

from those who may desire information, though maintaining their own opinions. My soul craves the clothing of Christian candour, of meekness, lowliness and godly simplicity, that so nothing may harm me, nor the increase of pure righteousness be hindered, through me.

21st. Two young men called, and appeared serious and tender. One of them, with whom we had before conversed respecting women's preaching, to which he had strenuously objected, as contrary to Scripture injunction, expressed, with gratifying ingenuousness, that, after comparing the texts, he thought he might be mistaken, and that he had maintained the argument too warmly; a modest confession, more beautiful than any victory!

25th. The Monthly Meeting at Ross was small; every feeling within me seemed bowed, and bound to the suffering spirit of the tried and oppressed ones; of which number I believe there are some in this place.

31st. I came home; and my Sister and Nieces arrived at Richard Cadbury's, in Bull Street.

11th mo. 5th. After having cordially met, we have now parted in sweet affection; my precious endeared relatives set out for home this morning. The separation was accompanied with heartfelt regret, but a soothing calm blunted the keen edge of pain; for we feel a humble confidence, that our spirits, whether absent or present in person, are anchored on the immovable Rock, the soul's best hope."

TO HANNAH EVANS.

"Birmingham, 11th mo. 8th, 1820.

MY VERY DEAR FRIEND,

The visit of my precious relatives has been short, but the

interview has left feelings not easily, I trust, to be forgotten. My dear Sister is weak in body, and endures much suffering, but her strength of mind seems to raise her above human infirmities. Her testimony to the power of Jesus the Redeemer was very impressive and excellent.

My mind now seems bound to pursue my own uncompleted concerns, as soon as I well can. I think of going first to Bromyard.

MARY CAPPER."

"11th. A kind friend accompanied me to Bromyard.

12th. *First day*. Several friends came, very kindly, from Worcester, as I had mentioned to them a concern which I felt, to invite some of the inhabitants to sit down with us in our religious meeting; the help and countenance of my friends were very encouraging. About three hundred persons attended, and their behaviour was becoming. My mind obtained some relief; but there is often a painful sense how poor our endeavours are to arouse the lukewarm, and to induce a steady retirement to the gift of Grace in the soul. This must be left to the Great Physician. Came to Leominster in the evening."

TO HANNAH EVANS.

"11th mo. 14th, 1820.

MY KIND AND DEAR FRIEND,

I now address thee from Leominster; a place which revives many an interesting scene, finally closed as to this life; yet it remains to be a place of interest. Where indeed, can our lot be cast that we do not feel an interest in the salvation of souls! though the power to manifest it may sometimes be withheld,

the secret breathings of the spirit, with sighs and petitions that cannot be uttered, are not, I surely believe, unavailing; at least they tend to keep our own hearts tender, pitiful and humble. I left Birmingham as intended, and came to Bromyard. I had mentioned to a few friends my view of inviting some of the inhabitants to our meeting. The prospect was discouraging; there is only one family under our name in the place, and as a religious body we are but little known. However, I find it my business to keep in as much simplicity as I can, to the gentle intimation of duty, and to leave all the rest. Friends were very kind, though some expressed that such invitations were rarely much attended to, in that place. Information was also received that the only female Friend in the town was very ill. Through all, my view remained unchanged. An active, kind, feeling Friend accompanied me from Worcester, and I lodged at G. Kilsby's; his sister Ann was in a dying state, and finally closed her earthly pilgrimage on Second-day, I believe in the sweet and peaceful assurance of a heavenly inheritance. Several Friends from Worcester joined us on First-day morning. Two o'clock was appointed for the meeting with the inhabitants, and a full attendance there was; the people were serious and attentive, and I trust that many were favoured with a sense of the enduring love, and of the renewed merciful calls of our Heavenly Father. I have been thus particular in my detail, in order to set forth how good the Lord is, and that we should rely upon Him, in all and through all.

Thy affectionate friend,

MARY CAPPER."

"17th. Mary Watson, from Ireland, travelling through our land on a religious visit, accompanied by her daughter Jane, wished to hold a meeting here this morning; it proved a precious season.

20th. S. Waring and I went to Hereford.

21st. Our friend Mary Watson came to the Monthly Meeting. Her company was encouraging, and the meetings were favoured with the renewed extension of that Power which alone can do the soul abiding and effectual good.

22nd. I returned to Leominster.

26th. *First day.* Attended both meetings; at these times, when met for the renewal of our spiritual strength, as we have no outward dependence, the rightly exercised heart retires as into the inner temple, and patiently wrestles for the Divine blessing, and for ability to worship in reverence and in truth; so that each may obtain the heavenly savour of goodness and mercy, cleave thereunto, and daily live under its influence.

12th mo. 3rd. *First day.* I believe there is, among the little company here, an exercise of spirit maintained, that while others of our fellow Christian professors may congregate in larger bodies, and join in outward performances, in prayers and songs, &c. we may be found humble, and acceptable worshippers. In the evening, a young man, a stranger, came to my quarters, as he said with a desire to receive some religious counsel; he seemed to be simple-hearted, and I afterwards understood that he is one of a poor, dissipated family, in this place. He is like a brand plucked from destruction; and is one who, with other lads here, was apprenticed by the philanthropic Webb, who some years ago, distributed a large amount in an extraordinary way.

10th mo. 8th. Made a few calls which were relieving to my mind. I also made a few purchases for distribution, with a view to benefit both the seller and the receiver. In the afternoon visited at the house which dear Mary Lewis inhabited.

9th. Took tea with the Moravian teacher, named Church. His Mother's name was Chase, and her brother married my Father's sister. My aunt Chase and her daughter were of the Moravian connexion, and died in London, within a few hours of each other. Our meeting together at this time was satisfactory; for

notwithstanding some diversity of view and of practice, true unity is to be experienced in the one Holy Head.

10th. *First day.* The neighbours being invited to sit with us, more came than could be accommodated. O! the love of God in the heart; how it would gather the minds of all, and stay them upon that teaching which is truly profitable in all things, as to our social, relative, and religious duties. We must patiently bear with our own, and one another's ignorance. If good arises, and is felt to flow among us, it is of the Lord's mercy; may He have the glory, and the grateful praise for ever and ever! In the evening I was favoured with a measure of lowly calm.

17th. *First day.* At both meetings, and had a parting opportunity with a few individuals. In tenderness of spirit, and I believe with good desires we separated.

18th. Worcester. On leaving Leominster, heaviness clothed my spirit, though I know not that I brought it upon myself, by wilful omission or commission; but I do mourn over the want of real renovation and sanctification in the human heart.

20th. The Quarterly Meeting. It is gratefully to be acknowledged, that notwithstanding many in our Society have adopted the customs of the world, and drunk of its beguiling spirit, we are yet a favoured people. In our religious assemblies may be felt a gathering Power, that would help us in our Christian pilgrimage, and increase our knowledge in Divine truths, settle, stablish our Christian faith, and sanctify our hearts, with all our affections.

25th. This morning, as I sat alone, a lowly calm covered my mind, which was very precious and encouraging; and it seemed to increase, while reading some beautiful chapters in Isaiah, descriptive of the peaceable kingdom and government of Christ.

29th. My dear friend, and true Christian helpmeet and companion, Hannah Evans arrived, to unite with me in a visit to the families of Friends, and other service in this county; this was cordial and reviving.

31st. *First day.* In our religious gathering this morning, we were favoured to unite in spirit, and were again enabled to believe, that the Lord continues to be gracious, and to give his waiting children to taste of his mercies; and at times feelingly to acknowledge that He is good, and ready to do good to all who seek Him. The evening reading was instructive. Thus favourably closed the year.