

knowledge of God, and faith in Jesus Christ, as the Saviour, by and through whom we are redeemed and accepted.

5th mo. 10th. Left my kind friends at Somers Town; our separation was mutually felt, apprehending that we might thus meet no more, as dear William Cawthorne seems in declining health; patiently and even cheerfully bearing his bodily weakness and harassing cough.

17th. Yearly Meeting of Ministers and Elders. Though many labourers in years past are now gathered to their final abode, there yet remains a faithful few. Among those who have seen many days, and kept close to that holy Power, which can keep us from fainting by the way; it was cheering to see William Grover, still active and useful; also James Howarth, &c.; and among the mothers, Mary Proud, Rebecca Byrd, &c.

19th. Women's Yearly Meeting. A full gathering, and something like a fresh evidence that we are still a people waiting on the Lord for his blessing.

20th. A testimony was read concerning James Birch. It set forth a character remarkable for simplicity; faithful to the Grace or Light of Christ manifested in the soul, which, as it is obeyed, will ever be found powerful to regulate throughout, and to sustain the soul in every conflict in life, and in the hour of death, as this dear friend did experience. There was also a testimony respecting Elizabeth Foster. I knew her in former years; she was of a lively turn of mind, which, at that day, almost revolted at the idea of the sufferings needful to subdue the will, and bring all into subjection; but the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit wrought the great change, and brought low all that was lifted up, or opposed to the cross of Christ. She could declare her experience of the marvellous mercy of God, in Christ Jesus, and she closed her day in peace.

In the afternoon an impressive testimony was read, setting forth the early dedication, exemplary life and peaceful death of Mary Hanbury, in her twenty-fifth year; the only child of

William Allen. Many young minds seemed affected, and I thought the desire prevailed, that the purifying Word of Power might do the same great work of sanctification for all of us. A precious time of stillness succeeded; and then a recommendation to be serious and retired in spirit, and earnest in watchfulness and prayer.

21st. Much was expressed, setting forth our faith in the Scripture doctrines, concerning the propitiatory Sacrifice, &c.

27th. Our honourable and aged friend, Mary Proud, was enabled, under much bodily weakness, in the strength afforded, to kneel, and powerfully to commend the keeping of our souls to the mighty power of a faithful Creator. The concluding minute was read, and after a solemn pause, we separated.

6th mo. 2nd. My sister Grace Capper conveyed me to Snaresbrook, to spend a few days at the beautiful country residence of my kind and much loved brother George; for whose uniform affection I feel very grateful.

5th. I think my dear brother seems rationally and thankfully to enjoy his house and grounds, on returning from business in the City. It is one of my gratifications, to find a thankful mind in the midst of worldly possessions and prosperity. His carriage brought me this day to Tottenham.

6th. First day. Dined with Alice Chorley; a friend whose long-proved integrity, and plain, honest dealing and speaking, I do admire and respect.

7th. Favoured to feel the thankful hope, that I have not been forsaken, nor left to my own devices, in my solitary steppings, in the course of which I have had many searchings of heart.

9th. At Gracechurch-street Monthly Meeting, I felt a concern to go into the men's meeting; G. Birkbeck kindly accompanied me. To myself, it was a very serious time; I endeavoured to open the view then given me of the purity of that life which is hid with Christ in God. I think I felt the

awful import of the subject, and a sincere desire that I might not exceed in words.

TO H. EVANS.

“London, 6th mo. 10th, 1824.

MY VERY PRECIOUS FRIEND,

I have often thought, since separated from thee, and thy dear sister Lamley, (both of you faithful testimony bearers whom I dearly love,) that vast is the difference between fine speaking and that humble, lowly, self-denying life, shewn forth in the silent, persevering example of a meek, consistent walk, as in the presence of the Holy One. For myself and for others, I have been distressed and oppressed; I have had close provings and deep trials; but in abundant mercy, the thick cloud, is in degree, dispersed, and a renewed dawn of consolation and of confidence arises. That Divine Power which delivereth my life from destruction, again gently breaks forth. I note it with reverent gratitude.

MARY CAPPER.”

“6th mo. 11th. Came to the house of my dear brother John, where I think of remaining a short time; and if permitted to leave this great City in lowly reverence and peace, and charity towards all the world, I think I shall be thankful.

14th. We had some sweet portions of reading after breakfast, and a silent desire arose to be strengthened to live and abide in the purifying, redeeming spirit of the Saviour. It seems a growing experience with me, that there are favoured seasons when a deep inward sense of the work of sanctification and redemption, seals the lips in solemn silence.

20th. *First day.* Having made many calls last week, I attended the Peel Meeting, and was enabled to express an affectionate farewell desire, that the love of God might increasingly abide in our hearts, in which love we should have fellowship one with another, when personally separated. My mind was comforted, and a lowly calm clothes my spirit. Dined at John Eliot's, who conveyed me to my brother's, where we passed the remainder of the evening in serious reading, &c. What a favour, that amid diversity of operations, a precious harmony prevails, where the Redeemer is believed in, and his Spirit owned, and permitted to work in us and for us; teaching to bear and forbear, in meekness and love.

21st. Several of my dear relations called on me, and we separated in much affection, which sweetened the parting, even if we should meet no more! Spent most of the day in calmly enjoying the company of my brother and sister and dear niece Selina.

22nd. After breakfast my heart was renewedly filled with a grateful sense of the merciful dealings of our Heavenly Father with us, as a family; that in our different situations in life, and modes of manifesting our religious faith, we all agree in the great, essential truth, that to know God and Jesus Christ, so as to obey, is life eternal. We had a solemn time together, I hope in the unity of the Spirit, which may yield us comfort and encouragement, at some future day.

Accompanied by a kind friend, I left London in the afternoon, and travelled about twenty-four miles, to W. L.'s delightful habitation, near Berkhamstead. My mind is in a low, yet calm state; with serious recollection of affectionate relatives, &c.”

To H. EVANS.

"6th mo. 23rd, 1824.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

Yesterday I really turned my back upon the great city of London, and was soon set down at this neat, little dwelling. The transition from smoke, dirt and noise, is very striking, but my spirits are low. I cannot suddenly rise above the deep feeling, left by a solemn parting from many near relatives; yet I am thankful in being able to say I am without painful accusations; and surely this is enough, in a world where offences will come, and where evil abounds on every hand.

Oh! it is a mercy to be permitted to return towards my own dear friends, even thus far; in a sound mind and in rather an improved state of health. I do not puzzle much about the means of getting forward, as way has been marvellously made for me. I am now drawing nigh to the completion of every object I had in view when I left my home. I am humbled in the retrospect, and desire no higher joy than the peaceful assurance that the precious Truth as it is in Jesus, has in no way suffered through me.

Very affectionately,

MARY CAPPER."

"28th. Came to Banbury, where I was cordially received by J. and M. Gillett, who have removed from Shipstone. Attended the Quarterly Meeting of Ministers and Elders. William Byrd, his wife, and George Withy were there.

30th. The sight of my friends at Shipstone, where I attended meeting to-day, and their kind demonstration of affection, undiminished by long absence, was more affecting than I could well bear. Dined at dear Sarah Lamley's, at Tredington, and

proceeded to Warwick, where I enjoyed the long desired gratification of seeing my very dear Christian friend, and fellow-traveller in this probationary state.

To R. AND E. C.

"Warwick, 7th mo. 3rd, 1824.

MY DEAR FRIENDS,

I was safely conveyed hither on Fourth-day, and dear H. E. received me with cordial affection. She is looking worn and poorly; her dear sister, R. Lamley, is in a weak state, though somewhat revived. Her countenance is wonderfully bright; expressive, I think it may be said, of a spirit redeemed from evil; her conversation is sweetly innocent, about the place where angels dwell, although she thinks that a cloud veils these glorious things from her. Ah! it is precious to believe that this veil of human infirmity will, ere very long, be rent, and an entrance given into the everlasting City, where the Lord God and the Lamb are the light thereof.

My mind is calm; no distressing retrospect. I trust I may safely say, I am satisfied with the secret evidence that my gracious Lord condemns me not. O! 'tis his favour that keeps in peace, resigned, and even thankful to be numbered among those who partake of the tribulations of the gospel, and who are, at times, permitted to rejoice in hope that consolations will more and more abound, letting patience have her perfect work. I could not manifest to my dear friends what I felt, at once more being permitted to see their faces. It was not insensibility; it was not diminished affection, or diminished interest in that which binds us as links in one chain. Do tell this to such of my dear friends as I might seem to overlook.

I have no evil tidings to report; whatever may be mingled in

the cup of the true believer in the mercy of God in Christ Jesus, all will be well; and in the end, life, light and glory will arise and shine for ever! Farewell, dear friends,

Your affectionate friend and fellow-sojourner,

MARY CAPPER."

"Warwick, 7th mo. 11th. First day. Many days have now passed over, in the sweet enjoyment of one another's company, as a little social band. Rebecca Lamley gradually gaining strength; her mind clothed with simplicity, gratitude and love. Sarah Lamley is also, at present, one of our favoured circle; for it is a favour to me to make one with the lowly, the poor in spirit, who desire to possess their souls in patience, and hold fast their integrity to the end. No joy is like unto having the evidence that the Lord is on our side!

12th. My dear friend H. E. and I went to the county jail, having learned from our friend, E. Tatnall, that there were some female prisoners for whom she felt considerable solicitude; particularly one in very precarious health, who seems penitent. We were introduced to three in one ward. The poor young woman, specially alluded to, was sitting, decently dressed, in an arm-chair. It was truly affecting to see, within the walls of a prison, under locks and bars, a sister by creation, with the appearance of talents, and of delicacy above the common standard. They were all committed for a misdemeanour. Enduring Mercy, which penetrates even prison walls, yea! the strong hold of the hard heart, was, I do think, manifested, to the bowing of our spirits together, and the prostration of our souls in prayer. We went through all the female wards. In the afternoon I took an affectionate leave of my precious friends, and came to Birmingham, where I was cordially received at my ever kind friend's, Richard Cadbury's. Sweet thankfulness, in mercy clothes my spirit.

14th. I returned the certificate, granted me last year, for service in and about London; which, having endeavoured to perform to the best of my ability, I am favoured to return home in a thankful frame of mind; feeling, at times, something like the simplicity of a harmless child, with the approbation of a tender, reconciled Father. O! merciful condescension; with which no earthly possession or gratification can be compared."

To H. EVANS.

"Dale End, 7th mo. 29th, 1824.

MY VERY KIND FRIEND,

Thy last communication has been cheering to me; to learn that weakness and infirmities are borne with meek endurance and resignation, is precious, as a confirmation that heavenly help is nigh, even that power whereby Divine Grace triumphs over human nature. Doubt it not, my Christian friends; I dare not question, or doubt it; 'That which has helped us hitherto, will help us all our journey through.' Naked faith, without claim of merit in ought that we can do, is the anchor of my soul. O! what a mercy, in old age, to rest in redeeming love; a Saviour crucified! a Saviour glorified! May we happily be among those who centre here.

When thou seest E. Tatnall, my Christian love is to her, with the expression of the animating hope that she will be helped to hold on in well doing. I remember the poor female prisoners with very tender feeling.

Very affectionately, I subscribe,

MARY CAPPER."

TO R. AND S * * * *

"11th mo. 19th, 1824.

MY KIND YOUNG FRIENDS,

While I decorated my windows and little apartment with the yet remaining beauties of a rich and luxuriant summer, how could I do otherwise than think of the great, benevolent Power that liberally bestows, and fits the awakened mind to enjoy the outward blessings that surround us! Even in the smoky, dense atmosphere of active commerce, and busy streets, there are times of cheering reflection, and transient views of happier, purer scenes than we can now see. I am sometimes favoured to participate in a glimpse of that renovation, that new creation, wherein old things shall have passed away, and we, being born again, shall rejoice in the new heaven and the new earth.

Thus I thought of you, as your kind attention furnished me with the means of present gratification. The flowers are fresh and beautiful. Accept my very affectionate acknowledgment, and my heart-felt desire, that lowliness of mind, sweet peace, and assurance for ever may crown all.

With tenderness and love, I subscribe

MARY CAPPER."

TO M. S.

"Birmingham, 11th mo. 29th, 1824.

MY LONG KNOWN AND VALUED FRIEND,

Had thou and thy dear connexions been much less in my remembrance than has really been the case, the receipt of thine would not have failed to revive the sincere love, the desire of my heart, for thee in years past; when I first saw thee in the simplicity of a school-girl, and in thy growing

usefulness to thy precious mother, when she was stripped and bereaved. The after steppings which have marked thy life, so far as they have been known to me, have obtained my tender regard, and I may perhaps safely say, my Christian solicitude, that Grace, Mercy and Truth may be magnified in and through thee.

Parental duties, &c. make a Christian's life serious and important. What, less than a Christian's own experience, can qualify a parent to "bring up a child in the way he should go?" It is pleasant to call to mind being with you; when, notwithstanding busy, moving scenes around me, activity in which it was not my personal concern to enter, I could enjoy interior quiet, cheerful calm, with a sense of goodwill toward every living creature; and I feel a persuasion, dear friends, that no lawful station, no honest pursuit, precludes from the love of God; and that, through this, all the toils, the lawful cares, and the troubles of human life, may work together for instruction, correction, and perfecting the Divine Will.

When, or if ever, I may again fill the well-remembered corner chair, time must unfold; as yet I have no glimpse of it; nevertheless my love remains undiminished.

In tender affection,

MARY CAPPER."

P. S. I wish to have my Christian love expressed to ——. It is a great mercy to be kept, by the power of God, steadfast and without wavering, as to the object of our faith, through all the trials of our probationary state, to be abased, to suffer want, and sometimes to witness Grace to abound, and in all things to be instructed, to be humble, contrited, thoroughly sensible of our dependent state, at all times, and on all occasions. This is mercy! all mercy!