

FW/3/63

The Course of life of the Widdower Our Happy
departed Bro: Abraham Stockwell

Departed Dec: 1. 1761.

Abraham Stockwell was born at Little Town ^{the Parish of} in Bristol,
~~Devon~~ March 4th 1698. As his Parents did not go to
one & the same place of Religion, His Father being of the
Church of England, brought his Son Abraham ^{up} ~~the~~ ^{to the}
~~same Religion~~. When he was about 14 years old He
went apprentice to a Coachmaker & Dresser at Gurne
with ~~which~~ ^{whom} Master he staid a year as Journey man
after he had served his apprenticeship ~~Out with him~~.
He afterwards began at his Fathers House to do
Business for himself as Master & had always
the Character of an honest & sober young man,
at the Age of 26th He was married to his late wife
Hannah Stockwell who went happily home to her Lord
Some years ago before him. With her ~~they~~ ^{he} had 4
Children, of which the first born Son returned again
^{soon after the Birth} to his Mother City soon after he was born into this
world, 2^d ^{of their} Daughters are single Sisters in the
Congregation ~~(viz)~~ The Eldest ~~is a Sister in~~ ^{is a Sister in} Mary ~~lives~~ in the
~~Childrens~~ ^{Girls} Economy with the Girls & the other ~~(viz)~~ Jane
^{removed directly after} ~~has now since~~ her Fathers happy departure in the single
Sisters Economy at Gurne, The 3^d & Youngest Daughters
departure out of this time, was the blessed opportuni-
ty of our Bro: & Sisters Stockwells Awakening, for
they both became very uneasy in their minds on
account of the ~~decease~~ ^{decease} of their Child, And Mr
Ingham happened at that time to preach about in this Country

They went to hear him & ~~concerned~~ ^{concerned} about their salvation
when afterwards the Bro: came to Yorkshire & preached the Gospel
and Bro: Spangenberg & Bro: Gekershausen went about & settled
regular Societies. Our Abraham & his wife gave also their names
in, & he was made servant of Gumerall Society then as likewise
Steward, He was loved & respected by all for his faithfulness
& continued in that office very ^{helpful} ^{in this painful} ^{until the end of his} ~~useful~~
~~life~~. He was Rec: into the Congregation June 4th
1748. which was a real grace ~~to him~~ & a lasting blessing
for ~~into~~ ^{on the 18th of the following Nov^r} his poor heart, ~~in Nov^r~~ following the same year
(~~viz~~ ^{viz} 1748) He had the grace to be admitted for the first
time to the holy Communion of the Body & Blood of Jesus
Christ in the Congregation, since which time, He used
to say I grew in grace & in knowledge both of our dear
Saviour, & also myself, & became really happy as a poor
Sinner, and indeed in that happy Sinner career & with
that blessed Magdalene Lot, He went on happily to the joy
and satisfaction of the Labourers & when ever ^{he was} ~~one~~ ^{spoke with}
him, ^{it was evidently to be felt} ~~one felt~~ ^{that} his poor heart had fellowship with
the ^{man of sin} ~~Lamb of God~~, in whom he had found his peace ^{especially}
- was his choir course as a real widower Liturgic, & edifying
He used ^{sometimes} to visit his Bro: the widowers in this plan some
times with blessing. His External & Economical affairs
did not ^{go on} ~~prosper~~ so well as both he & others could have
wished, and on that account He used sometimes to
have some gloomy moments, for fear he should not be
able to do Justice & pay every Body their own, But as
soon as he had ^{expressed himself on this point} ~~spoken his heart~~ in an open Band like way
to his Labourers ^{and} ~~he was~~ ^{and} ~~clear again~~ ^{and} ~~had confidence in~~
Our Heavenly Father, that Every thing even of that kind would go well

About a half a year before his late Sickness, He felt
himself uncommonly hearty vigorous & well in his bodily
Health, & was able as well as willing to work at his
Business very diligently, so that he lay to several Bros.
I feel my self quite healthy strong & well in my Body &
so he continued untill 8 Nov: 25th in the morning, when
after he had eaten his Breakfast, He was seized all at once
with a violent pain in his bowels, proceeding from ^{the} Gravel
But as he ^{had} formerly had ~~both~~ such like pains He thought it
they would soon go off again, & on that account did not send for
Bros: Ock: untill Friday of 27th, who when he came found
him very sick & in great pain in his poor Tabernacle, but
very tender & a real poor & happy sinner, in his Heart,
closely connected with his best ^{as you might} friends & servants Jesus Christ
On whom he layd he could rely in his bodily pain & had rest
& peace for his soul, when he was asked, if he could like
a Bro: to sit up with him in the Night, He answered O yes
A Bro: a Bro: was dear to me all way, & said jesticaly,
Accordingly it was so ordered, that he had a Bro: Every
Night to sit up with him during his Sickness, the 28th in
the morning Bros: Ock: visited him again & found him
much easier, & when he awoke again at Night, his pain
was abated greatly, but ^{notwithstanding} ~~by all the medicine~~ the Doct:
had given him, the Cause was not yet removed; He kept
again a very tender Band with Bros: Ock: & layd my heart
least unshaken as a poor worm on my unseen & best
friend He is my Support &c, On Sunday of 29th He was
seized with the Hicough which proved very troublesome to
him, but ^{he had} ~~was~~ other ways ^{no more pain} ~~not~~ ^{happy} in his ^{heart}

of 30th in the forenoon when Bro: Oble^r visited him. He found
him sitting up & ^{sometimes he walked} a little in the room ^{at this & other} many
other circumstances, it seems as if he recovered strength &
He spoke again in a tender & kind like manner of his heart &
the connection he had with our dear Saviour ^{that} his
feeling nearer & did comfort him in an uncommon manner.
& said perhaps I may recover again this time, ^{that} he continued
to ~~practically~~ all day, at Night when the Bro: came who was
to sit up with him, He said you see my Bro: I am getting my
supper & was very cheerful until after 11 o'clock when
he went to bed & was soon after seized ^{again} with uncommon great
pain again in his bowels so that he could not lie in bed, but
was helped up into a chair &c, when after some time he was a
little easier again he desired to have some verse sung, but
said all at once O dear ^{how} many people is here, his daughter says
father you only think so, but he looked up again & said O yes they are
angels to convey my poor Saul home &c, then he desired to see Bro:
Oble^r who came there about 3 o'clock in the morning (viz) Dec^r 9th
& found ^{him} full of pain, but sensible, when asked Dear ^{bro} are you
indeed now going home to our Lord & Saviour? He answered with a
saulting song yes, then as soon as the Liturgy began, with
singing first that verse Grant him to lean unshaken &c, the
pain left him, his countenance became more serene & clear
and about 4 o'clock our dearest Lord & Saviour whose
feelings near presence, at this house visit, we had ^{so} long
sensibly felt & enjoyed, ^{helped} took this precious Saul, in stillness
^{out of} from the tabernacle along with him to the church above.
during the singing Pale lips & hid him, Open arms, take him.
In the 64 years, ^{of his age} when the childrens seat for the day was
Behold I come quickly