

they offend not God: Then He will make your enemies be at peace with you.

If I remember well, I did write to the Mayor of Bideford; and I expect that makes him more quiet. By meekness, gentleness, and patience, with faith and prayer, you will prevail at Torrington also. You have only to go on calmly and steadily, and God will arise and maintain his own cause. Only let us labour to have a conscience void of offence toward God, and toward man.

I am, dear Sammy,

Your affectionate friend and brother.

DCXIII.—*To the Same.*

DEAR SAMMY,

Near LONDON, *October 29, 1790.*

THE person that was appointed to come down to Bideford has been prevented from coming by want of health. And I believe it was well: It has confirmed me in a resolution which I had formed before,—not to send more Preachers into any Circuit than that Circuit can provide for. We are almost ruined by not observing this rule. I will observe it better for the time to come.

I am, dear Sammy,

Your affectionate brother.

DCXIV.—*To Miss Penelope Newman.*

MY DEAR SISTER,

LONDON, *August 9, 1776.*

BEFORE I received yours, we had been speaking in the Conference on that very head,—the means of preventing spiritual religion from degenerating into formality. It is continually needful to guard against this, as it strikes at the root of the whole work of God. One means whereby God guards us against it is, temptation; and, indeed, crosses of every kind. By these he keeps us from sleeping, as do others, and stirs us up to watch unto prayer. So He is now stirring you up! Hear his voice; and you will feel more life than ever.

I am, dear Penny,

Yours affectionately.

DCXV.—*To Mr. Jonathan Brown.*

DEAR JONATHAN,

YOU send us welcome news of the prosperity of the work of God in the Isle. A year ago, I was afraid that our members would scarce ever again amount to four-and-twenty hundred: So they rise now above our hope. I trust now it will be your business thoroughly to "purge the floor." Purge out all the unworthy members, and strongly exhort the rest to "go on to perfection." Get as many as possible to meet in band.

I am, with love to your wife,

Your affectionate friend and brother.

DCXVI.—*To Mr. Thomas Funnell.*

MY DEAR BROTHER,

November 24, 1787.

WHATEVER assistance I can give those generous men who join to oppose that execrable trade, I certainly shall give. I have printed a large edition of the "Thoughts on Slavery," and dispersed them to every part of England. But there will be vehement opposition made, both by slave-merchants and slave-holders; and they are mighty men: But our comfort is, He that dwelleth on high is mightier.

I am

Your affectionate brother.

DCXVII.—*To Mr. William Ferguson, of Hoxton.*

MY DEAR BROTHER,

BRISTOL, September 7, 1779.

THE proposal you sent me from the Hague, I like well. Pray talk with John Atlay about it; and if he and you are agreed, the sooner it is put in execution the better. Certainly all unsaleable books that are undamaged, I will take again. But if any sermon be translated into Dutch, it should first be "The Almost Christian." This is far more suitable to unawakened readers than "The Lord our Righteousness."

I am, dear Billy,

Your affectionate brother.

DCXVIII.—*To Mrs. Ferguson.*

MY DEAR SISTER,

HARWICH, *June 12, 1783.*

HITHERTO God has helped us. As the weather last night was exceedingly rough, the Captain did not think it advisable to sail; for which I was not sorry. We expect to sail this morning, as it seems the storm is over; and probably we shall see Helvoetsluys to-morrow. Sally and my other companions are in perfect health, and are all in good spirits; knowing that they are under His protection whom the winds and the seas obey.

I am, my dear sister,

Your affectionate brother.

DCXIX.—*To the Rev. Mr. Davenport.*

DEAR SIR,

BRISTOL, *August 14, 1782.*

It would have given me a good deal of satisfaction to have had a little conversation with you. But I do not stay long in one place. I have no resting-place on earth:—

A poor wayfaring man,
I dwell awhile in tents below,
Or gladly wander to and fro,
Till I my Canaan gain.

You would have been very welcome at our Conference. Mr. Pugh and Mr. Dodwell were present at it; and I believe are more determined than ever to spend their whole strength in saving their own souls, and them that hear them.

I believe one of our Preachers that are stationed in the Leicester Circuit will call upon you at Alexton; and I make no doubt but some of the seed which you have been long sowing will then grow up. No one should wish or pray for persecution. On the contrary, we are to avoid it to the uttermost of our power. "When they persecute you in one city, flee unto another." Yet, when it does come, notwithstanding all our care to avoid it, God will extract good out of evil.

To-morrow, I am to set out for Cornwall. In about three weeks I expect to be here again. In the beginning

of October, I generally move towards London; in the neighbourhood of which I usually spend the winter.

I am, dear Sir,

Your affectionate friend and brother.

DCXX.—*To Mrs. Rebecca Gains.*

MY DEAR SISTER,

LONDON, *August 4, 1770.*

I WAS glad to hear from you; and especially to hear that you are still athirst for God. O beware of setting up any idol in your heart! Give all to Him; for He is worthy. You did exceeding right in going to Jane Johnson. There is no end of shyness, if we stand aloof from each other. In this case, we have only to overcome evil with good; and they are wisest that yield first. Promises of that kind are of no force. The sooner they are broken the better. You should take Molly S— in to board. O self-will! How few have conquered it! I believe it is a good providence for your account: She can pay but few visits. She fears God, and wishes to save her soul; and the visiting those that are otherwise minded will not profit her: She wants nothing but Christ. Surely you may tell anything to,

My dear sister,

Your affectionate brother.

DCXXI.—*To the Same.*

MY DEAR SISTER,

Near DUNBAR, May 26, 1779.

IT was not your own desire to miss me at Alnwick, as well as at Newcastle; otherwise I might have blamed you, and supposed that your love was grown cold. But I do not believe that is the case; and it is still your desire to love God. What then should hinder your recovering His love, if you still walk in all his appointed ways? if you still contrive all the opportunities you can of hearing his word, of communicating, of prayer, reading, and meditation? It cannot be, if you seek Him, but you will soon find. He will return and abundantly pardon. Who knows how soon? Perhaps to-day; and why not at this hour? You ask what I think of that strange book. I think the writer was distracted; otherwise she could have no excuse.

I am, dear Becky,

Your affectionate brother.

DCXXII.—*To the Same.*

MY DEAR SISTER,

LONDON, *January 5, 1785.*

YOU did well to write. Although I have not much time, yet I am always well-pleased to hear from a friend. If outward losses be a means of stirring you up to gain more inward holiness, you will never have need to repent of that loss, but rather to praise God for it. How soon will the moment of life be gone! It is enough, if we secure an happy eternity. Let brother Gains and you earnestly seek to be wholly devoted to God; and all things else will be added to you.

I am, dear Becky,

Your affectionate brother.

DCXXIII.—*To the Commanding Officer in Lowestoft.*

SIR,

LONDON, *November 30, 1782.*

I AM informed by some of my friends in Lowestoft, that they have been frequently disturbed at their public worship by some officers quartered in the town. Before I use any other method, I beg of you, Sir, who can do it with a word, to prevent our being thus insulted any more. We are men; we are Englishmen: As such we have a natural and a legal right to liberty of conscience.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant.

DCXXIV.—*To Mr. Richard Rodda.*

DEAR RICHARD,

BRISTOL, *September 9, 1782.*

YOU should take particular care that your Circuit be never without an assortment of all the valuable books, especially the Appeals, the Sermons, Kempis, and "The Primitive Physic," which no family should be without. Send for these, and, according to the rule of Conference, take them into your own keeping. You are found to be remarkably diligent in spreading the books: Let none rob you of this glory. If you can spread the Magazine, it will do good: The letters therein contain the marrow of Christianity.

Your affectionate friend and brother

It is very remarkable, that you should have a prospect of doing good at Oxford! And it is certainly a token for good, that you should find a Magistrate willing to do you justice.

DCXXV.—*To the Same.*

MY DEAR BROTHER, WALLINGFORD, *October 24, 1789.*

YOU are a man whom I can trust: Whatever you do, you will do it with your might. Some years since we wanted a preaching-place near Coleford, in Somersetshire. A neighbouring gentleman, Mr. Salmon, gave us ground to build on, and timber for the house, and desired me to use his house as my own. He is now by wicked men reduced to want.

I am informed a master for a poor-house is wanted at Manchester. Pray inquire, and, if it be so, leave no means untried to procure the place for him. Apply in my name to B. Barlow, D. Yates, T. Phillips, Dr. Easton, Mr. Brocklehurst, Stonehouse, and all that have a regard for me. Make all the interest you can. Leave no stone unturned. "Join hands with God to make a good man live." I hope you will send me word in London, that you have exerted yourself, and are not without a prospect of success.

I am, dear Richard,

Your affectionate friend and brother.

DCXXVI.—*To Richard Davenport, Esq.*

I AM afraid, Sir, I shall not have an opportunity of procuring you those tunes until I return to London. The gentleman from whom I expected to procure them is not yet come hither. I have desired Mr. Swindells to beg your acceptance of two or three little tracts, which, perhaps, you have not seen, that I forgot to mention; one of which, if you have it not already, will probably give you pleasure. The title is nearly this: "A Letter to a Bishop, occasioned by some late Discoveries in Religion." There are two parts of it. May I request of you one thing, Sir?—Do not speak evil of Jesus Christ: You may sometime stand in need of Him; and if you should, (I can say from a very little

experience,) you will find Him the best friend in heaven or earth.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant.

DCXXVII.—*To Mr. Samuel Wells.*

DEAR SAMMY,

LONDON, *January 28, 1779.*

ACCORDING to the Act of Toleration, 1. You are required to certify to the Registrar of the Bishop's Court, or the Justices, the place of your meeting for divine worship. This is all you have to do. You ask nothing at all of the Bishop or Justices.

2. The Registrar, or Clerk of the Court, is "required to register the same, and to give a certificate thereof to such persons as shall demand the same; for which there shall be no greater fee or reward taken than sixpence."

I advise you to go once more to the Sessions, and say, "Gentlemen, we have had advice from London: We desire nothing at all of you; but we demand of your Clerk to register this place, and to give us a certificate thereof; or to answer the refusal at his peril."

Answer no questions to Justices or Lawyers, but with a bow, and with repeating the words, "Our business is only with your Clerk: We demand of him what the Act requires him to do."

If you judge proper, you may show this to any of the Justices. What I have written, I am ready to defend.

P.S. You led the Justices into the mistake, by your manner of addressing them. Beware of this for the time to come: You have nothing to ask of them.

DCXXVIII.—*To Mr. Gidley, Officer of Excise.*

MY DEAR BROTHER,

LONDON, *January 18, 1776.*

I AM glad to hear that you are ordered to Exeter: There seems to be a particular providence in this. We have a small society there, which is but lately formed, and stands in need of every help; so that, I doubt not, your settling among them will be an advantage to them. See that you

be not ashamed of a good Master, nor of the least of his servants.

I am

Your affectionate brother.

DCXXIX.—*To the Same.*

MY DEAR BROTHER,

DUBLIN, *July 4, 1778.*

I AM glad to hear that the work of God begins to increase even in poor Exeter. If Jos. Jones is able and willing to preach morning and evening, I should have no objection to his labouring next year in your Circuit.

As to the house, it would, undoubtedly, be a means of much good if it can be procured. All the difficulty is, to procure the money. We cannot do much, because of the building at London. But "the earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof."

I am

Your affectionate brother.

DCXXX.—*To the Same.*

MY DEAR BROTHER,

LONDON, *January 25, 1779.*

ANY house is *ipso facto* licensed, if the demand is made either at the Bishop's Court, the Assizes, or the Quarter-Sessions. The Act of Parliament licenses, not the Justices: They can neither grant nor refuse. If you have witnesses, your house is licensed: You need trouble the Sessions no farther. If they trouble you, the Lord Chief Justice will do you right. You should mildly and respectfully tell them so.

I am

Your affectionate brother.

P.S. I have wrote to the Chancellor, and hope he will trouble you no more.

DCXXXI.—*To the Same.*

MY DEAR BROTHER,

BOLTON, *April 11, 1779.*

It seems to me, that this is a very providential thing, and that you did well not to let the opportunity slip. There is no doubt but our brethren at the Conference will readily consent to your asking the assistance of your neighbours for your preaching-house. And the time appears to be now

approaching, when poor Exeter will lift up its head. There is no danger at all of your being a loser, by any bond or security that you have given. If I live till the latter end of summer, I hope to call upon you in my way to Cornwall.

I am

Your affectionate brother.

DCXXXII.—*To the Same.*

MY DEAR BROTHER, BRISTOL, *September 22, 1780.*

I HAVE much business to do in London; and as I do not depend upon seeing another year, I must be there as soon as possible; and to that end have taken a place in the mail-coach for next Sunday night. If I should live till the next autumn, I shall endeavour to see you at Plymouth. As it was evidently the providence of God which placed you in your present situation, he will doubtless give you grace sufficient for it. Only take care to improve the Sabbaths, and He will every day stand at your right hand.

I am

Your affectionate brother.

DCXXXIII.—*To Miss Mary Stokes.*

DEAR MISS STOKES, CHESTER, *March 17, 1771.*

I ALMOST wonder, Have I found another Jenny Cooper? I take knowledge of her spirit in you. I doubt not God has begun a good work in your heart. He has given you a taste of the powers of the world to come. He has delivered you from the vain expectation of finding happiness in the things of earth; and I trust you will be entangled no more in that snare. You know where true joys are to be found. Now stand fast in that beginning of liberty, wherewith Christ has made you free. Yet do not stand still. This is only the dawn of day: The Sun of Righteousness will rise upon you, in quite another manner than you have hitherto experienced. And who knows how soon? Is He not near? Are not all things now ready? What hinders you from receiving Him now? "If thou canst believe." Here is all the bar: Only unbelief keeps out the mighty blessing! How many things have you been enabled to overcome, since I saw you in the great garden?

But do not leave my poor Molly Jones behind;—not that you can stay for her; but bring her on with you. I have much hopes that nothing will stop Sally James or Miss Flower. O bear one another's burdens! Then shall you be, not almost, but altogether, Christians! Then shall you fulfil the joy of,

My dear Miss Stokes,

Yours affectionately

While I am in Ireland, you need only direct to Dublin

DCXXXIV.—*To the Same.*

MY DEAR MISS STOKES, DUBLIN, *April 4, 1771*

THERE is a sweetness and friendliness in your spirit which is exceeding agreeable to me. And you have an openness withal which makes it the more pleasing. Let nothing rob you of this; although you cannot retain it without a good deal of resolution; for the example of all the world is against you; even of the religious world, which is full of closeness and reserve, if not of disguise also. How will you do then to retain that artless simplicity which almost every one disclaims? Nay, this is not all: You must likewise expect to be yourself deceived, more or less. You will believe persons to be sincere, who will abuse your confidence; who will say much and mean nothing. But let not my dear maid copy after them: Let them have all the artifice to themselves. Still let not mercy or truth forsake you, but write them upon the table of your heart. Only know to whom you speak; and then you cannot be too free. Open the window in your breast. I pray, never be afraid of writing too large letters: You must not measure yours by mine; for I have a little more business than you.

Your weakness and tenderness of constitution, without great care, may prove a snare to you. Some allowance must be made on that account; but the danger is of making too much. Steer the middle way. So far as you are able, rejoice to endure hardship, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ; and deny yourself every pleasure, which you are not divinely conscious prepares you for taking pleasure in God. I am glad you can converse freely with Sally Flower. Let her not lose her rising in the morning. Surely she and you together might overrule Molly Jones's Irish reason for not meeting, "*I said I would not.*" I feel much for poor

Sally James. Perhaps she will outrun many of you by and by.

My dear Miss Stokes,
Your affectionate brother.

DCXXXV.—*To the Same.*

MY DEAR SISTER, LYNN, *November 9, 1771.*

How glad should I be, could I be of any service to one I so tenderly regard! You have a heart susceptible of friendship; and shall it not be a blessing to you, a means of increasing every holy temper, and perhaps of guarding you against some of the dangerous temptations which are incident to youth?

Shall I give you a few advices? 1. Keep that safe which God has given; never let slip any blessing you have received. Regard none who tell you, "You must lose it." No; you may have more or less of joy. This depends upon a thousand circumstances: But you never need lose one degree of love. 2. You never will, if you are a careful steward of the manifold gifts of God. "To him that hath," (that is, uses what he hath,) "it shall be given" still, and that more abundantly. Therefore, 3. Use your every grace. Stir up the gift of God that is in you. Be zealous, be active, according to your strength. Speak for God wherever you are. But, mean time, 4. Be humble! Let all that mind be in you which was in Christ Jesus. Pray for the whole spirit of humility, that you may still feel you are nothing, and may feel those words,

"All might, all majesty, all praise,
All glory be to Christ my Lord!"

I am accustomed to remember a few of my friends about ten o'clock in the morning: I must take you in among them, on condition you will likewise remember me at that time. I never shall think your letters too long.

My dear Molly,
Yours affectionately.

DCXXXVI.—*To the Same.*

MY DEAR SISTER, LONDON, *December 26, 1771.*

SANCTIFIED crosses are blessings indeed; and when it is best, our Lord will remove them. A peculiar kind of

watching, to which you are now called, is, against the suggestions of that wicked one, who would persuade you to deny or undervalue the grace of God which is in you. Beware of mistaking his voice for the voice of the Holy One. Do justice to Him that lives and reigns in you, and acknowledge His work with thankfulness. There is no pride in doing this: It is only giving Him his due, rendering Him the glory of his own graces. But in order to this, you stand in continual need of the unction, to abide with you and teach you of all things. So shall you never lose anything of what God has given; neither the blessing itself, nor the witness of it. Nay, rather you shall sink deeper and deeper into his love; you shall go on from faith to faith; and patience shall have its perfect work, until you are perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

Cannot poor Molly Jones discern the difference between John Pawson and T. Jones? In Tommy's conversation there is nothing solid or weighty; as neither was there in his preaching. Therefore neither religion nor sound reason would lead one to admit either one or the other. It is only free, open love, however shy she may be, whereby you can make any impression upon her. And love, seconded with prayer, will persuade.

Do you not find as much life in your soul as ever? Can you still give God all your heart? Do you find as much of the spirit of prayer, and the same zeal for God? Go on, in his name, and in the power of his might, trampling yours and his enemies under your feet.

My dear Molly,

Your affectionate brother.

DCXXXVII.—*To the Same.*

MY DEAR SISTER,

IN order to speak for God, you must not confer with flesh and blood, or you will never begin. You should vehemently resist the reasoning devil, who will never want arguments for your silence. Indeed, naturally all the passions justify themselves: So do fear and shame in particular. In this case, therefore, the simple, child-like boldness of faith is peculiarly necessary. And when you have broke through and made the beginning, then prudence has its office; that is, Christian (not worldly) prudence, springing

from the unction of the Holy One, and teaching you, how far and in what manner to speak, according to a thousand various circumstances.

You do not yet see the day dawn, with regard to those who are near and dear to you. But you must not hence infer, that it never will. The prayer that goeth not out of feigned lips will not fall to the ground; but "though it seem to tarry long, true and faithful is His word."

I am glad Miss Williams comes a little nearer to us. Do the same good office to Molly Jones. She professes to love you: If she really does, press on, and you will prevail. Does not Tommy Jones hurt her? He is lively and good natured, but has no liking either to the doctrine or discipline of the Methodists. Such a person is just calculated for weakening all that is right, and strengthening all that is wrong, in her. If you speak to Mr. Pawson concerning the preaching at the Hall on Sunday evening, I believe it may be continued. Only it could not be by the Travelling Preachers: They are otherwise engaged.

Yours affectionately.

DCXXXVIII.—*To the Same.*

MY DEAR SISTER,

February 11, 1772.

I AM glad you have had an opportunity of spending a little time with that lovely company. The day I leave Bristol, (Monday, March 9,) I hope to be at Stroud myself. You are not sent thither for nothing, but in order to do, as well as to receive, good; and that not to one family only, or to those four of your acquaintance; nay, but you have a message from God, (you and — Eden too,) to all the women in the society. Set aside all evil shame; all modesty, falsely so called. Go from house to house; deal faithfully with them all; warn every one; exhort every one. God will everywhere give you a word to speak; and his blessing therewith. Be you herein a follower of Nancy Bolton, as she is of Christ.

In doing and bearing
The will of our Lord,
We still are preparing
To meet our reward.

I have great hope for Sally James. In the company which commonly surrounds her, it is best to use reserve. And

this is apt to form a habit, which it is not easy to conquer, even with those she loves well; but I trust she will conquer this and every enemy. Perhaps we shall soon rejoice with her. It is good that you may be emptied, that you may be filled. But how is this, that you have never given me an hour's pain since I was first acquainted with you? Do you intend to be always going forward, without standing still, or going backward at all? The good Lord enable you so to do, and all those that are with you! So fulfil the joy of
Yours affectionately.

DCXXXIX.—*To the Same.*

MY DEAR SISTER,

ABERDEEN, *May 1, 1772.*

SALLY JAMES is a letter in my debt. I have had but one letter from her since I left Bristol: And that I answered almost as soon as I received it. I a little wondered at not hearing from you; but as I know both the constancy and tenderness of your affection, there was no danger of my imputing it to ingratitude.

I think your present exercise, though it is one of the most trying, is one of the most profitable, which a good providence could prepare for you. And it will probably be one means of plucking a brand out of the burning; of saving a soul alive. O what would not one do, what would not one suffer, for this glorious end! You certainly have good reason to hope: For any that feels himself a sinner will hardly perish; more especially if he sees where to look for help, and is willing to give up every plea beside.

You are never to put repentance and faith asunder; the knowledge of your emptiness and His fulness.

Naked, and blind, and poor, and bare,
You still your want of all things find.

But at the same instant, (such is the mystery of Christian experience,) you can say,

“Jesus, I all things have in thee!”

Our blessed Lord carries on his work in our souls, by giving us either to do or to suffer. Hitherto you are led most in the latter of these ways. I expect when you have more to do for Him, you shall suffer less. Every morning, and frequently in the day, you are very near to,

My dear sister,

Your affectionate brother.

DCXL.—*To the Same.*

MY DEAR SISTER,

YARM, June 16, 1772.

THAT remedy mentioned in the "Primitive Physic" (the manna dissolved in a decoction of senna) hardly ever fails to relieve in the severest bilious colic, within twelve or fourteen minutes. Warm lemonade (so stupid are they who forbid acids in these cases) frequently gives ease in half a minute. And I have known this to take place in such inveterate complaints as would yield to no other remedy.

We are sure, the means which our blessed Lord uses to conform us to his image are (all circumstances considered) the very best; for He cannot but do all things well: Therefore, whenever it pleases Him to send affliction, then affliction is best. Yet we must not imagine He is tied down to this, or that he cannot give any degree of holiness without it. We have reason to believe, from the earliest records, that St. Paul suffered a thousand times more than St. John. And yet one can hardly doubt but St. John was as holy as he, or any of the Apostles. Therefore, stand ready for whatsoever our Lord shall send; but do not require him to send you affliction. Perhaps he will take another way; he will overpower your whole soul with peace, and joy, and love; and thereby work in you a fuller conformity to himself than you ever experienced yet. You have;—hold fast there,—

"All 's alike to me, so I
In my Lord may live and die."

I am

Yours affectionately

DCXLI.—*To the Same.*

MY DEAR SISTER,

SHEFFIELD, August 10, 1772.

HAVING finished, for the present, my business at Leeds, I am come thus far on my journey to Bristol. But I must take Haverford-West in the way thither; so that I do not expect to be there till the 30th instant. How many blessings may you receive in the mean time, provided you seek them in the good old way wherein you received the Lord Jesus Christ! So walk in him still. Beware of striking into new paths! of being wise above that is written! Perhaps we may find sweetness in the beginning; but it

would be bitterness in the latter end. O my sister, my friend, I am afraid for you! I doubt you are stepping out of the way. When you enter into your closet, and shut the door, and pray to your Father who seeth in secret; then is the time to groan, to Him who reads the heart, the unutterable prayer. But to be silent in the congregation of his people is wholly new, and therefore wholly wrong. A silent meeting was never heard of in the church of Christ for sixteen hundred years. I entreat you to read over, with much prayer, that little tract, "A Letter to a Quaker." I fear you are on the brink of a precipice, and you know it not. The enemy has put on his angel's face, and you take him for a friend. Retire immediately! Go not near the tents of those dead, formal men, called Quakers! Keep close to your class, to your band, to your old teachers: They have the words of eternal life! Have any of them offended you? Has any stumbling-block been laid in your way? Hide nothing from,

My dear Molly,
Yours in affection.

DCXLII.—*To Mr. James Bogie.*

MY DEAR BROTHER, LONDON, *October 11, 1788.*

IT is an excellent plan: The sooner you put it in execution, the better; only see that you be all punctual to follow one another exactly. Let not a little hinderance or inconvenience put you out of your way,—suppose a shower of rain or snow. Press on! Break through! Take up your cross, each of you, and follow your Master: So shall the world and the devil fall under your feet.

I am, dear Jemmy,
Your affectionate friend and brother

DCXLIII.—*To the Same.*

DEAR JEMMY, LEEDS, *August 1, 1789.*

YOUR division of Scotland into the three southern Circuits is exceedingly well judged. You will see, by the Minutes of the Conference, that it is put into execution. I

trust, in a few months' time, to see thorough Methodist discipline both in Glasgow, Ayr, and Dumfries; and pray do not forget Greenock. I have letters thence, asking for help. Let not any poor souls perish for lack of knowledge, if it be in your power to prevent it.

I am, dear Jemmy,

Your affectionate friend and brother.

DCXLIV.—*To Mr. John Watson.*

MY DEAR BROTHER,

DUBLIN, *April 25, 1783.*

YESTERDAY I received yours from Perth. If brother M'Lean has been able to do any good at Perth or Dunkeld, it would be worth while to take a room. But truly I think, if the Highlanders will not pay for their own room, they are not worthy of preaching. To labour, and pay for our labour, is not right before God or man. Are you able to undertake a Circuit? You may address your next to London.

I am

Your affectionate brother.

DCXLV.—*To Mr. George Flamank, Officer of Excise, in Plymouth.*

MY DEAR BRETHREN,

PORTAFERRY, *June 7, 1789.*

"HEAVINESS may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning." I hope to set out for the west immediately after the Conference; and probably I shall bring with me one or two men of peace, by whom all these misunderstandings will be removed. "In your patience," meantime, "possess ye your souls." And those that suffer all will surely conquer all.

I am, my dear brethren,

Your affectionate brother.

DCXLVI.—*To Mr. Abraham Orchard, of Bath.*

DEAR BROTHER,

1783.

YOU have reason to be thankful to God for enabling you to set out in his good way; and, if you would go on therein, remember that you cannot walk alone. Therefore, your wisdom is, not to think much of shame, or the fear of any temporal matter, to connect yourself in the closest manner you can with those you believe to be the children of God. A form of prayer used in private may be of considerable use; only now and then, at the beginning, or middle, or end of it, you may break out a little, and speak a few words, just according to the present temper of your mind. When your sins are forgiven, you will surely be sensible of it; and "every one that seeketh, findeth." But it will be given you without money and without price; you know not how soon! Perhaps now!

I am

Yours affectionately.

DCXLVII.—*To Mr. Isaac Brown.*

DEAR ISAAC,

BRISTOL, *October 7, 1787.*

IT was at the request of brother Holder himself, that I ordered him to be removed from Whitby; and I have wrote once or twice to that effect. But if his mind is altered, and if you judge it safe for him to remain there, I have no objection to it.

To-morrow I am to set out for London: When I come thither, I will consider with the Preachers what is to be done when the Circuits will not bear the expense allotted to them. Peace be with you and yours!

I am, dear Isaac,

Your affectionate friend and brother.

DCXLVIII.—*To Mrs. Mullis, of Hackney.*

MY DEAR SISTER,

NEW CHAPEL, *May 31, 1789.*

YOU are right in your judgment, that God never withdraws the light of his countenance but for some fault in us: And in order to retain that light, you should carefully follow

the conviction he gives you from time to time. You should likewise labour to avoid all unprofitable reasonings: Then you will soon walk in the light as He is in the light.

I am, my dear sister,

Your affectionate brother.

DCXLIX.—*To Mr. Richard Bunt, Bideford, Devon.*

MY DEAR BROTHER,

OTLEY, *July 21, 1789.*

REGARD no one who tells you that idle tale of the Mayor and Corporation moving the Court of King's Bench against a man for speaking such words. The whole Court would laugh a man to scorn that pretended to any such thing. If ever anything of the kind should be moved, send me word, (I hope to be in Plymouth in two or three weeks,) and I will make them sick of the King's Bench as long as they live.

I am

Your affectionate servant.

DCL.—*To Mr. William Mears, Chatham.*

MY DEAR BROTHER,

PEMBROKE, *August 15, 1786.*

IT is my desire that all things be done to the satisfaction of all parties. If therefore it be more convenient, let brother Pritchard's family and sister Boone lodge at Chatham house. Why have you not set on foot a weekly subscription in order to lessen your debt? Have neither the Preachers nor the people any spirit? Who begins? I will give two shillings and sixpence a week, (for a year,) if all of you together will make up twenty shillings.

I am, dear Billy,

Your affectionate brother.

DCLI.—*To Mr. Jasper Winscom.*

DEAR BROTHER,

LONDON, *October 20, 1775.*

I SHOULD have had no objection at all to brother Skinner's going into Kent, but that it would interfere with our making a fair trial of the Isle of Wight. I would have

this done without delay ; and I much approve of the method you propose. We will help you out (as I said) with regard to the expense. I hope you will be able to procure the meeting-house. Peace be with you and yours.

I am

Your affectionate friend and brother.

DCLII.—*To the Same.*

MY DEAR BROTHER, LONDON, *January 14, 1779.*

OURS are Travelling Preachers ; therefore, I can never consent that any of them should remain for a month together in the Island. If you can contrive that the additional Preacher have full employment, then we can inquire where one can be found.

It seems to me that you take the matter exactly right, with regard to the Portsmouth preaching-house ; and that the only thing to be done is, to get the mortgage out of Mr. Pike's hands.

I am

Your affectionate brother.

DCLIII.—*To the Same.*

DEAR JASPER, LONDON, *August 10, 1782.*

THAT the work of God has not prospered in the Salisbury Circuit for several years is none of your fault. I am persuaded you have His work at heart, and will do all that is in your power to promote it. So will Mr. Mason : So will the other Preachers. Look for happy days !

I am

Your affectionate brother.

DCLIV.—*To the Same.*

DEAR JASPER, LONDON, *November 12, 1786.*

I AM glad to hear so good an account of the work of God in Witney. If the Lord will work, who shall hinder ? This should encourage you to still greater zeal and activity. The death of that miserable backslider was a signal instance of divine Providence, and very probably might excite some others to flee from the wrath to come.

I am, dear Jasper,

Your affectionate brother.

DCLV.—*To the Same.*NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE, *May 28, 1788.*

DEAR JASPER,

IT seems to me, the most proper Assistant for the Sarum Circuit (only do not talk of it yet) will be Jasper Winscom. I am convinced the person whom I had intended for it is not the proper person. It is exceeding well that the warning was given me before the Conference. We have found it so difficult to drive Calvinism out from among us, that we shall not readily let it in again.

I am, dear Jasper,

Yours affectionately.

DCLVI.—*To Mr. Abraham Brames, Brompton.*

MY DEAR BROTHER,

LONDON, *December 12, 1779*

IN the late Conference, it was agreed that one Steward (at least) in every society should be changed. And when I lately heard it was not yet done, I wrote to every Assistant on the head. I heard no objection to you. And in your case there is something peculiar, because of the debt lying on the house. Do all the good you can; work your work betimes; and in due time He will give you a full reward.

I am, with kind love to your wife,

Dear Abraham,

Your affectionate brother.

DCLVII.—*To the Same.*

MY DEAR BROTHER,

LONDON, *June 16, 1780.*

YOU have done exceeding well in setting that little collection on foot. I trust it will be productive of much good. On February 6th you may expect a Preacher from hence. Tell the Travelling Preachers whatever you think or fear respecting them, if you love either them or

Your affectionate brother.

DCLVIII.—*To Mr. John Ogilvie.*

MY DEAR BROTHER,

LONDON, *August 7, 1785.*

As long as you are yourself earnestly aspiring after a full deliverance from all sin, and a renewal in the whole image of God, God will prosper you in your labour; especially if you constantly and strongly exhort all believers to expect full sanctification now, by simple faith. And never be weary of well-doing: In due time you shall reap, if you faint not!

I am

Your affectionate brother.

DCLIX.—*To the Same.*

MY DEAR BROTHER,

LONDON, *February 21, 1786.*

You see God orders all things well. You have reason to thank Him, both for your sickness and your recovery. But whether sick or in health, if you keep in His way, you are to prepare your soul for temptations. For how shall we conquer if we do not fight? Go on, then, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. Fight the good fight of faith, and lay hold on eternal life! Salvation is nigh! Seek, desire nothing else!

I am

Your affectionate brother.

DCLX.—*To the Same.**Near MANCHESTER, July 24, 1787.*

MY DEAR BROTHER,

As there are so few Preachers on the Isle, I think Mr. Crook's judgment is right. It will not be expedient for you to quit your station for the present. The work of God would very probably suffer if Mr. Crook and you should be absent at the same time. I believe it may be contrived for you to labour the ensuing year in some part of Yorkshire. Be zealous! Be active for God!

I am

Your affectionate brother.

DCLXI.—*To the Same.*

MY DEAR BROTHER,

LONDON, *February 21, 1791.*

I HAVE not been well for a few days ; but I am now, by the blessing of God, much recovered. It should be matter of great thankfulness, that your wife and you were both enabled to give that lovely child to God. We are well assured that He does all things well ; all things for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness. It is not improbable that I may look upon you in the spring. Peace be with your spirits !

I am

Your affectionate brother.

END OF THE TWELFTH VOLUME.