

Feb 13/57

Personalia of the late 1st Ann Hill

She herself has left the following Acc^t. but without Date, and probably has been written a considerable Time ago.

I was born at Horsforth in the Parish of Quispel April 29th 1700 & educated in the Church of England. I was under strong Convictions from my Childhood, so that I often wept & did not know what would become of such a Disobedient Child as I was. I desired in my Heart to be brought into a better Situation, & that I might not often grieve such a good natured Mother as I had. I said often from the ground of my Heart, what will become of me for I am naughty & know nothing. My Mother frequently caused religious Books & Sermons to be read in our House, one of which was all concerning the sufferings of my own Lord Jesus. This Book mentioning so much of Blood & unutterable sufferings ~~which~~ that ~~excited~~ I was quite struck in the ground of my Heart. I asked my Mother who this was that suffered all these Things, & wept exceedingly. She said it was a holy Prophet whom the Jews had used so barbarously; that we had no Hand in it & that I had no Occasion to weep so; but this answer ^{did} not satisfy me ~~that I was not to be~~ & I remained in great Heaviness & my Heart did throbe exceedingly. I wanted to see this Book again but my Mother would not let me have it as it affected me so much. I was then about 10 Years of Age. I continued to be deeply concerned at Times about my soul. In my 19th Year I was ^{disobedient} against my Mother's Will, which afterwards also gave me much Condemnⁿ, but such a poor miserable Wretch was I at that Time that I was resolved to do ~~but~~ the Consequences be what they would; but my own dear Lamb who had pursued me from my Infancy, continued to lay heavy Convictions upon me that I might be brought to Him. When Mr Ingham began to preach I was one of his Hearers & was stirred to seek Salvation most earnestly, & being ^{one} almost distracted on Account of Sin & Guilt, a

"Voice sounded in my Heart, which said: All the Sins thou hast committed are forgiven thee. I was ~~afflicted~~ ^{led} into the Brethren's Society in the Year 1743, ~~and into the Congⁿ March 2^d 1750~~. Being once in great Anguish, the Voice again sounded in my Heart, & said: keep close to me & thou shalt see that I will always help thee. I was still not so fully satisfied as I wanted to be, ^{was} in very great Trouble at Times, & often cried out, Who will deliver me from this hellish Pain? And in this Situation I was when our Sav^r appeared to me with those stripes which He bore, & in his sufferings and Blood. He then cleansed me ~~with~~ with his Blood, and my Heart melted before Him. Then I was set at Liberty and enabled to cleave entirely to Him. This was about the Year 1747. ^{I was led into the Congⁿ March the 2^d 1750.} My dear Sav^r has been so good to such a poor sinner as I am that I can never praise Him enough. Oh what a Sav^r He is! I now love Him above all Things. I also love my dear ~~Wife~~ & ~~sons~~ very much. Oh how thankful am I that my good Lamb has brought me among them, & it is He himself that has done it. If He had not a love to the Worst of Sinners, He never would have had Mercy upon me. Oh what a great Thing it is to me that He has received me & given me to see his Congⁿ in the true Light, to be joined to which makes my very Heart rejoice. Now I beg Him to make me just as He would have me to be in all Things. He has carried me hitherto with Blessings unutterable. My Lord & my Lover all Thanks be given unto Thee for what thou hast done for me wretched sinner. Thou hast said that whatever we ask according to thy Will, thou wilt hear us & grant our Request. I beg thee to bless my Husband & Children; & thou wilt do it. Thou wilt keep my Husband so long till thou canst shew Mercy unto him. Oh thy Mercy and Kindness is exceeding great towards me." to her own Account.

She was admitted to the holy Communion with the Congⁿ June the 21st 1751. Her Marriage was blessed ^{with} 2 sons and 6

Daughters, 3 Daughters are still living one of whom is a S.^r in London. She took such Delight in being present with the Cong^o that no Weather could prevent her from coming constantly hither even while she lived (at Raden) some Miles from hence; but of late Years she has lived nearer the Hall & could come more easily to the Meetings. She seemed to have an unlimited Confidence in our Sav^r, of whom ^{in his goodness to her} she always spoke in strong Terms, that it even appeared to some as if ~~the~~ her Declarations on this Head were not always from a real Experience, however she remained unalterable herein to her last Moment, that there was no Room to doubt of her being in a true Connexion with our Sav^r. She has been infirm for some Time. Her Husband departed cheerfully to our Sav^r 10 Days before her, after which, weak as she was, she wished to be taken into the Widows Choir-House, but upon S^r Cammerhoff's speaking with her on that Head she was contented. She was frequently visited by S^r Cammerhoff to her Comfort, & was constantly looking out ~~for~~ & earnestly desiring for the coming of our Sav^r, who took her gently & happily to himself the 15th of Dec^r 1770 at 7 o'Clock in the Morning in the 78th Year of her Age.