

When all thy mercies O my God  
My rising soul surveys.  
Transported with the view <sup>lost</sup> thy  
In wonder, love, and praise.

Looking back upon days which  
are gone, a long life which  
has passed away as a tale  
which is told. — What cause  
do I find for deep humilia-  
tion and adoring gratitude  
to my gracious God and  
Saviour who, thro' all the  
changes, and chances of this  
mortal life, has helped me  
to this hour, and given  
me a good hope through  
grace; I would fain leave  
a poor but grateful testimony

of his love, mercy, & forbearing  
goodness to me, His poor  
erring child. In London I  
first saw the light - 17.83.  
one of four, two only survived.  
My Father one of a numerous  
family, was early cast upon  
the world to obtain his  
own bread - married early.  
My dear old Grandfather  
I will remember, he had  
at that time some situation  
in the India House having  
lost all his property and  
mainly speaking through  
the carelessness of a female  
servant. Being then in  
good trade in Kent she  
instead of cutting off a

candle she wanted, burnt  
it off and not taking  
time to observe whether the  
wick of the separated part  
was extinguished, left it, it  
is supposed still burning.  
In the night a fire broke  
out, & everything was consum-  
ed, nothing being insur-  
ed, all was lost. As soon as  
they could, - came to London,  
through whom he obtained  
this situation. I know  
not, but that he appeared  
to me a very dear old man.  
My Father was at this time  
in the employ of the Right  
Hon<sup>able</sup> J. Sheridan a noted  
political character, who  
for his second wife married



a lady related to the late  
Lady Elizabeth Whitbread  
Mother of my beloved

Mrs. Waldegrave - Part of this  
lady's fortune was expended  
to purchase an estate in  
Sherry to be settled upon  
herself and children.

While we were yet young my  
Father undertook to be

Land Steward or to be Bailiff  
of this estate - we all removed  
to the country & dwelt in a  
pretty cottage on the borders  
of a romantic common.

Even now the remembrance  
is sweet and I seem to inhale  
the fragrance of the beautiful  
Moss roses in the little garden  
before the house.

Yet there my precious time  
was wasted - there my false  
views of life were nursed up -  
Our dear parents were strictly  
moral - We went to church  
and learned Catechisms -  
but of the depravity of human  
nature I had no knowledge  
of vital religion we might be  
said to be almost as ignorant  
as the heathen. I had  
exalted ideas of what human  
nature might be - and aimed  
with all my might to be what  
I called good. I read with  
sagerness works of fiction - loved  
to dwell upon those characters  
who were represented as  
overcoming all difficulties  
by their own generosity of  
heart and nobleness of mind.

I might spend much time in  
enumerating the trouble this  
caused me - not finding mine  
whose ideas presumed as mine  
and constantly failing to attain  
all I intended to do I sighed  
murmuring - turned back upon  
myself - indulging a morbid  
sensitivity, finding no rest  
for the sole of my foot.  
My gracious God and Saviour  
in His love and mercy intended  
that I should yet become  
acquainted with His love  
and mercy manifested  
in the redemption of a  
lost world. About this time  
the Lady of the mansion  
having a dear little boy  
now old enough to commu-  
nicate - Master A. B. C. took a

journey to me, requested to  
have me to care for this little  
boy, promising to care for  
me as her own. To the utmost  
of her power she performed  
this, but it would surprise  
many to hear of the straits to  
which she was often reduced,  
by the thoughtless extravagance  
of her husband. Having some  
qualities she admired, my  
self-righteous delusions were  
strengthened. After a few  
years upon the marriage  
of ~~my~~ dear departed sister to  
Mr. Whit<sup>son</sup> ~~son~~ <sup>son</sup> of a substan-  
tial farmer of Ripley, a  
neighbouring village, I return-  
ed home. This match was  
thought so good that there was



much rejoicing but in a few years came a sad reverse my brother in law's affairs became embarrassed. And alas! he concealed the embarrassment from my sister till the last moment, from mistaken feelings of shame and tenderness. And thus put it out of her power to help to avert the impending ruin. His friends helped him but a dealer in cattle he failed to a large amount. In the end my sister and her two dear boys returned to the parental roof. And Mr. Whitburn went out to the Cape of Good Hope with letters of recommendation from the late lamented Mr. Whit-

bread the faithful friend of all whose cause he was next to. And I again left home going to the sister in-law of the lady whose little boy I had cared for. This lady travelled a great deal and had some time before offered to pay a person to stay with her, mother if my Mother would spare me which then she did not, but now we think it providential we did. We saw a great deal of the country but grieving over the troubles of my family - I enjoyed much less than I might have done; and at the end of two years thought myself

highly favoured, when I  
heard that the eldest daughter  
of Mr. & the Lady Elizabeth  
Whitbread was going to be mar-  
ried to the Rev. <sup>Wm.</sup> Cap. Mon-  
creaf of Walsgrave. And  
that the Lady Elizabeth wished  
to present me to her daughter.  
The character of the Lady I  
greatly admired, what I  
heard of the gentleman  
prepared me to honour him.  
In the Lady Elizabeth and  
Mr. Whitbread I felt an idol  
out of admiration. They  
had tried to aid my  
brother in law and my  
father, I felt grateful

and devoted myself en-  
thusiastically to their  
daughters. In 1812. I came  
into Bedfordshire, after my  
brother in law left England  
we heard of his safe arrival  
at the Cape - of (letters) having  
obtained a situation but  
he had had two fits of  
sickness - was then going  
some hundred miles up  
the country, promising to send  
amusements, but we heard  
no more and the constant  
state of anxiety under-  
mined the health of my  
beloved sister. And some  
wholesome regulations  
being made at Somerset  
House - so that no person



could any longer hold a situa-  
tion in that office who did  
not fulfill the duties of it  
in person - obliged my father  
~~who~~ who had long held one  
employing a Deputy until  
he gave it up to remove his  
family to London which  
was a great pleasure to me  
as we sometimes came to  
London - but at Cardington  
I was treated with the great-  
est kindness and confidence  
I went among the soldiers  
searching for and relieving  
their wants. Doing all I  
could for them with the  
approbation of Cap<sup>t</sup> & my  
beloved Mr. Waldegrave  
whose Aunt the Lady St. John

being a member of the  
B<sup>apt</sup> Church invited me  
and my friend Mr. Heir  
to go to the Chapel at Bedford  
in the evening of Easter day 1813.  
we were pleased but no particu-  
lar impression was made upon  
either - on the Easter Sunday  
following Lady St. John invited  
me to the love feast. I was  
pleased and in the meantime  
becoming more intimately  
acquainted with St. Thomas  
Smith late St. Hannah's B<sup>apt</sup>  
resident at Cardington &  
whose family had joined  
the B<sup>apt</sup>. my knowledge  
of the Brethren and attach-  
ment to them increased  
Then has she refreshed

my soul by accounts she  
has brought of persons &  
meetings, and now my  
Father being much embar-  
rased by the arrangement  
of the affairs of the Charities  
before alluded to, it was  
but the prelude to a train  
of sorrow - & more recently  
I felt because in <sup>the</sup> persons of  
three near and dear to me.  
In 1810 we lost our mother  
and I driven by the departure  
of from Cardington an  
enlightened & serene, often  
accompanied the dear  
family of our worthy  
Wm & P. Brown to the  
Marrian Chapel finding  
comfort and one Sabbath I

morning Wm. Harkie preached  
when he gave out the hymn  
(in the old H.B.) The true good  
Shepherd God's own son & when  
he came to the 2 verse For thou  
hast shed His precious blood  
and now His own doth claim  
I was as it were transfixed  
to my seat what I felt I  
cannot describe. then surely  
the Lord gave me the first  
intimation of His will in  
this matter yet this deeply  
impressed I heeded not  
this intimation as I ought  
to have done. Yet I was during  
this time fervently praying  
Lord thou hast blessed me  
by these people bless me with  
them. I began to consider



how strong the claims which  
my dear Mr. Halliwell  
had upon me solely for  
her kindness to me -  
from the position of a sister  
to her mother's consideration  
of her mother's parents had  
in every way endeavored to  
relieve her from the trouble of  
our family. I found too  
that to attend to the chapel  
as I wished. I could not help  
my duties to her and then  
confronted both Mr. Halliwell's  
letter as a apology for the  
Church of England - gave  
up going to the chapel - satisfied  
myself with what I heard  
at Church - certainly believing  
myself right as far as I thought  
the principle.

with blood - whether it  
passed on - Mr. Halliwell  
let Mr. Halliwell in July  
the same year - was a great  
for I had been in touch. My mother  
my Mary came to me - I was  
living in my mother's - nothing  
would I do for - but even if  
I had not given any more  
I would have said I was  
in my mother's - I was  
in the hope of my mother  
shattering with I was going out  
by getting a new edition  
of the book of the Bible - the story  
brother would be a great  
part of my mother's - I was  
in the hope of my mother  
had during the time of my  
of her mother's - I was  
in my mother's - I was  
of my mother's - I was

Cap.<sup>m</sup> Waldegrave with his family  
in the Continent - we went  
thru France into Italy - we  
had scarcely been fifteen  
days in France when we lost  
their dear eldest daughter  
of dysentery - which was then  
prevalent at St. Quinten  
the eldest boy was nearly  
gone but Sir Charles Pons  
an English Physician  
who proved to be a friend  
of the late Lord of Waldegrave  
arrived & was providentially led  
thru the town and met by  
Cap.<sup>m</sup> Waldegrave came to  
the inn prescribed for  
him and he was spared.  
The dear little girl was ten  
years old & was very  
dearly attached to me. I

could not have loved any  
one more. The moment she was  
dressed she left her home &  
we generally passed our  
time together. And was the  
journey to me, after she left.  
Reminded constantly & with  
to Bedford, hoping to retreat  
to the St. House there, but detain-  
ed from mentioning my  
retire by a sense of obligation  
to beloved W.<sup>m</sup> Waldegrave,  
and the grief I knew it  
would cause her, if we parted.  
so there was the desire,  
pent up in my own  
bosom, and thinking.  
On our return in 1825.  
really in 1819, the house



was found too small  
for the family and they  
removed first to Stock  
Eastmarch and ultimately  
to a family seat in  
Somersetshire. I saw them  
through all this - and  
after many trials and  
conflicts which I need  
not detail on the 26<sup>th</sup>  
of October 1821 was received  
in the S<sup>c</sup>'s House at Redford  
with true sisterly kind-  
ness by S<sup>r</sup>. W. B. B. B.  
S<sup>r</sup>. B. B. and the  
sisters dwelling in  
the house. —

I went a learner and  
was a learner still  
Many changes have I seen  
and passed through among  
the Brethren and have  
had much to learn and  
in a way I little an-  
ticipated. Holding an  
office in our schools is par-  
ticularly trying to those  
who join the Church  
in mature years - who  
have not being brought  
up among them  
But I bless the Lord for  
my call of grace and

rejoice with humiliation  
to be numbered with His  
people and among the  
flock of His fold. As in-  
dividuals & especially  
myself we do I fear come  
far short of what we ought  
to be. O may He graciously  
pour out His Holy Spirit  
upon us so that quickened  
to new life we may love  
Him more and serve  
Him better. Soon I may  
through abounding work

- Arise, mercy see His  
gracious face - and  
would acknowledge the  
tender sympathy and  
kindness which during  
this season of weakness  
I have received from  
my beloved Brethren  
and Sisters in the  
Lord. & May He bless  
keep and guide them  
into eternal life.

Saturday. February 14. 1852.

Mrs. Georgiana Edwards.