 1816. and 7<sup>th</sup>. day of the the week betwixt 7 and 8 o'clock in the morning, and went to Dykeside were I called to be shaved at William Cockells, stopt about 1 hour and then went by Dakinbrook to Ellin Waltons were I rested me a little, and then proceeded to Cawthorn, were I expected to meet my Charles Unsworth at the Stanhopes.arms, returning from Knottingley were he had been for Lime I stopt a considerable time there and got some refreshment paid 6d, but he not coming, I proceeded; when I had got a little out of the village, I met him upon the road; we had not much more time to stop, than just to take an affectionate Farewel of each other; and then I proceeded to Barnsley, were I got to Thomas Yeardeleys betwixt 1 and 2 o'clock; they were just sitting down to dinner, when I entered the house; and I sat down and din'd with them; and after dinner called and sat a little at William Taylors, and from thence went to my beloved friend John Yeardeleys, intending to proceed immediately after Tea to Shafton, but he and his Wife was so pressing upon me to tarry all night with

them, that I at length consented thereto. On 15<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week, I left Barnsley a little after 6 o'clock in the morning and it being very fine, I had a delight for walk on the banks of the canal to near Cudworth, then passing thro' that village, I came to Shafton were I breakfasted at Timothy Sykes's, and afterwards went and sat a little at Ann Sykes's; stopt at both places 2 hours, and then set out Timothy Sykes kindly accompanying me about 1 mile and then returned, and I preceded by Hemsworth to Ackworth were I got about half past 12 and took at my quarters at the School. At 3 o'clock I attended their afternoon meeting which was held in silence. At 6 in the evening our Meeting for Ministers and Elders was held here all our members attended, and I thought it was a profitable meeting. The Queries were read and Answers thereto prepared, and directed to be laid before our ensuing Select Quarterly Meeting. In the course of transacting the business, divers weighty and profitable remarks were made by sundry friends, and I had a long and encouraging testimony to bear to some very deeply tryed state from Matt: C: 14. v: 30. Lord, save me. A friend spoke with me afterwards, saying his state had been very clearly opened and spoke took and I hope he was thereby renewedly strengthened to trust in him whose Power is yet the same, and can in his own time calm the raging waves of the sea. The Meeting held 1 hour and a half.

On 16<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week Our Monthly Meeting was held here, and was the largest I ever saw at this place a great many having to sit in the Loft. I had a long testimony to bear therein first from Isai: C: 1. v. 8, 9. The daughter of Zion is left as a cottage in a vineyard, as a lodge in a garden of cucumbers, as a besieged city. Except the Lord of hosts had left unto us a very small remnant, we should have been as Sodom, and we should have been like unto Gomorrah. John Bottomley next from the Parable of the prodigal son. At the close of this meeting was held the meeting for discipline, an abundance of business was before it; but being very unanimously conducted it was readily and very comfortably gone through. Amongst other things Thomas Hays of Barnsley meeting laid before us his intentions of marriage with Mary Goodier a member of Morley Monthly Meeting in Cheshire. Also John Bottomley spread before us a concern that was upon his mind to attend Lancashire Quarterly Meeting to be held at Liverpool, and to visit a few meetings within the compass of Hardshaw, Marsden and Brighouse Monthly Meetings. and Thomas Shillitoe laid before us a concern that that was upon his mind to pay a religious visit to the Publick.houses in Barnsley and its neighbourhood. Both of which being duly considered, and many friends expressing their unity with them in their prospects, the meeting left them at their liberty to proceed therein as way might open, and appointed a friend to give John Bottomley the copy of this Meetings minute of each unity with his concern. Also the Queries were read and Answers thereto from all our Preparative Mgs viz. Pontefract, Barnsley, Highflatts, Ackworth, Wakefield and Wooldale. and a General Answer prepared therefrom to lay before our ensuing Quarterly Meeting. Both meetings held 4 hours and a half. After Tea I walked with cousin Charles Stead junr. to James Harrison's of Hardwick got there about 6 o'clock were we lodg'd.

On 17<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, I purposed setting out towards home to day but James Harrison being going to a Fair with some cattle this afternoon, was very desirous for me to stop in his house until his return which after duly considering I complied with.

On 18<sup>th</sup>. and 4<sup>th</sup>. of week, This forenoon I wrote a letter to my beloved friend Job Pitt of Dudley in Worcestershire. In the evening James Harrison returned home.

On 19<sup>th</sup>. and 5<sup>th</sup>. of week, having for sometime past felt an inclination to drop in unknown at their week day meeting at Barnsley, and being returning home to day it afforded me an unexpected opportunity to accomplished my prospect, and James Harrison kindly conveyed me thither in his carriage; we left his house about 7 o'clock this morning and came by Ackworth, Hemsworth, Brierley, Cudworth and Burton to Barnsley were we got a little past 10 o'clock and alighted at William Bayldons. The meeting began at 11, and 27 persons attended; It was a very dull heavy meeting, but I was favoured with strengths to relieve my mind towards the close thereof two short testimonies, the first from Luke C: 16. v: 3. I cannot dig, to beg I am ashamed. and the other from 1 Sam: C: 15. v. 13, 14. I have performed the commandment of the Lord. And Samuel said, what mean if then this bleating of sheep in mine

ears and the lowing of oxen which I here. After meeting we din'd at William Bayldons and betwixt 2 and 3 o'clock, I set out for home, James Harrison set me a little and then return'd, and I came by Cawthorn to Ellin Waltons were I stopt about 1 hour and drunk Tea, then came by Dakinbrook and Denby to John Bottomleys of Wood were I sat a little and got home betwixt 7 and 8 o'clock.

Memorandum. On ye. 27<sup>th</sup>. day of the 9<sup>th</sup>. mo: 1816, departed this life, Jane Wood daughter of Robert Wood of Moorbottom in Shelley, and was buried in our burial.ground at Highflatts ye. 29<sup>th</sup>. of the same, aged about 15 Months, and on the first day of the week. I did not go to the house, but met the corps at Birdsedge, and accompanied it to the grave. The meeting was not so large as usual, the day being extremely wet, altho' it was enlarged by People of other Societies who were at the burial; It was a good meeting, many I believe being made sensible of the precious covering which mercifully overshadowed it. I had a very long testimony to bear therein from Matt: C: 18. v.1, 2, 3. Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven? And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them. And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. Afterwards I was concerned in Prayer. The meeting held 2 hours and a half. From thence I return'd directly home.

Minute of the Preparative Meeting of Knowsley near Liverpool in Lancashire, 18<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. mo: 1703 .

"Alice wife of Henry Penington of Dublin, came up to Liverpool the 19<sup>th</sup>. of 1<sup>st</sup>. mo: 1703, to have seen her husband, who was gone to London before she came; she being detained by contrary winds, fell sick and died, the 16<sup>th</sup>. and was buried 18<sup>th</sup>. of this month at Hardshaw. Her Coffin cost four shillings making, her grave 6d, her carriage 4s, for charges of friends and others, and their Horses at the Inn at Hardshaw 4s all paid by Henry Molineux; being in all 12s 6d "

#### Richard Reynolds of Bristol

Died, at Cheltenham, Richard Reynolds Esqr. in the 81<sup>st</sup>. year of his age. He was a member of the Society of Friends; and formerly an eminent manufacturer at Bristol, and afterwards in the concern of the Coalbrookdale Company, from which he had retired many years. His charities were unparalled in Bristol since the days of Colston; or in other Citys in any age. But they were not confined to that city. He had agents established in different parts of the country, whose business it was to seek for cases of distress in their respective neighbourhoods, and to recommend them to his consideration; so thousands who never had the name of their benefactor often partook of his bounty. Such however was his singular modesty, such his truly christian meekness; that no exact estimate can be made of the sums he employed this way. It is believed that his expenditure in charity was near 10,000£ per Annum and that it frequently exceeded that sum; indeed in one year he expended nearly 20,000£ in acts of benevolence. Among other instances of his munificence which may be cited, he gave Joseph Lancaster, at three successive times 1000£ per time, to enable him to carry into effect his system of education, accompanied by no condition but the secrecy of the donors name. He united in a remarkable manner, great liberality with just discrimination, and although the sums he annually distributed were large, yet he never relieved any object without previous

investigation; he was therefore seldom imposed upon; and that wealth of which he only considered himself the steward was employed almost invariably in aiding the friendless and distressed. His modesty and humility were as distinguished features of his character, as his liberality; for in the practice of his long and well spent life, the precept was, "Let not thy left hand know what thou right hand doeth." was strictly fulfilled. Mr Reynolds therefore invariably shunned the applause which he deserved. May his example incite those who are blessed with opulence, to emulate him in deeds of charity; so as to repair in some measure the loss which many have sustained by his death.

His funeral was attended by some thousands of People, and all especially those among them, who had so often been fed by his bounty, were in the deepest sorrow and distress.

When the Coffin was placed over the grave, and the numerous relations and friends of the deceased were collected around; a profound silence of about a quarter of an hour ensued; after which several Ministers of the Society addressed the vast assemblage present in a most impressive manner; bearing testimony as well to the truly christian life, and character of the deceased, as to the power of religion, by which his life had been governed. These several addresses were followed by a Prayer, which with the interment of the body, finished the solemn religious duty. At Bristol in Sept. 1816.

Taken from the Leeds Mercury of Octobr. 19<sup>th</sup>. 1816

The following interesting account of the Funeral of a great and good man of the Society of Friends, is copied from the Bristol Journal of the 21<sup>st</sup>. ultimo.

In our last Journal it was our melancholy task to record the removal of the good, and illustrious Richard Reynolds from this vale of tears, to join "the spirits of the just made perfect." It is now our more pleasing duty to notice the spontaneous testimonies of respect to his memory, which all ranks of his fellow citizens evinced on the occasion of his funeral. On Tuesday last, soon after eight o'clock in the morning, about 500 boys from the Benevolent Schools of St. James and St. Paul, and the Royal Lancastrian school, formed in two open columns, extending considerably from each side from the good mans late dwelling across St. James's Square. On the appearance of the remains of the deceased, the Boys pulled of their hats and stood uncovered till the procession had passed. Their youthful artlessness formed a pleasing contrast to the sorrowful countenances of the surrounding poor, who filled the area of the square and lined the streets, eager to testify their last tribute of respect to their common benefactor. Most of the Shops in the streets through which the procession passed were shut up. In the characteristic and primitive simplicity of the funeral of a friend all is natural, solemn, and impressive. About seventy relatives of the deceased followed in mournful procession, who were joined by many Males and Females of the Society of Friends, and also above 300 of the most respectable of our fellow citizens of various religious denominations in mourning; among whom we noticed Alderman Daniel Fripp, and Birch, Mr Sherriff Barrow, and other members of the corporation; Benjamin Butterworth Esqr. Member of Parliament; several of the resident clergyman and dissenting Ministers; of different persuasions; the Gentlemen of the Committees of the Bible Society, the Infirmary, the Dispensary, the Samaritan, the Prudent Man's friend, and the British and Foreign School Societies; the Orphan asylum the Blind Asylum, the Benevolent Schools of St. James and St. Paul, the Penitentiary, the Strangers friend, the Friend in Need, and several other Charities; of many of which, to within a few months of his decease Mr Reynolds was an active member and liberal benefactor. To the credit of the attending thousands, the strictest decorum and silence were maintained. Amidst the tolling of several of our Church Bells the procession reached the grave-yard at the Friends' Meeting House in the Friars, in Rosemary Street; where after placing the remains of the deceased over the grave, a solemn stillness and silence that might be felt ensued. Several male and female friends, in orderly and timely succession, addressed the spectators, reminding the survivors of the vanity of all things below; warning them not to

put their trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, - after the example of their deceased friend, to evidence their faith by their works, disclaiming all merit in them; and considering themselves but as stewards, who must soon render an account of their stewardship, and be accepted by the Father through the alone merits of the Son, and the sanctifying influence of his Holy Spirit. These devotional services were closed with a very fervent and appropriate Prayer - that our heavenly Father, who had seen fit to remove this eminent almoner of his bounty, would in his good providence, raise up many of kindred spirits among the rich to fill up the chasm occasioned by his removal, and that in his abundant care of the poor he would provide for their every want, - teaching them how to bear the present trials of poverty without murmuring, and sanctify all his dispensations to their souls. - ascribing all the glory of the great example his servant had set them to the one God - Father, Son, and Spirit - who is worthy of all praise and adoration. - Thus was the memory of the just embalmed in the sighs, in the tears, in prayers of his friends and fellow citizens of every name; who it is understood, (with the exception of those of the Society of friends) mean to wear mourning for one month. It was in the faith and hope of the glorious truths of that divine Revelation to the circulation of which \* he so zealously contributed, and of which he was earnestly desirous all might be able to read, that this great Christian Philanthropist lived and died. Thus adding another proof to those daily exhibited of the ennobling influence of faith in the Son of God.

\* The Rev: John Owen, in his history of the British and foreign Bible Society, says, "The author has no apprehension of offending those whom he is reluctantly compelled to pass over in silence, by mentioning the venerable name of Richard Reynolds, Esqr. as one of those individuals to whose liberal, active, and persevering philanthropy, the Bristol Auxiliary Bible Society; of which he is so great an ornament and benefactor, owes its earliest and latest obligations."

Memorandum. Our Meeting for Sufferings was held at Highflatts on the 13<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1816 and 4<sup>th</sup>. day of the week The Meeting for Worship began at 10 o'clock, and was held in silence but I believe was a profitable time unto some, the Masters presence being near. It was small, owing to the uncommon lateness of the harvest, and the continued rains, which had much damaged the corn, and this morning being fair and a boisterous wind, many were so busy in the fields as to prevent their attendance. At the close of the Meeting for Worship the Men and Women members of our Society continued to sit together though the Meeting for Sufferings John Robinson of Wakefield and Elihu Dickinson and John Bottomley of our Meeting were appointed to collect the account of Sufferings and to enquire into friends faithfulness respecting our testimony against Tythes, Priest.demands, those called Churchrates and the Militia; and advise friends to an annual inspection into the state of their affairs, throughout the Monthly Meeting. The usual enquiry was made and Answers given or received from all the heads of all families in our Preparative meeting except one, whom Thomas Earnshaw was appointed to visit, and report as he finds to our next Preparative meeting. This business being gone through, the Women friends withdrew, and each Sex entered upon the business of the Preparative Meeting, at the close of ours, I had a pretty long testimony to bear from Luke C: 15. v: 7. Joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth more than over ninety and nine just persons which need no repentance. These several sittings held 3 hours.

Memorandum. Wakefield Monthly Meeting 11<sup>th</sup>. mo: 18<sup>th</sup>. 1816. Having been much indisposed most part of the time since my return from our last Quarterly Meeting, and some part of the time not able to attend our own meeting, but being somewhat recovered, and feeling a desire to attend our Monthly Meeting to be held at Wakefield and the meeting at Dewsbury in my way thither. I left home ye. 16<sup>th</sup>. of the 11<sup>th</sup>. mo: 1816 and 7<sup>th</sup>. day of the

week, after breakfast went to John Pickfords of Parkhead to be shaved, left there about 10 o'clock in the forenoon and went to my nephew Robert Woods of Moorbottom were I stopt upwards of half an hour and took a little refreshment, then proceeded by Shelley, Roydhouse, and Whitley to William Wass's of Dewsbury about half past 3 o'clock, and altho' I felt very weary, yet it being a hard frost and a fine day, and walking slow, I was able to perform it, much better than I expected. I stopt Tea here and until the dusk of the evening and then went to George Breareys of Crackenedge were I took up my quarters. On 17<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week, I attended both their meetings in Dewsbury, The forenoon meeting began at 10 o'clock 24 persons attended besides myself, I had a long testimony to bear therein from Numb: C: 16. v: 3. Ye take too much upon you, seeing all the congregation are holy every one of them, and the Lord is among them; wherefore then lift you up yourselves above the congregation of the Lord. after a short time in silence I had some addition to make thereunto. After meeting I din'd at William Wass's. The afternoon Meeting began at 3, 35 persons attended, William Wass had a short testimony to bear therein first from 2 Cor: C: 5. v: 20. We are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us, we pray you in Christ's stead, be reconciled to God. Afterwards I had a pretty long time from Matt: C: 7. v: 21. Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. In the evening several friends came to my quarters to see me and closing into silence we had a religious opportunity together in which I had a pretty long testimony to bear from Gen: C: 3. v: 10. I heard thy voice in the garden; and I was afraid. and afterwards I had a short time. On 18<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, I breakfasted at John Fozards, and about 8 o'clock set out, the morning being wet and went by Ossett to Wakefield were I got about 10 o'clock, and took Tea at John Spence's. The Meeting for Worship began at 11, It was not quite so large as usual; I had a long testimony to bear therein from Isai: C: 27. v: 1, 2. A vineyard of red wine: I the Lord do keep it; I water it every moment; lest any hurt it, I will keep it night and day. John Bottomley was next concerned in prayer. William Wass had a short testimony to bear next from Numb: C: 23. v: 10. Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my latter end be like his. At the close of this meeting was the meeting for discipline, and altho' there was a deal of business, yet it being amicably conducted, it got readily forward. Both meetings held 3 hours. After which I got a little dinner with Ann Thorp, and then came directly to Dirtcar were I got about 4 o'clock and took up my quarters at Christopher Walkers. On 19<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, This forenoon it was a great Eclipse of the sun. After breakfast I went and sat a little at William Pickards and took a little refreshment before I set out which was about 10 o'clock It was frosty in the morning, but afterwards the roads were extremely dirty and bad traveling so that I got but heavily on, and was obliged to rest oftens by the way. I came by Bretton and Parkmill to Skelmanthorp were I stopt near an hour at Charles Blackburns and took a little refreshment and then came by Cumberworth home were I got about half past 4 in the afternoon, very much fatigued with this days journey.

Memorandum. On 13<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. mo: 1817 and 5<sup>th</sup>. day of the week. I attended their Weekday meeting at Barnsley, which happened on this wise, I came to Barnsley the day before upon the business of an Appeal and determined in my mind to set out for home early this morning but one thing or another happened that I could not get off. The meeting time drew near and finding I could not get away I concluded to attend it altho' it was contrary to my inclination but afterwards was fully convinced, I was in the way of my duty in stopping; Thus I renewedly experienced, The Lord is bringing the blind by ways they know not. I went up to the Meetinghouse nearly half an hour before the time of the meeting, soon after I got into the burial-ground I saw a youth coming towards the place, who also turn'd into the burial-ground as soon as I cast mine eyes upon him, I felt a very peculiar nearness to him, Innocency and solidity sat on his countenance, I joined myself unto him, and found that he came from Dodworth, that he was in the 19<sup>th</sup>. year of his age, that he had attended meeting

sometime on first days, but had not been before on week days, not knowing until this week that friends met on fifth days, his name is Joseph Pickering. Being wet I took him into John Listers to dry and warm him, were we sat together until Meeting time and then went in 28 persons attended. It proved a time of renewed favour unto many, and I had a long testimony to bear therein from Matt C: 26. v: 42. O my father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done. I was led to encourage all states from the child, to a Father in the church to faithfulness to the clear manifestations of duty by endeavouring in things that may appear exceeding hard to flesh and blood to resign their own will to the divine will, and then hard thing would become easy and better things sweet. After meeting I din'd at Thomas Yeardeleys and with their leave took Joseph Pickering with me, and Thomas Shillitoe having a number of Pamphlets to give away I procured him about 10 which he received with apparent gratitude. After dinner he returned home and I set him a little out of the Town were we very affectionately took leave of each other. This afternoon I drunk Tea at Thomas Shillitoes, and dear John Wood came and spent the evening with me at John Yeardeleys, and tarried all night and slept with me, which afforded us an opportunity of a little private conversation to our mutual satisfaction. Next morning early I set out for home.

During my being at Barnsley a very awful circumstance happened; the day I got there, in the morning one Thomas Gunson of Leicester a traveller in the hosiery business came to this Town by the coach and took up his quarters as usual at James Broadbents the White Bear, in the forenoon he went out among his customers, and return'd to the Inn about 12 o'clock and immediately went to his chamber, the family supposing him to be unwel expected he was gone to lie down upon the bed; but he not coming down betwixt 7 and 8 o'clock in the evening the Landlord went to the chamber door which he found fastened, and calling but receiving no answer he began to be alarmed, and got some assistance and broke the door open, when they found the poor man weltering in his blood having cut his throat, but missing the windpipe he was still alive, medical assistance was immediately procured and the wounds sewed, but he had lost so much blood, that after languishing until about 3 o'clock the next morning he died. In his pocket was found part of a Letter dated a few days before and intended as was supposed for the dissenting Minister at Leicester, the place where he usually attended, of which the following is a copy.

Halifax Febry 7<sup>th</sup>. 1817

Dear and Revd. Sir

The reason of my troubling you with this is from the extreme distress of my mind; indeed I believe I am given up to black despair, and I think I am possessed with an unclean and blaspheming devil - all my hope is gone, and I can look forward to nothing - but Gods fearful Judgment - But what I have often upon my mind is this, I really am possessed with a devil - Now the Scripture says that the effectual fervent prayer of a good man availeth much; such I know thou art - Therefore this is simply to ask you to pray for me. I am tempted continually to all that is bad - I am a terror to myself - my eyes I cannot keep from beholding vanity; much less can I love God - Indeed I am oftens filled with enmity against him - The Sermon you preached about the Rams and He.Goats - cut me up root and branch - I oftens think of your dream, the chaff falling one way and the wheat another - I am in a most awful state - I see that I have not made God my portion - I have not followed him with all my heart - When I think of what my Wife enjoys I am almost distracted.

Memorandum. Wakefield Monthly Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup>. mo: 17<sup>th</sup>. 1817. I left home ye. 16<sup>th</sup>. of the 2<sup>nd</sup>. mo: 1817, and 1<sup>st</sup>. of the week, about half past 8 o'clock in the morning, Charles Unsworth set me a little on my way and then returned. I went by Cumberworth to my cousin Charles Steads of Siver.Ing in Emley.Park were I stopt about 3 hours and din'd, then proceeded my beloved cousin Charles Stead junr. accompanying me about 1 mile and then

returned, I went by Emley, Bretton and Crigglestone to Dircar where I got about 4 o'clock and took up my quarters at Christopher Walkers, John Bottomley and Henry Marsden also came here and tarried all night. In the evening the family was collected together as usual to the reading. After the Master and housekeeper had read each of them a chapter in the scriptures we closed into silence and had a satisfactory opportunity in which I had a pretty long testimony to bear from Gen: C: 18. v: 19. I know him, (Abraham,) that he will command his children, and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord. On 17<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, our Monthly meeting was this day held at Wakefield and I walked thither in company with John Bottomley and Henry Marsden, called and sat a little before meeting at Ann Thorps and William Awmacks. The meeting for Worship began at 11 o'clock and was very large the day being fine, and the masters presence was mercifully experienced to be near to the solemnizing of our spirits. I had a short testimony to bear therein first from Luke C: 12. v: 50. I have a baptism to be baptised with, and how am I straitened till it be accomplished. James Harrison next from Isai: C: 38. v: 19. The living, the living, he shall praise thee. Elizabeth Woodhead had a few words next. John Bottomley had a short time next from Isai: C: 43. v: 2. When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and when thro' the rivers, they shall not overflow thee; when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burnt, neither shall the flame thereof kindle upon thee. At the close of this meeting the Men and Women were requested to keep their seats after those who were not members of our Society were withdrawn. The meeting being then opened, Thomas Shillitoe returned the Minute of this meeting in the 12<sup>th</sup>. mo: last, and informed us, That he had been favoured to go through the service as his way open to the satisfaction of his own mind. He also in a solemn and weighty manner spread before us a concern that had been long on his mind to pay a religious visit to the inhabitants of some parts of Russia, the importance of this brought considerable weight over the feeling members of this meeting, and at length it was concluded to appoint a committee of men and women friends to take the same into consideration and report their judgment thereupon to our next Meeting. The Women friends then withdrew and the Men entered upon their further business a great deal being before the meeting which was very agreeably conducted, amongst other things I informed friends that I had gone through the visit I had first in prospect, but towards the close thereof, I felt an opening to a few more places, but could not see that it was then the right time to move therein, therefore requested if, the meeting thought it right I might have the liberty of the Minute of last month another month which was very readily granted. Both meetings held 4 hours and a quarter. After which I din'd at John Spence's and afterwards went and sat a little at Ann Thorps, and then returned to my quarters at Dircar where I got betwixt 6 and 7 o'clock in the evening. On 18<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week I set out about 10 o'clock in the forenoon and came by Crigglestone to Bretton where I rested me about half an hour at Michael Buckleys, and then proceeded by Emley to Charles Blackburns of Skelmanthorp where I stopt about 1 hour and a half and took a little refreshment then came to Cumberworth, the wind being very high, it fatigued me much so that I called there and rested me about half an hour at my tenants George Biltcliffs, whom I much respect; George Biltcliff afterwards kindly accompanied me and assisted me with his arm most of my way home, where I got about 5 o'clock.

Memorandum. Barnsley Monthly Meeting 3<sup>rd</sup>. mo: 17<sup>th</sup>. 1817. I left home to attend said Monthly meeting and other services ye 15<sup>th</sup>. of ye 3<sup>rd</sup>. mo: 1817 and 7<sup>th</sup>. day of the week betwixt 9 and 10 in the morning and went by Denby and Gunthwaite.hall to Richard Priests of Broadoak where I got some refreshment and stopt about an hour and a half then proceeded by Elmhirst to Banks.hall and by Higham to Barnsley, where I got about 4 o'clock in the afternoon and drunk Tea at Thomas Yeardeleys, and after calling upon several friends, I went to John Yeardeleys where as usual I took up my quarters. On 16<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week was their forenoon meeting at Barnsley which began at 11 o'clock and was pretty large a considerable number of

sober people of other societies attending, and it proved an open satisfactory meeting I was first concerned therein in supplication. Isabella Harris next a long time in testimony from Acts C: 9. v: 4. Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me. Afterwards I had a short testimony from Psalms 116. v: 7. Return unto thy rest, O my soul, for the Lord hath dealt bountifully with thee. At the close of this meeting The Committee of Friends appointed last Monthly meeting to take into consideration the concern of Thomas Shillitoe to visit the inhabitants of some part of Russia who were Robert Whitaker, Joseph Wood, Christopher Walker, John Bottomley, William Taylor of Barnsley, John Robinson, William Wass, Leonard Wass, James Harrison, Isabella Harris, Hannah Whitaker, Susanna Harvey, and Mary Johnson, all met here except Hannah Whitaker and sat about an hour together. The business was a little entered into, and then the Committee adjourned at 5 o'clock in the evening to meet in a room at John Yeardeleys. At 5 o'clock we met pursuant to adjournment and Thomas Shillitoe sat with us in both sittings not at our request but from his own inclination, This sitting held 3 hours and a half. It was an humiliating time, and we travelled together in the deeps, and in much feeling sympathy with the friend, but could not come to a conclusion respecting his concern wherefore we agreed to inform the meeting we were not prepared to report and to adjourn at 11 o'clock the day before the Monthly Meeting in the 4<sup>th</sup>. Month to meet at this place. On 17<sup>th</sup>, and 2<sup>nd</sup>, of week, I breakfasted with Robert Harrison, and at 9 o'clock in the forenoon attended our Meeting for Ministers and Elders, all members were there except Hannah Whitaker and Isabella Brearey. The advice to Ministers and Elders were read, and the Queries also and Answers thereto drawn up approv'd and Signed and directed to be laid before our ensuing Select Quarterly Meeting. The meeting held about 1 hour and a quarter. After which I got some refreshment at William Bayldons, were I tarried until the meeting for Worship which was pretty large and we were favoured there with the company of our friend Mary Tricket of Sheffield. James Harrison had a short testimony to bear therein first from Est: C: 6. v: 2. It was found written, that Mordecai had told of Bighthana and .eresh, two of the kings chamberlains, the keepers of the door, who sought to lay a hand on the King Ahasuerus. Afterwards Mary Tricket had a long and encouraging testimony to bear from Isai: C: 50. v: 10. Who is among you that feareth the Lord, that obeyeth the voice of his servant, that walketh in darkness, and hath no light? Let him trust in the name of the Lord, and stay upon his God. At the close of this meeting was held our Monthly Meeting for discipline, and a great deal of business was before it to day which was agreeably conducted, amongst other things I delivered in the Minute of this Meeting given me in the 1st mo. last expressive of the Meetings unity with my concern to pay a religious visit to the inhabitants of some places in the neighbourhood of Halifax and Huddersfield, and informed this meeting that I had been favoured to go through the same, so as to return in peace, which was minuted and the meetings satisfaction therewith. Also James Harrison of Pontefract Meeting laid before us his intentions of Marriage with Hannah Applegarth of Staindrop Monthly meeting in the County of Durham. The Queries were read and Answers received and read from all our Preparative meetings viz. Pontefract, Barnsley, Highflatts, Ackworth, Wakefield and Wooldale. In answer to the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Query it appeared there was some little appearance of convincement since last year in Barnsley and Wakefield meetings, and one person had been admitted into membership thereby in Wooldale meeting. Both meetings held 5 hours. After which I din'd at Thomas Shillitoes and drunk Tea at George Alletsons from thence return'd to my quarters were some friends came to spend the evening with me and John Wood stopt and slept with me. On 18<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, I breakfasted at William Taylors and from thence went to William Harveys were I spent the forenoon in company with divers other friends, and din'd there, Left Barnsley betwixt 2 and 3 o'clock in the afternoon in company with John Bottomley we came by Cawthorn and Dakinbrook to Denby were we parted for our respective habitations. I called at John Priests were I took a little refreshment, and stopt about half an hour, and then came home were I got about 7 o'clock in the evening.

Copy of a Letter sent by Thomas Hawkins Independent Preacher at Warley near Halifax, and thus addressed.

To the good Friend who preached at Warley on Thursday evening.

Dear Friend

Unknown as I am to you, I sincerely thank you for your services of last evening at Warley Meeting. I hope, by the blessing of heaven, some happy benefit may result from the same. Jesus Christ our blessed Immanuel, is our only hope - the inward and powerful operations of the Holy Ghost, one of our prime principles, in reference to doctrine.

Holiness of heart and life, the element in which we wish to breathe and move and act. - And we live in expectation of a resurrection from the dead and a future and final judgment - We believe that regeneration of heart - and reformation of life are essential to mans salvation. Go on, my dear Sir, to urge the solemn and important Truths, and leave minor things to the little places which they must occupy.

Perhaps if we knew more of each others fixed radical principles, apart from the jealous surmises - and darkening shadows of prejudice, we should approximate nearer to real Christian communion. To the one great head of the Church and Master of Assemblies, I recommend you, and am, Sir, your friend and hum. servt.

Thomas Hawkins

Warley.Town Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>. 1817.

Memorandum On ye. 5<sup>th</sup>. day of ye. 4<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1817, departed this life Rebecca Brown daughter of Samuel Brown of Westroyds in Shepley and was buried in friends burial.ground at Highflatts ye. 11<sup>th</sup>. of the same and 6<sup>th</sup>. day of the week aged about 18 weeks. The parents not being members of our Society applyed and obtained leave to bury it in friends burial.ground; and came with the corps in time to our Weekday meeting after the internment which increased the meeting ..... considerably with People of other societies. It was a laborious exercising meeting, but Truth at length prevailed, and towards the close thereof I felt a motion to stand up, I got upon my feet under an humbling sense of much weakness, but strength increasing I had a pretty long testimony to bear from Matt: C: 25. v: 13. Watch therefore, for ye know neither of the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh. Afterwards I had a short time from 1 Tim: C: 4. v: 8. Bodily exercise profiteth little; but godliness is profitable unto all things. The meeting closed under solemn covering having held 2 hours and a quarter. The evening before Edward Dickinson son of Elihu Dickinson of Highflatts a young man who had been for some time past rather disordered in his mind, in a fit of insanity cut his throat, when I heard thereof this morning, feeling much sympathy with the family I went thither, and found that altho' the wound was deep, medical assistance being procured as speedily as possible there was some hopes of his recovery. I tarried with the afflicted family until Meetingtime, and truly I thought much sympathy was due to them.

Memorandum On ye. 17<sup>th</sup>. day of ye. 4<sup>th</sup>. Mo: 1817. Departed this life Edward Dickinson son of Elihu Dickinson of Highflatts, and was buried in friends burial ground at Highflatts ye. 20<sup>th</sup>. of the same aged about 31 years. It was on the 10<sup>th</sup>. Inst. betwixt 7 and 8 o.clock in the evening when he committed the fatal act in the north corner of the middle close on the back of the Windmill and after bleeding there a considerable time he went home of himself, which was very admirable after losing such a large quantity of blood, but this I suppose was the cause of his reason returning: the Apothecary gave a favourable account of him being likely to do well for some time, but a mortification coming on he expired on the 17<sup>th</sup>. Inst. about 1 o.clock in the afternoon, and on the 19<sup>th</sup>. the Coroner and Jury took an

inquest of the body at which I was present and was examined before them, and it being made satisfactorily appear, that he had been for some time previous to committing the said action in a disordered state of mind at times, The family was left at liberty to inter the body in the usual manner, which was done on the 20<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, I went to the house in the morning of that day accompanied by Charles Unsworth whom they had got to assist them, and such a multitude of people assembled before the interment, that it was thought prudent to keep the Meetinghouse doors locked until that service was performed. After the corps was interred, I requested the People not to crowd the Relations of the deceased but wait until they got into the Meetinghouse and then as many as were disposed to attend the meeting and could get in might have their liberty. The Meetinghouse was very much crowded and betwixt 2 and 300 stood without that could not get in, and great number went away that could not get near. I was first concerned therein in testimony from Gen: C: 1. v. 27, 28, God created man in his own image, in the image of God created him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them. Stood nearly 2 hours being largely opened in showing the happy state of man before the fall, his deplorable state in fall, and the different dispensations of the Almighty unto man before the Law, and under the Law, under the dispensation of John, and the privileges of the Gospel dispensation, also the way and means of mans restoration into the image of God by Christ the promised seed. Afterwards I was concerned in Prayer, and at the close of the meeting which held about 3 hours I informed the People the meeting was about to conclude, desiring them to withdraw in a still quiet manner withal expressing our satisfaction with their very commendable behaviour, and after a short exhortation concluded with saluting them in Gospel love and bade them all Farewel. After meeting I return'd to Elihu Dickinsons where I spent the remainder of the day and returned home in the evening company with Charles Unsworth.

Memorandum          Highflatts Monthly Meeting 6 mo. 16<sup>th</sup>. 1817 We had 6 lodgers the night before viz. John Yeardley and Wife, and John Wood of Barnsley, my Nephew William Doncaster of Sheffield, and Mary Johnson of Pontefract and Thomas Shillitoe also James Harrison and Wife of East Hardwick, I procured beds at Birdsedge for the 3 last mentioned friends; At 9 this morning was our Meeting for Ministers and Elders held at Highflatts, all our members attended except Isabella Harris and Isabella Brearey who were prevented from indisposition. The Queries were read and considered and Answers to the 2<sup>nd</sup>. and 4<sup>th</sup>. prepared and directed to be laid before our ensuing Select Quarterly Meeting by our Representatives. The meeting held about 1 hour, after which I took a cup of tea at Elihu Dickinsons. The meeting for Worship began at 11 and was very large of friends, and a few of other Societies came in, so that the Meetinghouse and chamber was well filled, It was to me in the early part thereof a low time, but before the close Truth was in considerable dominion and the testimony thereof exalted. In the early part thereof Martha Dickinson said a few words twice, afterwards a considerable time of silence ensued, and then John Bottomley had a long time in testimony from Isai: C: 55. v: 1, 2. Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money come ye, buy and eat: yea, come, by wine and milk without money, and without price. Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? And your labour for that which satisfieth not? Hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness. John Yeardley had a short time next from 1 Cor: C: 15. v: 29. If the dead rise not at all! Why are they then baptized for the dead. Thomas Shillitoe had a very long time next from Matt: C: 7. v: 13. Strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life. I had a long time next from Luke C: 22. v: 36. He that hath no sword, let him sell his garment, and buy one. At close of this meeting was held our Monthly meeting for discipline the business of which was very agreeably conducted, betwixt the meetings feeling myself much spent having been for some time rather unwel, I went into Richard Dickinsons and took part of a Tart and a glass of wine which refreshed me much and enabled me to attend to the

business of this meeting so as to do my duty therein. Both meetings held about 4 hours. This day we breakfasted 17 friends, and dined 19. William Midgley of Buersill near Rochdale tarried this night with us, and forward until he had accomplished his annual visit to us.

On Silent Worship by Joseph John Gurney of Norwich

1<sup>st</sup>. Let deepest silence all around  
 The peaceful shelter spread  
 So shall that living or word abound  
 The word that wakes the dead.

2<sup>nd</sup>. How sweet to wait upon the Lord  
 In stillness and in Prayer!  
 What tho' no preacher speak the word  
 A minister is there.

3<sup>rd</sup>. A Minister of wondrous skill,  
 True graces to impart,  
 He teaches all the Fathers will,  
 And preaches to the heart.

4<sup>th</sup>. He dissipates the cowards fears,  
 And bids the coldest glow,  
 He speaks and lo the softest tears  
 Of deep contrition flow.

5<sup>th</sup>. He knows to bend the heart of steel,  
 He bows the loftiest soul;  
 O'er all we speak and all we feel,  
 How matchless his control

6<sup>th</sup>. And oh how precious is his love,  
 In tenderest touches given  
 It whispers of the Bliss above  
 And stays the soul on heaven.

7<sup>th</sup>. From mind to mind in streams of joy,  
 The holy influence spreads;  
 'Tis peace, tis praise, without alloy,  
 For God that influenced sheds.

8<sup>th</sup>. Dear Lord to thee we still will pray,  
 And praise thee as before;  
 For this thy glorious Gospel day,  
 Teach us to praise thee more.

J: J: Gurney

Taken from the Leeds Mercury of 12<sup>th</sup>. July. 1857

On the 3<sup>rd</sup>. Inst died in Salford in the 65<sup>th</sup>. year of his age Mr. John Taylor. He was educated at the Dissenting Academy at Daventry under the late Mr. Ashworth; and afterwards resided in the same Establishment several years as Classical Tutor, which office his extensive Learning fully qualified him to fill. He was subsequently stationed several years at Walmsley Chapel in Lancashire; and at Ilminster in Sommersetshire as the Minister of the congregations of Unitarian Dissenters in those places, in both of which he was highly and deservedly respected. During his residence at Ilminster, a change took place in his religious sentiments,

and he proved his conscientious sincerity by immediately resigning his situation. Some time afterwards he joined the Society of friends, and for 16 or 17 years presided over the School belonging to that Body at Manchester. This office a severe Paralytick attack obliged him to relinquish in the year 1811. Since when a succession of a similar visitations have gradually weakened both his bodily and mental faculties, and at length brought him into the Grave.

Memorandum            Wooldale Monthly Meeting 7 mo. 21<sup>st</sup>. 1817. I left home the same morning betwixt 8 and 9 o'clock, being 2<sup>nd</sup>. day of the week, Charles Unsworth being my companion; The morning being very wet, and I having been for some time unwell, felt much discouraged about going to lest I should increase my complaint, but got there better than I expected, Charles being very kind in lending me all the assistance in his power. We went by Newmill and got to Wooldale about 10 o'clock were we took up our quarters at Henry Swires, Before we went to Meeting at we took Tea; The meeting for Worship began at 11 o'clock and notwithstanding the wetness of the day prevented many from attending it was a large and solemn Meeting, the Meetinghouse and chamber being pretty well filled with friends and People of other Societies, We had the company of our friend my Sister Jane Doncaster of Sheffield was there who had a long testimony to bear therein first from Hab: C: 2. v: 20. The Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth keep silent before him. Afterwards Thomas Wetherald and Martha Dickinson had each of them a few words. At the close of this meeting was our Monthly Meeting for discipline the business of which was pretty agreeably conducted, and at the close thereof the Printed Yearly Meeting Epistle was read. Both meetings held near 4 hours. About 8 o'clock we left Wooldale, and went by Tottis and Scholes to George Broadheads of Jacksonbridge were we tarried all night, my Brother Daniel Doncaster and his Wife being there. On 22<sup>nd</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, After breakfast Charles Unsworth set out for home immediately being wanted to begin mowing; and about 10 o'clock I left here and had a very pleasant walk over the Moor home were I got about 11 o'clock, my Brother and Sister Doncaster followed in about 1 hour and din'd with us, and about 2 o'clock in the afternoon left my house for home. They came to our Meeting at Highflatts on first day and tarried all night at my house. On 7<sup>th</sup>. day in the forenoon James Taylor of Oldham Meeting in Lancashire came to my house and tarried until 1<sup>st</sup>. day afternoon and then proceeded towards Wooldale; The same afternoon Elizabeth Yeardley Wife of John Yeardley of Barnsley got to my house to Tea and tarried all night.

Memorandum.            The following is a very awful instance of the Truth of the testimony we have left upon record viz. Deut: C: 5. v: 11. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain. Joshua Gaunt of Denby was the descendant of a reputable family in the same village who lived upon a small Estate of their own, and he being their only son, they gave him a good education according to the custom of the Country; At their decease the said Estate came into his hands, but he wasted all his property, and fell upon the Town for relief who employed him with other poor People to work upon the road. He was generally looked upon as a wicked man not only himself, but in encouraging vice in his children. On ye. 19<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 8<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1817. He was at work upon the road, and just when he was about concluding in conversing about the approaching harvest he began to curse to swear in a most dreadful manner, blaspheming against the most high and saying there would not be corn sufficient for the People, and went on in such an manner as almost terrified his fellow labourers. He went home and to bed and was found next morning apparently with his jaws locked, and deprived of the use of speech, Medical assistance was immediately sent for but all in vain, he continued in this state until 7<sup>th</sup>. day morning ye. 23<sup>rd</sup>. Inst. and then breathed no more. O may these awful providence be a warning unto others, not

to profane the sacred Name, lest he should cease striving with them and his righteous judgment overtake them.

Taken from the European magazine.

Died June 27<sup>th</sup>. 1812. At Stoke Newington, in his 74<sup>th</sup>. year, Joseph Woods, Esqr. of the Society of Quakers; a Man of retired habits, but in whose character were united a highly cultivated understanding, a scrupulous integrity, and the most conciliating manners, he was from the beginning a member and he was a most efficient one by his Eloquent and clear pen of the Committee for the abolition of the Slave trade; by whom his worth and talents were justly appreciated. His quiet death corresponded with his gentle life, and the Silent desire of his heart. On the preceding day, he had been eminently serene and cheerful, and he died after a few hours indisposition; apparently not threatening dissolution, without pang or groan. Among the last insertion in his common place Book was the following parody on some lines of Cowper.

Of inward peace possessed, and outward ease,  
A mind unclouded, and a humble hope,  
My task perform'd, and all my sins forgiven,  
Oh! may the latent principle of death,  
With lenient, but not lingering stroke, dismiss  
My weary spirit to eternal rest.

Memorandum      On ye. 3<sup>rd</sup>. of ye. 9<sup>th</sup>. mo: 1817 and 4<sup>th</sup>. day of the week Samuel Hill of North. Dean at Greetland near Halifax, came to pay me a visit, and spend a few days with us. He got to my house about 9 o'clock in the evening. On 4<sup>th</sup>. and 5<sup>th</sup>. of week, in the forenoon we went and sat a little at John Bottomleys of Wood and return'd to dinner. In the afternoon Samuel having a desire to look about him upon the Moors we took a walk by Dearn.grange and Haddenley and up the Moor to the top of Pike.Law, the highest hill in these parts, from the top of which we had a beautiful and very extensive prospect over the surrounding country. We returned by Mount and Hillend and John Pickfords of Parkhead were we drunk Tea and got home about 7 o'clock in the evening. On 5<sup>th</sup>. and 6<sup>th</sup>. of week, In the forenoon we was at our Weekday meeting at Highflatts where 53 persons attended, I had a pretty long testimony to bear therein first from Isai C: 26. v: 3. Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee. Leah Kinsley had a short time next and afterwards I had a pretty long time from John C: 12. v: 24. Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone; but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit. Cousin Charles Stead came from the Meeting to dine with us, and spend the afternoon. After Tea he return'd home, giving us a kind invitation to spend the next day with him at his Fathers. After he was gone we took a walk by Birdsedge and came up the Slack.lane to the Moor, and return'd down the Longmoor-lane home. On 6<sup>th</sup>. and 7<sup>th</sup>. of week, After breakfast we set out for Emley.Park and went by Cumberworth and Skelmanthorp thither, and got to my cousin Charles Steads a little after 11 o'clock. After dinner we went and sat at cousin Benjamin Steads, and after our return took a walk into the fields. After Tea we set out for home, cousin Charles Stead junr. accompanying us about 1 mile and then return'd. We came by Hozzins to John Pickfords of Park, were we sat a considerable time and got home betwixt 7 and 8 o'clock in the evening. In these retired walks we frequently experienced the Masters presence to be near, and at times our spirits being solemnised thereby, and we had religious communications together which I trust may afterward be profitably remembered. On 7<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of Week, we attended our meeting at Highflatts, The day being remarkably fine it was very fully attended, and being the

Preparative meeting friends of Lumbroyd meeting also attended, and more People of other societies came in than usual, so that it was very large. Martha Dickinson said a few words therein first. I had a long testimony to bear next from Isai: C: 31. v: 1. Wo to them that go down to Egypt for help and stay on horses, and trust in chariots, because they are many; and in horsemen because they are very strong; but they look not unto the Holy one of Israel neither seek the Lord. Martha Dickinson next in Prayer and afterwards said a few words. I had next a pretty long testimony to bear from 1 Cor: C: 2. v: 11, What man knoweth the things of a man save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the spirit of God. At the close of this meeting the business of our Preparative meeting was gone through, amongst other things the Queries were read and answered and Answers prepared to lay before the Monthly Meeting. Both meetings held 3 hours. Cousin Charles Stead junior din'd and spent the afternoon with us. After dinner we read the life of Elizabeth Ashbridge. The singular tryals she had to pass through in her life and convincement appeared to affect Samuel Hill much. On 18<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week dear Samuel Hill set out for home in the forenoon. I accompanied him behind Shepley were we took an affectionate leave of each other, He expressing much satisfaction with his visit, and his company had been very acceptable to us. He retaining a grateful sense of our kindness in procuring his liberty when in exile, and I trust he is endeavouring to walk humbly with the Lord for his abundant mercies unto him. After parting with him I came to William Bottomleys were I din'd and from thence went to Henry Marsdens were I stopt a little, and then having a little business with Henry Swire of Wooldale, I proceeded thither were I stopt a long time and drunk Tea, when I return'd Henry Swire accompanied me as far as Parkhead were I called at John Pickfords and got some refreshment and reached home about 9 o'clock the same evening

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Memorandum           Ackworth Monthly Meeting 9<sup>th</sup>. Mo: 15<sup>th</sup>. 1817. I left home ye. 13<sup>th</sup>. of ye. 9<sup>th</sup>. Mo: 1817 and 7<sup>th</sup>. day of the week, and went to John Pickfords of Parkhead to be shaved; Left there about 10 o'clock in the forenoon and went by Cumberworth Skelmanthorp and Parkmill to Bretton were I rested me at Michael Buckley's, and then proceeded to Crigglestone were I stopt a considerable time at George Earnshaws, and got to Dirtcar betwixt 3 and 4 o'clock in the afternoon and took up my quarters at Christopher Walkers. On 14<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week, I set out about 9 o'clock in the morning and went by Milnthorp, Walton, Crofton, and Foulby to Wragby were I stopt near an hour at the Spread.Eagle and got some Brandy and water paid 8. Then proceeded by Hazle to Ackworth were I got a little after 12 o'clock and took up my quarters at the School. The afternoon meeting began at 3 o'clock and was a little enlarged by friends who were come to attend the Monthly meeting to be held here the next day. John Bottomley had a pretty long testimony to bear therein first from Job C: 38. v. 22, 23. Hast thou entered into the treasures of the snow? or hast thou seen the treasures of the hail. Which I have preserved against the time of trouble against the day of battle and of war. I next being led affectionately to address the youth in the language of encouragement from Luke C: 1. v: 78. The day spring from on high hath visited us. At 6 in the evening was our Meeting of Ministers and Elders. The Queries were read and considered and Answers thereto

prepared and approv'd, and directed to be laid before our ensuing Quarterly Meeting of Ministers and Elders, and much suitable counsel and advice were communicated by divers friends more particularly by Joseph Birkbeck a valuable Elder from Settle, whose company we was favoured with. All our members attended except Robert Whitaker and Hannah his wife who were from home and Isabella Brearey who was indisposed. On 15<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week. The following friends being a Committee appointed by our last Monthly Meeting to consider of a suitable number of friends for Overseers met at 9 o'clock this morning viz. John Bottomley, Samuel Coward, John Donbavand, Myself, Isabella Harris, Elizabeth Swire, Jane Woodhead, and Mary Bayldon. The conference was very agreeably conducted, and a number of friends were agreed upon to be proposed for the service to the Monthly Meeting who were approv'd thereby and appointed accordingly. The men friends being also appointed by the said meeting to consider of two suitable friends for Clerks thereto, after the Women friends were withdrawn it took the same under solid consideration and agreed to propose John Donbavand of Ackworth for Clerk, and James Arthington Wilson of Barnsley for Assistant who were approv'd by the Monthly Meeting and appointed accordingly. At 11 o'clock was the meeting for Worship John Bottomley had a short testimony to bear therein first from Cant: C: 6. v: 11. I went down into the garden of nuts to see the fruits of the valley; and to see whether the vine flourished, and the pomegranates budded. Thomas Shillitoe had a long time next from Cant; C; 2. v; 15. Take us the foxes, the little foxes, that spoil the vines. Afterwards I had a long time from 1 Chron: C: 12. v: 18. Peace, peace, be unto thee, and peace be to thine helpers for thy God helpeth thee. At the close of this meeting was held the meeting for discipline, Amongst other business, The Queries directed to be answered this quarter were read; and Answers thereto received from all our Preparative meetings viz. Pontefract, Barnsley, Highflatts, Ackworth, Wakefield and Wooldale. and a General Answer was prepared, and approv'd, and directed to be taken unto our Quarterly Meeting. Also John Firth of Wooldale Meeting and Mary Dickinson of Highflatts Mg. were cleared from all other engagements relating to Marriage and left at liberty to accomplish theirs when they and Highflatts friends saw meet. Both meetings held about 4 hours and a quarter. In the evening I attended the Girls reading, and had a pretty long encouraging testimony to bear therein. On 16<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, After breakfast and taking leave of many near and dear friends in the family, I went and sat a little at Robert Grahams, and before I set out took a little refreshment. Left Ackworth betwixt 10 and 11 o'clock in the forenoon and came by Hemsworth and Brierley to Samuel Lavers of Cudworth where I rested 1 hour and took some refreshment, then came to Burton where I went to see the Burial-ground; the Meetinghouse is removed and the walls of the Graveyard well repaired, and all put into very neat order. From thence I proceeded to Barnsley and got there betwixt 3 and 4 o'clock in the afternoon where I took up my quarters at John Yeardeleys. After Tea I went and sat a little at William Taylors. and after my return John Wood came to see me and stopt all night and slept with me. On 17<sup>th</sup>. and 4<sup>th</sup>. of week, After breakfast I went and sat a little at William Harveys and Robert Harrisons and din'd at Thomas Yeardeleys. Left Barnsley betwixt 1 and 2 o'clock in the afternoon and came to Thomas Wests of Cawthorn where I rested me about 1 hour and got some refreshment, then came to Ellin Waltons where I got Tea and stopt about 1 hour; then came by Dakinbrook and Dykeside to John Bottomleys of Wood where I rested me sometime and got home about 8 o'clock in the evening. Before I left home I was under great discouragement about setting out this journey feeling very much weakened by a long continued complain in my bowels accompanied with a Lax, but feeling much easier to try, I proceeded upon it and by taking great time, and resting frequently, and the weather proving fine I was enabled to accomplish it better than I expected, and felt better in returning than in going, and had cause of thankfulness that I made the attempt.

Memorandum        On the Eighteenth day of the Ninth month 1817 were married at Highflatts, John Firth of Fulston, and Mary Dickinson daughter of Elihu Dickinson Clothier of Highflatts. John Pickford myself, Mary Walker and Mary Brook were appointed to see the orderly conducting thereof. I went to the house about 10 o'clock. The meeting began at 11 and held about 2 hours and a quarter our Weekday meeting at their request being held on fifth instead of sixth day and notice having been given the first day before that the alteration was on account of a Marriage, The Meeting was very large a great many people of other Societies attending and the Lord was graciously pleased to manifest his power amongst us to the solemnising many minds I had a long testimony to bear therein first from 2 Cor: C: 6. v. 16, 17. Ye are the temple of the living God, as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my People. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord; touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you. The young people then took each other in marriage. John Bottomley had a long testimony to bear next from Eze: C: 18. v: 4. All Souls on mine. And afterwards he was concerned in Prayer. The Marriage Certificate was next read and Signed, and then those who were invited guests went to Elihu Dickinsons to dine, were I stopt until after supper, and then came home with Charles Unsworth who had been assisting them to day, were we got about 9 o'clock.

Character of the late Gervas Storr of Leeds as given in the Periodical papers.

Mr Gervais Storr, one of the people called Quakers. To delineate the Character of this truly good man with Justice, is not only difficult, but impossible. With an Income of several hundreds per Annum, his personal expenses have not exceeded 30 Pounds a year; the Surplus he bestowed upon the Poor, not through the medium of Agents, but with his own hands ministering to their necessities. For this purpose he performed weekly circuits of several miles through the adjacent villages, where he explored the wretched Abodes of misery, investigated their various necessities, and administered Advice, Beding, Clothing and money in the most judicious manner; and during his last illness, he expressed his firm belief that the same divine Power which had stimulated him thus to alleviate the distress of his Fellow creatures, would raise up some others to supply his place. His spare habit, his venerable grey Locks, his plain and rather coarse Clothing, with the Sanctity of his countenance and general Appearance, produced in beholders the Idea of one of the ancient Prophets. The period of his good deeds will be much lamented, and more sincerely felt. May his truly pious example stimulate many others to go and do likewise.

Copied from the Monthly Magazine Vol: 19 Page 85.

Upon an obelisk at Castle.Howard

It to perfection these plantations rise  
 If they agreeably my Heirs surprise;  
 This faithful Pillar with their age declared,  
 As long as time these Characters shall spare;  
 Here then with kinder rememb'rance read his name,  
 Who for posterity performed the same .

Charles 3<sup>rd</sup>. Earl of Carlisle of the family of Howards erected a Castle where the Castle of Henderskel stood, and call'd it Castle.Howard. He made plantations and outworks, which he began in 1702 and set up this inscription in 1731, with this advice to his son.

If in these woods and lawns so far form'd,  
 If in these shady walks adorn'd;  
     Thou takest some delight:  
 Let him that did perform the same,  
 With peace of mind, preferr'd to fame:  
     Stand present in thy sight.  
 To his long labours, to his care,  
 His thoughts of thee, who is his Heir;  
     Some thanks perchance of due:  
 If this his wish there would'st fulfill,  
 If thou would execute his Will;  
     The like designs at pursue.  
 His care of thee in this he shows,  
 He recommends the life he chose;  
     Where health and peace abound,  
 He did from long experience find,  
 That true content, a quiet mind;  
     Seldom in Courts are found:  
 Fly then from thence, the City leave,  
 Thy very Friends will thee deceive;  
     Virtue does there offend:  
 In this Retreat safe shalt thou be,  
 From all those certain Mischiefs free;  
     That do in Courts attend.  
 Nor think that in this lonely shade,  
 For ease and quiet chiefly made;  
     Inactive thou wilt be.  
 Occasion often will present  
 Whereby vile deeds thou may prevent;  
     Justice will call on thee,  
 The bold oppresser thou shalt awe,  
 The violator of the Law;  
     Shall feel thy heavy hand:  
 To the distressd, Needy and Poor,  
 Thy ever charitable door;  
     Shall always open stand.  
 A generous kindness thou wilt show,  
 Favours and Bounty Thoult bestow;  
     On those who most deserve:  
 The innocent, thou shalt protect,  
 But modest, they shall not neglect;  
     In safety all preserved.  
 If thus thy time thou dost employ,  
 True peace of mind thou shalt enjoy;  
     These acts are good and Just:  
 The poor Mans Prayers wilt thee attend,  
 The rich are thy works will much commend;  
     In thee will put their Trust.  
 Then think, on those who are to come,  
 Think on thy blooming darling son;  
     Thus for his good provide:  
 Shew him the life, that thou hast lead,  
 Instruct him in those parts to tread

Be thou his faithful guide.  
 If virtuous thoughts his soul endue,  
 If this Advice he will pursue;  
     Sure happiness he'll find:  
 Nor canst thou if great wealth thou leave,  
 Which often do the World deceived;  
     To him be half so kind.  
 Thus for thy own, and for his sake,  
 That his Abode he hear may make;  
     New works for him, prepare:  
 What then for thee thy father's done,  
 The like do thou for thy Dear Son;  
     For him shew equal care.  
 The time will come none can prevent,  
 From these green shades we must be sent;  
     To darkness far below:  
 On yon green hill a Dome doth stand,  
 Erected by thy Father's hand;  
     Where thou and he must go.  
 To thee, what comfort will it be,  
 The same likewise 'twill be to me;  
     When our last breath we yield:  
 That some good deeds we here have done,  
 A fruitless race we have not run;  
     When thus we quit the field.

#### Extempore on marriage

Some wed for virtue, some for Love  
     And some for shining gold  
 The last of these is apt to please,  
     But will it always hold.

When Gold is done, and Love outrun,  
     If virtue do not remain:  
 The case is sad, yea wondrous bad,  
     There's naught but grief and pain  
 Ah! blind ambition, how can I restrain my eager muse;  
 But let her break and loudly speak, Abhorrence to such views.

Religion is a thing if rightly understood,  
 It makes men wise, and all their actions good.

A Church so called and a Burial place  
 Walk in the path the Saints have trodden,  
 The Friendship of this world is enmity with God.  
 Avoid the path this world hath ever trod,  
 The friendship of this world is enmity with God.

Memorandum        On the 25<sup>th</sup>. day of the 11<sup>th</sup>. month 1817 departed this life Elihu Dickinson Clothier of Highflatts, and was buried in friends burial.ground there the 3<sup>rd</sup>. of the 12<sup>th</sup>. month and 4<sup>th</sup>. day of the week aged about 76 years. I left home about 8 o'clock on the morning on the day of the interment having the superintendence of the burial: Charles Unsworth accompanied me being an assistant to them throughout the day. The invitation was for half past eight, and the corps was taken up precisely quarter before 11, A great many Friends, Relations and People of other Societies were invited guests, and many both friends and others came to the meeting so that the Meetinghouse below stairs was pretty well filled, Martha Dickinson said a few words therein first Elizabeth Woodhead next. John Bottomley had a pretty long testimony next from Tim: C: 4. v: 12. Prepare to meet thy God, O Israel. Martha Dickinson said a few words next. Jane Doncaster had a long time in testimony next from Hos: C: 6. v: 5. Therefore have I hewed them by the Prophets: I have slain them by the words of my mouth; and my judgments are as the light that goeth forth. I next from Acts: C: 2. v. 37, 38, 39. Men and brothers, what shall we do? Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptised every one of you in the name of Jesus.Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy.Ghost. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even to as many as the Lord our God shall call. John Bottomley was next concerned in Prayer. The forepart of the meeting was very exercising, but the rightly exercised keeping under their proper exercise in the faith and patience, Truth gained the Dominion. and the latter part was much favoured being crowned with glory. I think I may add respecting the deceased, that he had been in a declining state of health for upwards of half a year before his change, but at last was very unexpectedly removed. He was a very due attender of our religious meetings to the last, and though he might not have the five talents committed to his care, it may be said of him as our Saviour said of the Woman Mark C: 14. v. 8. "She hath done what she could." So I believe he was concerned to do what he could for the Society freely, by whom he was much beloved, and his death lamented, and his services therein will be much missed. In respect to his character amongst men he was a quiet and peaceable neighbour, a man of uprightness, integrity and strict punctuality in all his dealings. A considerate Landlord not oppressing his tenants, but endeavouring to do unto others as he would wish to be done by. I conclude with desires that those who succeed him may go and do likewise.

Taken from the Leeds Mercury of 22<sup>nd</sup>. November. 1817

To the Editor of the Leeds Mercury

Sir - I understand that the Quakers in this place, or after a discussion continued by night adjournment for two or three successive nights, came to a determination to open their shops, as usual, on the day of the great national solemnity. and it is notorious that they acted upon that resolution. I venerate the rights of conscience; but that this was not an affair of conscience is evident, because it is well known that the members of that Body act in the habit of closing their shops on the death of any of their near relatives; and it is known that in the York, Sunderland, and Bradford, and I believe in the metropolis as well as in other places, the Friends united with their fellow subjects in paying the mark of public respect to the memory of the deceased princess. Why Leeds should form an exception to the general rule I cannot imagine; and I shall feel myself indebted to any of your correspondents; who will do me and the public the favour to assign a clear and satisfactory reason for a conduct that hath given rise to much conjecture and to some obliquy.

D.R.

Leeds 20<sup>th</sup>. November

From the Leeds Mercury of 29<sup>th</sup>. November. 1817

To the editor of the Leeds Mercury  
Esteemed Friend

I feel disposed to do thy Correspondent D. R. of last week and those of the Public who, who are ignorant enough of Friends principles to need it, the favour of assigning as clear and as satisfactory a reason as I can, why the Friends in Leeds, and I trust of all other places in the kingdom, did not keep closed their shops on the Funeral day of the Princess Charlotte. All the observance of nations, and "rudiments of men," to use Scripture language which have no tendency either to profit ourselves or our fellow creatures have, been by the Friends been accounted, ever since they were a People "vain customs, foolish and superstitious formalities etc." and though some of these may have been of the Governments appointing, they have from a conscientious motive; minded their own business, not daring to spread their time in what, from the above principle, they conceived to be vanity, though imposed by such superlative authority; instance the days appointed for fasts, illuminations, thanksgivings etc. Even on Christmas Day which commemorates the birth, and on Good Friday, which put us in remembrance of the death of the ever blessed example of men, they desist not in occupying their time in their own business; well aware, that neither bodily exercise, nor cessation from labour profits anything; and that God who is a Spirit, looks only at the heart which is right in his sight, will not fail to produce a proper conduct among other fellow men; seeing it is the root of all actions. These remarks, I imagine, form a sufficient reason. and satisfactory enough too, to thy correspondent if he is open to conviction why the Friends kept not shut their shops etc on the day before alluded to, as the closing or the opening of them could not affect the deceased and worthy Princess, nor be any way profitable to themselves or others. But thy correspondent observes, "that this was not an affair of conscience is evident, because it is well known, that the members of that body are in the habit of closing their shops on the death of any of their near relatives. Does the correspondent really imagine a parallel between the two cases? If he does most of the public he mentioned will know he is mistaken; a person who has the management of his business may when any of his relatives depart, be so debilitated with grief, by reason of his uxorious parental, or filial affection for the deceased, that he cannot attend to his concerns; and a preparation for the internment might argue the necessity of a cessation from business. On the other hand there is nothing to hinder. As to the remaining part of his objection, to its being an affair of conscience, I have to say, what Friend soever closed his shop on that day, and on the popular account, violated his principles; and surely because a person, or a number of persons, depart from the line of rectitude, that person who maintained his integrity, is not to be said to act without conscience. Why York, Bradford, and Sunderland, the Metropolis, and other places, should form an exception to the general practice of the Friends, ever since they were a body, I cannot imagine. My belief is, that Friends shops were open at all the above mentioned places; and shall continue in that belief 'till thy correspondent furnishes me with more convincing testimony than bare assertion. By giving these remarks a place in thy paper, thou wilt oblige -  
Thine, respectfully.

T.B.

Hanging Heaton near Dewsbury  
11<sup>th</sup>. Mo: 25<sup>th</sup>. 1817

Another correspondent writing upon the same subject, after some introductory observations, says

"The question as to any propriety of closing their shops on any public occasion was quite new. There was a total absence of information from the Metropolis, and the Friends of

Leeds were left entirely to decide for themselves how to act on the occasion. At the different discussions that took place, there was a general sense of sorrow for the mournful event, and a desire to show every mark of respect consistent with the principles of the society.

"It was this sense of real sorrow, - feeling the loss of the departed Charlotte as the loss of a Parent or a child, that made them listen to the idea of joining in the general form of mourning by closing their shops. Had it not been for this sincere grief, this cause of lamentation in which all agreed, there would have been no question about the matter, and the shops belonging to individuals of the Society of Friends would have been open as a matter of course. Although, all felt the death of the dear Princess as an unparalleled national loss, which from the amiable disposition of the deceased awoke in many the most poignant feelings; yet there was a considerable difference of opinion as to the propriety of closing their shops, some thinking that it might be done without any compromise of their principles, whilst others expressed their doubts, considering it as one of those forms in which the society had never joined.

"In the midst of this variety of sentiment there was the greatest cordiality towards each other, and not the least tenacity of opinion evinced by any as alluded to in the *Intelligencer*. No determination was come to that should affect the whole, neither was any recommendation expressed. Every individual was left to act for himself, and it was especially mentioned that which ever way any one might adopt, there ought to be no reflections on his conduct by others.

"We cannot expect uniformity of action on any new occasion without there be a general communication on the subject, and we hope what has been said will be a satisfactory answer to your correspondent."

Apologist.

A third correspondent of the Quaker persuasion, has transmitted for insertion, the following extract, from the Minutes and Advices of the Yearly Meeting, held in London.

"According to the primitive simplicity of Friends, it is the advice of this Meeting, that no Friends imitate the world in any distinction of habit, or otherwise, as marks or tokens of mourning for the dead."

Memorandum            Wakefield Monthly Meeting 12<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 15<sup>th</sup>. 1817. I left home ye 12<sup>th</sup>. of ye 12<sup>th</sup>. mo: 1817 and 6<sup>th</sup>. day of the week about 9 o'clock in the morning and went to John Bottomleys of Wood were I sat about half an hour and then proceeded by Dykeside and Dakinbrook, to Thomas Wests of Cawthorn, he having sent a special message to my house the day before for me to go thither to day about business. I was very unwell but the day being very fine, I was encouraged to set out thinking I might get from thence to our Monthly Meeting to be held at Wakefield next 2<sup>nd</sup>. day, by making short stages of the Journey, which I was enabled to perform altho' I was very unwell all the time I was from home except the day I returned, and sometimes exceeding ill. I stopt at Thomas Wests about 4 hours and din'd, and having finished my business I proceeded to Barnsley were I got about 5 o'clock, drunk Tea at Thomas Yeardeleys, and then went to my usual quarters at John Yeardeleys but the family being preparing to remove to Bentham about 11 miles beyond Settle, I return'd to Thomas Yeardeleys were I took up my quarters, and in my way back called and sat a little at Frances Yeardeleys. On 13<sup>th</sup>. and 7<sup>th</sup>. of week I breakfasted at John Yeardeleys, and was very glad I had this opportunity with my beloved friends before they left, We are truly sorry to part but if they are in the way of their duty, our duty is to be resigned. In my return from thence to my quarters, I called to see Susanna Alletson and Robert Harrison, and sat a little at each place. About 1 o'clock in the afternoon I left Barnsley, and in the street met with Samuel Coward, he

accompanied me about 1 mile and then return'd, we called at Joseph Listers of Bleachhouse and sat with them about half an hour and then proceeded, went by Staincross and Warley, a snow had fallen in the night and lay upon the ground nearly shoe top deep, and there was a very close mist, so that it was very uncomfortable travelling, and when I'd had got a little past Woolley I mist my way and knew not where I was until I got to Newmillerdam, I then took up the footpath to Dircar were I got about 5 o'clock, and took up my quarters at Christopher Walkers. On 14<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week, I went in company with John Bottomley who came here the night before to Wakefield. There had been much rain in the night which had taken away the snow and caused it to be very wet underfoot. We got to Wakefield about half past 10 and rested us at Ann Thorps until it was time to go to Meeting which began at 11 o'clock; It proved a pretty open satisfactory meeting, I had a long testimony to bear therein first from 2 Cor: C: 13. v: 11. Finally, Brethren, Farwell be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the of God of love and peace shall be with you. John Bottomley next being led in an encouraging manner unto some states, unto whom the Lord had been as a morning light, and he believed would be their evening song. At the close of this meeting was held their Preparative meeting. I was very unwell all the time of the Mg. of Worship, and was obliged to leave the other Meeting, and went to John Spences were I took up my quarters and were I was good care taken of, and met with every thing necessary for my present situation. At 6 in the evening was our Meeting for Ministers and Elders which held about 1 hour and a half, all our members attended except Isabella Brearey who had been long indisposed I thought it was a profitable meeting many mouths being opened therein in suitable advice and testimony. The Queries were read and Answers to the 2<sup>nd</sup>. and 4<sup>th</sup>. prepared approved and Signed and directed to be laid before our Quarterly Meeting for Ministers and Elders. Also the advices to Ministers and Elders were read. On 15<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week I breakfasted at William Leathams, and went from thence to Joseph Wetheralds were I took a little refreshment before I set out to Meeting. The meeting for Worship began at 11 o'clock, and was pretty large, After a long time of silence my mouth was first opened in a short testimony from 2 King: C: 6. v. 26, 27. Help, my lord, O king. And he said, if the Lord do not help thee, whence shall I help thee? out of the barn floor; or out of the wine press. John Yeardley next a longer time from Psalms 55. v: 6. Oh that I had wings like a dove; for then I would fly away and be at at rest. Afterwards John Bottomley had a long time, Isai: C: 33. v: 13. Hear ye that are far off, what I have done, and ye that are near acknowledge my might. At the close of this meeting was our Monthly Meeting for discipline the affairs which were amicably transacted to the solid satisfaction of the rightly exercised; amongst other things, the Queries directed to be answered this quarter were read and answers received and read from all our Preparative meetings viz. Pontefract, Barnsley, Highflatts, Ackworth, Wakefield and Wooldale. A General answer was prepared therefrom, approved and Signed in order to be laid before our ensuing Quarterly Meeting. Both meetings held upwards of 4 hours after which I din'd at William Leathams and afterwards went to Mark Breasers of Alverthorp got there about 5 o'clock were I lodg'd. On 16<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, I left here about 9 o'clock in the morning Mark Breaser accompanied me about 1 mile, and then return'd I went by Ossett to Dewsbury, got there about 11 o'clock, and din'd at William Wass's before dinner I went and sat a little with Mary Armitage. After I had done my business with William Wass I went to George Breareys were I took up my quarters. On 17<sup>th</sup>. and 4<sup>th</sup>. of week, I intended returning home but was so very unwell that I kept house most part of the day. After dinner I went to see Morritt Matthews, I had not spoke to him for upwards of 2 years, never since his case for misconduct was laid before the Monthly Meeting he keeping himself quite at a distance from me and many other friends, but now believing that he was a little different, I felt a desire to draw near to him, and accordingly went under no little exercise of mind not knowing what the event might be, when I drew near the house all fear was removed believing the Master was gone before me,. He received me kindly and shook hands with me very friendly, invited me to sit down in his parlour, I had no objections but on account of my health, I thought perhaps some other time I might, We then shook hands and parted, and I was truly glad I went to see him, and more so in believing that if he keep

low and humble, there is some hopes of his being restored unto his first love. I returned to my quarters, and in my way thither called and sat a little at John Fozards. On 18<sup>th</sup>. and 5<sup>th</sup>. of week, I set out intending to reach home, but the river was so out in the road by the heavy rains which fell in the night, that it was quite impossible, and so was obliged to return, and it being their weekday meeting I attended it; It began at 10 o'clock, and was unto me a very remarkable time, when I went in there was only one person in the meeting and afterwards there came 12 more so that 13 attended besides myself; some being prevented by the floods. As soon as I took my seat my mind was eminently overshadowed with divine presence, and I was favoured to sit as under the shadow of the Lords heavenly wing experiencing his fruit to be sweet unto my taste, in a state of solemn awful silence for upwards of an hour and afterwards had a pretty long testimony to bear from Sam: C: 3. v. 22, 23. It is of the Lords mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning; great is thy faithfulness. After meeting I din'd at William Wass's, and returned to my quarters and I think I should be wanting in gratitude if I did not here acknowledge the great care and kindness manifested to me by this family during my indisposition at this time. On 19<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> of week, I left here about half past eight in the morning Jonathan Brearey a young man who attained his 20<sup>th</sup>. year on the 17<sup>th</sup>. Inst accompanied me many miles; his company was very agreeable our conversation tending to edification. We came by Thornhill, Mugmill and Flockton to Flockton.mill, were we parted Jonathan Brearey returning home and I called at my cousin Alexander Hampshires were I stopt about 1 hour and din'd, then came by Emley to Charles Blackburns of Laneside were I stopt about half an hour and took a little refreshment, then came to Skelmanthorp were I called to see Thomas Archer and sat a little with him and then came by Cumberworth home were I got about half past 4 o'clock, and felt better than I expected, having been much better in health to day than any other day since I left home.

Copy of a Letter from a young Woman to her Parents respecting  
a visit from the Emperor of Russia etc

Amberstone 26<sup>th</sup>. 6<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1814

Dear Parents

I must date my letter the 26<sup>th</sup>. although it is the 27<sup>th</sup>. I write it but being a day I shall ever remember as the most remarkable of my life; for on that day I received a shake of the hand of an Emperor and, and the kiss from the grand Duchess of Oldenburg. But I must begin my story at the beginning, I am so delighted I hardly know how. On 7<sup>th</sup>. day Nathaniel Rickman told me that the Emperor was coming here shortly to embark at Dover, but he did not come till first day, on Thursday morning we planted ourselves at the front gate, and shortly after we saw a great number of foreign carriages. Those in them bowed to us. but they were of no consequence till the King of Prussia came with his two sons. The King bowed to us. Then we found the remainder would not come past for some time, so we went to dinner. After dinner Nathaniel Rickman said he should like to go to Horsebridge as there were crowds of people there, but I said we should not be half so much noticed in the crowd, and it was so much more respectable to be seen at home, little thinking who we should entertain, We then returned to our post, and walked about before the house till we might see some of the Carriages coming. There was one come and a person told us to look for the Emperor in the next who we looked for, and there was a Lady in it who I directly knew to be the Duchess. The Emperor was looking at a Map. He raised his eyes to look at us, and immediately called out "halt halt." The carriage stopt and he jumped out, and came towards us with the air of a gentleman, and inquired if we were Quakers? We said yes, and was it a Quaker house? We replied it was, might they see it? Nathaniel said certainly; Art thou not the Emperor? he said I am the man. He then turned round to the Duchess, and said "oui,oui" which signifies yes yes.

She immediately got out of the carriage and held out both her hands to Mary Rickman and me, in the most engaging manner, and said, "how do you do? And I am glad to see you," the Emperor then shook hands, took hold of Mary Rickmans and led her indoors; and the Duchess took hold of Nathaniel Rickmans arm: they came into the best parlour, had some wine, cake and fruit, asked Mary Rickman how many children she had, and if I was her child, and if she did the housekeeping herself? They went into the back parlour and kitchen, and said - "How many it is." The the Duchess wished to go upstairs, and turning to Nanthaniel said, "come see come." The Emperor took Mary Rickmans arm and went into the best bedroom, he said "this is for your visitors, which your room?" expecting no doubt to find something different; they went into it, and the school room; and said "how neat it is" then down into the best parlour again where I had time to examine their countenances, and I think I never saw one in whose face everything good was more observable. Open and generous, polite in his manners, and affectionate in his address, of a light complexion, rather sandy hair with light blue eyes full of expression. When the wine was handed him, he enquired if it was home made, and he was much pleased on being informed it was, as he did not take anything strong. The Emperor and Duchess have so won our hearts that I am sure we shall never forget them. He is a very handsome well made man. But when they arose to take leave of us what shall I compare it to? I do not know, unless to fond Parents taking leave of their children for it could not be more affectionate. The Emperor kissed Nathaniel Rickmans and the Boys cheeks, and Mary Rickmans, the Girls and my hands, but said "perhaps this is not your custom; we don't wish to do anything that is not." The Duchess kissed our lips and the girls and shook hands with Nathaniel. They both wished us goodbye and Farewell. The Emperor turned round just before he got into the carriage and said "remember me to your Brothers and Friends; we are going into Russia it is a long way but you will not forget us;" we assured him we should not: I am sure I never shall. He enquired Nathaniel and Mary Rickman as names. They both speak English and understand it very well indeed. The Emperor was dressed in a plain brown coat of English make, and the Duchess in a lustre gown and shawl put on just as we wear them; a bonnet, and feathers half a yard high, of the Russian make. But their coachman was the drollest looking man I ever saw, he had a long beard; I gave him some ale, he took a brush and brushed the dust of his beard, patted his breast, and bowed, before he drank. I also gave the Prince Regents servants some ale. They said we had such an honour done us, that thousands would have given hundreds of pounds to have had. After the Emperors carriage stopped, several others went past among which was the Duke of York and the Ladies that attended the Duchess to Meeting. The Duke ordered the carriage he was in to stop, and rose as if he intended to alight, but did not. The foreign carriages of the ugliest things I ever saw for such great people. Many greet us with pleasure, and say, we must be very happy in receiving such illustrious visitors. I suppose you will see it in the newspapers, it is to be in the Lewes next week. I expect many will not believe it, several have already called to know it from ourselves. "Farewell." I shall always use that word because they did, (the Emperor and Duchess I mean) I remain your affectionate daughter

Mary Ann Deane.

The Emperor when in London was desirous of seeing a Tan yard, and appointed a day for that purpose, it of course put those that owned the one he was to see, in great haste to set it off to the best advantage - but it suiting the Emperor better to go the day before, the one they had appointed, he went and found them making great preparation for his reception, but he told them he did not wish it, for he had rather see it as it was; accordingly the men were all drawn up in a line without their hats, except one, who vexed his Master so much that he was obliged to tell the Emperor he was a Quaker, and they never take off their hats to any one; the Emperor replied "is he? I'll go and speak to him." He went to the poor man, and said: come give me your hand," which he did not like to do as it was dirty, but the Emperor said "never mind that" and shook him heartily by the hand. The poor man was so delighted that he could not work all the day after.

Memorandum. On the 11<sup>th</sup>. of the 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo: 1818 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, John Pickford dropt a few words in much brokenness of spirit in an Meeting at Highflatts, being the first time his mouth was opened in our meeting for Worship. I was not favoured clearly to see whether it was in the line of ministry; or as an exhortation from an Elder in which station he had been for some time; but it was certainly attended with that baptizing Power which evidently manifested that it proceeded from the fountain of Life. The meeting held long in silence and my mind had been singularly exercised therein, and the following words or nearly so, had repeatedly run through my mind with great Power. "Shall I bring to the birth, and not cause to bring forth? saith the Lord." After John Pickford sat down, John Bottomley had a long testimony to bear, and afterwards myself reviewing the beforementioned words from Isai: C: 66. v: 9. informing friends how my mind had been repeatedly impressed therewith in the time of silence, and now believing it right I was made willing to communicate them for the encouragement of those unto whom they might belong, and afterwards was unexpectedly opened and led to speak to different states, and I thought the meeting closed comfortably.

Memorandum. Wakefield Monthly Meeting 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 19<sup>th</sup>. 1818. I left home to attend our Monthly meeting to be held at Wakefield the 18<sup>th</sup>. of ye 1<sup>st</sup>. mo: 1818 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week betwixt 8 and 9 o'clock in the morning having my dear friend Charles Unsworth for my companion throughout this journey; We went by Cumberworth and Skelmanthorp to Charles Blackburns of Parklane were we stopt upwards of half an hour and took a glass of wine and then proceeded by Emley to Middlestown, were we din'd at George Horburys stopt upwards of an hour and then proceeded, George Horbury set us a little on our way and then return'd, soon after we parted a heavy shower came on which obliged us to take shelter at the Ship Inn at Horburybridge were we got 6 pennyworth Rum and water, stopt about half an hour and then proceeded to Ossett, got there about 3 o'clock and took up our quarters at David Pickards. There being three young men who within the last two years have manifested something of convincement by attending our religious meetings, and who live in this village and having noticed them at our last Monthly meeting at Wakefield, I had since often thought of them and felt drawings upon my mind to pay them a visit, and being inform'd of my being at David Pickards, came here and spent the evening with us, their names are Thomas Milner, Peter Hewitt and Mark Philip, also David Pickards son George attends meetings duly on first days with his father and at present appears hopeful. In the course of the evening we were drawn into solemn silence and favoured with a precious heavenly opportunity together in which I had two long testimonies to bear the first from Mark C: 10. v: 17. Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life, and the other from 1 Cor: C: 12. v: 7. The manifestation of the spirit is given to every man to profit withall. I had to encourage them to faithfulness, that they might not only be favoured to stand their ground but grow in the Truth, and was truly thankful for the present opportunity, and that I was strengthened fully to relieve my mind of what opened to their different states, and hope what was communicated may be profitable unto them. On 19<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week we left Ossett at about quarter past 9 o'clock in the morning and reached Wakefield in about one hours time, were we rested us a little at Joseph Wetheralds and took a glass of wine, then went to the meeting for Worship which began at 11 o'clock, and the day being fine it was large, and through divine favour proved a solemnising time for many minds, and the Lord was pleased to give the word and ability to publish the same to mutual edification. Isabella Harris had a pretty long testimony therein first from 133 Psalm Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity. It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aarons beard; that went down to the skirts of his garments: as the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descends upon the mountain of Zion; for the Lord commanded the blessing even life for ever more. I next from John C: 4. v: 22 Ye worship ye know not what. John Bottomley next from Rev: C: 15. v: 3. Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty: just and

true are thy ways thou King of Saints. At the close of this meeting was our Monthly Meeting for discipline. That which rightly qualifies to conduct the business thereof with propriety felt to me to be low; so that the cases which came before the meeting in general was long and tedious in concluding, but through deep and patient weeding, Truth so far favoured as to settle them I believe in the wisdom thereof. Both meetings held upwards of 3 hours and a quarter. After which we din'd and drunk Tea at John Spences and afterwards called and sat a little at Ann Thorps, and then had a pleasant moonlight walk up the valley to Christopher Walkers of Dircar, got there betwixt 7 and 8 o'clock in the evening were we lodg'd. On 20<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, we left here betwixt 9 and 10 o'clock in the morning in company with John Bottomley, and came by Crigglestone and Bretton to Emley were we called and rested us at the White.horse and got some spirits and water, paid 1s and then proceeded when we had got a little further on our way we parted with John Bottomley; and came to my cousin Charles Steads of Siver.Ing were we din'd and stopt upwards of 2 hours and then cousin Charles Stead setting us a little on our way and then return'd, and we came to my nephew Robert Woods of Moorbottom were we drunk Tea and stopt betwixt 2 and 3 hours, and got home betwixt 8 and 9 o'clock in the evening.

Memorandum            Barnsley Monthly Meeting 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo: 16<sup>th</sup>. 1818 I left home ye 15<sup>th</sup>. of ye 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mo: 1818 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week betwixt 8 and 9 o'clock in the morning Charles Unsworth being my companion this journey We went by Dykeside and Dakinbrook to Ellin Waltons were we rested us about an hour, and then proceeded by Cawthorn to Barnsley were we got about 1 o'clock, and din'd at William Harveys, and afterwards went to Robert Harrisons were we drunk Tea. At 5 o'clock we attended their afternoon meeting which was enlarged by friends come to attend the Monthly meeting to be held here tomorrow, and several of other Societies came in. It proved an open favoured meeting, the power of Truth eminently overshadowing us. I had a long testimony to bear therein first from 1 Cor: C: 9. v: 24. So run that ye may obtain. Isabella Harris next concerning Sauls disobedience to the Lords command in not utterly destroying Amalek but sparing the best of the things under a pretence of doing sacrifice therewith unto God whereby he lost his Kingdom. Thomas Shillitoe a long time next from 2 Cor: C: 5. v: 1. We know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. I next from Gen: C: 22. v: 8. God will provide himself a lamb for the burnt offering. At the close of this meeting was held our Meeting for Ministers and Elders, the Queries were read and considered and Answers thereto prepared approved and Sign'd; and directed to be laid before our ensuing Quarterly Meeting of Ministers and Elders by our representatives. Some other business came under our consideration and after solid conference thereupon it was agreed to lay the cases before the Monthly Meeting. Both meetings held 4 hours. After which I took a little refreshment at Robert Harrisons, and then we went to Thomas Yeardeleys were we took up our quarters. On 16<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, the Meeting for Worship began at 11 o'clock, It was not so large as usual, there having been a large fall of snow, succeeded by a Thaw which had made to the road extremely bad, but it proved an open satisfactory meeting Thomas Shillitoe had a long testimony to bear therein first from Eze: C: 3. v: 31. They come unto thee as the people cometh, and they sit before thee as my people. John Bottomley next from Psalms 34. v: 50. The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, and his ears are open to their cry. Thomas Shillitoe had a pretty long time next from Matthew: C: 6. v: 10. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven. At the close of this meeting was our Monthly Meeting for discipline opened, the Men are Women friends continuing to request to sit together, I first mentioned my concern to have a few meetings with the inhabitants of some places within the compass of our own Monthly Meeting and one in other borders thereof, which after solid consideration the meeting left me at liberty to move therein as my way of might open. James Harrisons appearances in the work of the ministry

came next under consideration, when after solid conference upon the subject the meeting came to the conclusion to defer at present acknowledging him as a Minister. John Yeardeleys appearances in the work of the Ministry came under consideration when many testimonies of friends unity therewith was borne and the meeting concluded to recommend him as a Minister in unity. After the Men and Women friends separated, we proceeded upon the further business of the meeting. The friends appointed last month to prepare a Certificate for John Bottomley of our unity with his concern to pay a religious visit to friends in Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire Quarterly Meeting etc produced the same, which was read approv'd and Signed by the meeting at large. Also the friends under whose care the cases of Henry Soulbly was left on his application to become a member of our Society reported that they had visited him a second time and found no objections to his admission in their minds, and the meeting concurring in judgment therewith he was admitted accordingly. The Queries were also read and Answers thereto received and read from all our Preparative meetings viz. Pontefract, Barnsley, Highflatts, Ackworth, Wakefield and Wooldale. and a General Answer was prepared approv'd and Signed in order to be laid before our ensuing Quarterly Meeting. In answer to the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Query it appeared that there was some little appearance of convincement in Wakefield Meeting since last year, and that two persons had been admitted into membership thereby. 1 in Barnsley and 1 in Wakefield meetings. Some other business was gone through, and mostly agreeably conducted. Both meetings held 5 hours and a half. After meeting I din'd at Robert Harrisons, and drunk Tea at Frances Yeardeleys, and then returned to my quarters. On 17<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, we breakfasted and din'd at Robert Harrisons, and in the afternoon went and sat a little at Susanna Alletsons and took a glass of wine. About 1 o'clock we left Barnsley James Arthington Wilson kindly accompanying us about 3 miles, the wind was uncommonly high which made it very difficult getting along but James assisted me in all his power after he return'd we came to Cawthorn were we stopt at Thomas Wests near 4 hours and drunk Tea then came to Ellin Waltons were we rested a little, and then proceeded by Dakinbrook and Denby home were we got about half past 9 in the evening.

Memorandum            On ye 4<sup>th</sup>. of ye 1<sup>st</sup>. mo: 1819 Mary Bayldon of wife of William Bayldon of Barnsley departed this Life and was buried in friends burial ground at Burton ye 8<sup>th</sup>. of the same and 6<sup>th</sup>. of the week aged about 39 years. I left home ye 7<sup>th</sup>. of ye 1<sup>st</sup>. mo: 1819 and 5<sup>th</sup>. of the week, having received an invitation the evening before to attend the burial. I called at John Bottomleys of Wood, were I sat a little, and left there about 9 o'clock in the morning, and went to Joshua Morleys of Dykeside, were I had to call, they were just sitting down to breakfast when I got there, and I took a cup of Tea with them. John Harrison the Independent preacher of Nethermill Chapel near Peniston was there. I have never been in his company before but found him a very open free man, and I believe a religious character. I spent about an hour with him in agreeable conversation after breakfast; and then proceeded by Dakinbrook, when I got near Ellin Waltons it began to rain whereupon I called there, but it continuing and appearing likely to be wet throughout the remainder of the day after sheltering sometime, I set out and went to Thomas Wests of Cawthorn were I stopt near 2 hours and din'd, then proceeded and was overtaken upon the road by John Bu.. Priest of Cawthorn, I have met him several times before at Thomas Wests, and he always appeared particularly social and free with me, and I understood expressed to them a partiality for my company, he appeared glad to seem me now and took my pace, and being free and open in conversation it made the way seem less tedious to us in passing through the rain which continued heavy all the way. We got to Barnsley betwixt 3 and 4 o'clock in the afternoon, and I drunk Tea at Frances Yeardeleys, and afterwards went to William Bayldons were I stopt about 1 hour and took a glass of wine, and then went to Thomas Yeardeleys were I took up my quarters. On 8<sup>th</sup>. and 6<sup>th</sup>. of week, in the morning I went to William Bayldons Coffee and Tea were provided for the company, and afterward Wine and Biscuits was handed for those who chose. The

Corps was taken up and borne to the Meetinghouse to Barnsley by friends and the meeting began at 11 o'clock, The larger end of the Meetinghouse was nearly filled with People, and the greater number were People of other Societies. The occasion was solemn, and it brought a good deal of solemnity over the Assembly which was considerably increased by the overshadowing of the heavenly wing, so that I believe it may be said, it was an eminently favoured meeting, and I hope many were profited thereby. I had a long testimony to bear therein first from John C: 1. v: 17. The law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ. Isabella Harris next from Prov: C: 27. v: 1. Boast not thyself of tomorrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth. She was next concerned in Prayer, and afterwards I had a pretty long testimony from John C: 11. v: 28. The master is come, and calleth for thee. When the meeting was over A hearse was ready to convey the Corps to Burton and 4 pair of Post.Chaise to take the Relations and a few particular friends in thither. Leonard West, Isabella Harris and myself went in one, when we reached Burton a great number of country People collected in the Grave.yard, and after the corps was put in the Grave a solemn silence ensued, and a precious opportunity we had with the People in which Isabella Harris had a pretty long testimony to bear first from Gen: C: 3. v: 19. Dust thou art, and unto dust thou shalt return. and afterwards myself from John C: 11. v. 25, 26 I am the resurrection and the life, he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he delivered. And whosoever liveth, and believeth in me, shall never die. After this opportunity we returned to Barnsley were we got about 3 o'clock to William Bayldons. At Table before we din'd Isabella Harris had a short supplication towards evening I went and sat a little at Frances Yeardeleys and then went to my quarters, several friends came to see me in the evening, and John Wood slept with me both nights. On 9<sup>th</sup>. and 7<sup>th</sup>. of week, I went to James Arthington Wilsons of Redbrook to breakfast, and Robert Harrison accompanied me thither. I left Redbrook a little after 10 o'clock in the forenoon, James Arthington Wilson accompanied me to Cawthorn and then return'd. I called at Thomas Wests were I din'd, and stopt betwixt 2 and 3 hours, and then came to Ellin Waltons were I sat at a little, and then came by Dakinbrook and Dykeside to John Bottomleys of Wood were I drunk Tea, and got home betwixt 5 and 6 o'clock.

Memorandum            Wakefield Monthly Meeting 1<sup>st</sup>. mo. 18<sup>th</sup>. 1819. I left home ye 17<sup>th</sup>. of ye 1<sup>st</sup>. mo: 1819 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week betwixt 9 and 10 o'clock in the forenoon to attend our Monthly meeting to be held the next day at Wakefield, Charles Unsworth being my companion this journey. It was an high wind, accompanied with very heavy showers of rain, so that to me the journey to day was very fatiguing and harassing to the body; we went by Cumberworth to Skelmanthorp, were we sheltered some time at Jonathan Archers, and then proceeded to Charles Blackburns of Park Lane, stopt there about half an hour and took some refreshment then went by Emley to Bretton were we sheltered sometime at Michael Buckleys, and then proceeded through heavy rain all the way by Crigglestone to Dirtcar were we got betwixt 3 and 4 o'clock in the afternoon and lodg'd at Christopher Walkers. In the evening the family was collected to read the Scriptures and after each of the servants had read a chapter silence ensued, and I had pretty long testimony to bear from Job C: 32. v: 8. There is a spirit in man, and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding. On 18<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, After breakfast we went to Wakefield, sat a little at Ann Thorps, and then went to the meeting which began at 11 o'clock, It was much larger of friends than I expected, considering the late very boisterous weather, and this morning was very stormy but cleared up and was fair the remainder of the day but a high wind continued; also several People of other societies attended, and I had a long testimony to bear therein from Prov: C: 3. v: 5. Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not to thine own understanding. At the close of the meeting for Worship, was the Meeting for discipline, amongst other business which came before the meeting, Isabella Harris and my report on our visit to the Prisoners in the house of correction

at Wakefield was read, and ordered to be recorded and the meetings satisfaction therewith expressed by minute. Also John Spence of Wakefield Meeting was cleared from all other engagements relating to marriage except with his friend Deborah Smith of Thirsk Monthly Meeting, a notification thereof was sent to the friends of said meeting unto whom the further care therein, and the accomplishment thereof was referred. Also James Poulter of Wakefield Meeting was cleared from all other engagements relating to marriage except with his friend Hannah Perry of Reading and Warborough Monthly meeting; the friends of said Meeting were informed thereof by a Certificate unto whom the further care therein and of the accomplishment thereof was referred. Both meetings held about 3 hours after which we din'd at John Spences, and after dinner I went and sat a little at William Leathams, and afterwards at Mary Awmacs who had buried her husband about a week before, we then came to Christopher Walkers of Dircar, and got there about 6 o'clock were we lodg'd. After Tea we went and sat a little at William Pickards, and then returned, spent the remainder of the evening very agreeably in the family William Halliley a young man of a genteel family in Wakefield, having had a good education and was well read, and being of a serious thoughtful disposition, who had been here sometime to be instructed in farming; his company and conversation was particularly agreeable and entertaining to us. On 19<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week we left here about 9 o'clock in the morning and came by Midgley and Emley to cousin Charles Steads of Siver. Ing were we stopt about 1 and a half and din'd, then came to my Nephew Robert Woods of Moorbottom, stopt there about an hour and a half and drunk Tea, and got home about 6 o'clock the same evening the day having been fine, and frosty the walk was very agreeable.

Memorandum          Barnsley Monthly Meeting 3<sup>rd</sup>. mo: 15<sup>th</sup>. 1819. I left home to attend our Monthly meeting the 14<sup>th</sup>. of ye 3<sup>rd</sup>. mo: 1819 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, betwixt 9 and 10 o'clock in the morning, having Charles Unsworth for my companion; we went by Dykeside, Dakinbrook and Cawthorn to James Arthington Wilsons of Redbrook were we din'd: stopt betwixt 2 and 3 hours and then proceeded to Barnsley, got there a little before 4 o'clock were we drunk Tea at Robert Harrisons, and then went to their afternoon meeting which began at 5 o'clock; It was considerably enlarged by friends who were come to attend our Monthly Meeting, and amongst the number we were favoured with the company of our beloved friend John Yeardeley of Settle Monthly Meeting; and also many of other Societies attended, I thought in the early part thereof, the Masters presence was near, and was in hopes we should have been favoured to experience Truth to a have reigned gloriously over all. But alas! this glory was greatly eclipsed by the very unseasonable attendance of many, the People friends and others, keeping coming in nearly the whole of the time, which caused heavy labour to the rightly exercised, that the spring might be kept open, which was mercifully experienced in some measure through all obstructions. In the early part thereof I had a pretty long testimony to bear from 1 Tim: C: 4. v: 8. Godliness is profitable unto all things; having the promise of the life that is now and of that which is to come. Near the close Charles Unsworth dropt the following sentence Pet: C: 4. v: 18. If the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and sinner appear. This was his first Publick testimony to the Truth, and I thought was attended with the savour of Life. Afterwards I had several remarks to make to the People of the loss the meeting had sustained by the unseasonable attendance of many, and to express my desire that it might be avoided in future. After which Isabella Harris expressed her unity with the remarks which had been made, and added many others intermixed with suitable advice; both of us having had to stand pretty long. At the close of this meeting was held our Meeting for Ministers and Elders It was small but comfortably owned with the divine presence, three of our number being prevented from attending viz. Robert Whitaker and Wife, and Isabella Brearey. The Queries were read and Answered, and Answers prepared and approved, and directed to be taken to our ensuing Quarterly Meeting by our representatives.

Both meetings held above 3 hours and a half, After which I took some suitable refreshment at Robert Harrisons, and then we went to our usual quarters at Thomas Yeardeleys. On 15<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week the meeting for Worship began at 11 o'clock, the day being remarkably fine it was largely attended by friends and a few people of other Societies came in, It was a good meeting the Lords power being eminently manifested amongst us, to the tendering of many of our spirits. James Harrison had a pretty long testimony to bear therein first from Matt: C: 6. v: 10. Thy will be done. Isabella Harris had a long time next from Matt: C: 20. v. 6, 7. Why stand ye hear all the day idle? They say unto him, because no man hath hired us. John Yeardley had a pretty long time next from Zech C: 14. v: 26. Every pot in Jerusalem and in Judah shall be holiness unto the Lord of hosts. I had a long time next from Matt: C: 5. v: 4. Blessed are they that mourn for they shall be comforted: John Yeardley had a pretty long time next being opened upon sundry subjects, intermixed with pertinent advice, and concluding with expressing his satisfaction in being favoured once more to sit and feel with his former friends. At the close of this meeting was held the meeting for discipline which in the general was very agreeably conducted, best help being mercifully near, amongst other things, John Yeardley produced a Minute of Settle Monthly Meeting expressive of their concurrence with his concern to pay a religious visit to the families of friends in Barnsley Meeting, and others who usually attend there, which was read and minuted, and the meetings satisfaction expressed therewith, and with his company. Also William Pontefract of Wooldale Meeting and Sarah Haigh of Highflatts Meeting laid before us their intentions of taking each other in marriage. Also the Committee appointed to visit William Sykes a young man who had attended Pontefract meeting several years, and sometime ago applyed to be admitted a member of our Society reported they had visited him a second time and was satisfied in respect to the sincerity of his conviction: the meeting after solid consideration agreed to admit him into membership with us. Also the Queries were read and Answers thereto from all our Preparative meetings viz. Pontefract, Barnsley, Highflatts, Ackworth, Wakefield and Wooldale. In Answer to the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Query it appeared, there was some little appearance of conviction since last year in Wakefield Mg. and that 3 persons had been admitted into membership thereby. viz. 1 in Pontefract, 1 in Barnsley, and 1 in Highflatts meetings. A General Answer was prepared, approved and Signed, and directed to be taken to our ensuing Quarterly Meeting by our representatives. Both meetings held 5 hours. After which I returned to Robert Harrisons to dine, and went to my quarters to Tea, spending the evening very agreeably there in company with many friends. On 16<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, today my beloved friend John Yeardley entered upon his arduous engagement of visiting families in this meeting, I stood resigned to accompany him if my way should clearly opened thereto, believing it would be particularly acceptable unto him, but the more I looked at it the more my way seemed to close, so I gave it up. And Hannah Harrison having a concern to go to some of the families concluded to unite with him throughout, and I believe the Lord had separated her for the service, and her husband James Harrison concluded to accompany them. We breakfasted together this morning at my quarters, and before we arose from the Table we had a precious opportunity together in which I had the language of encouragement to communicate unto them in a pretty long testimony from Deut: C: 32. v: 10. He led him about he instructed him, he kept him as the apple of his eye. After taking a solemn Farewel of my much beloved friends I came to William Taylors were I stopt about an hour and a half, and before I set took a little refreshment; I left Barnsley about 11 o'clock, and came by Higham to Cawthorn were I din'd at Thomas Wests, stopt there betwixt 2 and 3 hours, and then came to Ellin Waltons, were I drunk Tea, stopt upwards of an hour, then proceeded by Dakinbrook and Denby to Highflatts were I spent the evening at John Firths and supp'd, and got home a little after 9 o'clock.

Memorandum            On the 9<sup>th</sup>. day of the 4<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1819, departed this life at Newhouse in Denby Leah Kinsley, widow of Anthony Kinsley of Skelmanthorp, and was buried in friends burial ground at Highflatts on 11<sup>th</sup>. of the same, and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week aged about 76 years. On the day of her internment a few Relations and near Neighbours were invited to Breakfast, and at the close of our week.day meeting information was given to friends of her decease, and that such as inclined to accompany her corps to the Grave their company would be acceptable, and a great number did attend, which testified to their respect to the deceased. We had a very solemn opportunity by the Grave, after the corps was put in, I had a short testimony to bear from the Gen: C: 3. v: 19. Dust thou art, and unto dust thou shalt return. After the internment we attended the meeting which as usual began at 11 o'clock and held upwards of 2 hours a considerable number of People of other societies attended so that the Meetinghouse below stairs was pretty well filled. It was a very open good meeting, the Lords power eminently overshadowing us to the tendering of many minds, Martha Dickinson dropt a few words therein first, I had a long testimony to bear next from 1 Tim: C: 6. v. 6, 7, 8. Godliness with contentment is great again. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and raiment let us be therewith content. Charles Unsworth had a short time next from 2 Tim: C: 4. v. 7, 8. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, and I have kept the faith: henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day; and not to me only, but unto them that love his appearing. I was next concerned in Prayer, and afterwards had a long time in testimony from John C: 10. v. 4 and 5. When he putteth forth his own sheep, he goes before them and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice. And a stranger they will not follow. I think it right to add the following brief memorial concerning her. She was the daughter of James and Rachel Hallawell of Low-Cumberworth, and married Anthony Kinsley of Skelmanthorp where they resided until his decease. Afterwards she removed from thence to Newhouse in the 4<sup>th</sup>. mo 1809, and lived there 10 years until the time of her decease. She was religiously inclined from very early life and when very young joined the Methodist Society, and continued a member in good esteem amongst them for many years; but being dissatisfied in her mind she left them; and for many years joined herself up unto none, But went amongst any as her mind was inclined, but continued dissatisfied, but resolved not to leave seeking until she found the Truth. In the year 1779 a number of friends had a Publick Meeting at Skelmanthorp, which she attended, and therein was fully convinced of the Truth of our religious Principles, she clearly saw that the People called Quakers were the people with whom she ought join, and being obedient unto the heavenly vision, she became a diligent attender of our religious meetings not only on first but on other days of the week, altho' situated at a considerable distance therefrom, and having many difficulties to encounter, being in low circumstances in Life, yet she was a bright and shining example of patients, meekness, and unfeigned Love of the brethren, never murmuring nor repining at her situation, but manifesting that contentment in the allotment of providence which is indeed the greatest gain. In process of time she appeared in a few words in our religious meeting in exhortation, and continued in the exercise of her gift to the satisfaction and edification of friends; the last time she appeared therein at our Meeting at Highflatts was in much brokenness and tenderness of spirit, and was unusually enlarged therein, and tho' I have no remembrance of the words, but the power attending them will not easily be forgot by many. From this time indisposition increasing upon her, she was pretty much confined to her house yet continued to attend our family sitting, and at times to edify us with the exercise of her gift. About 3 weeks before her decease her disorder increased very much upon her, and her pain of body was very great, yet divine support was near, and enabled her to bear affliction with exemplary patience: but the extremity of her pain was such, that she said not much but evinced that her trust and confidence remained strong and unshaken in the Lord. At one time she expressed her concern that so many of the professors of the Christian religion remained so much in the activity of Self in their religious performances, altho' it might be with a well meant zeal for their own, and the good of others; and the loss they sustained for want of waiting upon the Lord for the



Still must thy neck support the load,  
     Still earn thy bread with toil;  
 Still must thou pace the self same road,  
     And great ones shared the spoil.  
 The Ass may carry brooms or men,  
     Just as his Masters will;  
 But let him change, and change again,  
     His lots a burden still.  
 Still Ministers will tyrannize,  
     And Courtiers still be Knaves;  
 Tyrants on Tyrants shall arise,  
     And keep thy Grandsons slaves.  
 Still governments have been the same,  
     The same shall ever be;  
 Ev'n a Kings are nothing but a Name,  
     And so is liberty.

Memorandum      Barnsley Monthly Meeting 4<sup>th</sup>. mo 19<sup>th</sup>. 1819. I left home ye 18<sup>th</sup>. of ye 4<sup>th</sup>. mo: 1819 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week about 9 o'clock in the morning, having Charles Unsworth for my companion, we went by Denby and Gunthwaite to Richard Priests of Broad.oak, were we din'd, stopt about 3 hours and a half, and then proceeded by Elmhirst, Bankshall and Higham to Barnsley were we got a little before 4 o'clock, and drunk Tea at Robert Harrisons. Their afternoon meeting began at 6, It was enlarged by friends who were come to attend our Monthly Meeting to be held here the next day, and a number of People of other societies came in, I had a long testimony to bear therein first from 1 Cor: C: 2. v: 11. What man knoweth the things of man save the spirit of man which is in him? even so things the things of God knoweth no man, but the spirit of God. Charles Unsworth a few words next from Isai: C: 5. v: 20, 21. Wo unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter. Wo unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight. Afterwards I had a pretty long time from Isai: C: 13. v: 5. Fear not: for I am with thee. After meeting we took a little refreshment at Robert Harrisons and then went to Thomas Yeardeleys were we took up our quarters. On 19<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, After breakfast we went and sat a little at George Alletsons, and William Harveys, and afterwards took a little refreshment at Robert Harrisons; and went from thence to the meeting which began at 11 o'clock, and tho' mostly select of such as usually attend our meetings, it was very large, open and satisfactory, we had the company of one Stranger viz. John Thistlethwaite of Leeds, and altho' he had nothing to communicate unto us, the Lord making use of Instruments when it pleaseth him, and in a way he seeth best, sending by whom he will, yet his company was very acceptable, and helpful in a silent labour and travail of spirit. I had a long testimony to bear therein first from Matt: C: 12. v: 42. The queen of the south shall rise up in the judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: for she came from the uttermost parts of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and behold a greater than Solomon is here. John Bottomley had a pretty long time next from Cant: C: 2. v: 14. Sweet is thy voice, and thy countenance is comely. John Robinson next from 1 Pet: C: 1. v: 25. The word of the Lord endured for ever. William Wass next from Acts C: 24. v: 25. As he reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix trembled, and answered: Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for me. Charles Unsworth a short time next from Isai: C: 41. v: 10. Fear thou not; for I am with thee, be not dismayed for I am thy God; I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness. At the close of this meeting the Men and Women who were members of our Society were requested to stop a little together, when I

spread before them a concern which had been for some time upon my mind to pay a religious visit to friends in some parts of Lincolnshire, the city of Norwich and the county of Norfolk and to have some meetings in the Counties in going and returning from thence, and also a few meetings with the inhabitants of some places as way may open. Many friends expressed their unity with my concern, and was opened with the language of encouragement to me, and the meeting left me at liberty to proceed therein and appointed Robert Whitaker, James Harrison, John Donbavand and James Wigham to prepare a Certificate for me, and produce the same at our next meeting. Afterwards George Brearey informed the meeting of his prospect of accompanying me on the said visit, and the meetings unity therewith was expressed by Minute. The Women friends then withdrew, and the Men proceeded upon the further business of the meeting, a great deal came before us to day which was very agreeably conducted; amongst other things William Pontefract of Wooldale meeting, and Sarah Haigh of Highflatts meeting were cleared from all other engagements relating to marriage; and left at liberty to accomplish theirs when they and Highflatts friends should see meet. Also John Thistlethwaite junr. a member of Brighouse Monthly Meeting, and Margaret Walton of Ackworth Meeting laid before us their intention of taking each other in marriage. Both meetings held 3 hours and a half. After which we din'd at Robert Harrisons, and after dinner Charles Unsworth set out for home, and I went to William Bayldons to Tea and after Tea returned to my quarters were many friends came to spend the evening with me and John Wood tarried all night and slept with me. On 20<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week. I breakfasted at William Taylors and it coming on heavy rain I spent the afternoon there in company with the family and James Harrison and his wife who were likewise weather bound. After dinner being under the necessity of getting home tonight I left Barnsley and William Taylor accompanied me to Redbrook, we had a very wet walk thither, were we stopt and drunk Tea at James Arthington Wilsons, and it continuing very wet James kindly proposed to company me in his covered cart; accordingly we left his house betwixt 5 and 6 o'clock and Charles Smith one of his men came with us to drive the carriage, we called and stopt a little at Thomas Wests of Cawthorn were we took a glass of Rum and Water, and then proceeded by Dakinbrook to Netherdenby, when the rain abated; and we concluded for James's Man to return home with the cart and James and me walked by Dykeside to Newhouse were we got about 8 o'clock in the evening.

Memorandum            On the 22<sup>nd</sup>. day of the 4<sup>th</sup>. mo: 1819, and 5<sup>th</sup>. day of the week; were married at Highflatts; William Pontefract of Thurstonland, and Sarah Haigh the daughter of the late Samuel Haigh of Highflatts. Joseph Firth, myself, Mary Mallinson and Mary Firth were appointed by the Monthly meeting to see that the marriage was orderly conducted; and we all attended; The meeting held on the occasion began at 11 o'clock and held 2 hours; more friends attended than usual on week days, and a number of people also came in, Martha Dickinson in the early part thereof kneeled down in supplication. I had a long testimony to bear therein from Hos: C: 14. v: 9. Who is wise, and he shall understand these things prudent? and he shall know them? for the ways of the Lord is right? and the just shall walk in them: but transgressors shall fall therein. Afterwards I had a few words more. The friends next took each other in marriage, and betwixt that and the reading of the Certificate there was a long and very solemn time in silence, in which those who had been engaged in a close exercise and travail of Spirit was favoured to know a ceasing from their labours, and a sitting as under the shadow of the Lords heavenly wing; experiencing his fruit to be sweet to their taste. After the Certificate was read, I had a few remarks to make upon the beforementioned comfortable state which I believed a remnant had been favoured to enjoy renewedly, pressing others to endeavour after the same attainment. When the Certificate was signed the meeting broke up in an orderly manner, and those who were invited went to Mary Haighs the brides mothers were we din'd and drunk Tea, and after Tea the new married couple set out for his house, and the rest of the company for their respective habitations. I called and sat a little at

Elihu Dickinsons of Millbank and leaving there I overtook our Neighbour Mary Mallinson upon the road very ill being suddenly seized with a violent pain in her side, which brought on a difficulty of breathing, and walking. I assisted her all in my power in getting home, and stopt a little at Birdsedge, and then came home, were I got about 8 o'clock in the evening

Memorandum            On the 28<sup>th</sup>. of the 4<sup>th</sup>. mo: 1819 and 4<sup>th</sup>. day of the week were married at Brighouse, Richard Wormall of Mouldgreen near Huddersfield: and Margaret Lees, a daughter of James Lees a Brighouse in Rastrick.

Charles Unsworth and me being invited attended the said marriage, and I having a little business by the way left home the 27<sup>th</sup>. of ye 4<sup>th</sup>. mo: and 3<sup>rd</sup>. day of the week betwixt 7 and 8 o'clock in the morning, being the day after I attained the 69<sup>th</sup>. year of my age: In my way to Shepley I was entertained with the notes of the Cuckow for the first time this year. I stopt a little at cousin Joseph Walkers, and my beloved friend Joseph Firth of Lanehead called upon me here he being going to Huddersfield market, we walked together to near Thurstonland, were I had business, which having finished, I went to William Pontefracts, he and his Wife were both from home, but I stopt and spent near an hour very agreeably with his son Eleazar an hopeful young man, and after getting a little refreshment, proceeded to John Issotts of Ladyhouse were I din'd After dinner George Gill a neighbour of his came to see me, and invited me to his house I understood he was in the 27<sup>th</sup>. year of his age, and the son of a Methodist Preacher, he also having been a zealous active member of that Society but attending a meeting I had at Parrack near Huddersfield he was convinced of the Truth, (upwards of a year ago,) as professed by us, and tho' for sometime he halted as betwixt two opinions yet finding no peace to his troubled mind but thro' obedience, he left the Methodist Society and joined with friends in their meeting, and altho' he met with much opposition from his former professors and his Wife, yet he hath hitherto been able to stand his ground faithfully, and I was comforted and edified in his company. I stopt at both houses upwards of 2 hours, and then set forward John Issott setting me a little on my way, went by Newsom to Lockwood were I called at Joseph Whalleys, stopt upwards of 2 hours and took Tea there, and then went by Huddersfield to Mary Horsfalls of Greenhouse were I got betwixt 6 and 7 in the evening and lodg'd there. On 28<sup>th</sup>. and 4<sup>th</sup>. of week Charles Unsworth got here betwixt 7 and 8 o'clock in the morning and was my acceptable companion the remainder of this journey. We left here about half past 8 o'clock, and went by Netherroidhill and Rastrick to James Lees's of Brighouse, got there about half past 9 were we rested about half an hour, and then went with the company to the meeting which began at 10. Robert Smith of Shepherdsthorn, who had been a member of our Society and continues to attend meetings having a child about 3 years of age deceased, had obtained leave of friends to bury it here to day, and got here in time to inter it before meeting, this with abundance of People of other Societies whom perhaps curiosity induced to attend to day increased the meeting very considerably, so that the house was well filled, and chamber very much crowded; It proved a solid satisfactory meeting to the comfort and edification of some, and reaching the pure witness of Truth in the minds of many. I had a long testimony to bear therein first from Luke C: 2. v. 29, 30, 31, 32. The Lord now letteth thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word. For mine eyes have seen the salvation, Which thou has prepared, before the face of all people; a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy People Israel. Charles Unsworth a short time next from Isai: C: 30. v: 15. In quietness, and in confidence shall be your strength. The friends next took each other in marriage, John Bottomley had a pretty long time in testimony next from Jer: C: 10. v: 23. It is not in man that walketh to direct his steps. Mary Cooper had a long time next from Man is born to die. John Bottomley next in Prayer. Afterwards I had a pretty long testimony from 2 Cor: C: 6. v. 17, 18. Come out from among them, and be separate saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you; and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty. The marriage Certificate was next read

and in the early part of the Signing thereof, I had to exhort to the People to endeavour to keep as much as possible in the stillness that the solemnity might be preserved which many had been favoured to experience not only until the meeting broke up, but in their returning therefrom, and had to express our satisfaction with their commendable behaviour hitherto, and desire that it might continue throughout the day. The meeting held 3 hours, after which we return'd to Joseph Lees's to dine, at Table before we ate I was concerned in supplication. We spent the afternoon very agreeably in the company of friends and after Tea went to John Kings were we lodg'd. On 29<sup>th</sup>. and 5<sup>th</sup>. of week, It being their weekly meeting at Huddersfield, we felt our minds inclined to attend it and John King kindly accompanied us thither, and conveyed us in his carriage, which proved a great favour to me being more unwell than usual to day. We left his house about half past 7 o'clock in the morning and came to William Coopers of Fixby hall, were we stopt near 2 hours, and took a cup of Tea. He had a Cow which about 2 weeks ago calved him three female calves which they are intending to breed they all appear lively and very fine calves, I thought them a very pretty sight; and do not remember ever hearing of such a thing before. From thence we went directly to the meeting which began at 11 o'clock, 33 persons beside ourselves attended 4 of whom were under convincement. It was a good meeting, the Masters presence mercifully overshadowing us. I had a long testimony to bear therein first from Deut: C: 32. v. 9, 10. The Lords portion is his people; Jacob is the lot of his inheritance. He found him in a desert land, in the waste howling wilderness; he led him out he instructed him, he kept him as the apple of his eye. Charles Unsworth then had a short time next from Matt: C: 22. v: 4. Many are called but few are chosen. I next a longer time from Prov: C: 3. v. 5, 6. Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not to thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. After meeting we took leave of our kind friend John King, and came to dine at John Fishers of Springdale A little after 3 o'clock we left here and came to Joseph Whalleys of Lockwood were we sat a little, and then came by Newsom to John Issotts of Ladyhouse were we stopt about 1 hour and a half and drunk Tea, then proceeded John Issott and George Gill accompanying us a considerable way, and then return'd, we came by Farnley and Shepley to Joseph Firths of Lanehead were we stopt about 1 hour and took some refreshment; and got home about 10 o'clock in the evening.

Memorandum Pontefract Monthly Meeting 5<sup>th</sup>. mo: 17<sup>th</sup>. 1819 I left home the 14<sup>th</sup>. of ye 5<sup>th</sup>. mo: 1819 and 6<sup>th</sup>. day of the week about 9 o'clock in the morning I went by Dykeside and Bagden to Hoyland were I call to see Mary Fisher an ancient, poor and pious woman with whom I spent about half an hour very comfortably, and then proceeded to Kexbro' to Richard Scorahs of Barguh.mill were I stopt about 1 hour and a half and din'd, then proceeded, and had a very pleasant walk on the banks of the canal to Joseph Listers of a Bleachhouse were I called to see his Wife who had been thought to be dangerously ill, but I found her considerably better. I stopt with her about half an hour and then went to Barnsley, got there betwixt 3 and 4 o'clock in the afternoon, were I drunk Tea at Robert Harrisons, afterwards stopt a considerable time at George Alletsons and took a glass of wine, and then went to Thomas Yeardleys were I lodg'd. Several friends hearing of my being in a Town came and spent the evening with me, and John Wood tarried all night and slept with me. On 15<sup>th</sup>. and 7<sup>th</sup>. of week, I went to Samuel Cowards of Holemill to Breakfast, Left there betwixt 9 and 10 o'clock in the forenoon, Samuel Coward accompanied me about 3 miles and then return'd, we called to see Mark Walker of Stonyhill, he had been a remarkable wild youth but attending a friends meeting at Burton when a ministering friend was there in the course of her religious visit to the meeting in these parts; something she had to say in testimony so reached unto him, that from that time forward a very visible alteration took place in his conduct, and in process of time he began to attend friends meetings and I understand is measurably convinced of the Truth of our religious principles. We did not meet with him at home but his Wife, (who also

attends meetings) received us kindly, we stopt there about half an hour, and then proceeded by Cudworth to Shafton were I stopt about 2 hours at the Widow Sykes's and din'd then went by Hemsworth to Ackworth, got there betwixt 3 and 4 o'clock in the afternoon, and took up my quarters at the School. After Tea I went and sat a little at Robert Grahams. On 16<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week, I went by Hundhill to Benjamin Jowitts of Carlton 3 miles to Breakfast, and after breakfast Benjamin Jowitt junr. walked with me to their meeting at Pontefract which began at 11 o'clock, 35 persons attended. I had a long testimony to bear therein from John C: 7. v: 17. If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine. Afterwards I had a short time from Gal: C: 6. v. 9. Let us not be weary in will doing; for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. After meeting I din'd and drunk Tea at Mary and Elizabeth Johnsons, Afternoon meeting began at 4 o'clock, and 33 persons attended, I had a long testimony to bear therein from Job: C: 33. v. 14. God speaketh once yea, twice, yet man perceiveth it not. Afterwards I was concerned in Prayer. I felt much relieved by attending the meetings here to day, and I believe many were profited thereby, different states being opened and spoke to in the authority of the gospel. This evening I went to John Leathams were I took up my quarters. On 17<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, our Monthly meeting was held here to day; in the morning I went to Breakfast at Barbara Priestmans, and from thence went to Ann Harrison's were I tarried until meeting time. The meeting for Worship began at 11 o'clock and I thought was very large, both ends of the Meetinghouse being well filled, and many upstairs, and altho' it was attended with close exercise, upon the whole it was a satisfactory meeting. Elizabeth Preston had a few words therein. I had a long time next from Jer: C: 45. v: 3. Wo is me now; for the Lord hath added grief to my sorrow; I fainted in my sighing and I find no rest. Barbara Priestman a short time next from Cant: C: 2. v. 7 I charge you, O ye daughters of Jerusalem, by the roes, and by the hinds of the field, that ye stir not up, nor awake my love, till he please. At the close of this was the meeting for discipline the business of which was agreeably conducted. Amongst other things the friends appointed to prepare my Certificate for my intended visit produced the same which was read approv'd and Signed, and delivered to me Also John Thistlethwaite junr. of Brighouse Monthly Meeting, and Margaret Walton of Ackworth meeting were cleared from all other engagements related to marriage and left at liberty to accomplish theirs when they Ackworth friends see meet. Both meetings held 3 hours and three quarters. This afternoon I drunk Tea at Joseph Johnsons and in my return to my quarters, called and sat a little at Thomas Firths and took a glass of wine. On 18<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, I breakfasted at Mary and Elizabeth Johnsons, were Charles Unsworth called to see me, being on his way to go Knottingley for Lime; afterwards I went and sat a little at John Archer and at James Wighams, and din'd at Thomas Firths. About 3 o'clock in the afternoon I left Pontefract, came by Featherstone, Acton, Warmfield, Agbride and Sandal to Dirtcar got there a little before 7 o'clock were I lodg'd at Christopher Walkers. On 19<sup>th</sup>. and 4<sup>th</sup>. of week, I felt uncommonly weary before I arose, and being under the necessity of going to Dewsbury, and being desirous to reach home to day, I concluded it was altogether impossible for me to accomplish it. I left here betwixt 8 and 9 o'clock in the morning, and had an agreeable walk, being strengthened beyond my expectation, up the valley by Horburybridge to Dewsbury, got there about half past 10 o'clock were I stopt about half an hour at John Fozards, and then went to George Breareys were I din'd. After dinner I called upon Mary Armitage, stopt a little with her, and then went to William Wass's, were I sat some time and before I set out took a little refreshment. Left Dewsbury a little past 3 o'clock, it was very heavy and looked like rain, the friends were very pressing upon me to stop all night, but I felt most easy to try to reach home, William Wass set me on my way near 1 mile, and then return'd, when I got near Bristfield it came on heavy rain, I called there and took shelter for sometime but it continuing heavy I proceeded, and came to Kirkburton were I stopt about half an hour and got some refreshment at the George paid 9d, and then came by Shepley to Joseph Firths of Lanehead were I stopt about half an hour and took a little refreshment, and got home about 9 o'clock, and to my humbling admiration felt less weary than in any days travel in this journey. Surely it was the Lords doing and marvellous in my eyes.

Memorandum        On the 2<sup>nd</sup>. day of the 9<sup>th</sup>. mo. 1819, departed this life my Brother Daniel Doncaster of Sheffield, in the 63<sup>rd</sup>. year of his age and was buried in friends burial.ground at Sheffield the 9<sup>th</sup>. of the same and 5<sup>th</sup>. of the week. I set out from home to attend the burial the 8<sup>th</sup>. of the 9<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1819 and 4<sup>th</sup>. day of the week, betwixt 12 and 1 o'clock, John Firth of Highflatts kindly offering me his carriage to assist me a little, and Charles Unsworth accompanying me with one of my horses to drive and bring the carriage back, we went by Ing.Birchworth, Oxspring, Thurgoland, and Wortley to Grennaside, were we refreshed ourselves and horses, at the Red.Lyon, paid 11d, stopt upwards of half an hour, and then Charles Unsworth to leave of each other he returning home, and I proceeded on foot to Wadsleybridge, and Owlerton to Sheffield were I got about 7 o'clock, and on considering that on the present occasion my Sister Doncaster would be full of company I went directly to William Wrights were I was kindly accommodated with a Bed, during my stay at this time in Sheffield. On 9<sup>th</sup>. and 5<sup>th</sup>. of week, After breakfast I went to my Sister Jane Doncasters, and found her better than I expected, bearing the final separation from an affectionate and endeared husband with true christian fortitude. The friends of the Town, and the neighbours were invited for 9 o'clock, Chocolate, Bread and Butter, and Biscuits were handed around, for those to partake of that chose. The corps was put in a hearse at the time proposed for setting off; and 3 Coaches were prepared to convey the family, and us Relations, we set forward about quarter before 10, The streets from the house to the Meetinghouse were crowded with an immense quantity of people who behaved with great decency and decorum and I observed as we rode along, that many countenances were expressive of sorrow on the present solemn occasion he being a Man much beloved and generally respected by all ranks of People in the Town. After a short pause by the Grave, the body was committed to the ground, and soon after we retired into the Meetinghouse. The meeting began at 10 o'clock, and Balby Monthly Meeting being held here in course at the same time, it increased the number of friends considerably, and a very great number of People of other societies attended, so that the meeting was uncommonly large, and a great solemnity appeared to cover the whole, It being a time of extraordinary favour. Ellin Cockin had a long testimony to bear therein first from 1 Pet: C: 1. v: 24, 25. All flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of the grass, the grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth way; but the work of the Lord endureth for ever. I next from Job: C: 14. v. 1, 2. Man that is born of a Woman is of few days, and full of trouble. He cometh forth like a flower, and is cut down; he fleeth away as a shadow, and continuous not. Mordecai Casson next from Prov: C: 16. v: 1. The preparations of the heart in man, and the answer of the tongue is from the Lord. Ellin Cockin next from John C: 10. v. 4, 5. When he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and they follow him; for they know his voice. And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him; for they know not the voice of strangers. James Harrison had a pretty long time next from Luke C: 17. v: 21. The Kingdom of God is within you. I had a short time next from 2 Thes: C: 3: v: 5. The Lord direct your hearts into the love of God, and into the patient waiting for Christ. Rachel Rowntree was next concerned in Prayer. At the close of this meeting the Men and Women friends, members of our society were requested to stop a little together when the Monthly meeting for discipline was opened, when Ellin Cockin and Mary Tricket delivered in the Minute received from this Meeting last month, authorising them to pay a religious visit to the families of friends in Mansfield and Nottingham Monthly Meeting, which they had performed except to the particular Meeting of Derby, and informed this meeting that they had been favoured to go through what they had in prospect so as to be favoured in their return with the reward of peace; which was minuted and the meetings satisfaction expressed therewith. The Women friends then withdrew and the Men proceeded with the business of the meeting. They had a great deal came before them to day which was very agreeably conducted; amongst other things the Queries were read, and Answers thereto received and read from all their Preparative meetings viz. Doncaster, Sheffield, Thorn, and Woodhouse, and a general Answer was prepared approv'd and Signed and directed to be laid before the ensuing Quarterly Meeting.

Also Henry Smith of Doncaster laid before this meeting his intentions of marriage with Maria Robson a member of Hardshaw West, Monthly Meeting in Lancashire. Also the concern of Hannah Kilham of Sheffield of going to reside for a time at Sierre Leona in Africa with a view for the religious instruction of children there, which had been long under the consideration of friends; came very weightily under the consideration of this meeting, and much sympathy was expressed with her, and at length it was agreed to give her a Certificate simply to this effect, mentioning the place of residence, that she was a member of the Society of the People called Quakers; was in reputable circumstances, and with consistant conduct with her religious profession, and was Signed in and behalf of this Monthly meeting by many friends. I understood the vessel she was to go in, was to sail the forepart of next month. Both meetings held 5 hours and a half. I returned from thence to my Sisters where I spent the remainder of the afternoon. After Tea we closed into silence and had a precious opportunity in which Rachel Rowntree and myself had each a pretty long testimony to bear the language of consolation and encouragement flowed freely unto the Widow under her present trying dispensation, and much suitable counsel and advice was communicated unto the Children, which I sincerely desire may have its desired effect upon each mind; For assuredly I felt much for them at the loss they had sustained by the removal of one of the best Parents. Afterwards I called upon Zaccheus Dyson, George Taggs, and Hannah Kilhams, sat a little at each place, and then got to my lodgings to supper. On 10<sup>th</sup>. and 6<sup>th</sup>. of week I went to breakfast with Mordecai Casson at his son Joseph Broadheads, and before we arose from the Table we had a religious opportunity together in which Mordecai Casson had a short but acceptable testimony to bear. From thence I went to John Broadheads and William Evatts sat a little at each place, and then went to my Sister Doncasters were I spent the remainder of the forenoon very comfortably with the family, and their relations who were unreturned from the burial. Betwixt 2 and 3.clock in the afternoon I left here, James Harrison and his Wife being on a visit to their friends and Relations, he kindly called upon me, and conveyed me about 7 miles in his carriage, And then return'd and I preceded on foot; came by Owlerton and up a very deep narrow valley through which the river Don runs, the sides of the hill for most of the way being beautifully clothed with Wood, but the road being newly covered with stones it was very rough which caused us to get slowly on with the carriage; passed by Hootybridge, Deep.Carr, Unslevinbridge, and Middopstones, to Thomas Earnshaw of Judfield about 13 miles got there betwixt 7 and 8 o'clock were I lodg'd. On 11<sup>th</sup>. and 7<sup>th</sup>. of week left here betwixt 10 and 11 o'clock in the forenoon, Thomas Earnshaw came with me past Cubley a little, and then returned, I called at Peniston at Daniel Broadheads and at cousin William Lockwoods, stopt a considerable time at each place and took a little refreshment, then proceeded to Ing.Birchworth were I sat a little at Thomas Haighs and then came to John Firths of Highflatts were I stopt a long time and took Coffee; got home at a little after 5 o'clock.

Verses taken from Mary Horsfall's needlework

Since I for every idle word must give,  
 A strict account how cautious I should live.  
 It will be safe to let my words be few,  
 Mild and discreet as well as just and true,  
 That little active member called the tongue,  
 May do much good or it may do much wrong.  
 Just as it is employed then let me chuse,  
 The best of words and which are bad refuse.  
 Teach me O heaven to guide my tongue aright,  
 That Idle words may ne'er be my delight.  
 Teach me O Lord that what in hand I take,

With wisdom I accomplishment may make.  
Teach me O Lord ambitious pride to shun,  
That nought may be Misthought, Missaid, Misdone.

Taken from Mary Horsfall Needlework of Greenhouse.

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Memorandum      Ackworth Monthly Meeting 9<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 20<sup>th</sup>. 1819 I left home ye 18<sup>th</sup>. of the 9<sup>th</sup>. Mo: 1819 and 7<sup>th</sup>. of week after breakfast, I called upon of John Pickfords to get shaved; left there the same forenoon betwixt 9 and 10 o'clock and then proceeded to cousin Benjamin Steads of Emley.park were I sat a little, and then went to Charles Steads were I din'd, and little after 2 o'clock Charles Unsworth called upon me here, being my companion this journey; after he had got a little refreshment, we set out and went by Emley and Midgley to Hollingshirst were we met with Thomas Bayldon who kindly took us into his house, were we stopt near 1 hour and a half and took Tea, then proceeded to Dirtcar, and got to Christopher Walkers about 7 o'clock were we lodg'd. On 19<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week this morning cousin Charles Stead junr. called upon us, and a little after 9 o'clock we set out and went to Enoch Gouldthorps of Milnthorp who formerly lived servant with me and is now married and settled here, we tarried at his house about half an hour and then proceeded, when we had got near 1 mile past Walton we parted with Charles Stead he being inclinable to attend Pontefract Meeting, and we went by Crofton, Fowlby, Wragby and Hazle to Ackworth got there about 1 o'clock and took up our quarters at the School. Attended their afternoon meeting which began at 3 o'clock; It was a little enlarged by friends who were come to attend the Monthly Meeting

to be held here the next day, I had a pretty long testimony to bear therein first from Jer: C: 13. v: 23. Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? Then may ye also do good, that are accustomed to do evil. Charles Unsworth a short time next from Isai: C: 64. v: 8. We are the clay, and thou our potter; and we all are the work of thy hand. Afterwards I had a pretty long time from Sam: C: 3. v. 27, 28, 29. It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth, He sitteth alone and keepeth silence, because he hath borne it upon him. He putteth his mouth in the dust; if so be there may be hope. After meeting we went to tea to James Harrisons who now lives at the bottom of School gardens. At 6 in the evening was our Meeting of Ministers and Elders all our members attended except Robert Whitaker and his Wife who were from home and Isabella Brearey. The Queries were read and Answers thereto prepared and directed to be laid before our ensuing Quarterly Meeting of Ministers and Elders by our representatives, several testimonies were born in the course of the meeting which held about 1 hour and three quarters. On 20<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, at 9 o'clock this morning The following friends being a Committee appointed last month by the Men and Womens meetings to consider a suitable number of friends for Overseers met in the Library viz, John Bottomley, Thomas Yeardley, Richard Archard, myself, Isabella Harris, Hannah Harrison, Mary Brook of Shepley and Rachel Snowden. and after the business of this committee was gone through the Womens friends withdrew, and the Men being a Committee appointed to consider of two suitable friends for Clerks, agreed to propose James Arthington Wilson of Barnsley Meeting for Clerk and William Hattersley of Ackworth Assistant who were approved by the Monthly Meeting and appointed accordingly. The Meeting for Worship began at 10 o'clock, and I thought was the largest I had ever known at this place, many friends being obliged to sit in the Loft. I had a long testimony to bear therein first from Psalms 37. v. 1, 2, 3, 4. By the river of Babylon , there we sat down, yea, we wept, when we remembered Zion. We hanged our harps upon the willows in the midst thereof. For they that carried us away captive required of us a song; and they that wasted us required of us mirth, saying, sing us one of the songs of Zion. How shall we sing the Lords song in a strange land. John Bottomley had afterwards a long time, Shewing how careful those were who was about to purchase an earthly inheritance to know that the Title deed was good, and of how much more important it was for us individually to be concerned to know our Title to be good under the inheritance which fadeth not away. At the close of this meeting was held our meeting for discipline, and abundance of business came before it to day which was agreeably conducted amongst other things, the friends appointed last month to prepare my certificate produced the same which was read approved and Signed, and delivered unto me. Also the Queries were read and Answers received and read from all our Preparative meetings viz. Pontefract, Barnsley, Highflatts, Ackworth, Wakefield and Wooldale. and a general Answer prepared therefrom approv'd and Signed in order to be laid before our ensuing Quarterly Meeting. Both meetings held near 5 hours. Friends being mostly returned home, we spent the remainder of the day very agreeably amongst our friends here, went and sat a little at Robert Grahams, and afterwards with Isabella Harris in her room and then returned to the rest of the family. Joseph Birkbeck being in Robert Whitakers place, whilst he was gone from home, his company was very acceptable. After supper we had a precious opportunity before we rose from the Table, which was eminently crowned with the divine presence in which Joseph Birkbeck was concerned in supplication and afterwards I had a long testimony to bear. On 21<sup>st</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, we breakfasted at James Harrisons, and Joseph Birkbeck kindly accompanied us thither, stopped until about 10 o'clock, and then we set forward James Harrison walked with us by Hemsworth to Shafton were we din'd at the Widow Sykes's, stopped upwards of 2 hours, and then taking leave of James Harrison and this family we proceeded by Cudworth and Burton.grange, to Samuel Cowards of Holemill were we rested us about half an hour and took a little refreshment, then came to Barnsley were we sat a little at William Harveys, and afterwards drunk Tea at Robert Harrisons. After Tea I took leave of Charles Unsworth he intending to reach home that evening, and Robert Harrison and me went to William Taylors were we sat a little and then came to James Arthington Wilsons of Redbrook got there betwixt 7 and 8

o'clock were I lodg'd. John Wood and Thomas Ball came to spend the evening with us and at the close thereof, they and Robert Harrison return to Barnsley. On 22<sup>nd</sup>. and 4<sup>th</sup>. of week William Taylor came and spent 2 hours very agreeably with us, and then he returned, and I set out towards home, James Arthington Wilson set me on my way 1 mile and then return'd, and I came to Cawthorn were I din'd at Thomas Wests, and stopt betwixt 3 of 4 hours, then proceeded to Richard Priests of Broadoak were I drunk Tea and stopt about 2 hours, then Nathaniel Priest came with me by Gunthwaite to Denby, were he returned, and I came to John Firths of Highflatts were I stopt a considerable time and took some refreshment. Charles Unsworth met me there, and we came home together were we got a little after 9 o'clock.

Memorandum            Wakefield Monthly Meeting, 11<sup>th</sup>. mo: 15<sup>th</sup>. 1819. I left home the 13<sup>th</sup>. of ye 11<sup>th</sup>. mo: 1819, and 7<sup>th</sup>. day of the week, after breakfast, I went to John Pickfords of Parkhead to be shaved, from thence proceeded to my Nephew Robert Woods of Moorbottom were I din'd, here Charles Unsworth met me who was my companion this journey. We left here about 1 o'clock, and went by Shelley, Roydhouse and Bristfield to Dewsbury were we got betwixt 4 and 5 o'clock in the afternoon, and drunk Tea at William Wass's. In the evening we went to George Breareys were we took up our quarters. On 14<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week we attended their meeting in Dewsbury and that in the forenoon began at 10 o'clock and 26 persons attended, It was a very distressing time in the forepart thereof such as I thought I had scarcely ever met with before but ability was received fully to relieve my mind to various states as they were opened. It is a time in which the minds of the people in many parts of the nation are very much unsettled about Political matters, the unwearied enemy hath taken the advantage thereof and by his wiles has drawn many visited minds who attend this meeting into his snares, whereby they have suffered great loss, and some gone from one thing to another until they have been guilty of gross evils, even such as would once have been abhorred by them, whereby they have brought a great reproach upon themselves, and upon the pure Truth. Now before any can minister profitably unto the People, they must be feelingly baptised into their different states, and then if commanded to speak must speak as the spirit giveth utterance; This I believe was the case this day, and I believe the pure witness was reached, in many different states, and O that the convictions felt may not be closed, but may answer the end for which they were sent. I had two long testimonies therein the first from Acts C: 27. v. 31. Except these abide in the ship, ye cannot be saved. and the other from Phil: C: 1. V: 29. Unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake. After meeting we din'd at William Wass's, and after dinner I was concerned in Prayer. Afternoon meeting began at 3 o'clock, 29 persons attended, I had a long testimony to bear therein first from Matt: C: 6. v: 23. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness. Charles Unsworth had a short time next from Isai: C: 26. v: 3. Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee. I next from Numb: C: 23. v: 23. Surely there is no enchantment against Jacob, neither is there any divination against Israel. After meeting we drunk Tea at John Fozard, and Peter Hewitt from Ossett with us whose company was pleasant to us. On 15<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, we set out for Wakefield about 8 o'clock in the morning, called at Ossett to see Thomas Milner were we stopt a little, got to Wakefield about half past 10 were we took Tea at John Spence's. The meeting for Worship began at 11 o'clock, it was very large of friends, but was a very low time and held in silence, except a few words dropt by Elizabeth Woodhead, At the close thereof the Men and Women members of our society were requested to stop a little after others were withdrawn. The meeting for discipline was then opened, and I delivered in the Certificate given me from this meeting in the last 9<sup>th</sup>. mo: and informed friends, that altho' I moved in this visit under a low and discourage state of mind, yet was favoured in the needful time with ability to discharge what I believed to be required of me, so as in my return to feel solid satisfaction in giving up thereto, which was minuted, and the meetings satisfaction expressed therewith.

After which I had a pretty long testimony to bear which was followed by many testimonies from other friends as William Wass, Isabella Harris, Elizabeth Smith of Thirsk, John Bottomley, Isabella Harris again, and Charles Unsworth, and it was a time of extraordinary favour so that from a very low and abased state, we were favoured to abound, and saw the necessity of learning in all states to be content humbly waiting upon him who openeth and shutteth at his pleasure, and none can open acceptably but as he is pleased to unseat the fountain, and then doth his doctrine drop as the dew, and distil as the small rain upon the tender plants, to the refreshment of the whole heritage. The Women friends then withdrew, and the Men friends proceeded upon the further affairs of the society, and a great deal of business came before the meeting to day which was transacted in great harmony and concord. Both meetings held 4 hours and a half. After which we din'd at John Spence's, and called upon William Leathams, and took a glass of wine. Left Wakefield betwixt 4 and 5 o'clock and came by Ossett to Dewsbury in company with George Brearey and Joseph Brearey got there betwixt 6 and 7 in the evening and took up our quarters as before at George Breareys. On 16<sup>th</sup>. of 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, After breakfast we went to William Wass's, and from thence to David Foxs who I believe is rightly convinced of the Truth, having attended friends meetings many years, I much desire his preservation therein, and that he may be kept in the simplicity, and not drawn aside into the present unsettled state of the People, who are craftily seeking to ensnare the innocent. We sat a little at each place, and then Charles Unsworth set out towards home, and David Fox and me set him a little on his way before we parted we had an opportunity with David Fox which tended very much to the relief of our minds, and I believe was profitable to him, the advice communicated being very kindly received. After taking an affection leave of Charles Unsworth, I return'd with David Fox to Dewsbury, were I stopt at William Wass's until after dinner, and then went and sat a little at Mary Armitages and John Fozards, and return'd to my quarters to Tea. On 17<sup>th</sup>. and 4<sup>th</sup>. of week, Having some business with John Ikin who lives near Roberttown about 5 miles from here, I left Dewsbury at 10 o'clock this forenoon and George Brearey kindly accompanied me we went by Mirfield to his house and found him at home, after stopping some time there he came with us about 1 mile to his Attorney one Taylor of Mirfield, when we got there he was gone to Dewsbury, so taking leave of John Ikin we went to the Black.Bull in Mirfield were we got some refreshment stopt about half an hour and then return'd to Dewsbury, George Brearey kindly undertook my business and went to see the Attorney, and I went to William Wass's were I got betwixt 2 and 3 o'clock, and were I din'd, and afterwards drunk Tea at Benjamin Breareys, and spent the evening at my quarters. On Thursday evening Henry Bromley an agreeable youth in the 20<sup>th</sup>. year of his age came to my quarters and spent some time with us, but I seemed quite closed up from conversation and very few words pass betwixt us. On 2<sup>nd</sup>. day evening he came again and we got into conversation pretty freely upon the affairs of this Life, and I found him of a very open free disposition. On 3<sup>rd</sup>. day evening he came again and our conversation turned upon religious subjects and I clearly perceived the spirit of God in mercy was moving upon his unstable mind in order to form a new creation in him, but that this work was impeded by giving way to the present unsettled state of the minds of the People in respect to Political affairs; I advised him to come out of the many things which had only a tendency to unsettle his mind and keep it in a state of confusion and endeavour to get to the one thing needful that he might be favoured to experience a sitting at the feet of Christ, hearing the gracious words which proceedeth out of his mouth, and feeling after ability from him to obey the same, and there would never be at a loss for a teacher. I sensibly felt my words had some place in his mind, and that love increase betwixt us by which the disciples of Christ are known. I understood he attends the Independent meetings. On 4<sup>th</sup>. day evening he came again, and we spent a very comfortable evening together, he stopt all night and slept with me, and we had abundance of conversation together, and fully persuaded I am, the Lord hath a work upon the wheel in him, and earnestly do I desire that this work may not be marr'd, but that he may be so resigned to the divine will as to become us as passive clay in the Lords hand, then I believe he will become a vessel of honour in his house, having the inscription of holiness in legible

characters upon him. We had not much sleep but spent most of the night in profitable conversation, and early the next morning very affectionately took leave of each other for the present. On 18<sup>th</sup>. of 5<sup>th</sup>. of week I set at about 9 o'clock in the morning, Joseph Brearey accompanying me about 1 mile; after he returned on reflecting upon my visit to Dewsbury my mind was covered with thankfulness unto the most high. I went there in fear even unto trembling; but was strengthened to discharge my duty faithfully both in publick and private opportunities as way opened, warning the unruly, comforting the feebleminded and strengthening the weak, and was favoured with a belief that this labour will not be wholly lost feeling now the consoling evidence of peace in my own mind. I came by Thornhill, Mugmill, and Flockton to My cousin Alexander Hampshires of Flockton. mill were I stopt upwards of 2 hours and din'd, then came by Roydhouse, Shelley, and Shepley to my beloved friend John Firths of Lanehead were I stopt about 3 hours and took some refreshment, Charles Unsworth met me here to accompany me home and Joseph Firth came with us as far as Parkhead were he return'd but we called at John Pickfords and stopt about half an hour, and so got home a little after 9 o'clock.

Memorandum            On the 23<sup>rd</sup>. day of ye 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1819, departed this Life Charles Stead of Siver.Ing in Emley; and was buried in friends burial ground at Highflatts ye. 26<sup>th</sup>. of the same and 6<sup>th</sup>. day of the week, aged about 65 years. I did not go to the house, but met the corps at Highflatts, The meeting began rather later than the usual time, and held upwards of 2 hours; It being our weekday meeting day, it was very considerably enlarged by People of other societies who was at the burial, and various states were opened and spoke to in the authority of the Gospel. John Bottomley had a long testimony to bear therein first from Matt: C. 24th. v: 44. Be ye also ready; for in such an hour as ye think not, the son of man cometh. I had a longer time next from Psalms 14. v: 1. The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. John Bottomley was next concerned in Prayer, and afterwards I had a pretty long testimony to bear from Isai: C: 28. v: 1. Wo to the crower of pride, and to do drunkards of Ephraim.

#### On reading Robert Barclays Apology to the true Christian Divinity

If truths divine ever flowed a mortal pen,  
 They'ved flowed from thine; O Barclay best of men.  
 Such sacred truths are urged with so much force  
 Throughout thy solid, and well precompiled discourse.  
 With what a strength of Elocution fraught,  
 What easy language, and what depth of thought,  
 Ah! how the whole, and the christian shin'd  
 While sense and judgment spreads the copious mind.  
 Thy diction clear, thy stile from taint us free,  
 Criticks may pry but can no blemish see  
 Could pride impartial stoop to read the o'er  
 'Twould curb its folly and be proud no more .  
 Truth warmed thy breast indifferent of applause,  
 A dauntless champion in thy Masters cause.  
 Thou issuest forth, when superstition reigned,  
 And when dark souls dark mysteries explained,  
 Ignorance long had traversed Classicks ground,  
 'Till Barclay rose Delusion to confound.  
 He through the Chaos sent the Gospel ray,

And cleared the passage to the realms of Day.  
 O blest instruction for my tender youth,  
 Thou safe Alysium to the court of truth.  
 All transient pleasure lose their fatal force,  
 Subdued by thy all powerful discourse.  
 No longer now I with the thoughtless stray,  
 No longer wanton Debonair and gay.  
 No longer trifling follies can engage,  
 No longer can I mix with a degenerate age.  
 Who follow Phantoms which before them at fly,  
 Mock at their grasp, and in possession die.  
 Let others, such delusiveness pursue ,  
 Far nobler objects imitate by view.  
 These that shall charm when glittering meteors fail,  
 Which time can't vary, fraud nor art assail.  
 But fixt and constant ever will remain,  
 Devoid of sorrow and exempt of pain.  
 And if my soul that distant port should gain,  
 One wish, one only wish, would yet remain.  
 That Barclay there my raptured eyes may meet,  
 To hail me welcome to the blest retreat.  
 Where kindred spirits joy incessant share,  
 Beyond conception, and beyond compare.

#### The Drap Bonnet

Stanzas, occasioned by seeing it stated in the morning Chronicle, that amongst the Ladies assembled in the Egyptian Hall, at a late meeting, for the relief of the poor in Spitalfields, there were a considerable number of the Society of Friends .

They may rant of Costume and brilliant head-dresses,  
     Ala Grogue a la Francis, or what else they will;  
 They may talk of Tiaras, that glitter in tresses,  
     Enwreathed by the Graces, and braided with skill .

Yet when all's said and done, to my eye the drab bonnet,  
     Is loveliest of any, and chief when it wears;  
 Not only the bright gloss of neatness upon it,  
     But beneath the expression, benevolence bears .

Then let fashion exalt in her Vapid vagaries,  
     From her fascinations my favourite is free:  
 Be follies the head Geer that momentarily varies  
     A bonnet of drab is the sweetest to me.

Though stately the Ostrich plume gracefully throwing,  
     Its feathery flashes of light on eye I;  
 Though tasty and turn the straw bonnet when glowing  
     With its ribbands so glossy of various die.

Yet some how or other, tho' none can seem duller,  
     Than a simple drab bonnet to many a gaze;

It is and it will be the favourite colour,  
 Round which with fresh fondness my fancy still plays.

And it well suits my muse with a garland to wreath,  
 And to tell of its Graces with gratefullest glee;  
 For knowing the goodness, that oft lurks beneath it,  
 The bonnet of drab beats a turban with me.

Full many a rare gem, the poet hath chanted,  
 In the depth of the Ocean, flings round him its sheen;  
 And many a flower, its beauties unvaunted,  
 Springs to life, sheds its perfume, and withers unseen.

And well do I know that the Sisterhood numbers,  
 Array'd in the Livery which Coxcombs disprove;  
 Forms as fair, as e'er flashed from a Poets sweet numbers,  
 And faces as lovely as ever taught love.

This I know and have felt, and thus knowing and feeling,  
 A recreant minstrel I surely should be;  
 If my heart felt attachment and fondness concealing,  
 The bonnet of drab were unhonoured by me.

I have bask'd in the blaze of both beauty and fashion,  
 I have seen these united with gifts rich and rare;  
 And crowned with a heart which could cherish compassion,  
 And by sympathy soften what sorrow must share.

Yet acknowledging this, as I can do sincerely,  
 Still the highest enjoyment this bosom e're new;  
 The glance it still treasures, the fondest and dearest;  
 Beamed from under Bonnet of drab colour'd hue.

'Twas my pleasure and pride, it has pass'd and has perish'd,  
 Like the track a ship in the dark heaving sea;  
 Yet its loveliness lives, its remembrance is cherished,  
 And the bonnet of drab still seems lovely to me.

Burnett Barton

Memorandum Wakefield Monthly Meeting 12<sup>th</sup>. mo: 20<sup>th</sup>. 1819 I left home ye. 18<sup>th</sup>. of ye 12<sup>th</sup>. mo: 1819, and 7<sup>th</sup>. day of the week, after breakfast, and went to John Pickfords of Parkhead to be shaved, then proceeded by Cumberworth and Skelmanthorp to Charles Blackburns of Parklane where I din'd; here Charles Unsworth met me by appointment, and now became my companion, we left here betwixt 1 and 2 o'clock and came by Emley to Bretton where we rested us a little at Michael Buckleys, and then went by Crigglestone to Dircar got there about 5 o'clock and took up our quarters at Christopher Walkers. The roads were extremely bad it having been a sharp frost and deep snow and having begun to Thaw the day before and the snow continuing to go fast, the water run much in the Lanes and filled the brooks, but we got forward better than expectation. On 19<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week, After breakfast we went to Wakefield, sat a little at Ann Thorps and then went to Meeting which began at 11 o'clock, It was a large meeting the friends of Dewsbury attending here to day, and several

people of other Societies came in. I had a long testimony to bear therein first from 1 Kin: C: 18. v: 21. How long halt ye between two opinions? If the Lord be God, follow him; but if Baal then follow him. Charles Unsworth had a short time next from Isai: C: 5. v. 20, 21. Wo unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter. Wo unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight. Afterwards I had a pretty long time from Isai: C: 42. v: 16 I will bring the blind by a way that they knew not; I will lead them in paths that they have not known; I will make darkness light before them, and crooked things straight, these things will I do unto them, and not forsake them. At the close of this meeting was held their Preparative meeting amongst other business which came before them, the Queries were read and Answered and Answers thereto prepared and Signed, in order to be laid before our Monthly meeting to be held here tomorrow. Both meetings held about 3 hours and a quarter. After which we went to John Spences where we took up our quarters, and from thence to William Leathams where we din'd and returned to John Spences to Tea, At 6 this evening began our meeting for Ministers and Elders which held near 2 hours, all our members attended except John Pickford and Isabella Harris, we were also favoured with the company of our friend Ellin Cockin from Doncaster, before the business was entered upon, Ellin Cockin and myself had each of us a pretty long testimony to bear, The Queries were then read and Answers to the 2<sup>nd</sup>. and 4<sup>th</sup>. prepared and Signed, and directed to be laid before our Quarterly Meeting. Also the advices of the Yearly Meeting to Ministers and Elders was read. This evening we supp'd at George Benningtons. On 20<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week. The meeting for Worship began at 11 o'clock which was the largest of friends I ever saw here and a few people of other societies attended, It proved a time of renewed and eminent favour to the tendering of the minds of many whose states were opened and spoke to in the power of him who searcheth the heart. Ellin Cockin was first concerned in supplication, and next had a long time in testimony from Zech: C: 4. v: 6. Not by might, nor by power; but by my spirit saith the Lord of hosts. I had a longer time next from Jer: C: 6. v: 8. Be thou instructed, O Jerusalem, lest my soul depart from thee lest I make thee desolate, a land not inhabited. Ellin Cockin had a pretty long time next from Psalms 95. v. 7, 8. To day if ye will hear his voice harden not your hearts, as in the provocation, and as in the day of temptation in the wilderness, and afterwards Charles Unsworth from Luke C: 14. v: 27. Whosoever doth not bear his Cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple. At the close of this meeting was held our Monthly Meeting for discipline, amongst other business, The Queries were read and Answers received from all our Preparative meetings viz. Pontefract, Barnsley, Highflatts, Ackworth, Wakefield, Wooldale. A General Answer was prepared approv'd and Sign'd in order to be laid before our ensuing Quarterly Meeting. Also our friend Ellin Cockin produced a Minute of Balby Monthly Meeting expressive of their unity with her and her concern in visiting the families of friends in the Monthly Meeting, which was read and minuted and the meetings satisfaction expressed therewith and with her company here. Both meetings held 3 hours and three quarters. After meeting Charles Unsworth set out immediately for home; and after dinner I set out for Dewsbury in company with my beloved friend William Wass; we left Wakefield about 4 o'clock, and called at Ossett and rested us a little with Thomas Milner, then proceeded and got to Dewsbury about 6 o'clock in the evening, dear Henry Bromley the young man who was convinced the last time I was here hearing of my coming came to meet me and kindly assisted me to my quarters at George Breareys where I had much of his company during my stay there to my solid satisfaction, and he slept with me both nights; I believe he is in a growing state, and great was the exercise of my spirit that he may be preserved travelling forward in that strait and narrow way into which the feet of his mind is mercifully turned, and a secret hope accompanied my mind that this may be his blessed experience. On 21<sup>st</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, being the shortest day I spent it amongst my friends, Having felt a concern to have a meeting with such as usually attended meetings here, and having mentioned it to friends at Wakefield I had their full unity and concurrence therein which I found strengthening to me. My way open to request to their week day meeting might be held this week, and that notice thereof given

unto all who generally attended friends meetings at 6 o'clock this evening, which was readily complied with. This afternoon I drunk Tea at William Wass's. The meeting this evening was pretty fully attended by those on whose account it was principally appointed, and Thomas Milner, Peter Hewitt, Mark Phillips and another man from Ossett was there and several People of other societies came in so that the Meetinghouse was pretty well filled, and it proved a memorable season of divine favour, the Lord was pleased to give the word, and power to apply it to the varied states as they were successfully opened, I believe to the reaching of the pure witness for God in the secret of each heart, and I believe it will be long profitably remembered by many. I had a long testimony to bear therein first from Heb: C: 7. v: 8. He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them. I was next concerned in Prayer, and afterwards had a pretty long testimony from John C: 6. v. 28, 29. What shall we do that we may work the works of God? Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent. The meeting held about 2 hours and a half. After which I went to William Wass's where I took some suitable refreshment, and several friends coming in we had a precious opportunity together in which I was twice concerned in testimony. Afterwards I returned to my quarters. On 22<sup>nd</sup>. and 4<sup>th</sup>. of week I left Dewsbury betwixt 9 and 10 o'clock in the morning, having taken leave of Henry Bromley very affectionately before we came down stairs, leaving him in a favour tender frame of spirit. My much esteemed friend John Joseph Brearey came with me by Thornhill, Brierfield and Denby to Grange.hall where we took leave of each other, he returning home, and I came by Flockton, Roydhouse and Shelley to my Nephew Robert Woods of Moorbottom where I stopt about 1 hour and took some refreshment then came by Cumberworth home where I got a little after 4 o'clock.

Memorandum Wakefield Monthly Meeting 1<sup>st</sup>. mo: 17<sup>th</sup>. 1820. I left home ye 15<sup>th</sup>. of ye 1<sup>st</sup>. month: 1820 and 7<sup>th</sup>. day of the week about 10 o'clock in the forenoon having for my companion Charles Unsworth this journey. We went by Dykeside, and Dakinbrook to Ellin Waltons of Hollingroid where we rested a little, and then proceeded to Thomas Wests of Cawthorn where we din'd; stopt about 3 hours, and then went to Barnsley, got there betwixt 4 and 5 o'clock, and drunk Tea at Robert Harrisons. After Tea we went to William Taylors to see our friends Ellin Cockin and Hannah Harrison who was about concluding their visit to the families in this meeting. We spent most of the evening very comfortably with them, and then we went to sup at Thomas Yeardeleys where we took up our quarters. On 16<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week, we attended their forenoon meeting in Barnsley which began at 11 o'clock, and was pretty fully attended by friends and a few People of other Societies came in, and it proved an open favoured meeting, Ellin Cockin had a short testimony to bear therein first from 1 Cor: C: 3. v: 11. Other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus christ. I had a long testimony next from Acts C: 2. v. 46, 4, 7. They continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart; praising God, and finding favour with all the people, and the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved. Ellin Cockin next from 1 Cor: C: 2. v: 9. Eye hath no seen, nor ear heard, neither hath it entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. Afterwards Charles Unsworth had two short testimony is to bear. At the close of this meeting was held their Preparative meeting. Both meetings held upwards of 2 hours. After which we din'd at William Bayldons, and left Barnsley betwixt 2 and 3 o'clock, went by Staincross, Woolley, Hallgreen and Chapelthorp to Dircar got there betwixt 5 and 6 o'clock where we took up our quarters at Christopher Walkers. On 17<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week After breakfast we set out for Wakefield where our Monthly Meeting was this day held, got there a little before 10 o'clock, and took up our quarters at George Benningtons. Soon after we got here we met with the awfully affecting intelligence of the very sudden removal of our friend John Bottomley who as usual attended a meeting at Highflatts yesterday

and towards the close thereof bore a long testimony to the Truth many friends thinking him more than usually favoured, concluding his testimony with these words from Matthew: C: 25. v: 23. Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make the ruler over many things, enter thou into the joy of thy and Lord. Soon after he sat down the meeting broke up he being suddenly taken very ill, and spoke little more, but was carried in a chair out of the Meetinghouse into the house of our friend Richard Dickinson where every assistance was rendered him in friends power, and medical aid was procured but without the desired effect, he continuing very ill until about 4 o'clock this morning and then he very quietly resigned his breath. The meeting for Worship began at 11 o'clock and was very large our valuable friend Ellin Cockin was here having gone through all the families in our Monthly Meeting except those in Pontefract particular meeting, which she was about to proceed to. This meeting was eminently favoured, the sudden event which had taken place having generally reached the ears of friends, and awfully impressed and deeply humbled the minds of many, they was thereby prepared for the performance of that great duty we were assembled together for. Ellin Cockin had a pretty long testimony to bear therein first from Mark C: 13. v: 37. What I say unto you, I say unto all, watch. I next from Rev: C: 3. v: 20 Behold I stand at the door and knock. If any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. Ellin Cockin next from Deut. C: 6. v. 4, 5. Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is one Lord. And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. Hannah Harrison had a few words next and afterwards Isabella Harris had a long time She first expressed the sympathy she had felt with many whose minds had been deeply affected with the very awful event which had taken place this morning, She then bore testimony to the exemplary life of the deceased from John C: 1. v: 47. Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile. Concluding with exhorting all to endeavour to follow the footsteps of the faithful as they follow Christ. At the close of this meeting was held our Meeting for discipline, the business of which was comfortably conducted, and towards the close thereof John Donbavand and myself had each of us a short testimony to bear. Both meetings held 3 hours. After dinner we went and sat a little at John Spences and afterwards at Ann Thorps, and then came to Christopher Walkers of Dircar, got there about 5 o'clock were we lodg'd. After Tea we went and spent the evening and supp'd at William Pickards and then return'd to our quarters. On 18<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, we set out betwixt 8 and 9 o'clock in the morning, and came to George Earnshaws of Crigglestone were we sat a little, and then came by Bretton, Parkmill and Dykeside to Phebe Bottomleys of Wood got there betwixt 12 and 1 o'clock were we took some refreshment and arranged matters a little for the burial of her husband and then came directly home.

Memorandum            On ye 17<sup>th</sup>. day of the 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. 1820, departed this Life John Bottomley of Wood in Denby, and was buried the 20<sup>th</sup>. of the same and 5<sup>th</sup>. day of the week in friends burialground at Highflatts aged about 60 years. His death was awfully sudden He attended our meeting at Highflatts on the 16<sup>th</sup>. Inst, and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week as usual and towards the close thereof bore a pretty long and lively testimony concluding with an expression which was remarked by many, And soon after he sat down he was taken very ill and spoke very little more, he was taken out of the Meetinghouse in a chair and conveyed to the house of our friend Richard Dickinson where every assistance was rendered him in their power by the family and other friends who attended, and medical aid was procured; he continued until about 4 o'clock the next morning and then quietly resigned his breath. Richard Dickinson and his Wife manifested much kindness throughout the whole and on the day of his burial provided at their house and wholly at their own expense a Breakfast for the company who attended. The friends of our meeting and the Relations, Neighbours and some few particular acquaintance who were invited amounted to upwards of 60, and at the close of the Monthly Meeting information was given to friends of the decease, and it was proposed to bury him on

5<sup>th</sup>. day following the meeting to begin at 11 o'clock. The invitation was for 9 and I in company with Charles Unsworth got there at the time. There had been a deep snow for some weeks before the Monthly Meeting, but since much more had fallen so that it now lay very deep, and the roads were extremely difficult and in some places altogether impossible. But the day proved very fine, and friends came from every meeting in our Monthly meeting, and many of other societies attended and some from a considerable distance which manifested the great regard both friends and others had for the deceased. The corps was taken up at 11 o'clock and borne into the Graveyard by friends after it was put into the grave a solemn silence ensued and I had a short testimony to bear from Rev: C: 8. v: 1. There was silence in heaven for about the space of half an hour. Afterwards we went into the Meetinghouse, and altho' many were prevented attending the meeting by the snow; it was very large and eminently overshadowed by the divine presence to the tendering of many minds. I had a very long testimony to bear therein first from Matt: C: 20. v. 21, 22, 23. Grant that these my two sons, may sit the one on thy right hand, and the other on the left in thy kingdom. But Jesus answered and said, ye know not what ye ask, are ye able to drink of the cup that I shall drink of, and be baptised with the Baptism I am baptised with? They say unto him, we are able. And he saith unto them, Ye shall drink indeed of my cup, and be baptised with the Baptism that I am baptised with; but to sit on my right hand and on my left is not mind to give, but it shall be given to them for whom it is prepared of my father. Charles Unsworth had a pretty long time next from Matt: C: 24. v: 44. Be ye also ready; for in such an hour as ye think not the son of man cometh. Afterwards I was concerned in prayer. The meeting held 2 hours. After the close thereof I gave information that dinners were prepared at my house, at Elihu Dickinsons, Richard Dickinsons and at John Firths junr. for friends who came out of other meetings, and such were desired to go to any of the houses they chose without any further invitation. 10 din'd at my house viz. James Wetherald and George Bennington from Wakefield. Thomas Yeardley and Roberts Harrison of Barnsley. James Willan of Dewsbury. John Brook and Edward Woodhead of Wooldale meeting. and Joseph Firth, Samuel Walker and Charles Stead of our Meeting. I got my beloved friend Joseph Firth to officiate in my place, William Taylor and myself being engaged to dine with the Widow at Wood, She having provided a dinner for some relations and a few particular friends. I got some suitable refreshment at John Firths after meeting, and then went to Wood, after the will was read William Taylor went home, but I stopt Tea and afterwards came to my house with Henry Marsden.

Taken from the Huddersfield paper, of 25<sup>th</sup>. January. 1820

Died, on the 17<sup>th</sup>. Inst. very suddenly, John Bottomley, of Wood, in the Parish of Penistone, in the 61<sup>st</sup>. year of his age, a Minister in the Society of Friends. In the morning of the Lords day, in the meeting at Highflatts, he exhorted his hearers to be so prepared for their final exit, as to be entitled to that blessed sentence "Well done, good and faithful servant; enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." As soon as he had delivered these words, he was seized with an Apoplexy, and was carried out of the meeting to Mr. Richard Dickinsons, where he died about four o'clock the next morning. He has left his friends and neighbours to cherish the remembrance of his virtues, instead of enjoying, as heretofore, the benefit of them in his society.

The above was wrote and sent to the Printer to be inserted in the Paper; by William Raylton Priest of Cumberworth.

The substance of the last testimony delivered by John Bottomley at Highflatts Meeting the 16<sup>th</sup>. of the 1<sup>st</sup>. mo: 1820, being the day before he died; as near as can be remembered by John Kirk junr.

Friends, I have been thinking, and shall be as easy to revive it; That from the youngest to the oldest of us, we have no Lease of our lives; and it will be a dreadful thing for any of us, to behold a setting sun, and our spiritual days work undone; It is shewed unto thee O man, and doubtless O Woman, what is good; May we all so wisely attend thereunto, as to be favoured at the close of our time, to adapt the language. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith; henceforth there is laid upon me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord the righteous Judge will give me at the last day. Friends the Lord is sending his servants to and fro in the earth, and his handmaids from house to house; and what are they sent for. But that a hoof should not be left in Egypts land. I am perswaded the Lord will be clear of the blood of all those who are grown to years of understanding; and his faithful devoted servants will be clear also; and if any perish their blood will be upon their own heads. For it is shewed unto thee, O man, what is good; and what the Lord thy God requires of thee; in order that we might be prepared to receive that blessed sentence. Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things; enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.

Memorandum. Wakefield Monthly Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup>. mo: 21<sup>st</sup>. 1820. I left home ye 19<sup>th</sup>. of the 2<sup>nd</sup>. mo: 1820, and 7<sup>th</sup>. day of the week betwixt 8 and 9 o'clock in the morning and went by Cumberworth to my Nephew Robert Woods of Moorbottom were I rested me about half an hour and then proceeded to cousin Charles Steads of Emley.park were I din'd, stopp'd upwards of 2 hours, and then set out again cousin Charles Stead accompanying me about half a mile. I went by Emley to cousin Alexander Hampshires of Flockton.mill were I stopt about an hour and took a little refreshment, then proceeded by Flockton Mugmill and Thornhill to Dewsbury, got there about 5 o'clock, and drunk Tea at William Wass's. Afterwards I went to George Breareys were I took up my quarters. On 20<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week, I set out about 9 o'clock in the morning in company with Henry Bromley, we went by Ossett to Wakefield, were we got a little refreshment at the Swan with two necks, and then went to the meeting which began at 11 o'clock were we met with our friends James Harrison and Isabella Harris of Ackworth who with me were come to attend our Monthly Meeting to be held here tomorrow, and had felt our minds drawn to be at the meeting here to day. Which was very large, many People of other Societies attending, there being a very considerable openness amongst the people in this neighbourhood and of late to attend friends meetings; This proved to be a time of very extraordinary favour to the tendering of many minds. I had a long testimony to bear therein first from Heb: C: 1. v. 1, 2. God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time passed to the Fathers by the Prophets, Hath in these day last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds. Isabella Harris next from John C: 24. v. 5, 6. Why seek ye the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen: remember how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee. At the close of this meeting was held our Preparative meeting. Both meetings held about 2 hours and a half. After which I din'd and spent the afternoon very agreeably in the company with several friends at William Leathams. After Tea the family and servants were gathered to read the Scriptures, a time of silence ensued, and I had a short testimony to bear. Afterwards I went to George Benningtons were I took up my quarters. On 21<sup>st</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, after breakfast I went and sat a little at Joseph Wetheralds and at John Spences, and took a glass of wine at the former place. The meeting for Worship began at 11 o'clock, and was large considering the unfavourableness of the weather this morning, and we had the company of one Stranger viz. Hannah Broadhead of Leeds. It was a solid satisfactory meeting, I was first concerned therein in supplication, Hannah Broadhead had a pretty long testimony to bear next from Isai: C: 40. v: 31. They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk, and not faint. I had a short time next from Judg: C: 1. v: 15. Thou hast given me a south

land; give me also springs of water, and Caleb gave her the upper springs and the nether springs. Afterwards Elizabeth Preston had a few words. At close of this meeting the Men and Women members of our Society were requested to stop a little together and after the meeting for discipline was opened, I spread before friends the prospect that was upon my mind of attending the next Welsh Half yearly meeting, and visiting the meetings of friends in Shropshire, a few in some other counties, and those within the compass of Balby Monthly meeting in Yorkshire. Also to have a few meetings with the inhabitants of some places as way may open. Many friends expressed their unity and sympathy with me under my concern, and the meeting left me at liberty to proceed as Truth might open the way and appointed Robert Whitaker, James Harrison, Benjamin Jowett junr. and John Archard to prepare a Certificate for the approbation of our next meeting. Highflatts friends then produced a few lines by way of testimony concerning John Bottomley deceased which was read and put into the hands of the following friends who were appointed a committee of this meeting to revise and correct the same, and makes such alteration or additions as may appear to them necessary and produce a fair copy for the approbation of our next meeting viz Robert Whitaker, James Harrison, Benjamin Jowett jnr. and Joseph Firth. The Women friends then withdrew, and the men proceeded upon the business of the meeting which was agreeably conducted. Both meetings held 4 hours and a half. My William Taylor was at this meeting, and now became my companion the remaining part of this journey. We din'd at John Spences afterwards we sat a little at Ann Thorps, and then came to Christopher Walkers of Dirtcar, got there about 6 o'clock were we lodg'd. On 22<sup>nd</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, After breakfast we went to William Pickards were we stopt about 1 hour, and before we set out took a little refreshment, we left Dirtcar about 10 o'clock in the forenoon the roads were very bad, there being some snow upon the ground, and the more as we got nearer home, we came by Crigglestone to Bretton were we rested us a little at Michael Buckleys, and then came by Emley to Charles Blackburns of Parklane, stopt there about 1 hour, and took some refreshment, then having several places to call at about business, we came to Jonathan Archers of Skelmanthorp, and from thence by Lower Cumberworth to John Woods of Dykeside, were I took a little refreshment, afterwards sat a little at Elijah Whitakers, and then came to Phebe Bottomleys of Wood, were I stopt near an hour, and took some refreshment and got home about 6 o'clock in the evening.

Memorandum            On the 27<sup>th</sup>. day of the 2<sup>nd</sup>. mo: 1820 departed this Life Edith Laver Wife of Samuel Laver of Cudworth, and was buried in friends burial.ground at Burton near Barnsley the .. of the 3<sup>rd</sup>. mo: and 5<sup>th</sup>. day of the week, aged about 68 years. She was not a member of our society, but her Husband had long been convinced of the Truth of a religious principles, but had not come as far as to apply to be admitted into membership, and she attended meetings with him whilst of ability of body, but for many years she had been confined to her house through indisposition, and in this time obtained leave of friends to be buried in our burial.ground. Being invited to the burial, I found my mind drawn to attend it and left home for that purpose the 1<sup>st</sup>. of the 3<sup>rd</sup>. mo: 1820, and 4<sup>th</sup>. day of the week about 12 o'clock at noon, and went to Dykeside were I called and sat a little at Joshua Morleys, and then went to Dakinbrook to Ellin Waltons of Hollingroid were I rested me a little and then proceeded to Cawthorn were I stopt about 2 hours at Thomas Wests and then went after taking a little refreshment before I set out to Barnsley were I got a little before 6 o'clock in the evening, and drunk Tea at Robert Harrisons, and afterwards went to my usual quarters at Thomas Yeardeleys. On 2<sup>nd</sup>. and 5<sup>th</sup>. of week, the day was extremely cold and sometimes very stormy, but a Post.Chaise being going from this Town for the Relations, Robert Harrison and myself went in it, we left Barnsley about half past 7 o'clock in the morning and got to Samuel Lavers of Cudworth 3 miles in about 1 hour time were we took a little refreshment, and about 9 o'clock set out with the corps, Samuel Laver and 2 of his nieces went in the Chaise and we

on foot, Several friends met us at Burton, and many of the inhabitants of the village came into the burial-ground, and after the Corps were put into the grave a solemn pause ensued, and I had a pretty long exhortation unto the people being opened from these words.

Prepare O mortals for a future state,  
Repent in time before it is too late;  
Death is a moment full of deadly sorrow,  
Then live to day as ye may die tomorrow.

And after this opportunity the company proceeded to Barnsley it being their Week.day meeting which was a little enlarged by people of other societies who attended the burial. We got to Barnsley in time to warm us well before the meeting, which began at 11 o'clock and held 2 hours, It was but small, but pretty open and comfortable. I had two pretty long testimonies therein the first from Isai: C: 40. v. 1, 2. Comfort ye, Comfort ye my people, saith your God. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned; that she hath received at the Lords hand double for all her sins. And the other from Mic: C: 6. v: 8. He hath shewed thee, O Man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God. After meeting I din'd at William Taylors, drunk Tea at Robert Harrison's and in my way to my quarters called to see Susanna Alletson were I stopt an hour and took a glass of wine. John Wood came to see me both evenings and tarried all night and slept with me. On 3<sup>rd</sup>. and 6<sup>th</sup>. of week, I left Barnsley about 8 o'clock in the morning William Taylor accompanying me upwards of 3 miles and then return'd, we called at James Ardington Wilsons of Redbrook were we breakfasted, stopt there about 2 hours and then proceeded. I called at John Beatson's of Synderhill, he was much pleased to see me, and entertained me very kindly. I din'd and spent about 4 hours very agreeably there, and then came by Tivydale to Ellin Waltons of Hollingroid were I rested me a little, and then came by Dakinbrook and Dykeside to Phebe Bottomleys of Wood were I stopt sometime and took a little refreshment, and got home a little after 7 o'clock in the evening.

#### Taken from Cowderys Manchester Paper

A few days ago died at Richard Dickinsons, Highflatts near Huddersfield, John Bottomley aged Sixty, a Preacher in the Society of Friends. He was taken ill in the Meeting after preaching, and lived but a short time afterwards. Tho' he was not classically educated, or had much of the external polish of a Man of the world; yet his Friends were frequently convinced by his Ministry, that he had a commission from the greater Lawgiver; and probably all who knew him well subscribed to the belief, that as he lived peculiarly innocently, so he was well fitted for the Journey he has taken, to another and a better World.

Memorandum            Barnsley Monthly Meeting 3<sup>rd</sup>. mo: 20<sup>th</sup>. 1820. I left home ye 19<sup>th</sup>. of ye 3<sup>rd</sup>. mo: 1820, and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, betwixt 9 and 10 o'clock in the forenoon, Charles Unsworth being my companion, we rested us a little at Joshua Morleys of Dykeside, and then went by Dakinbrook to Ellin Waltons of Hollingroid, and after resting us a little there we proceeded by Cawthorn to Thomas Englands of Bason, rested us about half an hour there, and got to Barnsley about 2 o'clock, were we din'd at Robert Harrison's and drunk Tea at Frances Yeardeleys. At 5 o'clock we attended their afternoon meeting which was considerably enlarged by friends who were come in to attend our Monthly Meeting to be held here the following day, we had also the company of two ministering friends strangers viz. Thomas Shillitoe from Hertfordshire, and Elizabeth Copeland of Hull, and many seeking People of other societies attended. It was through the fresh extendings of divine regard a favoured and I believe a

profitable meeting unto many. I had a long testimony to bear therein first from Prov: C: 8. v. 34, 35. Blessed is the man that heareth me watching daily at my gates, waiting at the posts of my doors. For whoso findeth me findeth life, and shall obtain favour of the Lord. James Harrison had a short time next. Isabella Harris a long time next from Prov: C: 14. v: 10. The heart knoweth his own bitterness; and a stranger doth not intermeddle with his joy. Afterwards Elizabeth Copeland was concerned in Prayer. At the close of this meeting was held our Meeting for Ministers and Elders, in which the Queries were read and answered and Answers thereto prepared approv'd and Signed, and directed to be laid before our ensuing Quarterly Meeting. This meeting was unusually small there being only 4 of our Meeting there viz. Leonard West, John Pickford, myself and Isabella Harris. The others being chiefly engaged in attending burials which happened this day. At the close of the business Isabella Harris had a short testimony to bear. Both meetings held 3 hours and a quarter. After which we went to our usual quarters at Thomas Yeardeleys. On the 20<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, the meeting for Worship began at 11 o'clock which was large of Friends and several People of other societies attended, The current of life appeared to be much obstructed therein, but the rightly exercised uniting in a travail of spirit, and faithful labour, the stone was mercifully rolled as from the wells mouth, and the flock was watered Elizabeth Copeland had a pretty long testimony to bear therein first from Ex: C: 16. v: 4. Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you; and the people shall go out, and gather a certain rate every day. Isabella Harris had a long time next from Psalms 46. v: 4. There is a river the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God. Charles Unsworth a short time next from Tim: C: 6. v. 6, 7, 8. Godliness with contentment is great again, for we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. After having food and raiment, let us be therewith content. Afterwards I was concerned in Prayer. At the close of this meeting was held the meeting for discipline, and abundance of business was before the meeting to day which was pretty agreeably conducted amongst other things, The friends appointed to prepare my Certificate produced the same, and also those who were appointed to revise the testimony on behalf of John Bottomley etc. Both of which were read approv'd and Signed by the meeting at large. Also the Queries were read and Answers received and read from all our Preparative meetings of viz. Pontefract, Barnsley, Highflatts, Ackworth, Wakefield, and Wooldale. A General Answer was prepared, approv'd and Signed, and directed to be laid before our ensuing Quarterly Meeting. Both meetings held 5 hours and a half. After which we din'd at Robert Harrisons After dinner Charles Unsworth set out for home, and I drunk Tea at William Harveys, and in the evening return'd to my quarters. On 21<sup>st</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week After breakfast I called to see Susanna Alletson and Frances Yeardeley sat a little at each place and took a glass of wine at the former. Betwixt 10 and 11 o'clock left Barnsley and came to James Arthington Wilsons of Redbrook were I stopt some time, and took a little refreshment, then James accompanied me about 2 miles, and after he return'd I called at Thomas Wests of Cawthorn were I din'd and stopt 3 hours, then came to Ellin Waltons of Hollingroid, stopt a little there and then came by Dakinbrook to Denby were I stopt some time at John Priests and took a little refreshment. Afterwards I called at John Firths of Highflatts and Elihu Dickinsons of Millbank and got home at a little after 8 o'clock in the evening and found William Midgley of Buersel near Rochdale, and William Barrow of Lancaster at my house. They having been at our Monthly Meeting at Barnsley and came from thence here this forenoon, stopt with us all night, and set out towards home the next morning after breakfast.

#### The Testimony of Pontefract Monthly Meeting concerning John Bottomley deceased.

This our dear friend was descended from parents in profession with us; and he was born at Woodend in the Parish of Kirkburton on the 21<sup>st</sup>. of the 7<sup>th</sup>. Month, in the year 1759. And in this part of the country, he continued to reside, both before his marriage, which took place

rather late in life, and afterwards to the time of his death. In the early part of his life he widely deviated from the purity of our religious profession, both in conduct, and conversation; but after he attained the age of a young Man, he was favoured with a divine and powerful visitation, to which he happily yielded obedience, and was brought under a long and truly humiliating dispensation; but being sensible that he had deeply sinned, he was made willing to bear patiently the chastening of the Lords hand, and in due time he was favoured with deliverance, and was enabled to rejoice in the Lord, and joy in the God of his salvation. A great change was now apparent to all who knew him, and the innocency of his future life and conversation gained him the general esteem, both among friends and People of other Societies. He became a good example in the diligent attendance of our religious meetings, both for Worship and Discipline; and in the latter he was ever afterwards weightily concerned in spirit about the affairs of the Church might be conducted under the guidance of heavenly Wisdom, and was frequently favoured with the ability to make reasonable and pertinent remarks on the subject under consideration.

In the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Month 1790, and in the 31<sup>st</sup>. year of his age, he first dropped a few words in Publick testimony in the Meeting at Highflatts. He possessed only a small share of human learning; but we were satisfied that he had the superior advantage, of being instructed in the school of christ, wherein he learned humility and self-denial, and gradually experienced a preparation for increasing usefulness in the exercise of his gift. His Ministry we esteemed lively and edifying, and his affectionate labours amongst us, we trust, will be long and profitably kept in our remembrance.

We considered him rightly gifted for the weighty service of visiting families, and he was several times acceptably engaged in that work within his own Monthly Meeting; and when visiting meetings in some neighbouring counties, he was also engaged in the like service, whence accounts have been received of his acceptable labours.

For two or three years preceding the time of his death, his health and strength had been declining; but he was seldom prevented from attending his own Particular Meeting, or the Monthly Meeting, even when held at a distance. On First Day the 16<sup>th</sup>. of the 1<sup>st</sup>. Month 1820, he attended, as usual, the Meeting at Highflatts, apparently in tolerable health; and towards the conclusion of it, he appeared in a lively testimony, beginning with some weighty remarks on the uncertainty of time, and concluding with these memorable words, as applicable to those who had been faithful to the end. "Well done thou good and faithful servant; enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." Soon after he had taken his seat the Meeting was broken up, when he mentioned to a Friend who sat by him, that he was very poorly; and he was almost immediately carried in a chair, to a friends house just by, where he was attended by his Wife, and several near friends, and where medical assistance was early obtained, but without any apparent effect. The attack was considered to be apoplexy, and he soon became speechless, and remained so until the solemn close, which took place about Four o'clock the following morning, when he quietly departed; and we doubt not he was prepared to receive the welcome sentence, "Enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." He was in his 61st year, and he had appeared in Publick testimony about 30 years.

His remains were interred in Friends Burying ground at Highflatts on the 20<sup>th</sup>. of the same Month; and the Meeting which was held on the occasion was a solemn instructive opportunity.

Signed in and on behalf of Pontefract Monthly Meeting, held at Barnsley 20<sup>th</sup>. of 3<sup>rd</sup>. Month 1820

John Mallinson junr.	John Lister
Robert Harrison	Joseph Firth
Hewitson Dearman	Charles Stead
Charles Unsworth	Leonard West
David Stead	Christopher Walker
John Brook	John Pickford
John Firth junr.	John Robinson

Elihu Dickinson	James Harrison
William Bayldon	Joseph Wood
Thomas Yeardley	William Wass
Samuel Pickard	Joseph Walker
John Fozard	Samuel Coward
John Donbavand	William Taylor
John Firth	Robert Wood
William Bottomley	Joseph Johnson

And on the behalf of the Womens Meeting, by Elizabeth Johnson Clerk.

Memorandum      Highflatts Monthly Meeting 6<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 19<sup>th</sup>. 1820. The day before being the 18<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week our Meeting at Highflatts was pretty large several People of other Societies attending. It was in the general a low suffering time with me, but towards the close thereof I was favoured with ability to cast of my burden, having a pretty long and close testimony to bear, which for the present afforded a little relief to my exercised mind from Josh: C: 7. v: 13. Up, sanctify the people, and say, Sanctify your souls against tomorrow; for thus saith the Lord God of Israel, There is an accursed thing in the midst of thee, O Israel; thou canst not stand before thine enemies, until ye take away the accursed thing from among you. David Fox of Dewsbury was at this meeting, and came with us to my house to dine and tarried all night, being what is very unusual the only lodger we had. Martha the wife of William Cockell of Dykeside, who departed this Life on the 5<sup>th</sup>. Inst was interred to day, and I being invited attended the burial. The invitation was for 2 o'clock this afternoon, and I left home about 3 in the company of John Pickford and his daughters Rebecca and Elizabeth, Tea was provided for the company, and after Tea I sat a little at James Woods who with his Wife was particularly kind, and not being very well, I took a little Brandy and Water with them which proved serviceable to me. The corps was taken up about 5 o'clock and being brought unto the door, she being when living a member of the Methodists society: John Wood had a short but impressive exhortation unto the People, and afterwards a few verses of an hymn was sung; we then proceeded with the corps to Denby, where after the usual ceremony was read in the Chapel and the body put into the ground, and the further office performed there by the Priest, The inconsistency and dead formality of which ceremonies have felt oftens very painful unto me in the hearing of them; I set out towards home, and in my way called and stopt near an hour at Elihu Dickinsons of Millbank, and reached home betwixt 8 and 9 o'clock the same evening. On 19<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, many friends came, and called upon us this morning to breakfast. At 9 o'clock began our Meeting of Ministers and Elders at Highflatts, which held upwards of an hour, all our members attended except Isabella Brearey who had been long indisposed. Before the business was entered upon, I had a pretty long testimony to bear: afterwards the Queries were read and Answers to the 2<sup>nd</sup>. and 4<sup>th</sup>. drawn up approved and Signed, and directed to be laid before our ensuing Quarterly Meeting of Ministers and Elders. After meeting I took a little suitable refreshment at Richard Dickinsons. At 11 o'clock the meeting for Worship began. It was not so large as usual, altho' a pretty many People of other societies attended, but was pretty open and satisfactory. I had a long testimony to bear therein first from John C: 6. v: 44. No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent him draw him; and I will raise him up at the last day. John Robinson had a short time next from Matt: C: 7. v: 21. Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. James Wetherald had a few words next. Charles Unsworth a short testimony next from Luke C: 13. v: 24. Strive to enter in at the strait gate. Martha Dickinson a few words next, and afterwards Isabella Harris had a pretty long time, having principally to speak to one particular state who like Jonah might have brought themselves into deep sufferings by disobeying the command of the Lord, expressing the near sympathy she felt with such a state altho' altogether a stranger

unto whom it did belong, yet she had felt the language of encouragement to communicate that they might be encouraged to come up in faithful obedience to divine requirings. At the close of this meeting, the Men and Women members of our society being requested to stop a little together, after others were withdrawn. The meeting was opened, and our friend Isabella Harris laid before the meeting a concern which was upon her mind to pay a religious visit to the prisoners in the house of correction at Wakefield, and afterwards I informed friends of a concern I had felt on my mind to pay a religious visit to the inhabitants of Wath, and in the neighbourhood of Almondbury, both of which concerns being duly considered by the meeting and many friends expressing their unity therewith. Minutes were made expressive of the same and of our liberty to proceed therein as Truth might open away. After our Women friends were withdrawn, the Men proceeded upon the business of the Meeting, and a great deal came before us to day which was agreeably conducted. Both meetings held upwards of 5 hours. We had only 13 friends to dine to day. Henry Bromley of Dewsbury was one of the number, who stopt a little with us, On 3<sup>rd</sup>. day afternoon we drunk Tea at John Pickfords of Parkhead, and afterwards went and sat a little at Joseph Firths of Shepley Lanehead, and before we left took a little refreshment. On 4<sup>th</sup>. day afternoon Henry Bromley set out towards home, and I accompanied him to Robert Woods of Moorbottom were we stopt Tea., and after Tea, I set him a little further, and then taking leave of each other very affectionately, I returned home; and may add his visit at this time had been very satisfactory to me, and I hope not unprofitable unto himself.

Memorandum            On the 19<sup>th</sup>. of the 6<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1820. departed this life Robert Swire, son of Henry Swire of Wooldale; and was buried in Friends burial ground at Wooldale, the 22<sup>nd</sup>. of the same, and 5<sup>th</sup>. day of the week aged about 22 years. Concerning whom it is in my mind briefly to remark; That from early life, by closing in with divine visitations, and walking in the Light he had been mercifully preserved from the evils of the world, and became a good example unto others in purity of Life and conversation, and growing up in usefulness in the Church, we cannot but mourn the loss sustained by his removal, but more especially the meeting of which he was a member, will I believe severely feel it, having left few if any therein like-minded with himself. But altho' we mourn the Churches loss in his removal, yet are comforted with the belief that it is his everlasting again, and feel desirous therein, to be resigned unto the will of him who doeth all things right, and who at time sees meet in early life to take those unto himself who are rightly prepared for it, from the evils to come.

Charles Unsworth and me being invited to attend his burial and we set out the same morning, and called upon John Pickford of Parkhead who accompanied us thither, we got to Henry Swires of Wooldale about 9 o clock, were Coffee and Tea was provided for the company. The meeting began at 11 o clock and was pretty large many both Friends and people of other Societies attending. We was favoured thereat with the acceptable company of our friend Esther Lees from Lancashire. The occasion was solemn, and it was a solemn weighty meeting; but was hurt in the forepart thereof by an unsanctified appearance. Afterwards Charles Unsworth had a short testimony to bear, observing that the present opportunity was or might be a profitable one, if all did but seriously consider that in the midst of life we are in death, and enlarging a little thereupon. Esther Lees was next concerned in supplication. I had a long testimony to bear next from Isai: C: 57. v: 1. The righteous perisheth, and no man layeth it to heart: and merciful men are taken away, none considering that the righteous are taken away from the evil to come. After a short time in silence, I had to revive the same text again, and therefrom tenderly to exhort the youth under a feeling of the fresh extending of divine regard not to let it pass away unimproved by them. Afterwards Esther Lees had a pretty long time from 1 Thes: C: 5. v: 21. Prove all things; hold fast to that which is good. The meeting held 2 hours, after which I got a little suitable refreshment at John Brooks and then we went to dine at Henry Swires were we spent the afternoon and were we tarried until after

all the company were gone except Esther Lees, when we had a satisfactory opportunity with the heads of the family, under a feeling of tender sympathy with them in their sorrow for the loss of a beloved son. Esther Lees had a pretty long time to bear first, being opened from these words, Afflicted but not forsaken. Afterwards I had a pretty long time from 2 Sam: C:1... v. 22: 23. While the child was yet alive, I fasted and wept; for I said, who can tell whether God will be gracious to me, that the child may live? But now he is dead wherefore should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me. Afterwards we came to John Brooks where we sat a little and then came to Joseph Firths of Shepley Lanehead where we stopt about an hour and I took some refreshment, then Joseph Firth accompanied us about half a mile, we got home betwixt 9 and 10 in the evening.

Memorandum      Wooldale Monthly Meeting 7<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 17<sup>th</sup>. 1820      The evening before Thomas Yeardeley, his Wife and daughter Frances, William Taylor, and George Sedgwick all from Barnsley called upon us in their way to our Monthly Meeting to be held the next day at Wooldale, and this morning John Wood and Thomas Ball of Barnsley got to my house to breakfast, the other five friends having lodged with us. Betwixt 7 and 8 o'clock in the morning Charles Unsworth and me set out for Wooldale, William Taylor, John Wood, Thomas Ball, George Sedgwick accompanying us thither, we went by Newmill, and got Wooldale about 10 o'clock, sat a little at the Widow Sarah Broadheads and took each of us a glass of Wine, and then went to Henry Swires our usual quarters. The meeting for Worship began at 11 o'clock, and notwithstanding it was a wet day, and very heavy rain most part of the afternoon, it was very large of friends and a great number of People of other Societies attended so that the Meetinghouse both below and above stairs were crowded. I had a long testimony to bear therein first from Mal: C: 3. v. 1, 2, 3. Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me; and the Lord who ye seek shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant; whom ye delight in; behold he shall come saith the Lord of hosts. But who may abide the day of his coming; and who shall stand when he appeareth? For he is like a refiners fire, and like fullers soap. And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as Gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness. John Donbavand had a short time next from Mark C: 10. v: 14. Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not. James Wetherald had a pretty long time next from Job C: 24. v: 13. They are those that rebel against the light; they know not the way thereof, nor abide in the path thereof. Charles Unsworth next from 1 John C: 2. v. 15, 16, 17. Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world, in any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of Life, is not of the Father, but is of the world And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof; but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever. Isabella Harris had a long time next from Rom: C: 11. v: 33. O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out. I was next concerned in Prayer. At the close of this meeting was the meeting for discipline, the business of which was very agreeably conducted, amongst other things which came before the meeting, John Poulter of Wakefield Meeting laid before us his intentions of Marriage with Elizabeth Pace a member of Devonshirehouse Monthly Meeting in London, and at the conclusion of the business the printed Yearly Meeting Epistle was read. Both meetings held 4 hours and a quarter. After dinner we had a wet walk by Totties and Scholes to George Broadheads of Jacksonbridge got there to Tea, and it continuing very heavy rain we tarried there all night. On 18<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, Charles Unsworth set out immediately for home after breakfast, but I sat a little longer with James Harrison and his Wife, and then came to Mearhouse to see my cousin Martha Wood, stopt a little there, and then had a pleasant walk by Upper Holmhouse to John Pickfords of Parkhead where I sat a little and got home about a quarter before 12 o'clock.

Memorandum            Ackworth Monthly Meeting 9<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 18<sup>th</sup>. 1820.    I left home ye 15<sup>th</sup>. of ye 9<sup>th</sup>. Mo. 1820, and 6<sup>th</sup>. day of the week, and went to our Weekday meeting at Highflatts which I expected to be smaller than usual, friends being busy in their harvest: 40 persons attended, It was to me a low time, I felt but little strength for labour, but hope I was not ashamed to beg; and the Lord was pleased to hear my cry, and favour with a little help from his holy sanctuary. After meeting I din'd at John Firths, and about 2 o'clock in the afternoon left Highflatts and went by Denby and Dakinbrook to Ellin Waltons of Hollingroid were I rested me about half an hour; and then proceeded to Cawthorn were I stopt about 1 hour at Thomas Wests and took some refreshment, then went by Higham to Barnsley got there about half past 6, very weary, having been much fatigued for a few days before by assisting a little in the harvest work, nature fails, having got beyond the age of man, O may I be rightly prepared to receive the solemn summons, and to enter into the joy of my Lord. Called upon George Sedgwick were I drunk Tea, he accompanied me to Robert Harrisons were we spent some for time very comfortably, and then I went to Thomas Yeardleys were I took up my quarters. On 16<sup>th</sup>. and 7<sup>th</sup>. of week, I set out about 10 o'clock in the forenoon, and went by Burton grange to Cudworth were I din'd at Samuel Lavers, stopt upwards of 2 hours, and then proceeded, Samuel accompanied me about 2 miles, and then return'd: went by Brierley and Hemsworth to Ackworth were I got betwixt 4 and 5 o'clock, and drunk Tea at James Harrisons. Afterwards I went to the School were I took up my quarters. On 17<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week, I attended both their meetings at Ackworth. The forenoon meeting began at 10 o'clock, and was an open good meeting, I had two long testimonies to bear therein, the first from Matt: C: 16. v: 16. Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. And the other from John C: 4. v: 29. Come see a man, that told me all things that ever I did; is not this the Christ. Afterwards Isabella Harris was concerned in Prayer. Afternoon meeting began at 3 o'clock, the forepart thereof was dull and heavy but ended better, and towards the close I was strengthened to bear a long testimony from 2 Cor: C: 5. v: 1. For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. After meeting I drunk Tea at James Harrisons. At 6 in the evening was our Meeting for Ministers and Elders which held about one hour and a half, all our members were present except Isabella Brearey. The Queries were read and Answered and a General Answer prepared to lay before our ensuing Select Quarterly Meeting. On 18<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, This morning I breakfasted at James Harrisons, our Monthly Meeting was held here to day and the meeting for Worship began at 11 o'clock; It was pretty large and eminently favoured with the overshadowings of his presence who remains to be the crown and glory of our Assemblies, and under the ability immediately received from him, much profitable labour was this day mercifully communicated. John Donbavand had a pretty long testimony to bear therein first from Heb: C: 12. v: 11. No chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous; nevertheless afterwards it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them that are exercised thereby. I had a long time next from Mark C: 10. v: 28. Lo, we have left all, and followed thee. James Harrison had a pretty long time next from Acts C: 4. v: 12. Neither is there salvation in any other name, for there is none other name under heaven given amongst men whereby we must be saved. I had a pretty long time next from Acts C: 4. v: 32. The multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul. James Wetherald had a pretty long time next from Matt: C: 9. v: 14. Suffer little children, and forbid them not to come unto me. Isabella Harris had a long time next from John C: 16. v: 12. I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. At the close of this meeting was the meeting for discipline the affairs of which appeared to me to be weightily transacted, amongst other business I inform'd the meeting of a concern that was upon my mind to pay a religious visit to the Meetings of Friends in Thirsk Monthly Meeting, some in the West Riding of Yorkshire and a few in some parts of Lancashire. Also to have Publick Meetings with the inhabitants of some places in those parts as Truth may open the way. After solid consideration of the said concern, and much unity and sympathy being expressed by several friends, the same was minuted and I left at liberty to proceed therein, and a friend was appointed to give

me a copy of this said Minute. Also the Queries directed to be answered this quarter were read and Answers received and read from all our Preparative meetings viz. Pontefract, Barnsley, Highflatts, Ackworth, Wakefield and Wooldale, and a General Answer was prepared therefrom and ordered to be laid before our ensuing Quarterly Meeting. Both meetings held 4 hours and a quarter. This afternoon I took Tea at James Harrisons. Some of the friends from Barnsley having come in a covered Carr, and having a vacant seat kindly offered to take me in which I accepted of; the carriage was upon springing and very agreeably seated and cushions upon them, so that it was remarkably easy, and accommodated six of us very comfortably viz. Joseph Lister and Susanna his wife, Robert Harrison, George Sedgwick, Susanna Alletson and myself: We left Ackworth about quarter past 5 and came by Hemsworth, Brierley, and Cudworth to Barnsley were we got about half past 7 o'clock, and I lodg'd at Thomas Yeardeleys. On 19<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, I breakfasted at Robert Harrisons, and about half past 8 o'clock I left Barnsley, Robert Harrison set me on my way about 1 mile and then return'd; I went to James Arthington Wilsons of Redbrook were I stopt upwards of an hour and before I set out took a little refreshment, James Arthington Wilson accompanied me by Higham and Banks.hall to Ellin Waltons of Hollingdroid were he returned, but I rested me here about half an hour, and then proceeded came by Dakinbrook and Dykeside home were I got about half past 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

Memorandum            Wakefield Monthly Meeting, 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo: 20<sup>th</sup>. 1820. I left home ye 18<sup>th</sup>. of ye 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo: 1820, and 7<sup>th</sup>. day of the week in the forenoon, and went to John Pickfords of Parkhead to be shaved. Left there about half past 10 o'clock and went by Cumberworth and Skelmanthorp to Charles Blackburns of Parklane were I din'd. And stopt 3 hours, Charles Unsworth came to me here, and we went by Emley, Bretton, and Crigglestone to Dircar got there about 5 o'clock and drunk Tea at William Pickards, and afterwards went Christopher Walkers were we lodg'd. On 19<sup>th</sup>. and 1<sup>st</sup>. of week after breakfast we went to Wakefield, sat a little at Ann Thorps and then went to their meeting which began at 11 o'clock. A committee being appointed by the Quarterly Meeting, to unite with one appointed by our Monthly Meeting to see if a suitable number of friends could be found in the latter Meeting proper to be appointed to the station of Elders, and had agreed to meet here to day to take the same into consideration, and proceed therein as way might open. Both the said Committees met here agreeable to appointment. The Quarterly Meeting Committee were Richard Cockin of Doncaster, Joseph Tatham of Leeds, and Thomas Cooper of Brighouse, and our Monthly meeting Committee were Robert Whitaker of Ackworth, and John Pickford and myself of Highflatts meeting,. We had also at the Meeting to day and at our Monthly Meeting held here the day following the acceptable company of two strangers viz. John Thistlethwaite of Leeds, and Mary Cooper of Brighouse, This meeting was large many sober seeking People of other Societies attending, and proved open and satisfactory. Mary Cooper had a long testimony to bear therein first from Mark C: 8. v: 34. Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. John Thistlethwaite next enlarging upon the same subject, intermixed with others, as matter opened. I next from Matt: C: 10. v. 32, 33. Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess before my Father which is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven. Charles Unsworth had a short run next from Rom: C: 8 v:13. If ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the spirit do mortify the deeds of the body ye shall live. Afterwards Mary Cooper had a pretty long time from John C: 12. v: 20 Walk while ye have the light, lest darkness come upon you: for he that walketh in darkness knoweth not whither he goeth. At the close of this meeting the business of their Preparative meeting was gone through Both meetings held 2 hours and a quarter. At the close of the latter, the two Committees sat a little together when it was agreed to meet again, at half past 3 this afternoon at William Leathams who had kindly offered his house for friends accommodation, and those

whom friends had thought of visiting were requested to attend there at the same time. My companion and me din'd at George Benningtons, and at the time appointed, I with the other friends concerned met at William Leathams, and the Committees sat with the friends proposed to be visited one by one, and I trust were favoured with sound judgment and clear discerning, and with great unanimity of sentiment, and at the close of the business, we drew up our report and Signed the same, to lay before the Monthly Meeting tomorrow. All the friends drunk Tea here and after our business was finished I stopt supper. After which Charles Unsworth came for me, and we went up together to John Spences where we took up our quarters. On 20<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week, After breakfast we went and sat a little at Joseph Wetheralds where I took a glass of wine. At 11 o'clock the meeting for Worship began, It was very large, the larger Meetinghouse being pretty well filled, and it proved a time of peculiar favour. John Thistlethwaite had a short time therein in testimony first. John Donbavand next. Mary Cooper a long time next setting forth the necessity of watchfulness in all states from 1 Pet: C: 5. v: 8. Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about seeking whom he may devour. I next from Isai: C: 43. v. 21, 22, 23. This People have I formed for myself; they shall shew forth my praise. But thou hast not called upon me, O Jacob; but thou hast been weary of me, O Israel. Thou hast not brought me the small cattle of thy burnt offerings. John Thistlethwaite a short time next. James Wetherald a few words next. Isabella Harris a long time next encouraging some to be faithful in the day of small things, that they might be found worthy to be made ruler over more John Donbavand next in Prayer. Afterwards Mary Cooper had a short testimony from Prov: C: 10. v: 4. The hand of the diligent maketh rich. At the close of this meeting was the meeting for discipline, the business of which was sweetly conducted, and readily gone through; amongst other things John Hincheliff of Pontefract Mg. laid before us his intentions of marriage with Mary Thompson of Balby Monthly Meeting. Also John Thistlethwaite produced a Minute of Brighthouse Monthly Meeting expressive of their unity with his concern to pay a religious visit to the meetings of friends within York Quarterly Meeting which was read and Minuted, and the Meetings satisfaction expressed therewith and with his company. I also return'd the Minute given me from this meeting in the last 9<sup>th</sup>. month and inform'd this, That I had been enabled to go through what I had apprehended was required of me, so as to feel the consoling evidence of peace in the close thereof. Which was minuted and the meetings satisfaction acknowledged therewith. Also the report of the two united Committees on the nomination of persons for the station of Elders was read and the following friends were proposed for that service viz. Joseph Firth, William Taylor of Barnsley, and Mary Brook of Wooldale and Hannah Harrison which after being weightily considered by the Meeting were approved and appointed accordingly. Both meetings held 3 hours and a quarter. After dinner Charles Unsworth set out towards home, but I went for Dewsbury and my kind friend Henry Bromley accompanying me thither, called and stopt a little at William Leathams and took a glass of wine. Left Wakefield about half past 3 o'clock and went to Ossett got there about half past 4 and took up our quarters at David Pickards. On 21<sup>st</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week we set out about half past 8 in the morning, and went by Chickenley and Earlsheaton to Dewsbury got there about quarter past 9, our friend John Thistlethwaite having a meeting appointed here to begin at 10 this forenoon we stopt at William Wass's until the time appointed and then went to the meeting, 22 persons attended besides us who were Strangers. I had a long testimony to bear therein first from 2 Cor: C: 4. v. 17, 18. Come out from among them, and be separate, saith the Lord; and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you; and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty. William Wass had a short time next from Hos: C: 14. v. 1, 2, 3. O Israel return unto the Lord thy God for thou hast fallen by thine iniquity. Take with you words, and turn to the Lord; say unto him, take away all iniquity, and receive me graciously; so will we render the calves of our lips. Ashur shall not save us; nor will we ride upon horses; neither will we say any more to the work of our hands. Ye are our Gods: for in thee the fatherless findeth mercy. John Thistlethwaite had a pretty long time next, expressing the sweet solemnity he had felt to cover his mind in this

meeting exhorting us to gather inward to the root of Life in ourselves that so this precious solemnity might be frequently renewed in our experience. After meeting I din'd with the friends at William Wass's; and after he was gone, William Wass and me being under appointment of our Monthly Meeting to visit William Whalley and his Wife on the receipt of their Certificate, we went to their house and after we had performed the visit, went to Tea at George Breareys were I took up my quarters, but William Wass returned home in the evening. On 22<sup>nd</sup>. and 4<sup>th</sup>. of week, in the forenoon I went to William Wass's, and got a Lunch, and about 12 o'clock set out my beloved friend Charles Brearey accompanied me as far as Bristfield and he then returned, and I preceded by Thorncliff, and Shelley to my Nephew Robert Woods of Moorbottom, got there about 5 o'clock to Tea, stopt upwards of 3 hours, Charles Unsworth met me here to accompany me home, were we got about 9 o'clock the same evening.

Memorandum            On the 25<sup>th</sup>. of the 11<sup>th</sup>. Mo: 1820 departed this Life Mary Haigh Wife of John Haigh of Shepley, and was buried in Friends burial ground at Highflatts ye 28<sup>th</sup>. of the same, and 3<sup>rd</sup>. day of the week aged about 58 years.

Concerning whom I may briefly remark, That in her first husbands days they lived in the neighbourhood of Frandley in Cheshire, and in the forepart of her time was a zealous professor amongst the Methodists, and frequently appeared in Publick testimony amongst them. But being convinced of the Truth friends principles, she left them and attended friends meetings. After her removal to Manchester she was admitted a member of our Society there, and in the time of her Widowhood went to live with Ebenezer Bowmans of Monyash Mg. in Derbyshire as Tutorees to their children. And from thence was married to John Haigh of Shepley and so became a member of our meeting. She was I believe a truly pious Woman of exemplary Life and conversation, and bore a large portion of inward and outward afflictions which she had to meet with in her passage through this vale of tears with uncommon patience, and Christian fortitude, never murmuring nor repining, but on the contrary numbering her blessings, and in her greatest tryals acknowledging to the goodness of the Almighty, and his support unto her therein. But she had been in a declining state of health for some years, and her indisposition increasing upon her she was for some time confined to her bed, but was rather suddenly and unexpectedly removed by something of a Paralytic stroke, which delivered her from all her afflictions, and I doubt not but her immortal spirit is now centered where all sorrow and tears are for ever wiped away.

I was invited but did not go to the house in the morning, being unwell but met the corps at Highflatts about the usual time 11 o'clock. She being a very lusty Woman the grave proved too small, whereupon friends concluded to take the corps into the Meetinghouse and inter it after meeting. Our weekday meeting was agreed to be held this week at the same time which was considerably enlarged by the relations of the deceased and a few People of other societies who attended, It was a solemn good meeting I had a long testimony to bear therein first from Rev: C: 20. v: 6. Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection; on such the second death hath no power. Afterwards Charles Unsworth had a pretty long time from 1 Tim: C: 6. v: 6. Godliness with contentment is great again. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and raiment let us be therewith content. The meeting held near 2 hours. After which we proceeded with the corps to the grave and after it was put therein a solemn silence ensued, and I had a pretty long testimony to bear from Am: C: 4. v: 12. Prepare, to meet thy God, O Israel. and the power of Truth mercifully overshadowed us to the tendering of many minds. Being better in the afternoon, I went to Shepley to Tea were I spent a few hours agreeably with the relations of the deceased; and in the evening Charles Unsworth came to accompanied me home, we called at Joseph Firths of Lanehead, stopt there about 2 hours and supp'd, and got home betwixt 10 and 11 o'clock.

Memorandum On the 24<sup>th</sup>. day of the 1<sup>st</sup>. mo: 1821 departed this life Joseph Beaumont son of John Beaumont of Dearn.grange in Cumberworth and was buried in friends burial ground at Highflatts the 28<sup>th</sup>. of the same and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week aged about 1 year and three quarters.

The family were not members of our society, but attended friends Meetings, and had obtained leave to bury it in friends burial.ground. I was invited but did not go to the house, they got with the corps to Highflatts in time to inter it before the meeting which was larger than usual with the relations and neighbours who were invited to attend the burial, and altho' it was to me a low time for the greater part of the meeting yet before the close thereof a precious solemnity mercifully overshadowed us which I doubt not was felt by many minds. Martha Dickinson said a few words therein first. I had a long testimony next from John C: 1. v: 16. Of his fulness have we all received, and Grace for Grace. Martha Dickinson afterwards had a few words. The meeting held 2 hours and a half.

Memorandum On the 31<sup>st</sup>. day of the 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo: 1821. Departed this Life at her Mothers house in Thurlstone Elizabeth Leppington daughter of William Leppington of Langsett and was buried in friends burial.ground at Lumbroyd near Peniston the 4<sup>th</sup>. of the 2<sup>nd</sup>. mo: and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week, aged about 13 years.

Being invited I attended the burial, left home the same morning a little after 8 o'clock in company with Charles Unsworth, we went by Ing Birchworth to the Widow Sarah Leppingtons of Thurlstone, got Tea there and afterwards we proceeded to Lumbroyd; got there in good time with the Corps. The meeting began at 11 o'clock and held about 2 hours; It was small, but enlarged by the Relations and Neighbours of the deceased, and a few of other Societies who came in. But it proved a good meeting, the power of Truth eminently prevailing therein, and the testimony thereof was exalted. Charles Unsworth had a pretty long testimony to bear first from Matt: C: 24. v: 44. Be ye also ready; for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh. I had a very long time next from Rom: C: 6. v: 23 The wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Afterwards Charles Unsworth had a pretty long time from Luke C: 14. v: 27. Whosoever doth not bear his Cross, and come after me, he cannot be my disciple. After meeting we returned to Thurlstone were we called and sat a little at Benjamin Chapmans and then came to the Widow Sarah Leppingtons were we din'd and drunk Tea, and about 5 o'clock we left Thurlstone, and came to Thomas Haighs of Ing.Birchworth were we sat a little and then came to Elihu Dickinsons of Millbank were we called to see John Rothwell and his Wife who were over from Manchester; but they was all gone to Tea at John Firths of Highflatts. We followed thither were we stopt upwards of an hour and took some refreshment, then came all together to Millbank were we spent about 1 hour in agreeable conversation, and got home about 9 o'clock in the evening.

A letter from George Fox and others respecting the marriage of near kindred 1683

London 30<sup>th</sup>. of 3<sup>rd</sup>. of. Month 1683

Dear friends

We have read your letter and understand the case of your children and the several precedents you have quoted to us, and also what you say concerning the 18 of Leviticus, but you seem to take no notice of those words in the 6 verse. "Thou shalt not approach to any of thy near of kin." Now how near will be the question.

The advice of friends last year was to forbear Marriage till the 4<sup>th</sup>. degree was past Now you know that Father and Mother is the first degree, Brother and Sister is this 2<sup>nd</sup>., their Children

is the 3<sup>rd</sup>. and the Childrens Children the 4<sup>th</sup>. which is the civil Law calls 2<sup>nd</sup>. Cousins. for most men believed that those Men who were met to make that order never thought first Cousins would offer to Marry else would doubtless as well have forbid the first as the second. So to return to the Law of God which is express not to Marry any near of kin which is those of the Blood Now our sence still is that the Blood of the Kindred is not out in the sence of the Law of God or Man 'till the 4<sup>th</sup>. degree is past for in the 17 verse there is a prohibition of the affinity in the 3<sup>rd</sup>. degree where there is no Blood and yet called near Kindred and declared to be a wickedness to Marry in that degree. So dear friends keep to the pure Power of God that keeps all pure and holy sweet and acceptable to God and answer the life in his People, by which the pure unity is preserved amongst you, and in the whole Body of Christ, and in this power you will be able to rule all the affections and subdue them, and break all snares that are or may be laid for the innocent inwardly or outwardly; and in the fellowship of this Power we give you this our advice and counsel, which you may communicate to the young People your Children, and to all other friends concerned with you about this matter. and so with our loves to all

From your Friends

James Park	George Fox
Leonard Fell	Robert Lodge
John Banks	Stephen Crisp

Memorandum          Barnsley Monthly Meeting 3<sup>rd</sup>. mo: 19<sup>th</sup>. 1821.    I left home the 18<sup>th</sup>. of the 3<sup>rd</sup>. mo: 1821 and 1<sup>st</sup>. day of the week betwixt 8 and 9 o'clock in the morning Charles Unsworth being my companion. It was the most tempestuous day we had had this winter being a very high wind with heavy Showers of Rain and hail, we went by Dykeside and Dakinbrook to Ellin Waltons of Hollingroid where we rested us about half an hour, and then went to Cawthorn to Thomas Englands of Bason stopt there upwards of an hour and took some refreshment with them, and then proceeded; got to Robert Harrisons of Barnsley a little after 1 o'clock, were we din'd. Robert was very poorly having been confined 5 or 6 weeks but now appeared to be rather getting better, and in an hopeful way of recovery; we tarried upwards of 2 hours with him, and then went to William Taylors to Tea. At 5 this evening we attended their afternoon meeting which was enlarged by friends who were come to attend the Monthly Meeting to be held here tomorrow, and several of other Societies came in; yet it was not so large as usual this evening owing to the severity of the weather; but it proved very open and satisfactory I had a long testimony to bear therein from Eccle: C: 12. v: 13, 14. Fear God, and keep his commandments; for this is the whole duty of man. Before God shall bring every work into judgement, with every secret thing, whether it be good or whether it be evil. Afterwards Charles Unsworth had a pretty long time from Matt: C: 26. v: 41. Watch, and pray, that ye enter not into temptation. At the close of this meeting was our Meeting for Ministers and Elders. 5 of our members did not attend, but satisfactory reasons were given for their absence, viz. John Pritchard, Robert and Hannah Whitaker, Isabella Harris, and Isabella Brearey. The Queries were read and answered and a General Answer prepared approved and Signed, and directed to be laid before our ensuing Quarterly Meeting. Both meetings held about 3 hours and a quarter. After which I got some suitable refreshment at William Taylors, and then we went to our quarters at Thomas Yeardeleys. On 19<sup>th</sup>. and 2<sup>nd</sup>. of week. It had been a remarkable stormy night, and this morning there was a pretty deep snow upon the ground. The meeting for Worship began at 11 o'clock and was much larger than I expected of friends on account of the severity of the weather, and several people of other Societies attended. The Lord was pleased eminently to favour us to the strength and encouragement of the rightly exercised; and to this stirring up of the careless and unconcerned. I had a long testimony to bear therein first from Jer: C: 45. v: 3. Wo is me now? For the Lord hath added grief to my sorrow: I fainted in my sighing, and I find no rest. John Donbavand was next concerned in

Prayer, and afterwards had a pretty long testimony to bear. Setting before us the shortness and uncertainty of time and pointing out the necessary preparation we ought to experience for our final change. Charles Unsworth next from the Zech: C: 40. V: 21. Every pot in Jerusalem and in Judah shall be holiness unto the Lord of hosts. James Wetherald next from Jon: C: 1. v: 6. What meanest thou, O sleeper? arise call upon thy God. Isabella Harris had a long time next from John C: 3. v: 26. God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in him, should not perish, but have everlasting life. At the close of this meeting was held our Monthly meeting for discipline, in which the report of the Committee appointed to visit Christopher Walton of this Town on his application to become a member of our Society was again read, and the friends appointed to inform him of his admission reported it was done, and I informed the meeting I had given him one of the pamphlets directed to be given unto such. Also the Queries were read and answered received and read from all our Preparative meetings viz. Pontefract, Barnsley, Highflatts, Ackworth, Wakefield, and Wooldale. A General Answer was prepared approved and Signed and directed to be taken to our Quarterly Meeting by our representatives. Two painful cases of misconduct being before this meeting, ability was afforded to labour with the beloved youth and all present to guard against giving way to the temptations of our cruel enemy in little things as the only way to be preserved from being overcome with greater evils, I had a long testimony first which was followed by concurring testimonies from John Donbavand, James Wetherald and Timothy Pickard. and indeed this meeting was eminently favoured with best help in transacting the weighty affairs of the society, and we were comforted in believing that there was an increase in the number of those who were coming up to the help of the Lord against the mighty, so that we have to acknowledge our belief in our Answer to the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Query, that there was some growth in the Truth the amongst us; and it appeared there was a little appearance of convincement in Barnsley Meeting, and one person had been admitted a member of our Society there since last year. Both meetings held about 4 hours under half. After which I parted with Charles Unsworth he setting out for home, and I din'd at William Taylors, were I met with William Rhodes of Coldheindly who spent the afternoon with me. After dinner we called upon Susanna Alletson, sat a little there and then went to my quarters to Tea; after which I set William a little on his way towards home, and then return'd, John Wood, George Sedgwick and Christopher Walton came and spent the evening with me, and John Wood tarried and slept with me. On 20<sup>th</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>. of week, it had been a fine night, and this morning the snow appeared to be nearly gone and the roads are very much dried. After breakfast I called upon Robert Harrison and William Harveys, stopt a little at each place, and left Barnsley about 10 o'clock, and came to James Arthington Wilsons of Redbrook were I stopt near an hour and took some refreshment, then James set me a little on my way and return'd. I came to Thomas Wests of Cawthorn were I din'd, stopt upwards of 3 hours, and then proceeded, rested me a little at Ellin Waltons, and then came by Dakinbrook to John Priests of Denby were I drunk Tea, stopt an hour, and then came to Elihu Dickinsons of Millbank were I spent the evening, and took some refreshment, and got home about 10 o'clock.

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