

Feb 13/59

Departed Nov: 16<sup>th</sup> 1761

Personalia of the Single Br. John Haisted.

He ~~was~~ of himself. I was born at West-Tetherton Wilt-shire Febr: the 12<sup>th</sup> 1729. My Parents were religious People of the Church of England, ~~until~~ <sup>but</sup> the Methodists came into that Country ~~and~~ <sup>where</sup> my Father joined them, at which time I <sup>about 12 years old. In my 16<sup>th</sup> year I was</sup> ~~was~~ in some measure awakened by the Preaching of Br. Bennik, grew very uneasy about my Salvation and followed the Preachers about the Country in order to hear something which might satisfy ~~in~~ <sup>my</sup> Heart. My elder Br. not understanding nor liking this course, perswaded me to go to Service with a Farmer, who lived not far from the Br. Chapel, they having come about this Time to Tetherton. This he did out of a Principle of Love to me, thinking thereby my Mind would be diverted ~~off~~ <sup>from</sup> that uneasiness and melancholy which constantly attended me. Here I lived 2 Years. My Master not suffering me to hear the Br. but compelled me to pass by the Br. Chapel on Sundays and to go to Church. When the distress of my Mind on this Account often made me weep, the other young Men my fellow Servants, being of a wild and worldly turn of Mind, laugh'd me out of it, by which means I forgot and stifled all conviction, took to the same courses with them, and pursued all sorts of Vice and worldly Pleasure which that Country afforded with all my might, till I was about 23 Years of Age, my Father did not fail from time to time to put me in Mind of my former Grace, and to admonish me in harmony with the dear H. Ghost in my Heart, to give myself up to our Saviour; But Shame and Confusion on Account of my backsliding and the entanglements of the World so overcame me, that I could not ~~ever~~ resolve to be entirely our Saviour till I heard the Word of Reconciliation and Attonement in the Blood and sufferings of Jesus Christ, by Br. Jennick again, about the beginning of the Year 53. This struck and captivated my ~~Heart~~ <sup>Heart</sup> in such a Manner, that I could not resist any longer; the Man of Sorrows in his Crossed Form drew near my Heart and I wept and prayed incessantly for the Assurance of ~~Grace~~ <sup>of Grace</sup> Election, which I also happily obtained; but not withstanding this I could not <sup>be</sup> entirely at rest, and satisfied untill, I was quite amongst that People to which I knew I belonged.



and got Leave to live with the S. Brs at Foxham in the Year 55, where Br Schulze was Labourer and received me into the House according to the entire Wish and Joy of my Heart. Here I prospered in the Hearts Acquaintance with our Sav<sup>r</sup> and had the Grace to be received into the Cong<sup>g</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup> 13<sup>th</sup> 1756. But the S Brs Economy in Foxham being broke up before my Reception into the Cong<sup>g</sup>, went to live with a married Br in the same Place, where I remained a Year and 1/4, and from thence came to live with Br Samuel Utley at Tetherton. Here I had the inexpressible Grace in May 1758 to be made a participant of the Body and Blood of the Lord in the holy Sacrament with the Cong<sup>g</sup>. Those Years that I lived with Br Samuel Utley proved an unspeakable Blessing, and of great Reality to my Heart, for here it was that I became rightly acquainted both with my self and also with the Friend of my Soul, who granted me the Grace to ground my self and also as a Sinner upon his Sufferings and Merits, and I wanted nothing to render my Days quite to my Satisfaction, but the Grace and happiness to live in the S Brs Choir House at Lambshill; my longing Desire after which was so strong, that I oftentimes could scarce sleep for thinking about it and speaking with our Sav<sup>r</sup> to make a Way for me to go live there, and it was a great Joy to me, when I got the promise from our dearest Johannes that I should once go thither, and at last the Hour came that I got Permission to go to Lambshill, which almost overcame me with Joy, and accordingly I got ready and set out for that Place in May, so transported, that as I went along I scarce knew whether I walked, run, or leaped; and indeed I did all of them, that had any Body seen me, they might have thought I was not right in my Head and the 5<sup>th</sup> of June I arrived ~~at~~<sup>with</sup> the dear S Brs at Lambshill, where I was at home directly and found this to be the Place for me, according to the Impression I had always had of it, and from the first of my Arrival here till this Day have always thought I shall never be transplanted any where else till it is my Sav<sup>r</sup>s Time to take me to the Cong<sup>g</sup>, which is around him. So far his own Account.



The Brethren here soon got a real Love to him and he to them, and his genuine Simplicity and Honesty approved him to all our Hearts. In the first Weeks he was employed in various Matters, and afterwards he became our <sup>look</sup> were he approved himself as an indefatigable and faithful B<sup>r</sup> to our great Contentment, and we were thankful for him in this Place. His Character was, a truly, simple upright heart in whom there was nothing crooked or treacherous, and withal had a sensible and tender Heart, whose only Object was the Man of Sorrows, and his Choir-course was steady and happy, and his Election was mighty to him. He frequently spoke to his intimate Acquaintance even in his healthy Days of his longing Desire to be at home, <sup>with</sup> by our S<sup>r</sup>, and particularly some Days before his Sickness he would often say, Ah what a happiness will that be, when I once shall be like our S<sup>r</sup> in one Point, viz, to be laid out as a Corpse as he was. Thursday Nov<sup>r</sup> the 5<sup>th</sup> he was seized with a violent Pain in his Head and Back, and the next Day took to his Bed and continued to have great Pain. He said directly he was very positive he should go home in this Sickness; and when he was lightheaded, which was pretty much the case, his Fancies were about nothing but going to our S<sup>r</sup>, and would often call out, I must go, he calls me; or, he has sent a Messenger for me to conduct me home to him &c. The 8<sup>th</sup> the <sup>small</sup> pox came out, and he was exceeding full and of a <sup>heavy</sup> kind, but amidst his great Pains he spent his Time very happily in converse with our S<sup>r</sup>, wishing the Hour would soon come that he might have Permission to leave the mortal Tent: and thus his Days were spent to the Blessing and Satisfaction of those B<sup>r</sup>n about him and those who visited him. About the 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> he was considerably easier than he had been, and many B<sup>r</sup>n began to think he would recover, but he still remained steady with respect to his certainty ~~to~~ that he should go, for said he, Our S<sup>r</sup> himself has been with me, and assured me of it. When Verses were sung about his Bed he always joined in, and sung aloud, with a peculiar happy Feeling, even if he was lightheaded, yea and when nobody sung by him, he spent a good deal of time <sup>in</sup> singing for himself. Towards the Evening of the 16<sup>th</sup> it was clear that his Hour was not far off; he was sensible, but



but could not speak very intelligibly, yet the Word, my Saviour,  
come and take me, we could often understand. At 10 o'  
clock this Evening his departing Liturgy was sung, and  
during the singing, Go to thy Lord, and Blush for shame

His Torments comfort thee  
He loves, and calls thee now by Name  
In his Arms clasp'd to be.

Thy dear Soul neede'd with Smart  
We do now deliver  
Into Jesus pierced Heart  
There to be for ever.

The blessing of his Choir was imparted to him, and his  
Soul took Flight to his beloved Saviour.

