

Full 2/53

Deceased March 24<sup>th</sup> 1761.

Our Brother Joshua Barker was born in the Year 1696, on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of December at Hopton in the Parish of Kirfield, he lived with his Father till 19 Years of Age at which time he was put Apprentice to a Broad-clothier in that Neighbourhood, he was married to his present Widow the 15<sup>th</sup> of July 1719 by whom she has had 8 Child<sup>n</sup> two of whom went home in their Infancy and one at Mans Estate and of the 5 surviving ones one Son is a member of our Society, he lived happily with his Wife and being of a religious turn he went with his Wife constantly to the Church & Sacrament, and had religious Meetings kept in his house where they used to pray and read Burketts Exposition on the New Testament; his self working was for some time in his way, so that to be a poor Sinner at the feet of Jesus was a hard matter to him for some time, and he was a long time among the W<sup>m</sup> before he got a feeling of our Saviour Dying Love in his heart, When Mr Ingham preached in the Beginning in these parts he went to hear him, his Wife at first was against, but upon her hearing Mr Ockershausen at her own house her Prejudice dropt away and they <sup>both</sup> went ~~to~~ together, he always had a great Attachment to the W<sup>m</sup>, and upon the ~~his~~ <sup>Land Lords</sup> being against the Preaching at his house, he rather left it than comply with his Desire not to let the Gospel be preached there. He soon became a member of our Society, and had the Grace to be received on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of April 1752 into the Cong<sup>n</sup> & Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> in the same Year he partook of the highest Good in the holy Sacrament for the first time. Within these 2 Years he has occasionally said to his Wife, I shall not be long here but shall soon be <sup>at</sup> home, but don't be troubled for you will not stay long after me. At the regulating of the Bands and Classes anew in January 1760 he became a Band Servant, in which Capacity he was a faithful Helper & beloved by his W<sup>m</sup>, and found a Blessing for his own heart. On Monday Night the 10<sup>th</sup> of November he was taken with a violent and painful Disorder so that his Dissolution was expected before morning, the Violence of which was however somewhat abated the next Day when he was visited by Mr Watson on his return from Huddersfield. He was very chearfull notwithstanding his great bodily Pain & in a sinnerlike Connexion with the man of Sorrows, whom he said he longed to see face to face, & begd him and the W<sup>m</sup> to bear him on their hearts, before Him on that account. From his first becoming sick he always thought & he shoud get Permission to leave his mortal Tent, and from hence be taken the faithful one to see, at which he frequently rejoiced in his heart, & speaking with a Brother of the great Longing he felt to be at home with his wounded Friend that only matchless

Heart



Heart and chawing his Wife looked thoughtfull, he said to her when I am  
with him I will speak a good Word for you, that he may soon fetch you also  
and I'm sure he will not deny me my Request and thus he comforted her about  
their parting. Soon after the Sacrament, being visited by a Br<sup>n</sup>, he expressed  
his great Longing for that highest Good, in order to strengthen his heart under  
the great bodily pain he felt, and declared that the bitter Death and Passion of  
the Lord Jesus was what his heart rely'd upon and his its only Good for time &  
Eternity. Once being visited he expressed his Desire to be buried with his Br<sup>n</sup>  
at Lamb Hill and seemed grieved that on account of his outward circumstances  
he must give up that hope but he was soon comforted upon our assuring  
him we would see to it that his desire should be accomplished. Jan. 28<sup>th</sup> he had  
his part of the holy Sacrament with some other sick for which end he came on Horse-  
back to the Chapel which was the last time of his being there. On the  
Great Sabbath Br<sup>n</sup> Watson carried him the Sacram<sup>t</sup> and first related <sup>to him</sup> what  
had passed in the Cong<sup>g</sup> at G. H. on Monday, Thursday and then in a child-  
like Prayer Prayer begd that Mouth which spoke his own clean, to speak his  
Br<sup>n</sup> who could not enjoy the Application of the bloody Gore from his Back in y<sup>e</sup>  
Redivivum on account of sickness clean, and to hasten the ripening of this fruit  
of his Deaths Agony & take him home to himself or soon enable him to appear  
again among his Br<sup>n</sup>. Then he sung: What Lord thee so tormented &c. O let him in  
thy Nail holes see his Pardon & Election free &c. Give him Absolution, and a gen-  
tle praising Song, deep Foundation in thy Cross's Stem, and then during an  
inexpressible tender & melting feeling he received his Share of the holy Sacram<sup>t</sup>.  
After which he was particularly chearfull and happy and frequently said to his  
Wife, now I have got what I wanted, and seemd highly blessed. That Night  
was a very painfull night to him and his Disorder <sup>became</sup> again very vio-  
lent. On Monday being visited by one of the Br<sup>n</sup> to whom he again signified his  
Longing to be at home which Desire was granted him the next Day in the Eve-  
ning about 8 o' Clock after having lain quiet & still from about 4 o' Clock with-  
out speaking, he sweetly fell asleep & grew pale on Jesus Arm & Bosom, in y<sup>e</sup>  
63<sup>th</sup> Year of his Dying Life, with that Childrens Watch Word: all that  
are in the Graves shall hear his Voice. Now theres no Soul who doth  
not want (evn when in her Lords Joy) and doth not quick upon the Grant  
fetch her Corpore reverently.

