

Personalia of the single Mr George Wood, who in his ^{private Sec.} ^{3. 1764} ~~book~~ ^{room} left the following Acc^t. of himself.

Feb 13/52 "I was born at Holbeck, in the Parish of Leeds August 25th 1735. My Father was a Native of Ireland, & my Mother a Yorkshire Woman. When I was about 2 Years old my Father left my Mother to Care for herself & Children, & went into Ireland. My Mother brought me up as well as she could, but on Account of Poverty, was not able to give me any Schooling, the Loss of which I have experienced the most since I came amongst the Breth, for as I had not learn'd to read, I was deprived of that Opportunity, which my Breth have of entertaining themselves, with reading something agreeable about our Sav^r, in their sabbatic Hours: But this Loss has been sufficiently ~~sup~~repaired by our Sav^r, in granting me his precious Nearness, whenever I swept for him.

In my Youngest Years, I was a Child of a quiet Disposition, and liked best to be alone, because when I happened to come into the Company of other Children, something generally occurred about which my Mind was uneasy afterwards: I therefore kept chiefly to myself & often took a walk alone, feeling my Mind most easy and cheerful in this Course.

In my 12th Year, I was put Apprentice to my Uncle Stencliff, who was then amongst the Breth, to be a Clothier, & the first Sunday he took me with him to Grace Hall, on which Day I felt something powerful in my Heart from our Sav^r: What I heard & felt had such an Effect, that I could not miss one Meeting afterwards to which I was allowed the Privilege of going: I soon got acquainted with dear Mr Held, who gave me Leave to go to all the Childrens Meetings, Bands & Classes, which proved a real Blessing to my Heart. When I was about 14 Years old I was rec^d. amongst the great Boys, by Mr Charlesworth, from which Time I attended the Boys Meetings Diligently, & with Pleasure, not observing any Thing particular in Mind or Body to what I had done in my Childrens Years, but felt our Sav^r near my Heart, I was well in the Meetings of the Boys; yet during all this Time tho' I felt very well, I had not a real & solid Connexion & Conversation with our Sav^r as a Sinner, which afterwards was made clear to me.

In my 18th Year I began to perceive my natural depravity and

Corruption pretty strongly, prompting me to things which I know very well were against the Mind & Heart of our Sav^r, but had sufficient acquaintance with him & acquaintance in my own Heart to make the night Up of him in these new Circumstances, I was therefore brought into Darkness & great Opprobrium of Mind, so that I was sometimes very dubious how it would at Last End with me, yet On the bottom of my Heart I had a real Desire to be helped into a happy clear Track, but my greatest Misfortune was a false Shame, which caused me to conceal ~~At~~ my true Condition & the Cause of my Sufferings from my Labourers, but being frequently visited ~~At~~ that that time by Mr. Kanatus, he perceived I was not so clear & lively as usual, & wanted to know the Cause, but which I avoided telling, till I could hold out no longer, being compelled by the great Victory of my Heart to disclose every Thing wherewith I was bound & entangled, & which indeed proved very happy for me in its Consequences: I then could I did speak with our Sav^r in a sincere & candid manner, & often times fell on my Face before ^{him} & wept bitterly, till He melted my Heart with his Mercies & rich forgiveness, & beamed me with his friendly Look. I then resolved to devote my Soul & Body just as it was, to him; & to speak quite openheartedly with my Labourers about all my Circumstances, for I felt the sweetness of it; & since I made that Resolution it has been my constant Practice to my glorifying Sings & Praises. From this time, I have had a happy Conversation with our Sav^r: I went every Night into the Field, after I had done Work to speak with the Friends of my Soul who in common parlance Hearings & Praises always met me, so that my Lips & Heart were often overflowing with Gratitude, on account of what he had done for, & manifested to me. My Concern about the Preservation of my Soul & Body, was often the Subject of my Conversation with him, & therefore I pray him with Tears to make a way for me to the River House, for I felt no place else in all the World could satisfy me. One Week, after I was Sloop of my Apprenticeship, ~~At~~ I had the joyful News brought me that our Sav^r had given me Leave to come & live in the River House, which Grace I accepted of with thousand Thanks to my dear Sav^r, who thus graciously heard, & granted my Request & soon after, I came with Joy & gratitude of Heart into my beloved

Choir House in my 20th year, July the 8th 1756, and Nov^r 22nd the same year, had the grace to be received into the Church to my inexhaustible joy; and went the first time to the Lord's Supper with my dear sister W^m at a Choir Communion June 11th 1757, whereby my husband W^m next to that of seeing & embracing him today was granted me, & which I shall never forget.

about Easter in the Year 1759, a gathered Humour ^{tell} me into one of my Feet, & broke out in a running Ulcer, whereby I was incapable of earning my bread for a long Time. I made Use of many Things, & also by Advice went to the Spa, not without some Effect, tho' a real Cure was not wrought by any Thing I tried or did, for tho' it healed one Quarter it broke out the next, & now a Consumption is ^{added} come thereto, so that I have a near Prospect of never kissing the Saints in Heav'n & Feet for my Place Election. I wait in my dear ²² Friends & Friendship, with ardent Desire, the happy End of all Complaint, when I shall grow fatter in Jesus Arms & Lap." So far his own account.

[illegible]

After the above incident Schrepf would not permit him to wear
wade any longer ~~and~~ ^{and} he bathed himself with such little
matters as he could do in the house. I wrote to him with Faithfulness
& P. Capron as long as he could. I tell he betook himself entirely
to the sick room. Here he enjoyed a perfect Sabbath in the presence
of his bleeding heart. It was a Capron to visit him. I spoke with
him all out law. He never liked to hear any thing about his race,
very, but with ^{that} his happy ^{most} ^{good} Hans. He was patient in his ^{to} ^{admiration} ^{for} ^{said} ^{he} ^{one} ^{as} ^{was} ^{there} ^{to} ^{make} ^{my} ^{liberty} ^{to} ^{be} ^{able} ^{to} ^{do} ^{any}.

I ^{was} thankful to his ^{kind} ^{words} ^{spoken} ^{with} ^{me} as also to his ^{kind} ^{words} ^{spoken} ^{with} ^{me} for every thing he
enjoyed. At the last ^{words} ^{spoken} ^{with} ^{me} before the communion he said I think
this will be the last time I enjoy this Gospel here, & when
it was brought to him he enjoyed it with great devotion, & a particular
awful feeling attended it.

awful Feeling attended it. The 2^d left Times his Clasp was bent he desired it might be in his
Lick Room, which was granted. He told his Clasp that his Longing
to be with our Sav^r was the only Concern he now had, and entreated
them to beg our Sav^r to hear him soon. Feb. 2^d he was so very
weak that we expected him soon to go Home; his present situation and
Longing to go Home was charming and pretty; but he was very
for him, & tho' he could speak no more, yet he gave signs with a
most lovely childlike aspect, & said at the end of every Verse Thou
Feb: the 3^d. betwixt 3 & 4 in the Morning he called to his first Visiter
& wanted to get up. Upon being asked Why? he answered, I am not
yet at Home; I want to go Home to our Sav^r. He was told that
our Sav^r would soon come & take him to himself, which he
was ^{much} pleas'd to be assur'd of; & thus he continued quite comforted
to his last Moment, when about 8 o'clock his Friends came
to him, & he grew pale in Death's Arms & lay with the flapping
of his Cloak, during the singing the Word. And now dying
Mouth exclaiming, on thy dear Breast receive me and with
these fine Texts The Sparrow hath found an House, and
the Swallow a Nest. Let Tent. With my Spirit within me
I seek thee early. My Invisior, Ah! was I with Thee.

The Feeling attending his Departure was incalculable. It caused the Eyes of the young people to overflow. For he was indeed, there, the one Eye could not see him yet the Feeling testified it sufficiently.