

William Walker.

Some particulars of the life of the late Sirg. Wm.  
Walker, written by himself.

I was Born Dec<sup>r</sup> 12. 1725. at Gheddly, Norwich of a Parish  
of Blackport, Cheshire, and Bapt<sup>d</sup> in y<sup>e</sup> Church of England, but brought up a  
Puritan <sup>persecuted</sup> my Mother being a Dissent<sup>r</sup> I don't remember  
anything <sup>particular</sup> ~~except~~ <sup>of it at that time</sup> in my childhood, I shall pass over that time  
without saying any thing till I came into my 16<sup>th</sup> year, about which  
time I left my Mother's House, I went to service, where <sup>was</sup> my  
Father left this life leaving my Mother with Five Children, Godham  
was eldest, and being naturally of a thinking Disposition I was brought  
into great perplexity of mind, and one day being exceedingly distressed  
~~there~~ not comprehending what would become of us, that Text of  
Scripture dashed & overpower'd in to my Mind. I will be a Father  
to y<sup>e</sup> Fatherless, & a friend to y<sup>e</sup> Widow W<sup>ors</sup>. that I was comforted  
all my needless <sup>was</sup> ~~concerns~~ directly dissipates, believing at y<sup>e</sup> same  
time most positively that y<sup>e</sup> Lord changeth not, but what he saith is yea  
and Amen. In my 17<sup>th</sup> year circumstances required ~~it~~ that I chang'd  
my place ~~where I was~~ <sup>any</sup> ~~and~~ <sup>where</sup> I enter'd into service in a  
Gardens house in my own native place, <sup>which</sup> ~~at the time when~~ <sup>was</sup> ~~Mr. Toulson~~ <sup>at the time when</sup>  
Engbam<sup>th</sup> Mr. Toulson came into these parts to preach y<sup>e</sup> Gospel, which being  
soon noised about, I with many ~~many~~ <sup>many</sup> went out of curiosity to hear  
I saw wherein these Preachers differ'd from the generality of People, not  
understanding the meaning thereof, but was soon brought thereby to most  
serious and concern'd reflections about my miserable and lost condition by  
nature, which I really felt as plain that I was at once convinced <sup>that</sup> ~~that~~ <sup>of</sup> Jesus  
did not save me, I was undone forever ~~and~~ <sup>and</sup> this I now believ'd y<sup>e</sup> Minister  
testimony that Jesus came into y<sup>e</sup> world to bleed and die in order to save  
sinners, yet y<sup>e</sup> World and its vanities at times got the upper hand appearing  
to me in most brutal and lively colours, (as such) then thought them to be  
and engag'd my heart and mind so at times that they had certainly prov'd Mad

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my dear Saviour, understanding he had thoughts of peace over me, after which, time  
I went on in an uninterrupted intercourse with him, my best friend, who was become  
my dearest and nearest object in the midst of the World. When joined M.<sup>r</sup>  
Taylor's Society, but a disagreeable circumstance happened to him which <sup>was</sup> the  
occasion of his leaving us, & y<sup>e</sup> means of B.<sup>r</sup> Rehobusen's coming into these  
parts in order to settle a regular Society of which I was one & frequented the break-  
ing at Duckenfield as often as possible, and in 1740. according to my request  
I went to live with y<sup>e</sup> <sup>Rev</sup> at Duckenfield to which, I had a particular call,  
in my heart from our dear Saviour, & being quite clear in my calls, I spent  
my time cheerful and happy. In y<sup>e</sup> year 1750. I came with y<sup>e</sup> more  
to live in Thirsk. Visiting him in Yorks<sup>hire</sup>, during my stay there I was  
re-<sup>ceived</sup> into y<sup>e</sup> Cong<sup>regation</sup> & became a partaker of y<sup>e</sup> holy communion which, both was  
very weighty to me. In Dec<sup>r</sup> 1752. I moved with some more to Fubrecht  
in order to begin the Choir-house where I so spent y<sup>e</sup> remainder part of my  
life. In April following I became partaker of y<sup>e</sup> holy Sacrament with this  
Cong<sup>regation</sup> which grace was rec<sup>d</sup> by me, with ad<sup>mirable</sup> sensibility - & my unworthiness  
which made me very timorous <sup>about myself</sup> ~~concerning the Communion~~, but I was strengthened  
by my dear Saviour's ~~renewing~~ <sup>comforting</sup> ~~anything~~ <sup>me</sup> ~~to~~ <sup>in</sup> my great a-  
bandonment, so that thro' his grace I have been enabled to partake thereof ever  
since when ever this Cong<sup>regation</sup> on our Choir <sup>have been partaker</sup> ~~have been partaker~~ with the enjoyment  
thereof, to my real strength and help thro' the <sup>valle</sup> ~~valle~~ of Tears: and my heart  
rejoices when ever <sup>the time for it</sup> ~~it~~ <sup>is</sup> ~~approach~~ <sup>is</sup> draweth nigh, and was it to rehearse only  
<sup>some</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>part</sup> of the particulars of my course, relative to the internal <sup>the</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>since</sup> I came  
into this house at 16 I make it <sup>the description of it is here long</sup> ~~it~~ <sup>therefore</sup> ~~it~~ <sup>shall</sup> ~~it~~ <sup>leave</sup> ~~it~~ <sup>with</sup> ~~only <sup>doing</sup>  
The following concerning what the Lord has done on my soul. I sought him, &  
found him, while he drew me with the cords of his love & has overcome me so  
far, that I am made one spirit with him, never more to part to an endless  
Eternity, what I have experienced in the enjoyment of him from time to time,  
and how I have been instructed by his faithful schooling in y<sup>e</sup> knowledge of  
myself, of sin, of frailty, & nothingness, in stillness, will be matter of thanks & praise with~~

Martha Walker

Our late dear Sister has in the above gives a faithful & true account of her ~~course~~<sup>simple</sup> thro' time. She was a humble, devoted soul, & counted it a privilege to serve our Saviour, whenever it was in her power. She has been 45 Years a very faithful sickwarden in the Single Sister house here, during which time she has attended ~~125~~ Sisters, who have departed to our Saviour. In her office she was truly disinterested, impartial, tender to every one, patient and loving; so that all both those who <sup>have</sup> departed under her care, & who have recovered, always spoke of her with the greatest regard, and her memory remains venerable among us.

She remained in the sickroom as long as she was able, till within few Months before her departure. She being troubled with a complaint in her leg, in which she suffered much pain, she <sup>was</sup> leave to retire from her office, & she spent her time amidst all her <sup>affairs</sup> cheerfully & happily, in hopes of soon seeing her Saviour.



Her complaint towards the close of her life became  
infirmitie more extensive, & spread exceedingly; a mortifi-  
cation having taken place. But amidst all this, she was  
exceedingly patient, & ardently longing to be at home  
with the Lord. One night, shortly before ~~her~~ end, she  
desired that her friends might be called; to whom,  
when she came, she said, that she ~~was~~ wished to tell  
her, how unapprehably happy she was, & how near  
she felt our Lord, so that she could almost forget  
her bodily pain. In this happy state she continued  
till it pleased our Lord, on the 22<sup>d</sup> of Janry to release  
her redeemed soul, which when she fell gently & hap-  
pily asleep in the 75<sup>th</sup> Year of her age.

Having rec<sup>d</sup> the Delivery of her Child

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and we must give her testimony that she lived in a near  
Connexion with our Saviour, and knew herself as a sinner.  
often said she was the poorest Creature our Saviour could  
have chosen, but was very thankful for her happy lot  
of grace, the <sup>sts</sup> sometimes would tell her how well she  
might have had it in the world, she always said what  
would that have been to me if I had never known my law.  
he is of more worth to me than all this world can give.  
towards the latter end of her life she was very often speaking  
of the goodness of our Saviour, as she frequently had very  
bad rest in the Night she would say in the Morning how near our  
Saviour had been to her, and that she could tell him every thing



and that it was impossible to tell how kind he was to her  
he had never done her any thing but good, on our last  
festival when she with the other sick ones had her share  
of the Holy Com<sup>n</sup> brought to her, she was remarkably  
cheerful and spoke afterwards of the grace she had enjoyed  
and how near our Lord had been to her, she had had several  
bad nights but no one thought her end so near, on the 6<sup>th</sup> in  
the Night she was taken very ill, and in the Morning  
the Doctor went to see her who told her she would not live  
long, she was so delighted at the thought of it that she  
could not express her joy, her breath was so bad that she  
could not keep her bed but was obliged to sit up day & night