

FW/13/162

The Course of Life of the Youth John Ellis. He departed Augth 17. 1764.

He was born at Mirfield August the 8th 1748, and in his Infancy was a soft and tender hearted Child. When he was 4 years old he went to live with his Uncle Brook, who gave him such Education as all Working = People's Children ~~commonly have~~ in this Country commonly have, till he was 7 years old, at which Time his Uncle ~~died~~, & then he came home to his Father & Mother, who just then were beginning to hear the Methodists, & finding that this their Son was grown a wild Child in his Uncle's House, it gave them much Concern about him, they however shewed all possible Faithfulness to him, in keeping him out of such Company as they thought might do him harm. When he was 9 years old his Father & Mother began to hear the Bⁿ, and he seemed to have a liking to go with them; but there appeared no abiding signs of our Sav^r's gaining his Heart while he was in his Children's years. After he was received into the ^{great} Boys Choir, an Alteration happened to him, & a Change was wrought in him, which was a great Satisfaction to his Parents; his whole Concern seemed to be now after our Sav^r alone, & being entirely his, & he also grew solid in his daily Conduct; & he was beloved by his Choir Labourers. After this Change had been wrought in him his continual Longing was to get a Place in the Choir House, & which he had hopes of obtaining, but several circumstances contributed to put it off from Time to Time untill his Father went home a Year & a half ago, & about that Time there appeared strong Symptoms in him of a Consumption, which confined him at Home with his Mother. His Mother being left a Widow with several small Children, & he thought it incumbrant upon him to help her according to his Ability & Strength, & behaved like a Father among the younger Children, & exerted himself in the Family beyond his Strength. He was often grieved at himself because he could not ~~work~~ always work as he gladly would, & it also went near him when he saw the other Children careless & slothful. Tho' he was very weak, yet he went to his Meetings both at Fulneck & in the Chapel beyond his Ability, & it was a Pleasure & Refreshment to him. He was openhearted & free when ^{now} spoken with, & retained much of his childlike Simplicity, & went on in a steady Course, having our Sav^r for his Object. Several Means were made Use of in order to help him, but our Sav^r's Intention was to prepare him to take him to Himself. His ~~Mind~~ Mind was taken up with Thoughts of going to our Sav^r for some Time before he went, but was cautious in speaking much about it before his Mother, lest it might grieve her. In the Morning of the 17th of August, which was the Day of his Departure, he said to his Mother: "Do not you be grieved about me or concerned about me; I am certain of my Happiness, & shall now soon go to our Sav^r." Bⁿ Worthington came to him about 7 o'clock, & found him in a Slumber, but upon singing a Verse he awoke, & said: "I have been with our Sav^r, & his Wounds were delightful to look at; He will soon come again & take me entirely to Himself". He was perfectly sensible, & knew every Body about him. As Breathing

seemed difficult to him, he was asked if he had much Pain? To which he
answered; no Pain at all. He begged that his Bones might be laid at Fulneck,
among his B^{ro} where his Father's were also laid; he then fell into a gentle Slum=
ber, & remained so till 3 o'clock in the Afternoon, when his Soul took Flight to its
beloved Friend & Redeemer, having spent 16 years & 9 Days in this Mortal Tabernacle.