

Feb 13/70

Our W<sup>m</sup> Robert Liley was born in the Month of Oct<sup>r</sup> 1697 at High Down in the Parish of Bristol and was educated in the established Church. His Parents being poor, he was put out Apprentice very young, and suffered, during that time, a deal of Hardship. Having learned the Clothiers Business and being now 26 years of age, he entered into the married State with the present Widow, which Marriage our dear Lord Blessed with 1 Son and 2 Daughters. One of the latter went happily to our dear Sav<sup>r</sup>, before him, out of the S. S<sup>r</sup>s House here. His only Son James is an Inhabitant of Fulneck Cong<sup>n</sup>, and the other Daughter is married in the World.

During the Time of the great Awakening here in Yorkshire, when M<sup>r</sup> Ingham and others preached the Word of Reconciliation to poor Sinners, he not only went to hear as others did, but he was soon convinced of the great need he stood in of a Sav<sup>r</sup>. Being now concerned for his Happiness in Time and Eternity, he, as a Parent of his Children, Husband of his Wife, and Father of a Family, was equally concerned for the Salvation of his whole House, and was not satisfied until they all heard with him the precious Gospel, from whence he expected life everlasting. According to that first Love and Zeal, which prevailed among the awakened Souls in those Days, he was also a Sharer of that well known great Love-Feast at Fieldhead. And becoming now more and more sensible of his undone Condition, notwithstanding his having already experienced some comfortable Feelings of our



Saviour's Grace, he once during a Preaching of Mr. Inghams, became particularly happy, thro' the holy Ghosts applying the Word to his Heart. When Mr. Spangenberg went about settling Societies in these Districts, he became a Member of the same. He having a great Love for the Church he was brought up in, and being now more clear in what one went properly to divine Service for, he continued going to Church for a long while believing that our Saviour blessed him there like wise; But as his Heart could be no more satisfied without Fellowship, and he not meeting with it there, this determined him to follow solely and alone the Track our dear Saviour might lead him among the B<sup>rs</sup>, in which Resolution he was very steady, until he was received into the Cong<sup>y</sup>, which came to pass Aug<sup>13</sup><sup>th</sup> 1748, on account of which Grace he was very much melted and thankful. In the same Year, namely the 13<sup>th</sup> of Nov<sup>r</sup> he went with the Cong<sup>y</sup> to the holy Communion for the first time, and as he has never enjoyed it before in his Life time, out of a profound Respect he had for the same, his Heart was so much the more bowed on account of this great Grace and concerning which he said: No Tongue is able to express the feeling of my Heart, that such a poor Worm as me, is permitted to enjoy this highest Treasure. This Awefull Impression of the holy Sacrament abode with him to the End of his Life. An accidental Circumstance proved the Occasion to determine him and his Wife to spend the Remainder of their Days in Salneck, and having obtained Leave to move thither, He was soon there



there with all his Goods without ever enquiring  
beforehand where he was to leave his dwelling, which was  
May the 12<sup>th</sup> 1759. His Grace Election was very important  
to him and which he kept continually in his Eye, and when  
he had the Favour to become Cong<sup>d</sup> Disciple, which Dignity  
he was twice invested with, his Heart was so humbled  
and broken because of the Sense of his Unworthiness, that  
he went to his Son James, entreated him to assist him  
in praying our dear Lord that His Intention with him  
might be obtained. In his course and Walk, tho' in  
a Measure unobserved, he enjoy'd much of our Lord's  
Love and Grace, and so as he grew weaker and  
feebler in his Body, his Tendernefs towards his  
Redeemer encreased, and his Longing to be soon with  
him grew more ardent. He was often seen weeping  
when by himself, and if asked what was the Cause  
of it, he said: These are not Tears of Sorrow, but  
Tears of Love to my Saviour. When he was the  
last time at the holy Communion in the Hall, he had  
an Intimation of it, that this would be the last time  
he should enjoy that greatest of Blessings here below;  
But heartily wished that he might have no long and  
 tedious Sickness, in order not to give his W<sup>m</sup> any  
Trouble, which Request our dear Lord granted him  
like wise: for when on the 16<sup>th</sup> of Dec. he went to  
Bed about 9 o'clock in the Evening, he slept till about  
8 o'clock in the Morning, and at 2 o'clock his Soul



had already taken it's Flight into the Enjoyment  
of everlasting Bliss. His Dying Life lasted 75 years.