

12th mo. 28th. A meeting was held for servants and apprentices employed in Friends' families. Allusion was made to the lowly birth, and to the example of the Lord of life and glory, who was, among men, as a servant; also to the exceeding great love of God, and to the forgiveness of sins, through the sacrifice of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, the sent of the Father; purifying our hearts from unrighteousness, by the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit.

Thus close my very slow movements through this Monthly Meeting, and a quiet assurance clothes my mind, so that I thankfully hope that no presumption, or wilful negligence, has been permitted to take place. I desire to come under the searching Power that knoweth all things, and seeth me just as I am. I covet no false covering, nor any subterfuge.

30th. At the Quarterly Meeting, Sarah Grubb was led to speak, with wonderful power, against the Babylonish mixtures, in which, as a people, we are mournfully involved, at this day. We have faithful testimony bearers."

To H. EVANS.

"London, 12th mo. 30th, 1823.

MY ENDEARED FRIEND,

How fares it with thee? It is long since I had a line from thee, but I feel assured that thou wilt unite in my feelings of lowly thankfulness, when I tell thee that I have been mercifully led, in my solitary path of apprehended duty, to close the protracted engagement in the Peel meeting; the extent of the widely scattered families far exceeded my expectation. A meeting was held for servants, &c. which was well attended; and my secret hope is, that it was crowned with the presence of our dear Lord

and Saviour, and that a measure of his precious power was over all. Thanksgiving and praise be rendered, for his enduring mercy and condescending love, which is yet stretching forth the Shepherd's crook, to gather the wanderers to the one true fold. Farewell, my precious friend. Thy attached

MARY CAPPER."

TO THE SAME.

"London, 1st mo. 2nd, 1824.

MY BELOVED FRIEND,

Thy affectionate salutation reached me, after I had despatched my last to thee. I am now resting for a time with my niece. I send thee my memorandums, which are scarcely worth perusal; I have considered myself as a little one, in leading-strings, mercifully kept from "wills and wonts," from choosing or refusing; going forward or stopt by the way, just as my tender, watchful Leader opened the path before me. O! what shall I say of his mercy and condescension to one of the least of his flock! Let Him, the good and gracious Shepherd, be praised! Do not, my love, think thy honest dedication is unacceptable. O! that there were more, simple, dedicated, faithful servants, in all places. How would Zion's borders be enlarged, spiritual strength increase, and those streams flow as a river, which make glad the heritage! Well! we must do whatever we can, and possess our souls in patience.

I dare not name a time for quitting this vicinity; when it arrives, it will be hailed as a favour. Thine,

MARY CAPPER."

"1st mo. 1824. I am now favoured to partake of a peaceful calm, at my niece S. C.'s. Much spiritual enjoyment I look not for; many things obstruct the feeling of joy; but lowly peace, with the evidence of being kept by a gracious Lord, in a plain, simple path, is enough to satisfy the poor, exercised travailing soul.

13th. Visited Esther Whiting; she has long been in a tried state, and is nearly helpless; the earlier part of her life was passed in faithful service, in the family of my brother Jasper, and she now enjoys an annuity, from his liberality, which is some alleviation. Her mind is calm, and she expressed a desire to be patient, and to experience the operation of that redeeming, sanctifying Power which could prepare her to die in peaceful confidence in her Saviour's love.

19th. *First day.* Not without trials of faith and patience. Too few rightly prize the privilege of the time set apart for public worship. So lightly, or frivolously, are some minds occupied, that our meetings for worship are often oppressed; the light and life which might arise are pressed down, and we are not comforted together; nevertheless the humble, resigned and faithful ones may be encouraged still to wait and to hope for the renewal of their strength. I thought there was more life to be felt in the afternoon meeting, which ministered some encouragement.

21st. Accompanied Sarah Foster to Plaistow Monthly Meeting, whence Elizabeth Fry took me to Plashet, where a room was allotted to me, to pursue my own occupations, or join the family, as best suited me. Their family-party is large, and their dinner-hour late. I usually dined and took tea with the children, and joined the family in the evening. I endeavoured to be present at the morning reading of the Scriptures, which was mostly an impressive time. Sometimes I had the privilege of Elizabeth Fry's company in my apartment; but almost every hour of her time is importantly occupied, in benevolent exertions for the poor and miserable; much depravity comes under her notice.

What should we do if the foundation on which a believer's faith is built were not sure! but it is confirmed to us by the living Power that cannot fail; 'the foundation of God standeth sure.' Rest, O my soul, in this; although storms may arise. Ah! ye poor benighted sinners, may Light mercifully beam on your souls, and bring conviction for sin!

2mo. 1st. *First day.* Plashet Cottage. I have, for about a week, been kindly cared for, in this calm, lovely retirement, the habitation of Joseph Fry's sister. I was a little relieved by some expression of my feelings, in meeting this morning; but alas! the anointing Power, the abiding sense of redeeming love, seems low; patient suffering is the lot of believers; resignation gently smoothes the way, and faith is an anchor to the soul in the day of trial.

3rd. The weather is now very fine and mild; the spring flowers open their cheering beauties, the little lambs are brought forth in the fields; these are interesting objects.

8th. *First day.* The morning meeting was a time of close exercise, in exhorting and endeavouring to arouse the careless professors. O! that there was an awakening from a state of ease and deadness, as to the spiritual life! the afternoon meeting lively; the evening passed in a calm frame of mind.

11th. Was some hours alone with Sarah Sheppard; this was very sweet to me, as this dear friend, being very deaf, seems to dwell as in the closet of prayer, the door being shut. It was refreshing to sit with her, as with one who is preparing for a kingdom where all infirmities will be done away. I hope to remember with profit, the privilege of being admitted as a familiar friend under this roof. This dear friend employs herself industriously, in reading, in working for her numerous grand-children, and in attending to abundant applications from the surrounding poor.

12th. Passed the day quietly, enjoying mutual communication and interesting reading at Edmund Fry's. These allowed

intervals are to me gratifying, even in my present increased years; though not strongly bound to earth or earthly things, I have a pleasure in contemplating talents improved, inventive powers and genius rightly applied.

17th. At the Monthly Meeting I produced my certificate, and proposed going into the families of Ratcliffe Meeting. A feeling, humble-minded, valuable minister, Mary Marsh, expressed her unity, and her willingness to join me, which was acceptable to the meeting, and truly cordial to me.

19th. We had three sittings, in which we were favoured with an encouraging hope, that our engagement was under the direction of that Power which keepeth out of error.

22nd. *First day.* I thought more solemnity and settlement of mind prevailed in the meeting, than in some where there is more expectation of outward ministry. A precious feeling clothed my spirit.

3rd mo. 1st. We had several very interesting sittings, and may truly say, how various are the allotments of individuals and of families! We certainly see through a glass darkly, and can make but a very imperfect estimate how all things work together for good to those who love God.

5th. Great indeed is the variety, which comes under the notice of those who thus go from house to house. Our Guide must be steadily kept in view, that we may not look on outward things and judge thereby.

10th. We hope to conclude our engagement this week. A desire daily clothes my spirit, that I may be led safely along; neither too much cast down, nor in any degree rising above the rightly directing gift of Grace!

11th. We took tea with Elizabeth Emmerson, a valuable friend in advanced life; of a tender spirit; encouraging to those who are younger and less experienced. We also had a time of entering into sympathy with a friend and his wife who are in difficult circumstances. There are divers individuals and families,

in the environs of this vast City, who are so situated as to claim tender care, and Christian notice.

12th. We were conveyed in a carriage, as far as it could safely go, and then walked, to the humble dwelling of a poor friend; and while sitting with her, by her little fireside, I think we had afresh to believe, that the great Giver of all our mercies condescends to comfort those who seek Him, and who trust in Him. Among the hidden ones, the poor and the lonely, we have at times been refreshed together with what is far better than all that this world can give. We also visited a family, some of whom were not members of our Society; we met with a kind reception, particularly from the husband whose mind is very susceptible of good impressions. It is not a name, neither is it forms, nor the relinquishing of outward forms, which can bring us into possession of the inward and spiritual grace. A new life, a spiritual creation, a death unto sin and a new birth unto righteousness, are the genuine effects of believing in Christ, of cherishing and obeying the teachings of his Spirit. We paid a very interesting visit to an old man in Trinity Almshouses, who had been a pilot in early life; he has a very neat, commodious, quiet retreat here. I think he married out of our Society. He is much respected, and his appearance is very striking; he is eighty years old, a fine, manly figure, with an animated countenance; he has long been painfully afflicted; yet he appears patient and contented, and manifested tenderness and feeling, with a grateful sense of the blessings continued to him. He expressed thankfulness that he was remembered and visited by Friends, whose meetings he attended, as long as his infirmities would allow.—In the evening, we sat down with J. F. and family. There is a uniting power in religious fellowship, which diminishes not with time.—This brings us near the conclusion of our present engagement; no great things have been attempted; if we have been in the way of our duty, I

believe we desire no more; a peaceful acquittal will be a sufficient recompense for our small labours.

14th. *First day.* Low, but feeling no condemnation. I consider it a favour to walk in the valley of humility. At both meetings and in three religious opportunities, I thought the best life triumphed over human weakness.

15th. Dear Mary Marsh and I dined in Whitechapel, with the friends who showed me so much kindness at Leamington. I parted with my kind, humble-minded companion, under comforting feelings.

17th. Attended the marriage of one of my dear nieces, and we dined at Clapton. The day was very fine, and all around was pleasant, with a calm cheerfulness becoming the occasion.

26th. Clapton. I have been resting here, in bodily weakness; this, under the sanctifying influence of heavenly Grace, may be one of the means whereby a dependent mind is brought into subjection, humility and true resignation. Dear Esther Whiting's sufferings have now terminated; I went one day to see her; there was a sweet sense that heavenly Goodness was near, though the powers of nature were failing. May we seek the Lord, in the days of health and vigour, that He may be our support, when human aid is of no avail!

28th. *First day.* I walked to Tottenham, and was favoured to receive spiritual refreshment. Dined with Tabitha Bevans and her sister. I thought we were united in that fellowship which flows from a belief in God, and in Jesus Christ, by whom we come to God.

29th. Attended the Quarterly Meeting of Ministers and Elders, and spent the rest of the day very pleasantly, with my dear sister Rebecca Tibbatts; it is satisfactory to see her comfortably settled with her son.

4th mo. 1st. On sitting down in the meeting-house at Tottenham, after the interment of Esther Whiting, a precious feeling stayed my mind, in contemplating the kingdom where the re-

deemed of the Lord will for ever unite in thanksgiving and in holy rejoicing.

4th mo. 2nd. Came to stay a few days at John Lister's, Stoke Newington, in order to call upon some of the few remaining here, with whom I was formerly acquainted.

3rd. In our calls, met with scenes of sorrow; saw William Allen's little grandson, bereaved of a young and lovely mother, and visited some young friends, whose parents are both deceased, since I was last under the roof of my dear brother and sister in this place.

4th mo. 4th. *First day.* Attended the Meeting at Gracechurch-street. A day of some fatigue of body, and trial of mind. If in all things, we are taught to profit, whether by a fresh sense of our own imperfections, or a sight of weakness in others where we did not expect it, it is no matter; instruction may remain for future benefit.

5th. Mary Lister called with me on Margaret Allen. She is reduced to a very weak state, yet there seems a lively sense and savour of that which is better than natural life; and my heart believes this will reign triumphant when the grave shall claim the poor, perishable body.

6th. My usual hour of rising is now six o'clock. The mornings are cold, but not unpleasant; a little turn in the garden, to observe the progress of Spring, in the vegetables and flowers, seems refreshing.

15th. Some time was very agreeably spent in reading extracts from the letters of Hannah Kilham and others, now benevolently engaged in the instruction of the natives of Africa, on the Gambia. These people appear to be living in a disorderly state, far from enjoying domestic happiness. May such as are more favoured thankfully estimate their own privileges, and contribute to the instruction of others!

TO H. EVANS.

“Clapham, 4th mo. 17th, 1824.

MY BELOVED FRIEND,

I send thee J. J. Gurney's new publication on the peculiarities, &c. of our religious Society; perhaps thou hast not met with it. I wish our young friends may patiently read it, but it requires attentive perusal. I also send some extracts from letters of Hannah Kilham, &c. I wish some liberal-minded friends in the country, who devise liberal things, would read the reports, and find their hearts disposed to add their names to the subscribers, or transmit a donation. I think it would be a source of satisfaction, upon serious reflection, in days yet to come.

Never I think my endeared friend, did I more feel the force of the words, 'rejoice with trembling.' Every returning day and hour brings some proof of weakness, some disclosure of what is hidden in the heart; unlooked for circumstances arise to ruffle or disturb us. O! how pure is that calm, that peace which descends from the Spirit of the Lord! How different from the spirit of the world, from unsanctified self, from the unsubdued natural temper! The state of my own heart leads to these reflections, and to the earnest prayer, that I may maintain the watch against the cruel enemy.

Farewell, affectionately, my dear friend. Thine,

MARY CAPPER.”

17th. It renewedly impresses my mind, that when a family meet together in health and safety, to partake of the first

morning refreshment, there is a propriety in a serious pause, and a grateful recurrence to the Source of all our daily mercies. I am satisfied that we cannot too frequently recollect, that every hour in the day, we have need of the extension of that Power, by which alone we can be kept from evil. We separated this day, from the breakfast table, I hope, under profitable impressions.

18th. *First day.* A day of serious engagement. Oh! for an increase of spirituality, and more entire sanctification. My anchor of hope is in the Redeemer, to cleanse from all sin.

19th. Came to Clapton. The weather is mild, and the country beautiful, yet my spirit seems sad, and I am poorly; but I ever think it right to cherish a lively hope and consolation in the mercy of God, in graciously providing a Mediator, a Saviour! Without this hope, this consoling faith, what should I, what could I do!

21st. In this young and growing family, there is ample subject of interest and serious occupation. I had a delightful walk with my young nephew, the eldest child.

22nd. Was gratified in walking, with a little party, to Tottenham Meeting. Our long devoted and experienced friend, Thomas Shillitoe, spoke with feeling and earnestness, on the subject of entire resignation, or subjection, to the will of our Heavenly Father; that its effects were peace. Probably few are better qualified to elucidate this subject; as his life seems devoted to the fulfilment of apprehended duty.

27th. Came to William Cawthorne's, at Somers Town, in Westminster quarter, this being the only Meeting of our Society, near London, that I have not attended. I cherish the hope, that by and bye, I may return, without any painful retrospect, to the enjoyment of my own home, and more select and endeared friends.

29th. The Meeting proved to me a time of comfort, with a little fresh ability to encourage others to seek after the