

WMS/109

Memoir of the S<sup>r</sup>. S<sup>r</sup>. Elizabeth  
Sharman who departed this life  
at Fulneck on Monday Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>  
1858.

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Our late S<sup>r</sup> was born Feb. 13<sup>th</sup> 1795  
at the village of Knillng in Bedfordshire  
where her father was a farmer, & at an  
early age she removed with her parents  
to Ridley in the same County. Here the  
Brethren had a small chapel, but no  
resident minister. This her parents  
felt to be a great loss to their children  
& therefore placed this their eldest child  
at the age of 13 in the S<sup>r</sup>s house at Bedford,  
that she might enjoy the spiritual  
benefits of which they were deprived.  
During a <sup>1/2</sup> years residence there she  
came to her privileged as a member of  
the W<sup>m</sup>s church, & as she had to wait  
long for reception into the congregation  
she was by this circumstance led to  
much self examination, but the

2. Ministry of the late W<sup>r</sup> Rammell,  
was under God the means of her coming  
to a knowledge of her own depravity, as  
well as the plan of salvation by the  
blood of the Lamb! In this house she  
lived most happily & removed to Fulneck  
from House April 22<sup>nd</sup> 1815.

Her new sphere of action presented  
itself to her, as she began to keep school  
in connection with the late F<sup>r</sup> Osley.

In this post trials were not wanting,  
but she went to the strong for strength,  
& thus found that grace she needed for  
this situation. During the time she  
lived here her parent removed to Baildon,  
some where both she & they were in great  
trouble, she took a solitary walk on  
the moor adjoining their house, to pour  
out her complaint to her Saviour, and  
earnestly to ask him to manifest  
himself to her so that she might be  
enabled to leave her every care in his  
hands, & be assured of her personal  
acceptance in the Beloved. While thus  
engaged light broke in on her troubled  
mind, & she could say, now I know in  
whom I have believed, & am rejoiced  
in God my Saviour.

3.

During her residence in Fulneck  
S<sup>r</sup> House she had a slight stroke of  
Paralysis which probably laid the  
foundation for those that subsequently  
followed. April 23<sup>rd</sup> 1820 she removed  
to Bedford school where she had a  
most comfortable time till April 7<sup>th</sup>  
1831, when an unexpected event  
occurred in her life, which took her home  
to Keighley, where her dear Parents  
had just removed, while this despatchation  
was one which marred the whole of her  
following years, was fraught with  
blessing to the rest of the family.

During the year 1831 she was indeed  
so heavily afflicted that it appeared  
sometimes as though her delicate  
frame could scarcely bear up under  
her manifold sorrows, but the comforts  
of a loving brother, & the wonderful  
leading which brought her to be at this  
time the great support of her dear  
afflicted Parents, often bid her today,  
It is of the Lord's doing tho' marvellous  
in our eyes. During the 24 years of  
her life spent in Keighley much of joy  
and sorrow were mingled in her cup, but

I thought not always on the present  
she could always say surely goodness  
surely love followed and all the days  
of my life. She writes Christmas Eve  
1835. An unremembered day spent  
with my dear friends in Lancaster.  
How much easier indebted to a divine  
Providence when the circumstances  
of our lives are so ordered, as to furnish  
what is good in us & restrain what is  
evil. June 20<sup>th</sup> 1837 One of the most  
sorrowsful periods of my life, when after  
a very short illness my dear Father was  
removed hence & at this period I again  
crowned with my glories to live  
more to his glory. August 1839.

Greatly harassed in body & mind, but  
helped to feel a desire to leave myself  
in the Lord's hands, but felt unwilling  
to follow his leading, when contrasted  
in my own place. Sept 13<sup>th</sup> 1842  
Spent a short time at Horning when  
I had time for reflection & feelings only  
known to myself & had reviewed  
& the preceding year. Spent much  
time in prayer & a feeling of resignation  
to the Lord's dispensations toward me.  
1843. Entered this year with feelings  
of thankfulness for temporal mercies.

During this year was called to be  
the Labourer of the Fl. S. in Gracehill,  
but declined it from my insufficiency  
for that post, as well as from a con-  
viction that I did right to do so, as  
well as from an unwillingness to  
be the means of so much discomfort  
to my dearly beloved Mother, who was  
most happily settled with us.

1845. Had this year much distressing  
anxiety over my dear Mother's account,  
owing to a severe illness which now  
attacked her, but was enabled to  
leave all in the Lord's hands, & the  
happy hours we were favoured to  
enjoy during the sleepless nights  
we spent together will never be forgotten  
by me.

In 1846 her dear  
Mother was happily removed from time  
after a lingering illness & this  
circumstance connected with her  
ill health, owing to an overworking  
of her delicate frame caused her removal  
to Fulneck in the spring 1848 where  
she had as much rest & comfort  
as she could have, but another heavy  
stroke completed the work already  
made, & all that now remained for  
her was complete retirement,

of that she obtained in the God's hands  
here, when viewing her past life with  
regret. Her bairns mightier & better  
by thy help. Her countenance & shape  
by thy good pleasure. Safely to arrive  
at home. Owing to her severe convulsive  
attackes, with which she was visited, and  
the mellancholly consequent upon them  
as well as the heavy paralytic seizures  
with which she was attacked she could  
not converse on many subjects for  
long but being fully aware of the nature  
of her complaint, she kept up the watch  
towre, & though not always walking in  
the light of God's countenance yet she  
knew in whom she had believed & trusted  
alone in the merits & death of her  
Saviour & did we humbly believe  
experience the truth of that word "at  
eventide it shall be light." Her age  
is 63 years & 10 months.

Of our dear departed sister it  
may be truly said that previous  
to her last long & painful illness  
all her walk & conversation were a  
living commentary of that word  
in which having all her hopes of  
the safety of her soul, & richly was her  
memory stored with sweet portions

of the Inspired Volume, seven she (in  
the thickening cloud of suffering thus  
to shade over her head, & she would with  
tearful eyes move over the hidings  
of her Emanuel's face a remembrance  
of some precious promise of His, would  
speedily draw forth the believing smile  
to impart comfort to her before sinking  
heart. — She longed to frequent the throne  
of Grace & mercy, & sought companion-  
ship there to cheer her Sis & others  
On one occasion in deep distress  
of mind, thinking that the smiles of  
Jesus would nevermore beam across  
her path — the words "All shall be well  
shall be light" occurred to her mind, she  
seemed to dart at them as a last fast-  
hold, & she exclaimed with inexpressible  
earnestness "O yes dear Lord, dear  
Saviour let it be" On these words of  
Holy truth she appeared to have cast  
anchor to almost the end of her days  
as she had done previously in the  
finished work of Jesus.

Within three or four days of her happy  
release from all earthly suffering,  
the listening ear of her dear devoted

8/sister caught the responsive  
sound of her 'Yes' when that text  
was quoted in supplication beside  
her dying bed - before this her sister  
asked her if she felt our Saviour near  
to her at that time - her reply in an  
euphatic 'Yes' was a special  
comfort to them all bereaved ones.  
Her loving gentle & peace-making  
disposition of mind very greatly  
endeared her to the choir of which  
she was a member, & as a family  
they will long feel a Vacancy which  
nothing but the love of Christ can  
fill.