

received this morning, at the breakfast-table, was truly acceptable and refreshing; and I read it with emotions of tenderness.

We found it advisable to recommend some things which seem to be well received, and which we hope may tend to mutual strength, if the active Members of the Quarterly Meeting are desirous of doing the little they are capable of, as in the sight of the Lord. I think not one of the Monthly Meetings is without some feeling Friends; and one may indulge a hope that there are here, at Worcester, some who, if they are preserved humble, may be the means of some revival.

We were twice with William Young, who now keeps up stairs. He seemed very much pleased to see us, but was low, and lamenting the absence of what he said he loved above every thing else. He put me in mind of the Apostle's words, 'Though now, if need be, ye are in heaviness, through manifold temptations,' &c. May be it is a cloud permitted to make the glory to be revealed more glorious.

Thy affectionate friend,  
J. G. BEVAN."

"10th mo. 30th. My sister Tibbatts and I came to Worcester, and were kindly received at Sarah Beesley's. Mary Naftel being here, she and I made a few calls together, on those who were sick and in trouble. This was pleasant to me.

11th mo. 3rd. My Sister and I returned to Trosnant, where we were received with a cordial welcome; our dear friends are in precarious health.

12th mo. 23rd. R. S. Harford and his son attended our little meeting. I thought it an unspeakable privilege, which I would not barter for all the world, to have the opportunity of thus meeting in companies, though small, to retire from all, even lawful concerns, and with the best ability that we have, to wait upon God, the eternal, inexhaustible Source of all good. O! how refreshing, to the drooping mind, to experience from time

to time, that the Rock of our salvation remains unshaken, though the floods, the winds and the rain may beat upon the poor tabernacle. I do afresh believe, that if through faithful dedication we grow in spiritual experience, we shall acknowledge that there is no joy like unto the joy of God's salvation.

1808. 1st mo. 22nd. I set out for Birmingham, in consequence of the afflicting information of the sudden death of J. P. Dearman; a friend whom I loved much, for the integrity of his character; and much affection I bear to those whom he has left.

24th. Arrived just in time to pay the last solemn tribute of regard; afterwards I went to his late residence, and found his tender, afflicted wife more calm than I could have expected, and a sweet serenity seems to overspread the family.

3rd mo. 29th. Arrived at Trosnant; dear James Lewis seems declining. It is a great favour to meet in peace and affection, though a storm may occasionally arise to disturb the calm, and try our faith. All good is from above, and we are sometimes permitted to feel our own weakness, and manifold imperfections, that no flesh may glory.

5th mo. 16th. I came, in the mail-boat, across the channel to Bristol, by eleven o'clock, a. m. Passed the rest of the day with Joseph Whiting and his sister Esther.

5th mo. 17th. My nephew Samuel Capper conveyed me to West Town, where he has a quiet retreat.

21st. Reached my brother Jasper's, in London.

6th mo. 2nd. The Women's Yearly Meeting closed. The attendance has been large and remarkably quiet. Several testimonies respecting deceased ministers were read; a very striking one, concerning dear Job Thomas. His words, expressed a little before he departed, and taken down by his son, were indeed an animating testimony to the power of Divine Grace; and extraordinary was the effect which the reading of them produced upon our large gathering; many were sweetly tendered;

and well I remembered my last visit to him, when his countenance seemed to bespeak his near approach to the Kingdom of undefiled rest.

*5th. First day.* After the meetings, came to Stoke Newington. Staid awhile with my niece Rebecca Bevan, who is now the careful mother of three children. They are about removing to Tottenham.

*8th.* Came to Trosnant. James Lewis is very weak in body, but his mind is clothed with love. I thought I never felt more satisfaction and comfort in returning here; all seemed pleasant and peaceful.

TO SARAH GRUBB.

"Trosnant, 8th mo. 16th, 1808.

DEAR FRIEND,

Although it is a very long time since we had any visible proof that we are remembered of each other, yet I cannot think former days are forgotten. We hear thou art the mother of two babes, which doubtless claim thy maternal care and tenderness; but nevertheless thy faithful dedication of heart to a gracious Redeemer continues. Oh! this is precious to those who love the God of their salvation. It is a great thing that thou art happily united to one of the Heavenly Father's children and servants, who can feel, unite and labour with thee. While I write, my heart seems warmed with a salutation of love and encouragement to you, dear labourers in the harvest of the Lord. May nothing ever dismay or discomfit you! I am a very poor, unworthy individual; but the God of my life has been marvellous in mercy to my soul. When the enemy has pursued as a lion, the power of the Lord has appeared gloriously, so that I can speak well of his name; and all that is spiritually alive

within me craves, that the children of men may seek the Lord, and know Him for themselves. Thou probably knowest that, since Mary Beesley's marriage, I have been mostly with her. Such a quiet retreat, I have considered a favourable asylum, as my health has lately been precarious. Indeed I have abundant cause to be humble, and as dear Ann Pumphrey used to say, to be good, and to be thankful. Dear Ann! how sweet is the remembrance of her!

With unfeigned affection, I subscribe,

M. CAPPER."

*"8th mo. 17th.* Martha Routh came to stay a few days, which was very pleasant to us:

*22nd.* We accompanied our dear friend to Shire Newton, where she had a meeting with a few serious persons, and then proceeded to Bristol, with John Grace. As Mary Lewis and I returned home, we felt the loss of our valuable friend's instructive company.

*29th.* Joseph Clark, Joseph Naish, and his Sister, and P. H. Gurney came here, to sit with friends and attenders of our meetings, in their families. Thomas Evans is gone to Myrthir, on account of the illness of Arthur Enoch. He returned with the afflicting intelligence that Arthur died before he got there, leaving a young widow and three helpless babes.

*9th mo. 1st.* This morning, our dear visiting friends had a very contring opportunity of religious retirement with us; our spirits were humbly united in renewed faith and hope in the Fountain of mercy. We were refreshed together, and encouraged to believe that our heavenly Father is still nigh unto us, and unto all who sincerely seek Him. In the evening, the corpse of Arthur Enoch was interred. A number of the neighbours came to the meeting, which was a solemn time. Those who kindly assisted on this occasion, and some others, supped with us. Mary Lewis was engaged in solemn supplication for all.

*2nd.* After experiencing a renewed sense of Divine mercy, extended to us collectively, we parted from our endeared friends, who pursued their journey, in order to visit the scattered few in North Wales. After serious thought on the subject, I applied to my own Monthly Meeting to send me a certificate of removal into the Monthly Meeting of Monmouth.

*11th mo. 19th.* We received the very affecting account of the death of Arthur Enoch's young widow.

*23rd.* Several neighbours came to the interment; it was sorrowful to think of the three young children thus left.

1809. *3rd mo. 5th.* I came to Birmingham.

*23rd.* Feeling my mind secretly bound, and gently constrained, in love to my friends, and under an apprehension of religious duty, I joined Sarah Hustler and William Forster, in visiting the families of the North Monthly Meeting, which engagement we were enabled to perform, and separated one from the other, after experiencing a measure of that sweet fellowship which surpasses all worldly friendship, or mere natural affection.

*4th mo. 29th.* Came alone to Monmouth; the country was beautiful, and my mind was mercifully clothed with precious peace, so that the ride was not tedious. Had the satisfaction once more to join my dear friends at Trosnant. James Lewis, though considerably enfeebled, testified his gladness on my arrival, and I am thankful to be peacefully at liberty to unite in the cares of this family.

1810. *2nd mo. 1st.* Our long-afflicted, patiently suffering, and endeared friend James Lewis, calmly breathed his last, having, a short time previously, exclaimed, 'Be Thou with me, O! Lord.' On being asked if he were comfortable, he answered, 'Yes; leave me to the Lord!' these were the last words he uttered. His truly attentive, watchful, tender wife was enabled to assist to the last; finally closing the eyes of this nearest and dearest connexion in life.

*8th.* The remains were interred, after a solemn meeting.

James Lewis was a man of unusual simplicity, and without guile; humble and of a retired spirit; yet hospitable and affectionate toward his friends; a lover of those who followed after righteousness. Many a time, during his long decline, he said, that he loved every body; especially those who loved the Lord Jesus, out of a pure heart.

*18th.* This day received the affecting intelligence of the death of our very dear and justly valued friend Deborah Darby. A dedicated servant, and a messenger of glad tidings to many, she has been in her comparatively short day. She was an example of diligence in her apprehended duties; and was peculiarly fitted by nature and by Grace, for the work whereunto, there is abundant cause to believe, she was called. Surely it is allowable to mourn the privation that we sustain; though, no doubt, the change to our precious friend is glorious.

*3rd mo. 28th.* Mary Lewis and I attended the Quarterly Meeting, at Birmingham, had the satisfaction of meeting several of our dear friends, and were refreshed together. During our stay at Birmingham, we were affected by hearing of the death of Edmund Darby, the only surviving child of our dear friend Deborah Darby. He was about twenty-nine years old, and has left a lovely family; only out-living his valuable mother about five weeks. He was married at the same time and place as Mary Lewis, and only survived her husband seven weeks, though so young a man.

*4th mo. 19th.* We returned to our habitation at Trosnant; it is a quiet retreat, but we miss the dear head of the family; for although weak in body, he was lively in spirit, so that it was very sweet to be with him.

*5th mo. 5th.* Mary Lewis, Thomas Evans, and I crossed the channel, and were kindly received at Bristol, at my nephew James Henry Capper's.

Arrived in London on the 18th.

*21st.* Yearly Meeting of Ministers and Elders. Though many

dear and useful friends are removed by death since last year, and their loss is much felt, yet there is encouragement in the assurance, that the Fountain of help is still open, and that the Head of the Church will not forsake his people.

*23rd.* Hannah Fisher was appointed clerk to the Women's Yearly Meeting. The attendance was large, particularly of young persons, many of whom appeared serious; and it was very pleasant to observe their settled attention to the business, which is conducted in much condescension and harmony, with a view to promote the good of the body. Benjamin White, from America, came into our meeting, accompanied by Joseph Gurney Bevan. He exhorted us to be humble; and with much tenderness, he particularly intreated mothers to be more careful to adorn the minds of their young children with meekness, humility and virtue, than to put upon them any outward adorning.

*31st.* After many precious seasons together, and much instructive counsel being given, our Yearly Meeting concluded.

*6th mo. 2nd.* The last sitting of the Meeting of Ministers and Elders was held, and we were favoured to separate under that solemn covering of silence, which subdues imaginations, and brings the thoughts into captivity; a marvellous power prevailing over the mind, which no words can fully set forth; it is more precious and more refreshing to the immortal spirit than words can be.

*7th mo. 7th.* Returned to Trosnant.

*17th.* This evening one who had lived in this family from a little lad until this day, when he is a stout young man of twenty-one, left us. Tears were shed on all sides. It is no marvel that such separations should be felt, the young man having lived long under the same roof, and participated in many times of favour, when heavenly goodness has tendered our hearts, during our family retirements, and in which the late dear master of the family was frequently so broken in spirit, humbled and contrited, that the same feeling seemed to spread over all.

Thomas was, we have reason to believe, a faithful servant; diligent, neat, quick in his business; affectionate to his Master through his long illness; ingenious and cheerfully obliging; so that he was very valuable in the family. This little testimony seems due to him, from one who sincerely desires his welfare, and that he may be kept by the Good Shepherd, and find mercy and peace.

*21st.* Again the trial of separation! James Lewis's nephew, who long partook, with kindness and watchful attention, in the necessary fatigue and care of his dear uncle, has now left the house, so that we are reduced to a small number. Serious thoughts have arisen as to the propriety of quitting this lonesome spot; but we shall not do it hastily.

*9th mo.* I still find, that of myself, I can do no good thing, but am weak and frail; the Lord's lengthened out mercy is my only hope.