

Sep<sup>o</sup> - March 21. 1764

James Peel. Was born at ~~at~~ Heckmondwike Smithies in the Parish of Birstal May the 9<sup>th</sup> 1743 and baptised in the Church of England. When he was about 5 years old his parents took him with them to Quakers' to the Childrens Meetings, which he took great Delight in, and our Sav<sup>r</sup> found a Way to his Heart thereby. His Parents removing to Leeds some Time after, he became very disconsolate, & could not be satisfied till he could again have the Opportunity of being amongst the Children, which soon came to pass by his Parents removing hither into the Dye House of the Manufac-  
-tury. When he was 12 years old he was <sup>put</sup> Apprentice to a Shoemaker, & during the first 4 years of his Appren-  
-ticeship the Impressions which our Sav<sup>r</sup>'s Grace had made on his Heart in his Childhood seemed to wear off, & he had no Connexion with the Bry: He indeed retained a secret Love to them, but was afraid & ashamed of its being known to his Young Companions, & moreover, had lost his Concern after our Sav<sup>r</sup>, & therefore spent those Years in a careless & thoughtless Manner; yet our faithful Sav<sup>r</sup> kept his Hand over him, & renewed his gracious Drawings & Visitations, which brought him anew under Concern about the Salvation of his Soul and excited in him a Desire of entering into Fellow-  
-ship with the Bry, and ~~desirous~~ being of a bairful Disposition, desired his Father to speak for him to

the Single Boys Labourers, & who also brought his Son to him, & thus his Connexion begun with the Boy. <sup>Beginning of the</sup> In the Year 1761 he was rec<sup>d</sup> into the Society to his great Joy, & went on in a regular & orderly Manner. When he was in the last year of his Apprenticeship, his Father being desirous to know the situation of his Mind, asked him his thought about his Future Course, & got for Answer, that he had no other ~~than~~ Intention but to get leave to live <sup>for there says he, my heart has been already for three years</sup> in the Choir House of the Lingle ~~Yon~~ <sup>Ym</sup>, & about which he also spoke often with the Choir Labourers. Being sickly some Months before his Apprenticeship was out, he moved to his Parents at the Dye House, & when he was able, worked for his Master. He got leave to move into the Choir House, but on Account of his Weakness continued with his Parents, expecting that he might get <sup>now</sup> ~~from his Master~~ <sup>of his Master</sup> settled again. At last his Sickness settled in his Thigh and made him lame which continued increasing, so that he was not able to walk: In the Beginning this was a little heavy to him, & the Time of his being kept from the ~~place~~ <sup>Choir House, to which</sup> he thought he was destined ~~for~~ seemed long to him, till about 3 Months ago that our Sav<sup>n</sup> made it clear to him, that this Sickness was to be the Means of Opportunity by which he should be taken Home. He then kept a <sup>thorough</sup> Band with his Labourer about all his Circumstances, during the shedding of many Tears, resigned himself over to our Sav<sup>n</sup> with thankfulness for his safe & happy Lot, & only

wished he might effect ~~all that~~ every thing upon him, which  
he had resolved upon in his heart. Some days after this, he had  
was the most remarkable season of grace he ever  
could remember in his whole life, when in the night  
our Sav<sup>r</sup> appeared to him as <sup>his</sup> Redemeer, & entirely  
pacified his heart upon every account, and from  
this night he spent his restless & sleepless days & nights  
in one divine joy. His sickness was of such a nature  
that he had exceeding much pain & that for several  
weeks together without cessation, & could not bear  
to lie down at all, but the precious nearness of our  
Him who has also felt <sup>all</sup> much pain, refreshed & sup-  
ported him beyond <sup>all</sup> human conception, & enabled  
him to endure it with surprizing patience, & was  
always well & cheerful in his heart, longing con-  
tinually for the happy hour to come, when his Re-  
deemer would take him to himself. It was a real  
pleasure to be with him, & his feeling how his heart  
was situated has proved a blessing to many of us  
you, as well as to his parents. A few weeks before  
his departure his pains abated so far that he could  
again bear to lie in his bed, & also slept well, &  
spent his time in a happy stillness in converse with  
his friend, looking out for the moment of his coming  
to fetch him to himself. The 21<sup>st</sup> (March 64) he said  
that this was the day when our Sav<sup>r</sup> would certainly

come, desired his Labourers might come to him, and  
during the Choir Liturgy of the Temple Boro on their Choir  
Day he departed gently & happily to our Sav<sup>r</sup> during  
the singing of several Veres, and with a sensible  
perception of the Nearness of our unseen Lover,  
having spent almost 21 years in this mortal Body.