

Feb 13/13⁴

Brief Notices concerning the life of
the Widow S. Hammatt Larrand, m.m. Wood
who departed on January the 27th 1866.

At Dulneck!

Our late S. Larrand m.m. Wood was born
on January the 15th 1793 at Drighlington. At
the time of her birth her parents were not
members of the Brethren's church although
her grand parents and other relatives had
been more or less acquainted and connected
with the congregation at Dulneck. From
Drighlington her parents removed to Lane
End Bankhouse, and joined the congregation
in this place, Dr. Wood rendering
himself useful as a sick visitor, and a
travelling companion to the late Br. Sampson,
and others, on their journeys to the Ante preaching
stations at Wobsey, and elsewhere. When
still very young our late Foster entered into
the service of Br. S. James L. Turbe with whom
she also removed to Dulneck to Duckinfield.
After having left this situation, she filled
similar posts in various primitive & local
ties, and lastly tired with the late Br. Joseph
Kinchiffe, at Great Norton, from whence she
returned (for some time) to her parents,
with whom she resided and then entered into
the married state with her late husband Mr
Larrand. At that time she was in Society
fellowship with one congregation here and

had attended our Chapel during her residence at home, not without some blessing to herself. She lived with her husband first at Wakefield, and then for many years at Bradford where they attended the ministry of that worthy man of God, the late Mr. Taylor, of Horseshoe Lane Independent Chapel, and his gifted and amiable successor the late Mr. Glyde. She often spoke with peculiar delight of the many blessings she enjoyed under the ministrations of these servants of the Lord. In seasons of sickness and affliction she found their counsel of real comfort & lasting benefit. She learnt to know the value of the Bible as the Word divine, by inspiration given, and made a frequent and good use of it for her edification. We have heard it from her own lips and from the testimonies of those who saw and knew her then, that she enjoyed sweet communions with her God, and spent many happy hours in fellowship with seriously disposed persons.

It is possible though I speak here with the utmost caution and diffidence, as my own knowledge of our late Sister is but very imperfect, it is possible, that though of a serious and religious turn of mind, and wished to live to God and to serve him acceptably, she had not learnt to know herself as a poor helpless sinner whose only merit, is the merit of Christ Jesus, and whose sole salvation is that proclaimed by him. Our real peace of mind and lasting joy we have in the Lord Jesus Christ and in his finished work. Our religious exercises, our Christian experiences - our best actions - independent of his blood, and the comfort of his holy spirit,

however misery in themselves, however antipathetic to the eyes of mortal man, never can have ever will be a safe foundation for the last safety of sinful men. Their wants must be supplied from above. Their cravings are after estrange things - and in & alone they can find full satisfaction.

Some years ago our late S. removed with her husband & brother to Dunneck, and by their own request they were received into church fellowship with the people of God in this place. In Nov. 1858 she lost her partner after whose death she returned to reside at Dunneck, and as long as she was able attend the services both public & private in our Chapel. Whenever deprived of these means of grace which was especially the case during the last year of her life, she found compensation for this loss in studying her Bible reading and meditation, and ~~often~~ ^{much} interested in spiritual conversation with variously dispersed friends.

By her naturally warm temperament, and an occasional undue attention to, and fretting about external, temporal matters, ~~thus~~ ^{thus} causing herself many needless perplexities, while she thereby grieved others, and prevented them from appreciating her better qualities. ~~To fully aware~~ was she of the nothingness and vanity of all earthly things, ~~thus~~ once during her last illness, when speaking with a relative of the new heavens and the new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness, she observed, she would rather have nothing whatever to do with the earth for there was nothing but trouble and sorrow in it. And she herself in the happier hours of calm reflection felt annoyed and grieved that these external matters should exercise such an influence over her and harass & excite her mind. At such times she longed to be delivered from this body.

As it is a blessed thing while we are in the world in
the midst of our daily troubles & toils - though we
walk in the flesh, not to war after the flesh, but to exert
down every imagination and every high thing that ex-
alts itself against the knowledge of God, and to bring
every thought into captivity, to the obedience of Christ.

When I came to live here at Salneok towards the
end of October last same time past our late sis-
ters health was failing more and more. But as
she had frequently been very unwell and then again
recalled, it was thought by some, that ^{her late} this illness, after
which proved her last, would give way and end in her
complaintive recovery. But ever since the beginning
of the year the dropped symptoms became more
and more alarming, and her medical adviser soon
pronounced her case to be a hopeless one. On one or
two occasions when reminded of the probability of
her speedy dissolution, she expressed herself not
only hopeful, but even resigned and cheerful at the
prospect of her departure, declaring that her trust
was in Jesus & alone. But as the time of the end drew
nearer, and especially when her bodily infirmities in-
creased affecting as they did her hands & her brain, she
lost her confidence in the body and clanks and occasional
darkness came over her soul. Still she prayed to the
Lord & hoped for his salvation. She reluctantly & unwillingly
her in earnest prayer to our Saviors merciful kindness,
and she invariably responded to these appeals for pardon
and an assurance of her acceptance, so far as we could
judge not only with her voice but from her very heart.
This was especially the case on Friday before her departure,
when she was extremely weak & full of pain, yet quite
visible, and thankful for the spiritual consolations
that were conveyed to her. On Saturday morning about
10 o'clock she was offer an earnest prayer, in which she had
fully joined, blessed for her departure in the presence
of her brother & niece - Shortly after she passed
the Lord seemed calm and peaceful in her mind
and ~~soon after~~ about 12 M^o departed this life as we hope
to be with Christ. Her age was 73 years. May