

Esther Proston, who went to our Lady on Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> 1771.

was born at Kirkheaton Apr 8 1749, of the Eagle Parrents  
 She has left the following, Concerning her Course, I have  
 from my earliest years, felt the Drawings of the holy spirit  
 upon my heart, tho I did not understand it at that time,  
 When about 4 years old, I asked my Parrents to take me with  
 them to Church, which they promised me soon, having asked my  
 mother what the Church was, She told me it was Gods House,  
 which made me very desirous of being there, in so much that  
 my Parrents being from home, I desired to be carry'd in a  
 Coffin & bury'd before they came back upon their return they  
 took me with them, When there, the impresson of the divine  
 Presence of God struck my mind, so as I never had felt the like  
 and remain'd with me so that, when among my school Companions,  
 if any one told a lie or said any Bad thing, it made me much  
 afraid thinking and often saying if we was good Children then  
 God would love us, but if not so, we should go to hell about  
 9 years of age I was taken ill of a fever, which I had hardly  
 recover'd before the same return'd, during which time I was very  
 uneasy, feeling my own depravity, and not knowing how to  
 amend my self, upon my recovery, I learn'd to read the Bible  
 especially the new Testament Concerning Our Sav<sup>r</sup> Death & Sufferings  
 tho I did not understand, that He suffer'd for me but  
 thought by reading, Praying, & doing nothing bad, I should  
 obtain the favour & love of God, yet this afforded me no real  
 satisfaction, I thought if my Companions where but of one mind  
 with me then we could serve the Lord, but they were not of  
 my mind, I often thought if there was but a people in this world,  
 of one heart to love the Lord, and if I might but live among  
 them I should then be happy, but not having the Opportunity  
 of such Acquaintance at that time, my former Companions soon  
 overcame me & in my 13 year took me to the dancing school  
 with them, which together with my inclination, led me aside from  
 my former Convictions, so that I now lik'd nothing better than  
 singing & dancing, this did not last very long, when by accident  
 I got a Funeral Sermon, upon the death of a young Person, the  
 Text was Remember thy Creator in the days of thy Youth,  
 This brought me again to recollect my self, I thought if I go  
 on in this way I shall surely be lost, whereupon I began to  
 leave



leave it of as much as I could, but my companions being very  
dear to me made it very difficult to me, on the other hand  
abnormal circumstances brought me to a further thought  
concerning my self as I narrowly escaped being crowned 3 times  
but was providentially preserved, after which time I could no  
longer in any of my former amusements or company find any  
pleasure or satisfaction, but was continually uneasy in my mind  
thus for our late sister, Mrs M<sup>rs</sup> Ingham began to preach in  
the churches she went to hear him and by his means got acquainted  
with the B<sup>r</sup> when she found to her great joy the people she  
had so long wished for, she soon got ~~an~~ admission into their  
fellowship, was rec'd into the Cong<sup>y</sup> July 26<sup>th</sup> 1754 & admitted to the  
Holy Communion on 9<sup>th</sup> 81<sup>st</sup> her desire to live with the sisters, caused  
her to leave her father's house soon after, & she lived for some  
time with a few sisters at Robert town, from whence she removed  
to Southhampton County 1746, where she went on in her usual  
simple course till she with some others moved to the House  
becoming where she remained till the Child<sup>ren</sup> becoming came down  
to Southhampton, when she and more sisters went to care for the  
Child<sup>ren</sup> ~~and~~ <sup>where</sup> she was much beloved for her simple &  
faithfull attachment to our Sav<sup>r</sup> & his Cong<sup>y</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> 9<sup>th</sup> 1752  
she had the grace to be one of the first inhabitants of the  
Church of the fullness, she ~~then~~ had also the grace to be  
present at the Holy Communion, kept by the late Disciple in  
1754, when the Discipleship was renewed in the Cong<sup>y</sup> she  
enjoyed that grace several times as their Disciples, amidst all  
these favours, she knew herself as the poorest creature,  
and had a deep impression of what our Saviour had done for  
her, & thro the deep sense of undeserved grace, she could not  
bear an unactive thought, but made it known to her Sisters  
with bitter complaints, that our Sav<sup>r</sup> had not got the better  
of such & such things, for which he had suffered so much,  
Nor could ever rest till he had comforted her over every  
in the sorrowlike connection with our Sav<sup>r</sup> and the diff<sup>y</sup>  
and was a real blessing to all about her, and to whom

she was known, she was an example of True Love and  
simplicity, she spoke as familiarly with our Sav<sup>r</sup>, as if  
he was her Bosom friend, about all her matters inwardly  
and outwardly, and took her daily strength from this dear  
Bosom, Her Memory will ~~not~~ Remain dear to her Church,  
as the beauty of a happy Sinner<sup>s</sup> was seen, and felt  
in her On account of her great weakness she has for  
several months past been in the sickroom, where she was  
an exceeding agreeable Companion to the Sick, and as much  
as her strength would permit waited on them with great  
pleasure, On the 15<sup>th</sup> of Feb<sup>r</sup> she got up in the Morning  
as usual But soon after was heard to groan, when the  
Sisters came to her she ~~sat~~ <sup>was lying</sup> against the wall, being  
struck with a fall on her right Side & Speechless, for  
some days we were in hopes she would Recover, and be  
enabled to speak again, but found all means up, to  
no purpose, Our gracious Lord had already ~~imposed~~  
this ~~stroke~~ <sup>stroke</sup> and made her in her last days partaker  
of his sufferings, she continued mostly rational, till  
on the 25<sup>th</sup> at 9 o'clock in the evening, when her precious  
soul took flight into the arms of her Beloved, just  
as the horns were blowing, for the sacrament Love feast,