

~~A. of England~~

Narrative of my pilgrimage
thro' the vale of tears.

They that sow in tears, shall reap in joy. He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.

All they, who weeping now go forth,
And bear the precious seed,
May in our Savior's walk on earth,
Pattern and comfort read.

Samuel Haugott. Bewader.

Having, while I lived on earth, among other favors and privileges conferred upon me, thro' the unmerited & undeserved grace of my Lord and Savior, been honored with the appointment of a Minister of the Gospel; I deem it my bounden duty, once more, thro' this narrative of my earthly pilgrimage, to bear testimony to the power and efficacy of a living faith in a crucified Redeemer, as experienced by me to the weeping of my Soul and the rejoicing of

writer: verbal relation.

will relate some of the many

of my heart. And Oh! may this feeble testimony prove an encouragement to my fellow pilgrims, who as yet have not reached their heavenly home, but are still laboring to enter into that eternal rest, which God, the faithful covenant-keeping God, has prepared for his people. To all, that shall hear or read this narrative, I solemnly declare, that my salvation has been from beginning to end, the work of God, and a succession of miracles, wrought by the grace of God, for my deliverance as well, as for the promoting of my happiness, & for the completion of my heavenly calling & election. Ever since I came to the knowledge of my natural depravity and sinfulness, & knew experientially the truth of that declaration, "that there is neither health nor help in ourselves", scarcely a day has passed, but I had occasion to weep and to mourn, yea to abhor myself, and scarcely a day, but I experienced some manifestation of my Savior's redeeming grace & power, for my comfort & encouragement.

On revising my own works, it is no compliment to say, that I find no ground for glorying; but calling to mind the Lord's mercies, I find abundant cause for everlasting thanks & praises.

Hear

Heat then, what the Lord has done for my soul!

I was born the 28th of October 1756 at Milkel in Upper Susatia about 10 E. miles from Bautzen the Capital. My Father was the Minister of the place, and my Mother Christiana, whose maiden name was Fabet, a Minister's daughter. These my dear Parents were earnestly concerned, to bring up their Children, of whom they had living, in the fear and nurture of the Lord, and to preserve them from this present evil world, & from the spirit of seduction. Wherefore, getting acquainted with the Preachers, who frequently passed thro' the village in going from Kleinwelka to Ulugst, they soon embraced that opportunity, to place us, one after another, in the Seminaries of the D...; and thus in my eighth year I came to live in the Economy at Ulugst. It was high time for me to be thus brought to a place of safety; for young & little as I was, the evil propensities of the heart began already to unfold themselves, and would have, even without the aid of seduction, rushed into activity, if they had not been restrained.

Numberless times in the sequel I have thanked our Savior with tears, that he in good time plucked me as a brand from the burning, and planted me as a tender plant in the Bⁿ Church, & thereby preserved me from running headlong into sin.

Being then under the Bⁿ care, I spent the remainder of my childhood in a happy manner, receiving early and deep impressions of Jesus's dying love, which excited me to love him again; tho' my innate self-love & self-complacency did not fail to shew itself from time to time.

In 1756 the Boys Economy moved from Whyst to Hirstley, where my love to our Savior and fellowship with him was much furthered by the faithful care of the late Bⁿ. Bryant, and by his edifying manner of treating his Pupils, making it his chief business, to lead them into acquaintance with our Savior.

While here, one of the most signal visitations of grace was experienced by me on the 19th of November at the meetg^f for prostration; my soul was overcome and melted by an inconceivable sense of our Savior's love, w^{ch} constrained me, to devote myself with soul and

and body to Him as his eternal property~
This blessed event I have always rememb'rd
with particular gratitude; and to this very
day the remembrance of it is as fresh and lively
to my mind, as if it had occurred but yesterday.

In my 13th. year I was placed in the Pa-
dagogium at Hennersdorf, with a view to
prosecute my studies. At that time the vi-
sits and discourses of the late Count Zinzen-
dorf were much blessed to my heart; & I was
deeply affected, when that Servant of God
was called to enter into the joy of his Lord.
After his departure the Paedagogium was trans-
ferred from Hennersdorf to Niesky~

As I advanced in years, my natural depravity
and sinful propensities appeared more
and more, and I should have been carried
away by the torrent of corruption, if through
grace a good foundation had not been laid in
my soul, and if I had not been under the care
of faithful Tutors.

Our Savior continued the good work he had
begun; and when I on the one hand wept &
mourned over myself, he on the other com-
forted and supported me by repeated manifes-
tations of his love and kindness. I was enabled,
to look by faith to a crucified Redeemer, and

perceived virtue going out of him, whenever
I touched him by faith.

In 1759 I was received into the Cong^w. &
in 1761 admitted to the B. Com^w. This divine
repart has been of blessed reality & help to me
in my younger years, as indeed at all times.
It always proved a new encouragement to
me, and revived my faith, love and confidence,
in such a manner, that I could run with pa-
tience the race set before me; n^o. however
would not have been the case, if I had not
been in the habit of looking unto Jesus in
my daily wants and necessities.

In 1764 I came with 6 others to Barbey,
to finish our Studies in the Seminary.
The celebration of the 13th November, w^{ch}
happened the next day after our arrival,
proved a blessed welcome and introduction
to us. My three years stay there was attended
with much benefit and blessing. I proceeded
gradually both in the knowledge of myself
and of my Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,
and learned to apply his precious merits to
the healing of my sin sick nature. It was
those likewise, that I received a divine con-
viction and assurance, that my blessed Creator
& Redeemer, had made me, a poor worm, an
object

object of his divine, infinite and unbounded love, and that it was the gracious purpose of his love, to grant me a full portion of that salvation, which he has purchased for all; and this impression has never left me since, proving a powerful support to me under various trials and tribulations.

In my 22^d. year I was appointed Teacher in the Paedagogium at Nickey, where I spent 6 years very pleasantly; my labor among the youths, whom I dearly loved, being easy and agreeable to me, and my fellowship with our Savior childlike and familiar! During that time I had a very painful fit of the gout, occasioned by an obstinate cold, w^m. I had neglected in the beginning.

Upon this truly delightful period followed a time of trial and distress, w^m. I brought upon myself by indulging a mistaken notion, that I should be more useful in our Savior's cause, if I went out of the common track, and that my faith would carry me through all difficulties. When I afterwards discovered the fallacy of my conceptions, & the true source, from w^m. they had sprung, the pride of my heart, and a desire to render myself eminent & conspicuous: I was exceedingly distressed,

and at times so cast down, that it required strong and repeated consolations, to lift me up again. Under these circumstances the Holy Ghost treated me with maternal tenderness and attention, discovering to me on the one hand more than ever the deep depravity of my heart as the source of all Evil; and on the other the unchangeable love & friendship of my Savior; administering at the same time the balm of divine consolation to my broken and contrite heart. It was then that I made a blessed experience of that precious truth, that all things must work together for good to them that love God. For this trial not only served to confirm my faith, but also to prepare me for my future calling to preach the Gospel and to labor in the Lord's vineyard.

In the year 1772, having been accepted an Acolysh in the UELC, I was appointed to the service of the Boys Economy at Fulneck in Yorkshire. As I had to travel alone, and part of the way thro' England, unable to speak the language, I experienced new proofs of a gracious providence watching over me for good, and answering the prayers of a lone ly traveller.

The

The first year of my service at Fulneck was extremely heavy to me, as I found the circumstances of the Economy so difficult and embarrassed, that I could see no remedy either one way or another. Nevertheless I put my trust in the Lord, and firmly believed, that he in his own good time would bring things into a better course; w^{ch} also came to pass, when B^r. Franeker came as Long^r Helper to Fulneck and undertook the management of the Economy.

In the second year after my arrival in England, I was appointed to preach occasionally in country places about Fulneck; which indeed was a difficult task to me, both on account of my insufficient knowledge of the language, and on account of my natural timidity and bashfulness. But He, whose strength is made perfect in weakness, and who regards the poor and needy, supported me in every time of need; and if I felt poverty of spirit, it was for the blessing of my own heart.

Amidst all outward difficulties I had a blessed time at Fulneck. I counted it grace, to advance in the knowledge of my deep depravity, as it was a powerful inducement

to me, to come with prayer & supplication
to the Savior of Sinners, and to claim the
healing virtue of his precious blood, w^{ch} I
also experienced according to my faith.
At times indeed I felt the power of sin &
the strength of unbelief to such a degree,
that I was prompted to despair of a com-
plete deliverance; but even then he delivered
my soul from death, mine eyes from tears,
and my feet from falling, and granted me
again a time of refreshing from his presence.
Once on such an occasion I was most bless-
edly relieved by a divine assurance, that notwithstanding all my sinfulness I should
yet attain to that supreme happiness, to
love my Savior with all my heart, with all
my strength and with all my understandg,
and to be perfectly renewed into his image.

The labor among the children appeared to
me highly important, & I found much
occasion, to ask for grace and wisdom, to
do justice to the several duties incumbent
upon me. I trust my labor has been of be-
nefit to some of them; but at any rate it has
been made a blessing to my own heart.

As I have found, in the course of my mi-
nistry, that some people form to themselves
erroneous

erroneous ideas of the way and manner, in which our Savior manifests himself to the soul, and are apt to look for some extraordinary & striking event: I will here mention some instances, among many, of his gracious manifestations experienced by me in the common course of things.

Once being in violent pain, w.^{ch} for 3 days & nights had continued without any intermission, I began with a murmuring spirit, to reflect on the goodness of God, that he would leave his creatures in pain, tho' he could so easily relieve them. But I was soon ashamed of this ungrateful thought, and led to consider the way of divine love, w.^{ch} are so conspicuous even in our afflictions; but most of all that manifestation of his unspeakable love, that He himself became a man of sorrows and acquainted with griefs, bearing our griefs and carrying our sorrows; w.^{ch} consideration so overcame and melted my heart, that I for the present forgot my pains, and afterwards could endure them patiently.

Another time being at Scarborough on a high rock close to the sea, on w.^{ch} the castle stands, from whence there is an extensive view of the sea, the town below and the adjacent country,

the ships below appearing as small as
cockle shells and the men like crawling
insects: my mind was uncommonly struck
with the sublime and awful scene, and im-
pressed with an overpowering sense of the
immensity of that universe, of w^{ch} the earth
with all its waters wide and deep, and with
all its stupendous mountains, is but a speck,
a mere atom. How great then, thought I,
how immensely great must He be, who
has called the whole creation into existence,
and who upholds all things by the word of
his power. And do you really believe, said I
to myself, that this great Builder of the Uni-
verse, "who dwellest on high, & humblest
himself, to behold the things, that are in
heaven and ^{the} in earth", should have appeared
in the world in the form of a Servant, & died
on the cross, that he might redeem fallen man,
and raise him to glory? Reason answered:
no, it is far too much to be believed; it is im-
possible; — but my heart, with a clear wit-
ness of the Spirit within, and melting under
a sense of the love of God, said, yes, I must
believe it from what I have experienced;
lost and undone should I be, if it were not so,
but in my great Creator I have found my
Savior

Savior and Redeemer, who has delivered my soul from the pit of corruption, and is become to me a never failing source of comfort, peace and joy. Thus a grand view of nature proved the occasion of an animating manifestation of divine love.

Another instance ~~and~~ is this. For a considerable time my heart had been as cold as ice, and dead as a stone, altho' I was not particularly ^{engaged} by temptations, or the workings of my corrupt nature; and tho' I was well convinced, that this was a lamentable state, I had neither power nor inclination to pray for a change, & for a return of my former blessed & tender feelings. In this state I took a solitary walk into a wood, and laid myself, dead & cold as I was, at the feet of my Savior and cried: "Lord, have mercy upon me". It was not long before such a transition took place, as if I had been translated from darkness into light, & from death into life; God revealed himself to me in his unspeakable love. And O! how often has he by an unexpected touch, without any particular occasion, melted my heart, how often has he drawn me with chords of love, when I was least aware of it; yea, how often has he laid his hand upon me, when I was

on the point of deviating from the right path and going astray; and if at any time my frail nature had swerved beyond the proper bounds, he soon created in me a godly sorrow on account of it, and then again filled my heart with peace and comfort.

During my stay at Fielnoch I experienced a particular preservation of my life. Being one Sunday sent to Baillont to preach, I took a short road, where I had to cross a small river, w.^{ch} in dry weather is fordable on stepping stones, but was now ^{so} swelled by the rain, that it could only be crossed over in a boat.

The ferryman having gone to Church, a stout looking boy offered to ferry me over & we set off; but when we had got into the middle of the stream, he found it so rapid, that he lost the command of the boat, & was obliged to let it go down with the current, which carried us into a mill race, & brought us to the very edge of the mill dam, from which the superfluous water was precipitated itself into a bed of stones. We now expected to go down the fall and to be dashed among the stones, w.^{ch} had happened to others in this place, who lost their lives; and indeed the people came running from the mill & the

adjacent

adjacent houses, to see what would become
of us. But when we came to the edge of the
fall, the boat, instead of going down with
the torrent, gliding gently along close to the
edge, safely passed the waterfall; two young
men from the mill then got into the boat,
and ferried me safe over the river. Having
thus received, as it were, my life anew out
of the hand of God, I dedicated it anew to
him, to spend it in his service & to his glory.

In the year 1770 I was called to Dublin,
there to have the care of the single P^r & and
Boys, including the Children, as also to
assist in preaching. Previous to my setting
out I was ordained a Deacon of the P^rns
Church by P^r Johannes de Watteville then
on a visit at Fulnecks.

During my 5 years service in that Congⁿ,
I experienced much patience, long-suffering
& forbearance, but also much grace & favor
from my bountiful Lord. Many temptations,
indeed from the side of an evil world presented
themselves to my view, & I had no power
in myself to resist, but rather found my
treacherous heart but too ready and prone
to engage in unprofitable things; but I cried
to the Lord in my distress, & he heard my cry

and delivered me in every time of need.

As the Congⁿ. at that time was desirous, that a Boys day school should be instituted under the Pres^r's direction and management, I was glad of being serviceable in establishing and promoting said institution; w^{ch} indeed in the beginning afforded but an unprosperous aspect, but in process of time began to prosper beyond our expectation and was attended with the Lord's blessing~

In August 1703, that is, 11 years after my arrival in England, I received a call, to be one of the Writers to the U.E.C., w^{ch} I accepted from the conviction, that it came from the Lord. But it lasted till February following, before I could set out on my passage to Germany. Several occurrences render'd this journey very remarkable. First I lost all my goods, when the Ship, in which I was sending them from Dublin to London, was wrecked on the Welsh Coast; w^{ch} loss however did not affect me much, as my immediate wants were relieved by the P^r & S^r in Dublin according to their wonted liberality. The next difficulty arose from the hard winter then prevailing. The landing in Holland had been render'd very difficult & expensive

by

by the ice lining the coast, and requiring
ice-boats to land the passengers; it was but
just cleared of the ice when I had to go over.
The ice having been stopped both in the
Rhine and in the Elbe, dreadful inundations
had ensued, which rendered the roads im-
passable; and when I left Zeist, it was with
the first post-waggon that could travel; &
still in several places the road was intersected
by the waters. Thus I saw a hand of provi-
dence in it, that my setting out from Dublin
had been so long delayed. But when I had
reached the borders of Germany, the winter
set in again, it snowed day and night and
the roads were rendered nearly impracticable.
One night we actually stuck fast in the snow,
and we could not have been extricated, if there
had not been another carriage in company,
whose horses joined to ours rescued us from our
disagreeable situation. In short, I had so
much to suffer from cold, sickness and fatigue,
that when at last I reached Barby in the
beginning of April, my heart was full of
thanks and praises for my preservation, and
I found my faith and confidence in divine
providence much strengthened; and indeed
it was a wonder to me, that I had been kept
safe and sound

In August 1704 I was married to my late wife Johanna Eleonora Gaetano, & in Sept^r. moved with the U. C. C to Hornblad. Here in consequence of the hardships I had suffered on my journey from Holland, as before described, I had to endure a severe illness, and was brought nigh unto death; but it proved a salutary effort of nature, under the divine blessing, to bring about a better and more durable state of health, than I had enjoyed before. I shall never forget, what comfort and encouragement I received during this illness, when once in a sleepless night, my mind laboring under great distress, the watchman passing under my window, began to sing with a charming voice: *Herr Jesu Christ, unschuldig*

Hear our prayer, gracious Savior Jesus,

Friend of souls so dearly bought!
Let thy grace prevail and bless us,

Far beyond our feeble thought!

Lead us ever — with thy favor;

That we may in times succeeding

Be from grace to grace proceeding.

My appointment as Writer to the U. C. C. was exceedingly pleasant to me, tho' very laborious, and I was sorry to be soon called to another station. For in the year following I was

I was appointed Minister of the Cong.ⁿ
at Neuwalz, and having been ordained a
Presbyter by B.^r. Sprangerberg, I arrived there
with my wife, (who was then pregnant,) the
23^d. of March, after a difficult and hazardous
journey, the snow being uncommonly deep.
The state of the Cong.ⁿ whom we came to
serve, was such, that we might have been
discouraged from undertaking the office,
if our Lord had not supported us with the
believing hope, that he would be with us,
& bless our service; which hope was in the
sequel realised beyond our expectation.

In 1705 the Lord blessed us with the birth
of a Son, whom we dedicated unto Him
as his blood-bought property.

But now began a scene of domestic distress,
which under various changes & vicissitudes
lasted till the happy departure of my be-
loved wife, who during a period of 6 years
had to endure one sickness after another,
& even in the intervals did not enjoy any
comfortable state of health. The early de-
parture of our little Son, who for half a
year labored under a gradual decline, con-
tributed much to the injury of her frame,
as she took it much to heart.

During this period I was often harassed by such a variety and multiplicity of distresses and perplexities, & circumstances, that I should have been quite unfit for the duties of my office and the service of the Congⁿ, if our Saviour had not supported me in an extraordinary manner; next to w^t the love and kindness we experienced from our B^m & S^m was also a great help and benefit to us.

In the beginning of 1789 we were called upon to officiate during the Synod at Gnadenfey, while both the Congⁿ helpers & the Minister of that Congⁿ were attending the Synod. My dear wife was but just recovering from a severe illness, and still so weak, that she could not cross the room without help; nevertheless we accepted the call in reliance upon our Saviour's support, who graciously answered our prayers on that occasion.

Our short residence at Gnadenfey was indeed attended with much labor and fatigue; but we also experienced much of our Saviour's help in time of need, & were strengthened by the mutual support of our fellow-laborers and the general love of the B^m & S^m; so that our hearts overflowed with thanks and praises when in the spring 1790 we set out for England, leaving

having been appointed by the Synod La
borers of the London Cong.

He arrived in London in June following.
Here we had again to pass thro' a variety of
new & heavy trials; the increasing sickness
of my wife soon disabled her from attending
her office, and terminated at last in a confirmed
decline. This and other distresses had such
an effect upon my whole frame, that I
fell sick and was again brought nigh unto
death. The Lord however blessed the means
used for my recovery, and strengthened me
anew, to administer my last help to my dear
wife now hastening to her dissolution, and
to wait upon her, till she was permitted to
enter into her eternal rest.

At the close of this period, taking a retrospec-
ting view of the various afflicting dispensations
I had passed thro', and which at times seemed
to bear too hard upon me, I could thank our
Savior with heartfelt gratitude for all the de-
monstrations of his love and goodness, and for
causing all things to work together for my good
I am fully convinced from my own experience
that He doth all things well, that all his chas-
tenings are love, and that our short affliction,
which is but for a moment, worketh a far more

exceeding and eternal weight of glory, while
we look not at the things w^{ch} are seen, but at
the things w^{ch} are not seen.

After the happy departure of my late wife
in January 1792 I spent one year as a bidden
dowser, and our Savior granted me a time of
refreshing rest. In September the same year
I received an appointment, to serve the Cong.^w
at Bedford; but circumstances delayed my
going thither till the year following ~

On the 2^d April 1793 I was married to the
L.S. Jane Dodgson, and soon after we went
to Bedford.

Our stay there was upon the whole very
agreeable, and we richly enjoyed the blessing
of God, and the love and confidence of our Br.th
& S^rs. We had indeed also our share of diffi-
culties, but the Lord helped us thro' them all.

When we found ourselves quite comfortably
settled, we received a call to Dublin, and ar-
rived there in December 1794.

As we both had served this Cong.^w before,
tho' in different capacities, & pretty well
knows beforehand, what difficulties awaited
us to encounter, we felt rather heavy on that
account; but nevertheless trusted in the
Lord, that he would continue to support us,

as he had done hitherto. Nor was our confidence put to shame, and amidst our own infirmities, and various trials we had to pass thro', we enjoyed much grace and blessing from our Savior; and his gracious support in every time of need.

One of the heaviest trials, which occurred during this period, was that dreadful rebellion, w.^{ch} while it lasted, raged with savage fury, and more than once threatened destruction to the City of Dublin. It was well for us, not to know the full extent of the dangers we were surrounded with, tho' we were also frequently alarmed by false reports and needless apprehensions. Frequently the state of things was such, that our lives seemed to hang by a slender thread; and on several occasions it was a serious question, we had to put to ourselves, whether we were duly prepared to meet the impending fate, tho' we should be carried off by a sudden stroke. Our hope was in the Lord, who heard our humble prayers and supplications for the good of the country, and granted a happy issue to that awful contest; w.^{ch}, if it had terminated in the intended revolution & subversion of the existing Government, would

would have occasioned scenes of unparalleled
cruelty, massacre and devastation.

We were thankful to the Lord, that we not
only ^{could} profess our own souls in patience; but also
administer comfort and encouragement to others.
During that time I also experienced a remark-
able preservation from bodily harm, having
my legs nearly crushed by a brewer's dray driv-
ing against a jowling cat, in w^{ch} I was sitting
sideways. The injury I received was however
such, that for a considerable time I was pre-
vented officiating in the Church. But far
more important was the preservation of my
soul in the midst of so many temptations
abounding in such a large City, w^{ch} I could
by no means overcome by my own strength,
but solely by looking unto Jesus the Author
& Finisher of my faith.

And let me here observe again, that for
the most part of my life scarcely a day has
passed, when I had not some humbling
sense & symptom of the vileness & depravity
of my nature, which caused me to mourn &
to seek help and comfort in our Savior, the
Blessed consequence of w^{ch} was, that I also ex-
perienced the comforts of his pardoning & reviewing
grace.

grace. This constant need of a Savior, and
the never failing help and refuge I found
in Him, proved to me the reality of the
Gospel, and my sure interest in Christ's Re-
demption. And as my experience tallied with
the written word of God, it confirmed my high
regard and veneration for the sacred oracles;
or else that stupendous & all conception far
surpassing fact: God was manifest in the
flesh, and suffer'd, bled and died for Sinners,
would have utterly confounded my reason
& understanding and staggered all belief.

When the Synod of 1801 had come to a close,
and I had received no intimation of an intended
change, I concluded, that I should continue
in the service of the Dublin Cong.ⁿ, & therefore
devoted myself anew to the Lord for that pur-
pose. But while I was sitting in my room
in this happy frame of mind, the postman
brought a letter, containing our appointment
to the service of Tulnecks Cong.ⁿ. This indeed
came very unexpected, and was not altogether
agreeable to our wishes, as we were much
attached to the Dublin Cong.ⁿ, with whom we
had shared a great deal of joy, as well as of
distress and trouble, particularly during the

late rebellion. But having devoted ourselves
unreservedly to the Lord's service, & promised
obedience to his will and guidance, we could
do no other than accept of that new appointment.

We arrived at Fulneck Nov. 10. 1801, and on
the 13th following, on wth day 45 years ago
I had experienced the first real and abiding
manifestation of Jesus' love and grace, I was,
according to a Synodal resolution, confirmed
by the Lord, consecrated a Bishop of the B.^m
Church by the B.^m Franeker and Moore; on
wth occasion I was so overpowered by the grace
of God, that with purpose of heart, and without
any reserve whatever, I surrendered myself anew
to my Lord & Savior, and from a pure motive
of love and gratitude for his loving kindness,
and goodness towards me, dedicated my fu-
ture services to Him in that house & family
of his own, to which He had graciously led
me in my early youth.

On this occasion it will not be improper
for me, to state my views respect^g the B.^m
Congⁿ, to wth I have the favor to belong.

The Church of Christ here on earth appears
to me like a large and fruitful garden, con-
sisting of a number of compartments or divisions
differing

differing indeed both in arrangement & culture, but all under the care and management of one & the same Gardener; who appoints Laborers for each division of his garden & vineyard, instructing them in the proper mode of cultivating that part, which is exclusively committed to them. Now it is well known, that different plants require both a different treatment and a different soil, & would not equally prosper in a soil less congenial to their texture and nature. So it is with the different denominations in the Christian Church. All of them, that confess Jesus Christ to be their Lord and Master, and walk in the way of his precepts and commandments, deriving from him wisdom, righteousness, sanctification and redemption, and keeping the word of his patience, belong to the Lord's vineyard, & occupy different compartments, where they receive a different treatment, under their peculiar form and constitution; there they find themselves at home and thrive best. Thus there are many excellent Children of God, whom our constitution, discipline and outward form would not suit, and who would not like to be confined within our fold. And thus on the

other hand those, whom our Savior has
called to the P^rst Church, & who are genuine
members of the same, could not feel themselves
at home in any other denomination, nor be
so much furthered in their course any where else.
This at least is my case, conviction and ex-
perience, and the P^rst Church has proved
to me the most congenial soil for growing in
the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.
It is in this fold, that I have been screened and
secured from the deleterious influence of sed-
uction, so common among young people when
left to themselves; it is there that I received
a careful education, combining the knowl-
edge of spiritual things with useful learning
of things pertaining to this life; it is there, that
by serving in a variety of situations & passing
these various trials, peculiar to our connection
with one another, I was qualified both to feed
the sheep of Christ, and from my own expe-
rience to lead them deeper into a proper ap-
plication of the word of life & the merits of our
Lord Jesus Christ; it is there, that the gifts &
talents allotted to me, can be more usefully em-
ployed than any where else; and finally it is
there, that my heavenly race meets with the
least obstruction & with the best encouragement.

If

If therefore others have the same special Call,
let them obey it, and they will find themselves
in the right place; they will thrive & prosper;
and they will clearly see from their blessed
experience, that He, who has called them, is
faithful to perform the purposes of their call^y
and election. And Oh! that our young people,
who are born and bred in our Cong.ⁿ, and thus
have a clear Call to it, might duly reflect on
our Savior's views with them in regard to
their course thro' life, and be duly concerned
to inherit the blessing of their Parents & An-
cestors! And Oh! may the P^rms people never
forget, that the Lord has formed them for him-
self, to be his witnesses, to confess him among
men as the only Savior of perishing Sinners,
to be living monuments of his redeem^g grace
and power, and persevere in their endeavors
for the conversion of heathen nations; and
Oh! may they, walking in the fear of the Lord,
and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost be mul-
tiplied! Amen.

But to resume my Narrative. When I en-
tered upon the service of Fulneck Cong.ⁿ I was
well aware of the multiplicity of labor, cares
and difficulties belonging to it, nor could I think
myself sufficient for that station; but nevertheless,

I submitted to every part of my calling in
reliance upon our Saviour's gracious support,
w^{ch} I also richly experienced under a variety of
heavy circumstances. In the beginning it was
a great help to me, that our late dear Brother
Tanner still continued for some time to act
as Cong.ⁿ Helper and to take some share in
the labor; but after his departure I had to re-
ly fully upon the exercise of all my functions
as Cong.ⁿ Helper, Minister & Inspector of the
Schools.

Every period of the B^{rs} Church has been
attended with its own peculiar difficulties;
but what renders the office of a Labourer in
such a situation now-a-days more particu-
larly embarrassing, is the want of proper
persons for managing the Concerns of a Place
Cong.ⁿ, and for serving our Boarding Schools
as Teachers or Assistants, or in any other ca-
pacity. If therefore a vacancy happens, it is
no easy matter, to fill it up again with a
proper qualified person. At one time in par-
ticular this circumstance caused me much dis-
tress of mind, and I cried day and night to the
Lord for help; till it came from a quar-
ter, from whence I had least expected it. On the
other hand I found abundant cause to rejoice
over

over the blessing, which the Lord had laid upon the Schools. For when I first came to Fulneck in the year 1772, as first Teacher of the Boys Economy, consisting at that time of about 30 Boys, I found it in such needy circumstances, and so low in the estimation of others, that it required much patience to endure it, and much faith to hope for better times. And on my return in the year 1801 I found a School of about 70 Boys, settled in a new house built for the purpose; and another of upwards of 50 Girls, occupying the lower apartments under the Chapel, placed under our care in easy circumstances ~ This was to me a most striking proof, that the Lord sees our tears, hears our prayers, & in due time grants our petitions, yea doth exceeding abundantly above all that we can ask or think, for his own name's sake. My only wish and prayer was, that we might be able, to do justice to our important calling. And in this respect, as in all others, I was heartily thankful to our Savior, and admired his gracious leading, that in my dear wife he had given me a partner, well qualified for our station and respective employments.

In the year 1810 I was brought very low and

and much reduced by a slow nervous fever,
w^t almost incapacitated me for any business,
but still I was not entirely laid up, & could
transact the most urgent matters.

Our service in Fulneck, arduous & laborious
at best, on account of the multiplicity of our
incumbencies, was in the 2 last years rendered
still more ^{so} by the misfortunes, occasioned by
the spirit of speculation in trade, w^t was
then prevailing throughout the mercantile
community and was the cause of innume-
rable ruinous failures. The reproach, which
then, tho' undeservedly, fell upon the Cong.ⁿ
and its Servants, and other highly distressing
circumstances bore heavy upon our minds;
but at the same time we were so strengthened
by the Lord, and supported by his powerful
aid, that we were able to bear up under
all trials and difficulties.

Upon the whole, when we survey our 11
years residence and labor in Fulneck, our
hearts are filled with gratitude for the in-
numerable proofs of the unchangeable love,
grace and mercy of our Lord and Master, ex-
perienced both in our private course, & in
our official labors. Nor is it the least of his
favors, that he counted us worthy, to serve
not

not only the Fulneck Cong.ⁿ, but also its
dependencies, the rest of our Congⁿ in York-
shire, and their numerous Schools.

In the year 1788 we received our Call to Ire-
land, where, besides our joint offices, I was
to succeed our late Dr. Hartley in that of
Prov. & Helper of Ireland, & Minister of Grace
hill; but it lasted till October 1812, before
we could set out for our new post, where we
arrived on the 14th of that month.

In this new situation I feel again every day
anew the absolute necessity, to look to Jesus
the Author and Finisher of my faith, that I may
not only be preserved from sin and the evils of
a corrupt nature, but also grow up in his like-
ness in all things. Along with an humbling
sense of the entire depravity of soul & body,
and the constant need of a Physician, & under
a deep conviction, that I am not worthy of
the least of all his mercies, I am favored with
a high conception of my heavenly calling
and election of grace, and of the infinite worth
of that crown of life, which the Lord, the
righteous Judge, shall give unto all them
that love his appearing. But ah! how often
do I feel an unaccountable listlessness, and
must blame myself for culpable tardiness,

in pursuing that holiness, without which
no man shall see the Lord. How often do I
feel it some, when he applies the refiner's
fire and the fuller's soap to the purifying of
my sinful nature; tho' I ought to be thank-
ful, that he is so unceasingly engaged with
my poor soul, and so constantly intent upon
carrying on the good work he has begun.
Oh that I could now spend the remainder of
my pilgrimage to the joy and honor of Him,
who has redeemed me from all iniquity, and
given me power to become a child of God,
and an heir of eternal bliss and glory.

What innumerable escapes & preservations
of my soul have I experienced in the course
of my pilgrimage, little known to them,
who were conversant with me, & could not
observe the various temptations, besetting
me from within and from without, and
the trials arising as much from my material
disposition, as from unpleasant occurrences.

Tho' I am truly thankful for that share
& confidence, which I have enjoyed in every
longⁿ whom I had the favor to serve, and
that I could live in peace & harmony with
my fellow-laborers; tho' I was perfectly sa-
tisfied with my situation in life and tem-
poral

material circumstances, you could truly say, even
in this respect: "my lot has fallen to me in a
pleasant place, and I have got a goodly heritage";
tho' in general I have enjoyed a good state of
health, and was possessed of a variety of tem-
poral blessings, suited to my taste and natural
disposition; taking particular delight in works
of art, and the beauties of nature: yet, with
all these advantages, the world would have
been to me a true vale of tears, and much
mourning and weeping has attended me on
my pilgrimage. But I have also derived
constant consolation from the suffering life
of my dear Redeemer; And O! how blessed
was it for me, that by the afflictions of this
life I was continually excited, to look forward
to the end of my earthly warfare & pilgrimage;
and to the blessed moment, when I shall
be permitted, to enter into the joy of my Lord,
and to rest from all my labors.

It behoves me to mention in this place,
that besides the reading of the holy Scriptures,
which afforded a rich and delightful pasture
to my mind, I was also much benefited by
many hymns in our Collection, especially such
as tallied with the experience & feelings of my
own heart; and many sleepless hours in the

night have I spent agreeably in reposing
or rehearsing such as were familiar to my
recollection, and suitable to my circumstance.

And how shall I now, O Lord, thou God
of my salvation, express unto Thee my infe-
niate obligations, whose mercy towards me
has been now every morning. Thou didst sepa-
rate me from my mother's womb, and set thy
love upon me, before ever I had heard thy name,
and before I could make the least return.
Thro' thy kind providence, I had both in my
respected Parents and in my Teachers faithful
guides of my youth; and in my early days
was favored to hear the joyful sound of the
gospel, and to have a crucified Savior set be-
fore the eyes of my poor and contrite spirit.
Altho' thro' thy tender care and divine power
I was preserved from the snare of an evil world,
from the wiles of Satan, and from the de-
structive power of Sin; yet thro' the teaching
of thy Holy Spirit I was thoroughly convinced,
both of the total corruption of my nature and
its helpless state, and of the necessity to flee
for refuge and to lay hold of the hope that is
set before us. How can I thank Thee sufficiently
for all the clear evidences & blessed manifestations
of thy love and goodness towards me, &c of the

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healing, sanctifying and quickening virtue
of thy precious blood, without wch I must
have perished in the leprosy of sin. What
a poor unhappy mortal should I have been,
continually harassed and tormented with
pride, ambition, envy and jealousy, and
destroying myself in the service of sin, if
I had not found in Thee deliverance, peace
of mind and rest of soul. Thro' thy grace
it was my happy lot, to live content under
all the various dispensations of thy kind
providence, and in every place of my
earthly residence. Thou hast taken great
pains to train me for thy service, and
to qualify me for every situation in thy
house, to wch I was appointed; but ah!
how short did I fall of that zeal & activity,
wch I ought to have shown in the perform-
ance of my duties! Go glorify Thee with all
the faculties and abilities of spirit, soul and
body, because they were bought with a price,
and preserved from the destructive power of
sin, should have been my constant study
by day and night. Thy rich forgiveness
must cover all my short-comings, neglects
& omissions. And O how readily hast thou
pardoned thy unprofitable servant on all

occasions, meeting me half way, falling about my neck and kissing me, even before I could make my humble confession with tears of re-pentance and contrition. However undervailing I may be, still I can rest upon that gracious promise of thine: "where I am there shall also my servant be". And O! how do I rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory at the enchanting prospect before me, to enter once into thy blissful presence; to be for ever at home with thee; to behold thy glorious countenance; to come unto mount Sion, and to the City of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem; to an innumerable company of Angels; to the general Assembly & Church of the firstborn w^m. are written in heaven & to God the Judge of all.

Till then I will lean on Thee, my Beloved, while walking thro' the wilderness, and live by the faith of the Son of God, who has loved me and given himself for me. Amen.

Thus far written in the year 1814.

S. T. Benade

Note. The following occurrence has been omitted in the foregoing Narrative, w^m. however belongs to the remarkable incidents of my life

life — In the year 1809 two Tatitian youths, Meydon and Olai, had been by the London Miss. Society committed to the care of Mr. Wm. Shely, their Minister of our Congⁿ. at Miffield, for their instruction both in the English language & in the Christian doctrine. Their moral conduct had been from the beginning correct and exemplary, and latterly they gave clear evidences of religious impressions & of a work of grace in their hearts. Having expressed a desire after baptism, and being instructed in the spiritual character of this holy ordinance, it was administered to them, by our Lord's approbation, in a solemn assembly in the Chapel, Meydon receiving the name of Joseph and Olai that of Christian; after wh^{ch} within a short period they both fell asleep in Jesus, Joseph first, and his brother Christian not many days after.

To myself it was not only a pleasant duty, but also a great favor, to be thus made instrumental in administering holy baptism to those two Tatitian youths, and to perform the office of a Heathen Messenger in a Christian country.

October 28th 1817.

Seventy one years have now passed away since I was born, and fifty years, since I entered into the service of their Brethren's Unity, for which I had been destined and educated from my early youth. How precious are thy thoughts unto me, O God! how great is the sum of them! If I could count them, they are more in number than the sand. Bless the Lord, O my Soul, and all that is within, bless his holy Name! From all eternity with love — unchangeable. Thy heart me view'd — O' knew this beating heart to move — Thy tender mercies me pursued! Ever may they with me abide — And close me in on every side!

Deeply bowed in the dust, yea prostrate at thy feet, I adore Thee, O Lord, and with a flood of tears, I render unto Thee my unfeigned thanks and praises for innumerable mercies of all kinds, so undeservedly bestowed upon me during so long a period, while passing thro' this vale of tears, under so many changes and vicissitudes, trials and tribulations. I can bear abundant testimony from my own experience, that Thou art the Lord, merciful and gracious, long-suffer-

ing, and abundant in goodness and truth;
forgiving iniquity, transgression and sin,
and that thy mercy is new every morning.

In my forlorn condition — Thou, Lord, didst
me receive — Thou savedst from perdition
My soul, and bidst me live; — With inward
spirit's ardor — I thank Thee for thy grace;
— Thyself this heavenly fervor — Of love to
Thee increase! Oh! that now the few re-
maining days of my pilgrimage may be
consecrated to thy service and to thy glory!

But ah! how do I blush with shame
and confusion of face, when I reflect, how
often I still grieve Thee by unbelief, cold-
ness of heart, want of love, carnal propen-
sities, indolence in thy service, and various
other things; when I reflect, how short
I fall of those virtues and excellencies, w.^{ch}
adorn the Christian character, and w.^{ch} are
exhibited to us in thy walk and conversa-
tion, in thy whole life here on earth. How
little do I yet discover of that meekness &
lowliness of heart, w.^{ch} we are to learn of
Thee, and of that purity and holiness, with-
out w.^{ch} no man shall see the Lord. These
are indeed hours of grace, when I am par-

ticularly led to meditate, both upon that wonderful act of thy bleeding & dying love, when Thou gavest thyself for my salvation, and redemption, and upon that tender unwearyed care Thou hast taken of me, from my tender infancy until now, bearing, forgiving, comforting, upholding, and supplying my wants in every time of need; and when the flame of love kindled in my heart burns bright and strong; but ah! how soon is it again like smoking flax, & my faith and confidence like a bruised seed! How soon might the smoking flax be quenched, and the bruised seed be broken, if thy mercy did not sustain me from day to day.

And what shall I say respecting my poor services? They are not performed with that zeal and fervency of spirit, w^{ch} ought to actuate me, whether I declare the counsel of God for our salvation in publick, or address either the Congⁿ collectively or any Choir separately; or when I administer the holy Sacraments; or am engaged in any other official duties. How often do I act more from a sense of duty than from an impulse of love. I claim no reward, but I humbly implore

implore thy forbearance, patience & pardons.
But O my Savior! what an arduous sta-
tion hast thou called me to occupy in this
country! Who destitute of the necessary
means, I am required to afford help & relief
in different quarters and on various occa-
sions, where it is called for. Is it a wonder,
that my faith at any time should seem
to fail, and my courage to sink? But
no; I will not cast away my confidence;
and why should I, after so many striking
proofs and instances of thy gracious help
& support in difficult & trying circumstances,
where human help was in vain, doubt of
thy further help? I am thy servant; it is
thy cause I wish to serve; it is thy will,
I should have my station here, & it was
in obedience to thy call, that I came, not
knowing what awaited me.

See thy all-seeing eye
That keeps with watchful care;
Thy great compassion never fail'd;
Thou hearest my needy prayer:
This makes me firmly trust,
Thou'll lead me farther still—
And safely guide throughout the way,
That leads to Sion's hill).

October 28th 1810

What shall I say of the year that is now gone by? it was indeed a period of many severe trials of various kinds, but the greatest of all was, that on the 4th. of August it pleased the Lord, to take home to himself my beloved partner and faithful helpmate, with whom I had lived in the married state 25 years, & who not only was a pleasant companion to me, but also an experienced Assistant in the labor, having already previous to our marriage served a number of years as a faithful handmaid of the Lord among the girls and single Sisters. Thus I was now the 2^d time placed in the state of a Widower at a time of life, when such an agreeable companion and faithful helpmate is doubly valuable. — My desire was now more than ever fixed upon things above, & upon being at home with the Lord.

I had also some expectation at the close of the Synod held this year at Fleetwood, that I should be permitted to lay down my offices and enjoy some rest; but was disappointed and rather found, that by the new regulations

regulations agreed upon I should have some additional duties to perform. Nothing therefore remains to me but to commit myself anew to the hands of my faithful Lord and Savior, relying on his gracious promise: "And even to your old age I am He; and even to hoar hairs will I carry you; I have made and I will bear; even I will carry & deliver you. Isa. 46. 4". Amen be it so.

The year 1823 was an account of the party spirit prevailing in the Cong' n and arises in consequence connected with it, a trying period to me; and finding, that by gouty and rheumatic affections my bodily strength was much impaired, and that both body and mind were no longer equal to the performance of my official duties, I followed my conviction, that after a service of 56 years I might retire from my former activity to a more easy situation, and therefore resigned all my offices except that of Minister.

Thus I could begin the year 1824 with a cheering prospect of rest and peace from within and without; nor was I disappointed in my expectation. I really anticipated the fulfillment of the prophecy: "my people

shall dwell in a peaceable habitation, in
secure dwellings, and in quiet resting places;
All my mourning was turned into joy, and
I could thank the Lord even for the afflictions
I had to pass thro', as they afforded in the
end new evidences of his unchangeable love
and faithfulness. My great concern and my
earnest prayer and supplication now is, that
the Spirit of God may prepare me for meeting
my Savior with joy, and make me meet
for an inheritance among the Saints in light.

As to my present situation, I can truly
testify with the Psalmist: "my times are
fallen unto me in pleasant places, yea
I have a goodly heritage." Ps. 16. 6.

July 8th 1827 I ordained Dr. C. H. Henty
Dudolph, then Minister of Dublin Cong.ⁿ,
a Presbyter of the W^m Church; and this
was the last transaction of my ministerial office.

At the close of their Examination I had
with both in duty and in gratitude & honor,
to appear before them & give them to God, that
by his kind providence & with the frag-
mentary liberality of dear good friend & late
Fellow W^m Gates, an undesignate amount,

Lane

been however under Granville's brother Sir John
numerous tenanted buildings, and a year ago
the grain or money better payable experienced,
or nearly so; and the same time, a considerable
loss of the silver and silver plate; and
silver plate placed elsewhere upon the
substantially failing for adding up its debts,
and foreclosing its few remaining properties; not
to mention other bankruptcy of payment
ability; so that even comprising the present
state of Granville with that in 1812, the loss
will be very striking.

The Lord has done great things for this
Country even in Pater-nosters, for we have got
our confidant Charles and given to the boy
total peace!