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Memoirs of the late Rev. Dr. Griswold.

I have very thought of writing anything like a memoir of myself the poorest among the Lord's poor ones has produced a thrilling sensation, so that after its completion, I have more shame consigned it to the fire. But as my high calling of God in Christ Jesus, & the great previous to my fellowship with the Brethren Church are strikingly marked with the divine finger, I must not refuse to render to the glory of God a brief narration of the special circumstances that principally bear on these two points.

I pleased God that I should draw my first breath in the house of my parents at Salem on Apr. 2. 1748. Much as I wish to honor the memory of my dear father & brother, yet from the most credible information, they cannot be considered in any other view than as refined devotee. Moral as was their character before men, they were immediately called to divine revelation & its doctrines; as a consequence, at times & joined their aversion to all but every denomination who professed the simple doctrines of

The question may now  
be asked, how could the children of parents  
thus disposed expect to be brought up in  
the fear & reverence of the Lord? Much as they  
might wish honest morality on their  
infant minds, their general education  
would have been according to the prevailing  
political opinions so prevalent at that period.  
I was the youngest of three brothers; the  
eldest went early to Winchester school, be-  
ing designed for the Bar. The second to  
Westminster for the army. From seven  
years old I was a day scholar at the Ca-  
thedral grammar school, & had my  
father lived till I had reached twelve years  
was to go to Winchester College.

I must now revert to the awful  
events which under Providence, led to the  
separation of the Savoy - graciously prepared  
with me. In 1759 it pleased God to re-  
move both my honoured parents with  
a few weeks of each other, my mother of  
consumption in July; my father in  
Octr. of a gouty affection on the heart,  
while conversing with me after dinner  
on my going to Winchester next Easter.

Sue B

Such awful bereavements are frequently  
attended with incalculable loss to minors,  
but my all merciful God, caused them in  
the sequel to work for my eternal gain.  
For He who knows the end from the begin-  
ning, saw me (a poor orphan) lying in  
my blood, (spiritual death) without any  
to pity my forlorn case. Thank God, I am  
now in my 76<sup>th</sup> year, enabled to believe  
that my time of love was come. These  
thoughts of peace concerning me were gra-  
dually to be fulfilled, that my lost &  
dead soul should live by faith to Him on  
the earth, & when His good works in me  
should be finished, live with Christ in  
His glorious Kingdom. Almost immor-  
tality and I of these ever blessed prospects.  
Since the call of an immortal soul from  
death to life, & from darkness to light is  
the most important of all events, no  
incident combined with its spiritual  
progress, trivial as it may appear to  
carnal wisdom, will be deemed so by  
him, who has cause to have degree to  
see, with a heart to understand the mys-  
teries of the Kingdom of God.

In my father's will two guardians were appointed, his only brother & one of my uncles, Brothers. The first immediately entered on the charge. The whole landed property was left to our eldest brother, with small fortunes to the younger children. My uncle aware that mine was by no means sufficient to procure my honoured father's intention for the church, determined to take me to one of the most respectable schools at Bristol. His friend in this city mentioned the late Rev. Mr. Foote, who taught Latin & Greek lessons in the mornings. After dinner Writing, Arithmetic, & the rudiments of Geometry were taught by the Soher. Here I was entered about Michaelmas following. The leading reason of my being settled here instead of London, was that my excellent & truly pious Aunt Anne, residing in Bristol, was on the point of joining the Moravians. In this event the divine finger is most evident. In sterility I shall have abundant cause to thank & praise my faithful Shepherd for having brought me his poor straying lamb

and under the following care of their worthy

lady.

The Sunday & half yearly vacations were generally spent under her roof. My Aunt occasionally touched in a very delicate manner, suited to my capacity, on divine subjects, particularly of the history of Joseph Chamberlai. My ears were too quick to hear the words, even as they seemed, yet the dulness of hardness of my heart prevened me from comprehending their spiritual import.

After many months she propos'd me to accompany her to the Chapel. Unpleasent reports of the Moravians had been instilled into my ears by the elder boys of the school. These added to the natural aversion of my heart to serious subjects urged me to refuse to go anywhere except to the parish church. Two years had elapsed before my Aunt, having some ladies, belonging to the B.<sup>n</sup>, in her house, requested me to attend her now & then to Chancery lane. The gratitude felt by me for her constant kind attentions pre-

vails over all antipathies. The sermon  
was preached by the late Rev. Mr. Nyberg.  
The evangelical style was new to my  
ears, & the place of people was contrary to church  
regulations. That I scarcely understood the  
 drift of the sermon, nor was I pleased with  
the mode of worship. My guardian even  
only thought of my learning the Italian  
method of Book Keeping to prepare me  
for a merchant's Compting house. In  
1763 he placed me with an excellent mas-  
ter, who was to devote 2 or 3 hours a day in  
having me read the Classics in which  
I had made good proficiency. This gentle-  
man's academy was near the Chapel. I  
began to attend very frequently with the  
children of the principal members here. In  
a few months I had leave to attend the Soci-  
ety meetings on Monday's & Friday's, on the  
latter courses of Divinity were generally read,  
concluding with the beautiful old hymn  
I had so full of bruises & sorrow from  
the Organ gallery. One evening the organ  
native of a boy older than me, was read.  
Previous to his being dead, he had been  
deeply exercised with the fear of death.  
chiefly

now by caused by his inattention to the warn-  
ings of the Holy Spirit, & from a desire to  
live in the world, deferring the salvation  
of his soul to a future period, ignorant  
whether now hidden by the thine of mortal life  
and who may be snapp'd by God in whose hand  
were we the time. His tears & heart rendings  
accompanied with the deep sense of be-  
ing forever lost, caused him to be hum-  
bled before God, & in real earnest to call  
upon the Saviour for the remission of  
all his sins & follies in his all cleansing  
& purifying blood. A short time before his  
departure, the good & faithful Shepherd,  
graciously assured him of an interest  
in the great mediatorial sacrifice. By  
this manifestation his spirit became  
comforted & he resigned his redeemed soul  
into the hands of his creator & Sav-

The deep impression made by the spi-  
rit of truth on my poor cold heart beg-  
gars all description. It was as though  
an arrow from the Lord had entered  
into my soul's sounding me to the  
quick. The meeting was no sooner  
ended than I hastened to my chamber

Gathering the door knelled down by the  
bedgide, with incipient tears, I tam-  
mered forth my first prayers from the  
heart, bemoaning the compassionate God  
so show mercy to me a poor orphan man  
doring in the wilderness; that when my  
time should come, I might be prepared  
to go in peace to my eternal home.  
(was my petition) That I might  
live the life, & die the death of the right  
course.

Have I not just cause for considering  
this important event as my first  
conviction of sin? His insight into the  
precious doctrine of the atonement.  
But like the blind man in consequence  
of the spittle's finest touch, I saw men  
like trees walking. These glimmerings  
of spiritual light came gradually to the  
Sav<sup>r</sup> & the fountain of every blessing, & to  
be more cordially attached the the Bon  
It would now have been an hour <sup>shorter</sup> to have  
sacrificed every earthly advantage rather  
than deny the Lord who furnished his  
compassion, or quit the fellowship of these  
dear people, whom I despised.

Sam

FW/3/85

I am aware that the cold hearted reasoners  
would decide my sentiments as Enthusiast  
and spring from ignorance of the words  
or a false judgment of men & things. But  
even now in my 76<sup>th</sup> year, after having  
contemplated various great characters, the  
opinion formed when near fifteen, I  
am ready to confirm so far without  
of my power. Happy indeed the man,  
who called of God is enabled to bear the  
like testimony of his grace & power.  
Happy indeed the man, who called of God,  
is enabled to bear the like testimony  
of his grace & power. What a blessed  
preparation was this to meet the ap-  
proaching opposition of my new guar-  
dian & dearest brother, to a continuance  
in my present situation. The for-  
mer worthy guardian died this year.  
He had promised my Aunt Anne, that  
on my being 16, he would fix me in  
a respectable line in this city until  
I became of age. But a short time  
had elapsed when this new guardian  
consulted with my brother (nearly of  
age,) upon the means of removing me.

Bethune D'Uto, imminent & tho' never a  
system of religion, & to all in every  
party who professed its doctrines. My  
Aunt & I were deeply interested in his  
prejudices, not doubting of their using  
every means to defeat her intention of  
making me a convert to Moravianism.  
They began by using persuasiveness at  
temples, offering me every advantage in  
their power. Our Saviour having gained my  
sincere love, & the Lord - my regard, I was  
prepared rather to forego every earthly pro-  
spect than to suffer the loss of my im-  
mortal soul. — Three months after, a  
most reproachful letter to my Aunt  
was received from the Guardian. He said  
He said that he had fully weighed my  
present situation in all its bearings,  
that he was finally resolved not to force  
for me to be bred a Methodist, to the dis-  
grace of my family & the reproach of my  
self when arrived at maturity.  
After consulting with my elder brother,  
the latter agreed to the request to go from  
Cambridge to Bristol carrying a legal  
commission from my Uncle to oblige

me (as usually Ward) to return with him to  
London. & his Br. in a few lines to my Aunt,  
fixed the day I should be requesting her to get my  
things ready packed, intending after dinner  
to go to Chippingham to sleep. Mr. G. came  
in a chair exactly to the time, saluting  
his Aunt with affectionately. During dinner  
nothing unpleasant occurred. But  
the cloth was no sooner removed than my  
Br. read the guardian's commission worded  
in the strongest manner. A warm conver-  
sation took place between the Aunt & the  
Guardian. At the conclusion with an angry  
look the latter desired to see me alone. With  
trembling steps, she retired to the drawing  
room. Fearing forcible means, she very  
judiciously had placed two stout men in the  
servants hall. Thank God they were not found  
necessary. Could any Connivous have felt  
my heart on being alone with my angry Br.  
He would have found it beat very quick. He  
began with touching on my ungrateful con-  
duct toward the guardian & also to him, repeat-  
ing his former promises to bear all the ex-  
pences at school, & at Cambridge; if I would  
enter the church, adding that on my taking

a Batchelors degree; he would procure a little  
for orders. But should I still prefer the me-  
chanical line, he knew that my Uncle though  
Sir William James, an East India director, who was  
about to marry his youngest daughter, could cer-  
tainly obtain a more lucrative situation at Bengal;  
where if I applied closely to the concerns of  
the company, I might in about 24 years  
return home with a great fortune. With  
tears in my eyes, I replied that I felt much  
obliged to my Uncle Thim, for these marks  
of their affection. But as I had written to  
them, I was, at the risque of every temporal  
gain, firmly resolved to remain in the  
situation in which my late Uncle had placed  
me, with the pleasing hope of fixing me  
when at a proper age in a respectable count-  
ing house until I should be 25. Now viewing  
me with disdain, mixed with anger, he  
said, I am, at a loss, Sir for my ~~for~~ I cannot con-  
 sider you) clearly so understand your mean-  
ing to join the Moravians, to the present &  
future discredit of your family yourself.  
Depend upon my word you will never be  
owned by them or me. The Chaise was standing  
at the door, he seized his hat, galloped away.

After passing a short time with my Aunt, he  
kneel'd down offering up hours all forever say-  
ing fair thanks & praise, for hearing our  
meek prayers & delivering me out of this  
trial. Returning to my apartment in the old  
ff's house, I sat ruminating on the won't  
working power of God. In my Diary the  
following stanza is noted down:

Like a hunted bird, to his nest retired,  
So feels my soul at this season,  
Thankful to my Lord with reason,  
For his aiding care, gainst the fowler's snare.

Aug 27<sup>th</sup> 1763,

About the end of the year in a letter from the  
guardian to my Aunt, he expresses his discontent  
with my refractory conduct, & that he would  
have no more to do with me, except to  
place me in the line with the man I wish  
to be. He desired her to send him the name  
occupation of the same. My B<sup>r</sup> being of age, it  
would raise the required fee, to be deducted from  
my small fortune. In March the fol<sup>ll</sup>  
owing year, a letter from my B<sup>r</sup> announced  
that the money was ready & his steward would  
be in Bristol on my birthday, to see every  
thing done in order & the money paid. By the t

By the engagement I was to be at liberty  
on the 2<sup>d</sup> Apr. 1769. Happy as this unexpected  
event seemed at the first glance, it became  
an object of no little regret to be tied  
down to worldly concerns for the space of five  
years. The preservation of my poor soul  
in my fellowship with the Brethren reconciled  
me to it. Could I have pursued my studies, or  
it would have been far more congenial  
with my present views. But my guardian  
angels insisted upon it, lest idleness permitted  
with fanatics would render me a vagabond.

The minister at this period was the late Rev. Dr. Franeker, whose sympathizing feelings for me will ever remain in my heart. I wrote for reception of communion into the Cong<sup>n</sup> & the favour was conferred add<sup>d</sup> on 13<sup>th</sup> Augt 1765. I continued in what St John calls the first love for a year & half before  
enjoying the privilege with God's people  
with humbleness of mind, till an enemy more  
powerful than human foes began in the winter  
of 1765 to attack the least vulnerable part  
of human nature, the reason & the judgment.  
I had become acquainted with some  
gentlemen of no mean desirable learning who  
accord

liberty accompanied with a bright understanding.  
and specie his father was an eminent West India  
merchant at whose house the son occasion  
ally invited me to spend an evening.  
After tea we retired to his library. Being  
at first partial to me he began gradually to al-  
ter his mind on the subject of free think-  
ing, or as it may be more properly called  
materialism. Among the shelves I saw mu-  
ltiple volumes of Deistical writers, Tindal,  
Hume, Voltaire &c. Taking down Hume's  
Essay on Human Nature, he said, In this  
book, my young friend will soon perceive in  
spite of the first style accompanied with the most  
ingenious arguments. Reading a few  
ception of the most plausible paragraphs, he  
added: Indeed you cannot avoid being convin-  
ced of the truth of his sublime Ideas. Con-  
fess, said I, there is something in his opi-  
nions new to me that fixes them on the in-  
enemy mind. On the second visit he took down  
the avol. of Voltaire, descanting on some well  
meritable parts. Now I became so struck with  
his sentiments, that I touched in the  
poison of infidelity. The consequences  
were highly prejudicial to my former ac-  
counts.

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vices of Christianity. My once tender & humble impressions were changed to a degree of mental pride, instead of the attachment to the Savror this people which I had before felt; a course so both gradually brought on, my mind once fixed on heaven by eternal things became darkened quite aware to my reflections upon them, my reason & judgment being warped from divine truth by the subtlety of Satan. Had the living God, as in the case of the rich man, suddenly required my soul from me, I see no other issue but to have been eternally lost. It pleased the Lord, who is the God of mercy & judgment to look again on me, as he did on Peter, & to work out the means of pulling me out of the fire. I had not wholly withdrawn my attendance at the chapel, nor that the word of the cross affected me as formerly. To the eternal praise of the good & faithful Shepherd, whose all searching spirit tries the heart & the reins of those whom he designs to make monuments of his grace & power, the waywarding slave who looked on his Peter, after he had thrice denied him

him, was graciously pleased to dart his penetrating eye on me during a Wednesday evening preaching by the late Mr. Frame at the end of church 1767. The text was, "How shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation." The Lord, the Spirit, with his sharp & two edged sword, piercing to the dividing rounder of soul & spirit, & a discoverer of the thoughts & intents of the heart, brought the important subject so home to my soul, that I felt like David when Nathan said to him, " Thou art the man," as though I had been the greatest neglecter of the salvation of God. The day of the divine visitation was now come upon me, for such repeated resistance against the Holy Spirit, after having rec'd. so much light, so many inward proofs of the Sav.<sup>r</sup> grace & power. The instant the service was ended I hastened weeping & sobbing to my apartment in Mr. Johnson's house; shut up the windows, fastened the door. Then casting myself on the floor before my highly offended God the Sav., with a flood of briny tears, & with stammering lips, I attempted to express the deep compunction of a wounded spirit. But

2  
2 no overwhelmed was I with shame & confusion, as to be unable to utter more than a broken sentence; In this state, I lay above for a quarter of an hour groaning under the burden of my sins. Blessed be the Lord who av notices the oppressed sinners complaint, for he was mercifully pleased to whisper into my opening ear, " thy soul thy sins are past, thou art saved, sin is no more, go thy way in peace." These life giving words came with such divine power, that I began to feel like one new born. Fieble indeed is the attempt to record all that passed during these events to be remembered again, between the unforgetting soul, & my death bed, by repenting soul. With his outstretched arms of infinite love he embraced me a poor returning prodigal, after while a divine peace filled my heart with all joy and in believing the greatness of his power to forgive. To all sins I blot out the handwriting against me, nailing it to the same. O it was my time not trees of love, a sacred covenant day, so that I was enabled to say " My Beloved is mine & I am his." So grace this my heart added, I promise I will run after thee. For gratitude impelled me to dedicate my spirit & body to him, who had given his life & blood a sacrifice on the cross, that henceforth I might

might live & die unto The Lord, who both lived  
I died for me, that whether living or dying I might  
be the Lord's. Amen & Amen.

I was to have passed the following evening at this Gentleman's house; instead of going a polite note was addressed to him expressing my change of sentiments on the Doctrinal writings, & I returned the books he kindly lent me; I burned the few bought by me.

In the Diary I had been accustomed to keep

since the period of my first serious apprehensions, nearly 60 years ago, but which

during my long apostacy had proved a mere blank, I find the following, which my dear

Bro will I trust think worth transcribing.

"March 1769. The consequence of this fiery trial, alluding to my falling into Secism has

brought new thoughts & new desires. The im-

mortal mortality of the sinful human soul has

not till now been clearly perceived by me I was not in its true scriptural meaning. Indeed

The idea of Eternity had often filled me

with an indescribable dread of what might

become of my immortal soul, when sum-

mored to the eternal Unhired state of all

men. Often has the greatest anguish of

mind been felt when this serious subject  
intruded itself upon me. Many an hour  
since my first conviction of sin, have  
I passed in bed, in lonely walks in the fields,  
contemplating this most serious of all  
subjects, without obtaining the wished  
for cleareness. Hence while the subject  
re harassed me in a greater or less degree  
without any just ground to call it in  
question, I preferred my indistinct view  
of its truth to all that my relations (be  
fore mentioned) proposed to me, as the  
mean of happiness in this transient  
estate. Am I not bound to consider in  
a gratitude there as a powerful interfe-  
rence of a most gracious Providence?  
But, no sooner had Jesus stretched forth  
his all conquering arm & was pleased  
to manifest himself to my wounded  
spirit, than every doubt respecting Eter-  
nity was dispelled, & godliness in all its  
blessed realities was embraced by me.  
Even, His eternal Divinity, as God  
over all blessed for ever, His real humanity,  
as man, (both of which were doubted by  
me during the sceptical reign of reason)

became now as clear to me as the Sun in  
the firmament. Hence I am enabled to  
rest my faith, & whole salvation on Jesus,  
the Rock of eternal ages, & to committing my  
future path, through times of many wil-  
fulness, to his guidance, as my faithful &  
affectionate Shepherd, Unerring Leader. My earnest  
prayer is, that the eye of my renewed  
mind may be daily looking unto Jesus  
the Author, & Finisher of our faith, until  
his whole will concerning me shall be  
fully completed!

In May following, I became spectator the  
second time at the H. Comm.; in July was  
solemnly confirmed by the late Br. Franken-  
dence, for the first participation with the Cong.  
on the well known festival Aug. 13.

How deep was the humiliation of my soul  
during the four weeks state of preparation, &  
accompanied with fervent prayers that ap-  
I might not eat & drink unworthily at  
the Lord's table. My feelings cannot be  
better expressed than in the concluding  
verse of the well known hymn Page 206  
No. 713. Thy communion celebration,  
Bows me down to deep prostration, says

never unprepared, to my condemnation  
where it. May I not be permitted to view  
from this important period my gradual  
confirmation in the faith & hope of the good  
soul? Whatever events or changes may occur  
in my future walk through the world  
doubts are of a subordinate importance  
to my blood-washed soul being made  
meet for glory, to enjoy with the saints  
in light the prepared inheritance.

Some concise memorabilia with an ex-  
tract from my diary are added. The fol-  
lowing stanza concludes this very incom-  
plete narration.

Sympathetic to the heavenly shores I come  
on precious blood, thy only plea his message's power,  
Before the throne of God. I sought call'd good  
as by me is done, The power by him was given,  
in cause & effect are His alone, On earth & here in  
To heaven.

Now unto him that is able to keep me from  
falling, & to present me faultless before the  
presence of his glory with exceeding joy, to  
the only wise god our Sav<sup>r</sup> be glory, majesty,  
dominion & power both now & ever amen.  
(Completed 23rd April 1823.)

Twenty

events that occurred after closing the memoir  
of April 2<sup>d</sup>. Being now emancipated from  
martial congoey, I soon after accompanied  
the late Mr. B. Latrobe to Lindsey House  
Mayence after staying a fortnight, I proceeded  
to Milnbeck. In a short time an appointment  
instance was given me as one of the Tutors in the  
made son of the middle boys among whom were  
aunts the late Hambold, Hartley & the present  
J. C. Wm Okely. - 1771 - In the summer  
I was appointed to preach & keep meetings so  
the field in the country being no Societies. I had now  
attained the zenith of my earthly wishes in  
the preaching of the everlasting gospel  
being the desideratum of my heart.

power, 1772 - Jan. - I was suddenly seized with a  
feeling of an indisposition of so serious a kind,  
as to give me the impression that my life was in danger & the  
blessing of the Lord for my long home was  
imparted by the late B<sup>r</sup> Count de Dohna.  
It pleased God to give a salutary turn, the  
clothes of the situation in the Hall oblige  
after god me to remove to a better air in their  
city and Bon's house. In July my renewed strength  
enabled me to resume my pleasant  
ministerial labours. The warden of Milnbeck  
at last

being likewise Minister of Fiducy Cong<sup>n</sup>.  
Dimock health engaged me to assist him  
in both situations, consequently I had to go out  
on Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday to  
keep the Society meetings in three different  
places. The constancy of my activity was rendered  
extremely pleasant. Indeed I could have spent  
my life in these employments.

17th Jan<sup>r</sup>. Going returning on foot in a deep  
snow to keep the Cong<sup>n</sup> Sunday meetings at  
Gomersal, I was seized the next day with a  
chill in the right knee. After trying almost  
every means in vain, my cure was happily  
effected by the late excellent Mr. Hey of Leeds,  
who came to me at York, where I had been con-  
fined to the bed for 6 weeks. In Aug<sup>r</sup>. I became  
strong enough to venture on my vacation in  
the country. 1775. April. A commission was  
sent in a letter from the late B<sup>r</sup> B Latrobe  
to go to Bristol to assist in the duties of that  
The Gingewood Cong<sup>n</sup>. 1776. May. It pleases  
God to render me instrumental in leading  
a poor condemned criminal to a degree of true  
self knowledge & to turn with all his heart to  
the law of sinners. It was apparent to many  
that his conversion was real. At the gallows

Fall 1885

to which I attended, his confession & penitence  
from me & many 1777 Sept. 27<sup>th</sup> while  
crossing the Atlan<sup>t</sup> Passage to Bristol on  
my return from a visit to Admiral Vaughn  
an Officer, experienced with some, a  
most miraculous preservation from a  
watery grave. Now a vocation to be an  
evangelist minister & helper of the S. K.  
was sent to me, from the U. E. C.  
1780 Aug 2<sup>d</sup>. I was married at Bedford  
to my dearm<sup>d</sup> the second daughter of Jo-  
seph Foster Barnard Esq. of that long<sup>n</sup>  
Sept. Our first residence was in London  
where I assisted the late Br. B. Latrobe in  
the service of that long<sup>n</sup> in 1782 Jan. 11<sup>th</sup> our  
first child was born, baptized by the name  
of Anna Dorothea. I received & accepted a vocation  
to the ministry of the Oakbrook long<sup>n</sup> to  
which I was ordained a Deacon by the late Br.  
Bishop Reichel. But being painfully disap-  
pointed in obtaining the promised house  
I was necessitated to write to the U. E. C.  
on the subject who saw the propriety  
of my not fulfilling the official appointment  
1783 Feb. went on a visit to my late Aunt  
at Bath. In April rec'd. a vocation from

the U. S. C. to be Commissioner with the  
late Bro. J. Moore who was of a sickly habit  
in 1790. This worthy Bro. departed this life. I  
continued to act with the late Bro. Sulgrave  
Church. During the late visitation of the  
late Bro. Amr. Lauer, a member of the  
U. S. C. he prevailed on me to take our two  
sons to Fulneck school, (with the promise  
that on his return to Heronbut, I should be  
provided with a Commissioners office in  
that long<sup>n</sup>. But alas! he died at Leist; his  
promise of course failed & I never after obtain-  
ed the same.)

In 1793 May. For the purpose of being nearer  
two sons in the Boys' school at Fulneck  
we left Bath went to Bedford where we  
remained 8 months. 1794 Sept. we went  
to reside at Bank house, adjoining Ful-  
neck. In both these long<sup>n</sup> I assisted in the  
services.

In 1797 Sept. my dear wife being greatly weak-  
ened by a severe rheumatic fever the Phy-  
sician advised our removal to a warmer  
part of England. We removed to Bristol  
where I assisted the different ministers  
of that long<sup>n</sup>. I cannot conclude these  
brief

brief Memorandum, without expressing  
that the solemn deprivations of my little  
talents to serve the Lord in the like offici-  
cial character I was formerly favoured with,  
(during 15 years of health) since we left  
Fulneck, have been the severest trial in  
my prolonged life. For the last ten years  
my tabernacle has been gradually bowing  
down under the pressure of repeated indis-  
position. But to the glory of God's grace, I  
am enabled to view this trial as one among  
the all things that have worked & shall  
continue to work for my good. May. 1823.

The following is copied from my Diary now  
destroyed. I had been much indisposed during  
the whole winter. But on Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> 1823, he  
came so greatly debilitated by spasmodic  
affections on the breast, overflowings of  
the bile, that it seemed to me the end of my  
time on earth was at no great distance.

My dear wife leaving the chamber, I im-  
mured my heart to my unseen but pre-  
sent Sav<sup>r</sup>, praying Him to be with me  
when going through the dark vale to the  
heavenly city. I had scarcely ended the last  
words of "let Thy rod & Thy staff comfort me,"

which I was like the blessed John, in the spirit, my soul in sweet communion with the Beloved. This is not in my power to tell what happened during her never to be forgotten moment. While the extreme debility of the body lay upon the willows, my spirit was delighted with hearing the dulcet music of the heavenly harps, soothing my whole frame, & giving me at the same time a blessed foretaste of those never giving joys. When my wife returned, I was overcome by the extreme sensibility of what had just passed & related the substance to her. It pleased God, so kindly to cover but the sweet remembrance of this never to be forgotten day will, I am confident be preserved to me, till I shall be wafted from earth to see Him face to face, whom through infinite mercy my soul so loveth; but not in the high degree, justly deserved from one, on whom so many rich mercies have been bestowed from my youth to this hour.

In weakness, pain & more, my Lord,  
Thy comfort sweet. How wilt afford,

Un

Until I leave to live;  
Since thou death's sting extracted hast,  
The bitterness we know is past.  
How blest are they who this believe.  
What joy divine, what glorious view,  
When souls departing bid adieu,

To every scene below;  
For Christ will safely these convey  
Through darkest shades to endless day.  
With him to rest from every woe.  
Ah! then our joyful tongues will raise  
In everlasting songs of praise

To our Redeemer God;  
His precious blood our robe most fair,  
And surely firm gainst judgment bar,  
And Satan's accusations prove.

To the above memoir, as drawn up  
by our late Br<sup>r</sup>, his family would only  
add a brief account of his last moments.  
His illness had been generally attended  
with so much lethargy, that he had  
said very little for some days. But  
about 9 o'clock in the morning on the  
day of his departure, after some previous  
conversation with his dear wife, a visible  
change took place. His eyes were

they immediately went for Dr. They  
had round the bed he uttered the following words. Pastor Lord! I am going <sup>each o</sup>  
home! His younger son then said, I think until  
you are very near to Heaven; He said, I now  
know, our Saviour is making me ready. He did the  
same in the hands of my God. Amy, young  
Lord! at thy feet I fall, as a <sup>poor sinner</sup> did not  
at the feet of my Lord & my God. Don't be his  
wake me any more. I am so fond of <sup>pres</sup>  
quiet. Amy Lord! I light'd day have I <sup>17 M</sup>  
been engaged with thee! But my feet are  
fall in order, - I am preparing, - no very  
quiet, - I am quite like a Lamb, I am not  
going, - quite going home." His elder son  
said to him We shall endeavour to follow  
you Sir, - He replied with great earnest-  
ness, Follow Christ, as far as I have followed  
Him, follow me.

About 12 o'clock our dear Br. Bishop Foot-  
ter called on him. On seeing him he said, <sup>break</sup>  
I am a very old Br. Br. Foster replied, I <sup>thy-</sup>  
remember you as one of my earliest <sup>friends</sup>  
friends more than 40 years ago at <sup>tot</sup>  
the neck. And I remember you, added our <sup>two</sup>  
departing Brother, we shall remember <sup>each</sup>  
of

They  
followed  
going  
I think  
said, <sup>in</sup>  
. Among  
feet thin  
so very  
I am now  
desirous  
to follow  
Ceney went  
followed him  
on the  
loft floor  
said, weak  
lied, they  
it was  
told to the  
Dowd and  
member of  
each other

gathered her above, we shall know  
each other again." Some time after he  
walked into a gentle sleep, which continued  
until about half past twelve and thereafter  
was, <sup>in</sup> nearly, when we saw him without a sigh  
ready to do his fall asleep in peace. That his  
younger son, who remained in the room,  
remained did not perceive the moment at which  
Dont be in happy spirit took its flight to the  
presence of his beloved Saviour, on the  
19<sup>th</sup> day of Jan<sup>ry</sup> 1824. aged 75  
years, 9 months & 17 days.