

Memoir of the Life of our late reverend Vp
happily departed B^r Peter Jacob Planta, who
entered into the joy of his Lord, at Oakbrook,
May the 6th 1815, in the 94th year of
his age, written by himself.



I was born at Jankisfors a town in Sweden, Dec. the 5th, so stale in the year 1721. My Father's name was Jacob Planta & my Mother's maiden name Martha Riedar. They were both of the Lutheran Religion. I had two Sisters, the older was born during my Mother's marriage to her first husband, whose name was Peter Hilling. Our Parents spared no pains in giving us a religious & general Education; we had morning & evening prayers in the family, to which the Servants were also admitted. My dear Mother would often read in the Bible, & after prayers, used to relate to us pleasing scriptural histories, especially such as had a reference to the life, sufferings & death of our Dear Lord & Saviour, & also his conversation with

with his Disciples & some of the persecutions which the latter had to endure for his sake. On such occasions I used to sit on her lap, & sometimes asked what reward the Disciples had for their faithfulness to our Saviour; to which she replied, "They are richly rewarded for they are now exceeding happy with Him in his heavenly kingdom, singing his praises, & adoring him for ever." I said with tears, O my dear Mamma, I wish that I had lived at the time our Saviour was upon earth. I also would have served him & suffered for his sake. My Mother replied weeping, "my dear child, if you had lived at that time you might perhaps have been of the number of those, who cried out, crucify him! crucify him!" I said, O no, I never would, but I should have loved him dearly. She then blessed me, & prayed the Lord to keep me as his property, & to preserve me throughout my future life from sin, & the seductions of this evil world, until I should be with him in his heavenly kingdom, & then added that all those who loved & served him here, would share in the same blessing which his disciples did. — This made a deep impression on my mind, & was the first time when I recd. but

but to have felt a real & tender love &
attachment in my heart to our dear Saviour,
& in the sequel I always wished & prayed that I
might become & remain a true child of
God. When I was about 20 years of age,
I experienced a remarkable preservation
of my life. Having run out of the house
unobserved, with a spoon in my hand, I
came to Lake Wetter, which was not
far distant from our house, & there
being a broad plank laid over the water,
I got to the end of it & was sitting on
it, playing with the water, & throwing
it up with the spoon, admiring the
drops which appeared to me like pearls.

A woman who came to fetch water, called
out to me to take care that I did not fall
into the water, to whom I replied: I will
not fall in, but she had scarcely returned
to her house before she thought that she
heard a plunge in the water, upon
which she set down her pail, & ran
towards the lake. Perceiving me in
the water, she ventured in, & with difficulty
caught hold of me by the hair of my
head, & drawing me out, she laid me
across the plank, believing me to be
dead. She then carried me home to my
Parents, who, with the whole family were
greatly

greatly alarmed, & exceedingly disturbed, as they
could perceive no signs of life in me. I
was however put into a warm bed. After
some time, while they were lamenting over
me, it came to myself & said dear mamma
don't cry for me, I am here, & to the great
joy of the whole family I recovered. At
Fideneau in years, I experienced several
preservations of my life, having been
in danger of losing it, both by fire & water
& once escaped being murdered. My ^{Dear} Parents
being desirous to give me a good education,
procured a private Tutor in the house,
until I went to a large School, in which
I continued till my Father's happy depa-
rture, which took place in my 10th year.
My Mother's intention was that I should
continue my studies, wishing me to be
a Minister of the Gospel, which also accor-
ded with my inclination. However a
Relation persuaded my Mother to put
me apprentice to an eminent Surgeon
& Apothecary in Gothenburg. Here I had
a favorable opportunity to learn Pharmacy
& Chemistry, & as my master had very
extensive practice, & employed me to
visit his patients, I gradually began
to practise myself. I gave considerable
satisfaction to my employer.

Having been awakened to a sense of my

my lost condition, I was for several years
much concerned for my salvation, yea I may
say ever since I was a child, the Holy Ghost
Lassied on his work in my heart, by which
I was prevented from many sinful things, altho'
I did frequently fall into sin, repenting & sinning
alternately, so that when I would do good evil
was present with me. I felt frequently a
great desire to separate myself from the
world, & used to walk in the fields, where I
could be alone, praying to our dear Saviour,
in which I took great delight. At such
times I felt much pleasure in singing,
praising & thanksgiving God; & nothing
afforded me greater joy, than to thank our
Saviour for the many preservations I had
experienced from him, when in danger of
my life. However I also, alas! often forgot
myself, & gave way to levity when play-
ing with my companions. But the good
Spirit of God frequently reminded me
to seek the One thing needful. I felt a
strong desire to be a child of God, &
when I was invited with my Parents
to entertainments, at which was music
& dancing, I felt afterwards great un-
easiness, &c, like one who is sick, not
understanding properly the accusations
of my conscience. When I was about 13
years of age I had a great desire to
enjoy the Holy Communion, for which purpose,

I underwent an examination, & was encouraged to partake. The first time I had the favor to approach the Table of the Lord, it was with fear & trembling, lest I should receive it unworthily, but at the enjoyment of this dinner, I felt exceedingly happy, yet more so than I can express. In the sequel, whilst the Holy Ghost was operating upon my heart I frequently examined myself, fearing I was not yet a child of God, & yet earnestly desiring to be one. Much was the state of my mind when I came to Gothenburg. I experienced, at first much attention from the family in which I resided as an Apprentice, so long as I conformed to every thing in it. However the great concern I had for my salvation & the thought of not being a child of God, gave me much uneasiness. I was always glad whenever I could be alone, & pour out the burden of my heart before God, & frequently prayed in silence to him. I also resolved to withdraw from all worldly amusements & to spend the little time I had to myself, in spiritual exercises. Longing to be assured that I was a child of God. Sometimes I arose in cold frosty nights, prostrating myself before God, & praying most fervently unto him, but it afforded me no relief. I thought then that my sorrow for my sins was not yet great enough.

enough. I often repeated the 10 Commandments, in order to see I feel my deviations & sins, but as I could not cry I wept like David, who all the night made his bed to swim, & watered his couch with his tears, I thought my grief was not intense enough. But all my endeavours were in vain, because I lived, in supposing that if I could but weep much over my sins & repeat of them, then the Lord would receive me as his child, & comfort me. I was convinced of the all sufficiency of our Lord & Saviour's sufferings for sinners, but thought I must be thus qualified before I could receive this blessing. I became now very zealous, frequently reproving others for sin, & my singular conduct brought on me much persecution & hatred, which however I gladly suffered, bearing all with patience & never resenting any ill treatment, but on the contrary did such persons all the service I could, & whenever opportunities offered, spoke to them concerning our Saviour. Two persons in the family where I lodged being awakened to a sense of their lost condition, one of them caused me much trouble & uneasiness, on account of his fears & unbelief, thinking he could not be forgiven. He fell at last into a melancholy, frequently hiding himself

I even attempted to take away his life so that he appeared in a state of mental derangement. I used my utmost endeavours to restore him, fearing that in case he should commit suicide, a great dishonor would be brought on the gospel. One time he sent me a message ^{with} of his last farewell, having locked himself up with a view to self-destruction. This caused me unspeakable distress. & tho' I was at that time engaged in very urgent business, & in company with several persons, yet I took the key of the cellar, ran down & locked the door & kneeling down by a hogshead of hussentine, I sought & prayed most fervently to our Saviour, (with great confidence), that he would preserve the poor man's life, & it seemed to me as if I heard a voice saying - Be comforted, no evil shall hurt him. This I believed, & arose, giving thanks to God my Saviour, & returned cheerful-
ly to my business, till about 12 o'clock at night, being uneasy in my mind, I removed some boards & other things, when I found him alive & feeling thankful to God for his preservation, I asked him why he had not ^{executed} performed by intention, to which he replied, that when he was about to attempt it, he fell, & all his strength was taken from him, so that he could neither move a limb, nor speak a word, till I came. I spoke comfortingly to him, encouraging him to take his refuge to our Saviour, & conducting him to his room, I prayed with him, & in the sequel he grew better. The other few
who

who was awakened was the Cook, who
died suddenly, but very happily. She had
been much beloved by her Mistress, &
her Mistress's Mother, & her sudden death
caused the old Lady to swoon away. I was
then, (altho' I had been much despised &
denounced on account of religion,) called upon
to speak comfort to the old lady, & as soon
as she recovered, she took me by the hand
& begged my pardon, adding: "I have been
the cause of the persecution you have suffered."
I replied, "I have no occasion to forgive you,
for you have done me more good than harm, since
it has caused me to cleave closer to my Sa-
viour, who will hear the prayers of all repent-
ing sinners. Thus her hatred & persecution were
turned into great love & kindness. About
this time I attended the preaching of the
Rev^d Mr Lindberg in Gothenburg. He observed
in his sermon, that there were several kinds
of people, who were hindered from enjoying
the happiness which the Lord would willingly
bestow upon them, if they would but come in
the way & order of his appointment. Among
one of those sorts of well meaning souls, I
found myself so completely despatched as if I
had given my whole mind to him. He
remarked that some people thought that if
they could arrive at a certain degree of ex-
cessive grief & anguish, & could shed repenting
tears night & day, that then the Lord would

would have mercy upon them, forgive them
all their sins, & be gracious unto them. But
said he, this is worth nothing, for nothing is
meritorious on our part. Nothing but alone
the meritorious holy life, bitter sufferings, &
& dying of our Lord & Saviour Jesus Christ,
his being wounded for our transgressions, & his
sorrows & anguish unto death, this alone
meritorious, & whosoever can believe this,
will obtain mercy & forgiveness of all his sins.

He added - My dear Friend, whosoever thou art
& whosoever thou art standing or seated in this
place - Come with me, & let us mount up
by faith to Mount Calvary, & behold the
Cross of Christ, the suffering Lamb of God,
view his wounds, his thorny crown, & all his
torments by faith. It was then, that with
a happy astonishment I truly beheld, as
for me, my Saviour bowing his head,
& giving up his spirit into the hands of
his dear heavenly Father, & in that mo-
ment all my miseries & hearings,
which had tormented my conscience
forsake me, & I was filled with such
joy & happiness, as not to be able to
describe it, & I heard no more what
the Preacher said, but rejoiced in still
thanking my dear Saviour, being fully
assured that he has forgiven me all
my

my sins. I returned home filled with
gratitude & entering my chamber, I
locked the door, fell prostrate before him,
& offered him the sacrifice of thanksgiving.
I felt as new born, but this lasted only a
day & a half, when a person brought me ill,
which caused anger to arise ^{with} in my breast,
altho' I did not reply one word, yet it caused
me to lose ^{lose} this impression of happiness, &
plunged me into distress, so that I could
not rest, fearing I had lost the grace
bestowed upon me, & should be lost. I called
upon a Minister, to whom I opened my mind,
& informed him of my situation & grief. He
comforted me with these words: "My dear friend,
the Apostle Peter once asked the Lord Jesus,
how often he should forgive his brother? till
seven times?" To which our Lord replied:
I say not unto thee until 7 times, but
until 70 times ⁷. Now if our good Lord,
commanded a sinful man to forgive his
brother so often, what must needs be himself?
So, when a poor sinner repents, I pray
to him for forgiveness, since he is the foun-
tain of all goodness, grace & mercy! I asked
him if I might pray to our Saviour to
forgive me? to which he replied:
certainly, for as often as we fall we
must rise & go to our merciful
Saviour, who will in no wise cast out
those who come to him. I asked, ~~if~~
and may,

Emoq. I go to him whenever I want comfort? To which he answered, By all means. This proved a great comfort to me & it caused me to feel quite happy because our Lord would be so gracious. I followed his advice & found comfort. Feeling myself one time exceeding unworthy, so that I durst not venture to go to the H. Com^m, I called upon a pious Chazymen to whom I opened my whole mind. He comforted me by saying: My dear Friend, even such as you are, the Lord Jesus calls to come, for he says: 'Come unto me all ye that labor & are heavy laden, & I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you & learn of me for I am meek & lowly in heart, & ye shall find rest unto your souls. He admonished me not to absent myself, adding that he intended the following Sunday to partake of the H. Com^m himself & that if I would attend, the Lord would certainly bless & comfort me. Tremper I ventured with trembling, & during the participation experienced insuperable joy & comfort. During the time when I ^{ended} suffered much prosecution, I felt a great desire to become acquainted with a genuine child of God, if there were any in this world. I often prayed that the Lord would bring it about. All was once walking in a private place

and walking, I perceived a hill on the top of which was a cavity, which when I perceived, I rejoiced, thinking this a suitable place, in which I could pour out my whole soul before the Lord unobserved as I thought by any one. I embraced this opportunity with gratitude, & kneeling down, prayed with fervor to our Saviour mentioning to him all my concerns, interreating him with great earnestness, if there was any genuine Child of God in the world, he would bring him to me, or me to him, in order that we might become acquainted during which prayer I felt richly comforted with his divine presence. Whilst I was at prayer, it happened that 2 persons belonging to the Bon's Congⁿ came that way, & when they arrived near the summit of the hill, they heard the sound of a voice, & the one observed to the other, that there was a poor sinner praying to our Saviour. Let me (said they) not disturb him. One of them however, came softly & unperceived by me, to the summit, & knew me, as I was in a publick line of business. I did not, at that time, know that there were such a people as the United Bon, nor even that there were any awakened in Gothenburg who were so near to me. The above 2nd persons acquainted the Bon on their return, what they had observed.

Some days after, a certain B^m, who was a gentleman's gardener, & who was in the habit of coming to our house, & supplying us with

medicinal herbs, began to notice me in a
manner he had never done before, & at last
invited me to pay him a visit. I thanked
him but excused myself with observing that
I had no time to spare. If I had any I
knew how to make a better use of it; for
I planned to be entitled to enter into many
amusements. However he came in the evening
to visit me occasionally. One Sunday called
a little before service time, on purpose
that he might be with me alone. When
all were gone to Church, he said to me,
My Friend, I believe you to be a man
who loves our Saviour, & I am another.
Would it not be well if we were better
acquainted? I was struck with astonish-
ment, & exclaimed: What! are you a child
of God? he answered with a friendly smile,
Yes. I said. Then the Lord has heard my
prayers. I rejoiced exceedingly, fell about
his neck & wept for joy. He said:
Will you, my Friend, come & see me now?
I replied yes, that I will with all my
heart, & God willing this day. He then
gave me a ticket that I might not
be hindered by the Porter when entering
his garden. After divine service, (having
requested leave,) I set off, & walking thro'
large ground, on a broad foot path, I re-
ceived a Gentleman's carriage, stopped

in the high way road, & the Gentleman &
his servant getting out. They got over the
fence & ran towards me. Altho' I might
have easily ran away I stopped, thinking that
I was not on the ^{right} road, altho' it appeared to me
like a public path. When the Gentleman
came up to me, he immediately pulled off
my cloak, & gave it in anger to his servant.
Saying who gave you leave to walk here?
I replied humbly that I had not known I
was trespassing. & begged pardon, while at
the same time I unbuttoned my coat, with
a view to give him that also, calling to
mind our Saviour's words: Him that
taketh away thy cloak, forbid not to take
thy coat also; upon which his anger sub-
sided. I then asked permission to return,
but he said, As you have come so far you
may proceed. He refused however to take
my coat but kept my cloak, upon which
we parted. When I arrived at the garden
& had shown my ticket, I was admitted
& going up to the house. I knocked at the
door but when it was opened, I saw many
persons in the house; & thinking they
were worldly-minded people I shut the
door in haste, & returned into the garden
weeping. My friend followed me, &
asked the cause of my weeping? I re-
plied that I was exceedingly sorry that I
was deceived, for if he were a child of
God, he would not have such a number
of

of people with him. He answered: But what will you say, when I inform you that all these persons are children of God, Come & see. I said, that I could not have believed there were so many children of God in the whole world. Having entered the house & standing at the door, I asked with surprise, if all present were children of God, which was answered in a friendly manner in the affirmative. I said with tears of joy, then I am not worthy to be among you. However they asked me to sit down & they would communicate some written account from the B^ms Congⁿ. I said, is there indeed a Congⁿ of B^m existing in our times, like the Congⁿ in the times of the Apostles? They replied: Yes — I said, then I wish to live in such an one, to which they answered, if it was the will of our Saviour that I should, he would bring it to pass. In this manner I got acquainted with the B^ms & Co after this interview longed to attain my wish, but could not accomplish it for several years.

A considerable time after my apprenticeship was expired, it happened that Frederick the 1st King of Sweden, visited the city of Gothenburg, & his Physician Count Wigand lodged in our house,

by whose interest a short time after
an offer was made me to be employed
in the Royal Apothecary's Shop in Stock-
holm, where all the medicines for the
King & Royal Family were prepared, as
also for many of the Nobility. This
change pleased me much, particularly
as many Bro were in Stockholm, &
set off, altho' my employer was sorry
to part with me. On the journey
I got acquainted with the King's Chap-
lain, who very kindly invited me to tra-
vel in his Carriage, & desired his Servt.
to travel in my small carriage, & thus
we arrived safe & well in Stockholm.
In this city, I frequently visited the pa-
tients of Dr Vigard, who treated me
very kindly, & had also an opportu-
nity of visiting the Bro. Altho'
had it very agreeable, yet I longed
much to live in a Cony² of the Bro
in Germany, but by the advice of the
Bro in Stockholm, I continued there
in my employment several years,
until my desire grew so strong that
I set off in the year 1747 from Stockholm
& arrived July 15th the same year
in Koenigsburg. The Daily word of
that day was, God is with thee in

all that thou daest. Gen. 21. 22. At
first objections to my continuance in
this place were made on account of
there being no prospect of employing me.
However I began a manufactory of
Chocolate which answered so well that
I not only had employment myself, but
could employ others also. Having in the
sequel obtained permission to be an
inhabitant of the place, I was nec-
the same year on Dec 2 31. with 493z.
into a solemn manner a member of the
Boro' Churc - During a most blessed meeting
of the Lord's presence.

March 25. 1748. I had the favor to
partake for the 1st time with the same
of the body & blood of our dear Lord in
the holy sacrament, which proved a great
refreshment & blessing to my heart. In
1750, I went by commission, to care for
the sick at Lindheim, & the following
year accompanied Bⁿ Lykell, who
was sick, on a journey to Barby. The
night previous to our arrival at Eisen-
ach, we had both the same dream,
viz: that he fell out of the carriage,
but our dreams differed in this, that
he dreamt that he was killed, &
I dreamt that he fell into my arms.
This dream was repeated 3 times, at
which we grew alarmed, apprehending

some danger awaited us. We arose from bed, & recommended ourselves to the protection of our merciful Saviour, & were greatly comforted, feeling his Divine presence with us, & then went to bed again. Early in the morning, we proceeded on our journey, & it being cold, I got out of the carriage to walk, in order to get warm, & not recollecting our dreams, I attempted to get into it again, when the wheel went over a stone, B^r Lykefet fell out, & I caught him in my arms, by which I was thrown down with him, & which probably prevented the wheel going over him, & neither of us received any hurt, for which we were very thankful to our dear Lord, & arrived safe at ~~six~~
Barby June 22^d - In the year 1751, I went with a number of children to Gloucest^r, & from thence to Gloucester. I followed here, as also in Nisbey & other German C^rng as my medical pro-
fessor.

After residing in various settlements of the Br^r on the Continent, I arrived Nov. 4th 1751 in England, & having spent some time in London arrived Jan 1 22^d 1752, at Fulneck in Yorkshire. Here I applied to late B^r Glurlock in his surgical & chemical employ, & when he moved to London I

succeeded him. In the year 1754, I
had the favor to attend the Provincial
Synod at the Brownfield at Lindsey House,
which proved of great use & blessing to me.
April 10th 1755, I married my late dear
wife, whose maiden name was Lucy
June 20th I kept my first publick ad-
dress to the Congⁿ on the Supt. Whosoever
therefore shall confess me before men, him
will I confess before my Father which is
in Heaven. Matt 10 32.

Having rec^d I accepted a call to serve
the mission in Jamaica, as also the
late B^r John Brown, we went, Jan 1st
2. 1759, on board the Dispatch Capt^r
Carter at Greensted, & set sail in the
morning, but were obliged to cast an-
chor in the evening. The day proving
very stormy, caused us, & several other
Passengers to be sick, & we were obliged
to lie at anchor a fortnight but spent
our time, while at in the Downs, in a
blessed manner, reading the harmony of the
Gospels, & enjoying the presence of the Lord
whilst singing in fellowship his praise. The
20th early in the morning, a signal was made
for the fleet to get under weigh. We
were about 250 vessels in C^o, besides
small craft. & about noon we passed by
Dover with a favorable wind, & the 21st
cast anchor off Portsmouth, we employed
our time in writing to our friends in
London

London. The 23rd early one ship attempted to seize a boat, & leave the vessel, the mate having offended them, & alledging they were too few in number to navigate the vessel, however the Captain restored order, & procured several additional hands on board; about 11 p.m. we proceeded with a favorable breeze, but the following day, the weather becoming hirsorous, we grew very sick. During the night, 2 ships ran foul of each other, & one of them received considerable damage, & was obliged to put back. The 25th we were becalmed, but the following day the wind rose very high, however I recovered so far that I could keep out of bed, for which I was very thankful. The 30th we were driven to the Irish coast; I entered the harbor of Flinsale, where we went on shore, & as our Captain apprehended we should have a tedious passage, he advised us to lay in more provisions. My wife & I therefore went to a shop to purchase what was needful. The Master & Mistris who were elderly people, inquired if we had come with the fleet from London, to which we replied that we had. They said: May God forbid! I asked why? They added, we appeared very unsuitable for Jamaica, since none but such whose character was bad went to that Island, & they would

would advise us to relinquish the voyage, & as I was in the medical line, they wished me would reside with them, & they would lodge & board us, & as they had many friends in the Town who would be glad to employ me, I should soon have plenty of practice, or if we preferred returning to London, they would send us free of expense thither in one of their own vessels, which starts sail in a few days — Thinking them for their kindness to strangers as we were to them, we replied that it was our intention to proceed. They asked, what could induce us to proceed in such a step? I added, that altho' I might probably practice physic & surgery in that Island, yet my chief design was, to preach the gospel to the Negro slaves & endeavor to be instrumental in leading them from darkness to light, & from the power of Satan unto God their Saviour. They implied — Then go in the name of God, for this is a good work, & we should be sorry to hinder it.

April 18th, we got sight of Jamaica, having been 5 months on board, & were truly glad, when on the 19th about noon, we cast anchor in the harbor of Port Royal, we hired a boat, & proceeded to Kingston, & landed about 3 miles from Carmel. Colonel Brook & his Lady met us, & bid us welcome, inviting us to Dine at their house, & sent us in their carriage to Carmel, where we

met with a truly cordial reception from
Mr. Brown & Sons, & who with us rejoiced
at our arrival & thanked our merciful
Lord for his preservation on our voyage.
In this Island our late brother served
both in his medical capacity, & in the
Mission, as a devoted servant of the Lord
spending his time & talents for that Saviour
whom he truly loved & in whom he had found
pardon, peace, & eternal life. In those
Diaries which he kept during his abode
in that Island, it appears that he was
earnestly solicitous to promote the happiness
of those souls committed to his care, & that
during his services there, he endured not
only many hardships, but also escaped
many dangers, but it was apparent that
none of these things moved him, neither
counted he his life dear unto himself
so that he might finish his course
with joy, & the ministry which he had
received of the Lord Jesus Christ, to testi-
fy the gospel of the grace of God. A few
extracts out of his Diaries will suffice
to show his state of heart & mind. He
writes thus: "By degrees I got also my
share of sufferings, but which, in due
time my Saviour terminated, & which
he enabled me to bear with patience.
They had a salutary effect upon my soul.
It was a delight to me to serve my
dear Saviour, which I did in preaching
his

his Gospel in various places, in Jamaica,
both to so called Christians & Heathens.
I feel truly thankful to my Saviour, who
always comforted me when I met with
afflictions, & strengthened & upheld me,
when fatigued in body & in mind. For
I had to ride out both in the day &
night time, in attending the sick
which wearied me often to such a degree
that I was ready to faint. My gracious
Lord, however supported me at such
times, & in such a manner that I
cannot recollect even once to have repined
at my situation.

In the time of rebellions among the
Negroes, when many white people lost
their lives, I never took any weapons of
defence with me when I rode out, altho'
advised by many to do so, & yet I always
escaped unhurt to my own astonishment.
I generally replied to such advice, I trust
in the Lord my God who can preserve
me in all danger, & this confidence he
never failed to shew, blessed be his holy
name.

I will now relate, among divers instances
several proofs of the gracious care & preserva-
tion, which I have experienced, & recite
them to the praise & glory of my Deity
& Saviour.

Travelling over in an extensive, woody
& mountainous place, with a view to
visit

visit the sick on an estate, called One
Eye Estate & feeling very happy I made slowly
singing some edifying hymns. A boy servant
made up to me saying, Master is surely
happy, to which I replied, I am; but I
was not aware of the great dangers to
which I was exposed, as several runaway
slaves, who had turned robbers, were
just before us, in possession of an Officer
whom they intended to murder & nob. &
who arrived a little before us one at this
estate, quite exhausted with fear & weariness.

A number of soldiers who were just examing
asked me at my arrival, have I had
escaped the Robbers? & when I informed
them that I had seen none, they could
scarcely believe me, declaring they had seen
them enter the wood from when I came.

Another time I arrived at an old building
which had been uninhabited for many
years, & which was situated upon a
high hill, in which I took shelter
from the rains. A number of robbers
had just left this building, & the last
ran out when I entered it, being al-
armed on seeing others coming up the
hill who had been taken prisoners.

I thanked the Lord for this glorious
interposition, & when I arrived at Chard
Lionsbary's house, I found him & his
family standing in the Piazza looking
out for me in great anxiety, fearing

I might have fallen into the hands of the Robbers. They all rejoiced at my escape, as the rebellion Negroes had committed much mischief in that neighborhood, the preceding night. The Col. wished to prevail upon me to stay with him all night, but I declined his kind offer, & returned to my abode at Eden in the evening, without receiving any molestation, I was glad to find that my wife had received no injury, altho' the Rebels had passed by my house during my absence. Some of them had been that night in our Plantation, but altho' our house was situated on a lonely eminence about the distance of a mile from any other habitation, yet our gracious Lord preserved us; & I could visit my patients, without ever being hurt.

Having served the Lord in the Mission in Jamaica, for near 22 years they returned to Europe in company with B^r & R^m Mack & B^r & R^m Smalling. They left Jamaica in the month of May 1780 & had an agreeable passage to England, arriving the latter end of July at Portsmouth, from whence they proceeded to London, & from whence our late B^r & his wife proceeded to Fulbeck to visit their children, who were in the School for Education. They arrived in the month of October in Oakbrook, where our late Brother apointed in preaching the gospel, & entered upon his medicinal profession. He was universally beloved & respected, both within

& without the circle of the Sons ^{Copy no} & Daughters of Christ -
His genuine humility, fervor of love
to his Saviour, unshaken reliance upon
his all sufficient sacrifice, & his
duty & amiable deportment, were
truly striking; & it was only necessary
to know him to love & esteem him.

His late Wife departed into a happy eternity in Oakbrook on Decth the 17th 1793. His Daughter Benigna came from Lubnuk, to
keep his house, & care for his aged Parent
& which she did with much faithfulness;
when however, her state of health was
such that she could no longer attend upon
her dear Father as formerly, & she in-
formed him of it. He folded his hands &
exclaimed - "Then my dear Lord take me
first" It was on Thursday May the
4th when he was as well as usual, that
his daughter, feeling her extreme weakness,
had for the first time made him fully
sensible that her ability & not her love
failed; he then uttered that fervent
request to be first taken, & he was that
very evening struck for death whilst
his daughter was absent at the Sister's
~~Sister~~ Festival to which she had been
carried in a chair, & which was the
last meeting she attended; her Father
departing on the Saturday, & herself on
the Wednesday following.

He lived in a close communion of
soul with his Redeemer, & after increa-
sing

ing age & infirmities obliged him to
abandon his medical profession alto-
gether. He enjoyed a quiet sabbatic rest, in
his retirement, delighting to speak of
what the Lord had done for his soul, &
always discoursing that love to Jesus, which
flows from a sense of his pardoning love.
Several years back, his recollection began
gradually to fail him, & his mental powers
grew weaker, but his soul continued alive in
those great & momentous subjects upon which
he rested all his hopes for present &
eternal salvation. He was for some
time, obliged to take to his bed, being
exceedingly debilitated, & was accustomed to
say, "I am well, only very weak, I shall go
to my dear Saviour, in his own good time".
He was sensible to the last, & when visited
by B^r Franks, a little before his departure
he stretched forth his arms in a most af-
fectionate manner towards him & said,
"Pray with me". He was then observed to
be engaged with his Redeemer, in whom
he had an unshaken confidence, & was
heard to say in broken accents, "Ye are
come unto Mount Zion - Peace &
serenity appeared in his countenance,
& nothing seemed to disturb his last
moments, his happy soul took flight
into the presence of Jesus, on the morning
of May 6th in the most easy &
gentle manner, & thus this aged Pilgrim
closed

lived his pilgrimage here below, in a
full age, like as a shock of corn cometh
in his season, in the 94th year of his
age, & as a comment upon the words of the
Prophet: The work of righteousness shall
be peace, & the effect of righteousness,
quietness & appearance for ever. Isa. 32.17.
It was something remarkable that his
daughter Benigna, who had cared for
him with her aged Father, for upwards
of 20 years, even since the departure of
her late mother, but who had been in
a declining state of health for several
years, departed this life on the 10th of the
same month, in the 57th ~~and~~ year of
her age, 4 days after her Father, & their
remains were interred on the 13th, when
this important visitation was improved by
admitting a numerous & respectable assembly
who attended on the occasion in the words
of St. Paul to Timothy 2^o Epistle Chap. 1.12.
I know in whom I have believed, & am
persuaded that He, is able to keep that
which I have committed unto him,
against that day. Our late B^m has
left behind in this vale of tears, a
son & a daughter & a number of
grandchildren. —

Let us call to mind with joy,
those who have before us gone,
Who

Who obtain'd the victory,
Through the blood of Christ alone;
That we may merit zealously
Imitate their constancy,
Will we too the prize receive,
And with them in glory live!

