

MEMOIR

OF

CHARLOTTE BLAKE,

BY HER HUSBAND,

CHARLES BLAKE,

MINISTER OF THE GOSPEL.

SOLD BY J. THORNE, SHEBBEAR, DEVON;
AND THE PREACHERS IN THE BIBLE
CHRISTIAN CONNEXION.

1840.

P R E F A C E.

At the solicitation of many of the intimate friends of my dear departed wife, I have consented to compile the following memoir, principally from her own diary and correspondence.—Sincerely desiring that it may be useful to those who may give it a perusal, in stirring them up to give diligence to "make their calling and election sure," I commend it to the blessing of that God, who often accomplishes important events by feeble instruments.

CHARLES BLAKE.

MEMOIR

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As I was unacquainted with my dear partner, till the year 1826, when I was first appointed to the Monmouth Circuit, I cannot do better than transcribe from her diary, her own account of her early life, to which is prefixed her reasons for recording the dealings of God with her soul.

“ I am about to take notice of a few particular occurrences that have befallen me from my infancy; and I must acknowledge, that God’s mercy hath followed me all the days of my life. Were I to attempt to enumerate all the calls and invitations I have had from the Lord, and state the numerous instances in which I have disregarded them, it would swell this into a larger volume, than at present I intend it shall make. If these few simple remarks are in any respect useful, they will accomplish the end for which they were intended. May the Lord spiritualize the hearts of my readers, and bring them to heaven, is the prayer of one, who desires that when she is dead, she may in this way speak to them. Reader, whosoever thou art, hearken to thy friend in Christ.

CHARLOTTE MOXLEY.

“ It is with great simplicity I intend to set down the distinguishing mercies of God towards me, from an early period of my life. He was pleased to call me to know something of myself when I was about twelve or fourteen years of age. I was born at Porthcassegg, in the parish of St. Arvans, in the county of Monmouth, of honest and industrious pa-

rents, on the 16th of September, 1790. I was brought up to attend the Established Church, and was a regular attendant until I was twenty-two years of age, during which time I was frequently convinced that there was something more required of me than the mere outward performance of public worship. There was at this time a minister in our church that would sometimes read heart-searching sermons, under which I was often led to weep.

“ My father kept a farm, and had ten children living home at one time, seven sons and three daughters; and when we all seemed to be in a prosperous way, the Lord was pleased to send a fever among us which made havoc in the family. Two sisters were removed from time into eternity, the one elder, and the other younger than myself, within five days of each other, and my life was despaired of for some time. O: what a loud call this was for us all, but here I never quite forgot it, although it was nearly not one of the family obeyed it at that time. I believe I never quite forgot it, although it was nearly ten years before I fully obeyed it. The fear of death was ever before me, and often I was led to pray; but did not know what it was that inclined me so to do. In writing to my aunt to inform her of the death of my sisters, these words came into my mind, ‘Ye must be born again, or die to all eternity;’ I wrote the words to her just as they occurred to my mind, and at the same time God wrote them on my heart; for from that time I was fully persuaded, that a change must be wrought in me before I should be prepared for heaven. I believe my greatest fear was lest I should forget what God had taught me, and in order that I might not, my last request almost every night was, ‘O Lord, let me never rest till I am fully prepared for death.’ O! how truly may I exclaim with the poet,—

‘ Would Jesus have the sinner die,
Why hangs he then on yonder tree?’

What means that strange expiring cry?
(Sinners he prays for you and me.)

“ I had always an ear for music, and delighted much in singing. My two brothers and myself conducted the singing in the church, and were very much applauded by the gentry in our village, which raised us higher in our own esteem than ever. But notwithstanding this, the Lord did not leave me to myself: for often I should tremble while singing the words in the Psalms, because my state did not correspond with the language they contained. Soon after this I became a Teacher in the Sunday School, and gained the esteem of those connected therewith. The minister’s wife, who was the Superintendent of the School, would generally take me with her to dinner, and others of the neighbouring gentry would also desire my company with them to tea. I had the name of being the most amiable young woman in the neighbourhood, which caused me to have exalted views of myself, and tended to feed my pride and vanity. But all this time there was something wanting within, which neither praise nor pride could supply. Many times under the preaching of the word, I have felt my heart almost broken; and when I have heard the christian character described, my language has been ‘O that that was my state!’ These convictions, however, seldom lasted more than a day or two; and thus I went on, sometimes praying, and at other times mourning, for nearly seven years, during which I sometimes warned my fellow-creatures of the danger of living in sin, while I had no notion how they were to escape the wrath of God, neither could I tell how to please God myself. I often reproved my parents, and warned them of their danger. They were moral, and affectionate to me, and I believe did their duty as far as they knew it; but being destitute of the saving knowledge of God themselves, they could not teach me the way of salvation. I was often

ed to exclaim, 'Who shall deliver me from this body of death I feel?' and the answer I generally had from those around me was, 'If you are afraid you shall not go to heaven, what will become of me?' This made me only feel the more deeply for their souls, especially for my parents, who I knew were not likely to live many years, as they were already far advanced in life. This often caused me to call upon the Lord with anxiety of mind, when I saw them careless and unconcerned; yet all this time I knew not God myself. I sometimes thought that as all my relations and acquaintances were running the broad road to ruin, it would be unkind in me to go to heaven alone. It seemed to me, to be more than I could bear to see my parents cast into hell; and I foolishly thought I should be happier if I went with them. But the Lord who had been watching over all my troubles, was pleased to warn me one night in a dream. I thought I saw my father die, and fall down into hell, which was like fire to my soul; but when I awoke and found it was not a reality, I greatly rejoiced. It left his impression on my mind, 'If my father should go to hell, I cannot lessen his torment there, neither can he assuage my pains.' I thought it was high time for me to look to my own soul, let others do as they would.

"In the year 1820, the Lord was pleased to call me, by the removal of an intimate friend into another world. He was once living in sin and folly, as all in natural state are; but the Lord had called him out of spiritual darkness into his marvellous light, about ten years before his departure; and he died rejoicing in the Lord. When the tidings of his happy death reached me, I was led to exclaim, 'O! that my last end may be like his!' This occurrence left a powerful impression on my mind for several days; and as it was wearing off through attending to the things that are seen, he who guides all things aright,

inclined a brother of the deceased, who also was bound for the kingdom of God, to spend an evening at my father's house; and while he was speaking of God's goodness to him since we saw each other last, and of the gracious dealings of the Lord with his deceased brother, I thought there was something so admirable in his manner of speaking, and in his humble appearance, that I was led to wonder how such a change had taken place in him. When children, we had been playmates together, and whilst I was nursing within myself how this change had been wrought upon his heart, which was so visible in his countenance and manner, it occurred to my mind that it was the grace of God in the heart. After he was gone, I said to mother, 'What a change religion hath made in * * * ; and if religion has done this for him, it is as free for one as it is for another, and it is free for me; I am determined never to rest or give up praying till I have found it.' From that evening I began to pray with all my heart, for that humility I so much admired in my old companion."

The conversation and conduct of this young friend left a deep impression on her mind, which led to her conversion to God. After he had taken his leave of the family, she meditated on the change that the grace of God had made in him, and was encouraged from the consideration that pious as he now was, he had been a sinner as well as herself, consequently there was room for her to hope to be made partaker of that grace. She remarks:—"Although I had now no enlightened friend to converse with, yet the Lord carried on his work; I betook myself to prayer that evening, beseeching the Lord to bestow his grace upon me and pardon all my sins, and continued till the following Tuesday, when I felt a degree of the peace of God which passeth all understanding, but could not fully believe until the 18th of May, 1823. That was the most blessed day I had ever enjoyed.

It was Whit-Sunday; and whilst passing through the fields on my way to church, meditating on the descent of the Holy Ghost on the apostles, on the day of Pentecost; and praying that he might descend on me, I opened to the hymn commencing with

'Let worldly minds, the world pursue;
What are its charms to me;
Once I admired its trifles too,
But grace hath set me free.'

And whilst repeating these words, my soul was set at liberty, I was exceedingly happy, and all below appeared as dung and dross. I proceeded to church and received the holy Sacrament. For some time previous, I had been in the habit of going to the Lord's table in an indifferent manner; but now, for the first time, I received the sacred elements as the tokens of the Saviour's dying love, and my soul was greatly strengthened. In the evening I attended the Wesleyan Chapel about two miles from my father's house. It was a great favour to obtain the consent of my parents, who told me that as we had a good minister in the Established Church, they saw no need of making so much ado, as to go elsewhere; but my mind was led to hear the Dissenters, and when I first came among them, I found the Lord was with them. It seemed like a little heaven below, while singing; and when I heard them pray, I thought that it was in answer to their prayers that my son was brought out of the bondage of sin into the liberty of the children of God. I now felt it my duty

'To tell to all around,
What a dear Saviour I had found.'

"We were six children, but only myself and two younger brothers were now living at home. I began first to make known my feelings to those two brothers, to whom the Lord gave the hearing ear and the

understanding heart; and from this time they began to seek for the pearl of great price which I had found. My parents were not so teachable; they thought at first, that I was too exact, and feared lest I should sustain injury by meditating too much. I pitied their condition, and often prayed to the Lord to enlighten them, and he heard me in their behalf.

"One day as we were at dinner, my parents were relating how they had spent their sabbaths some years before in amusements, and I felt it my duty to ask them what account they would be able to give when they should be called to the bar of God; and father said, 'If no person does any more than that, they will do very well.' 'But,' said I, 'Do you think that if you were to die in your present state, that you would go to heaven?' 'To be sure I should,' he replied. I rejoined, 'Are you born again, father?' 'No,' said he, 'I know I am not born again.' I then said, 'Neither you, nor any other person, will ever go to heaven except they experience that change which our Lord told Nicodemus was indispensable.' He then called me a hypocrite, and told me that I thought myself more religious than any other body; like the Pharisees of old; but he thought every man would be rewarded according to his works. I said, 'If I had been rewarded according to my works, I should now have been in hell; and so, I think, you would too!' 'This enraged him still more, and he said, 'There has been more disturbance in my house about this new religion which you have found out, than there has been ever since I have kept house, and I hope you will say no more to me on that subject.' I was so affected that I burst into a flood of tears, and left the room, saying, 'I will go and pray the Lord to shew you which of us is in the right.' While I was praying, the power of the Lord came upon him, he said, 'I will never interrupt her again, say what she will; it may be she is

t, and I am wrong;' and from that time he began manifest a concern for the salvation of his soul.

About this time the people called Bible Christians came into our neighbourhood. I heard Elizabeth Dart and Francis Metherall, and believed that they belonged to Jesus, and that he had sent them to us. The Lord seemed to prosper his work among them; and many were brought from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God. My father and my two brothers also attended their meetings, and became the subjects of a work of grace, and ever was soon made happy in the love of God, and it his duty as well as his privilege to cast in his amongst his people.

October 21st, 1823, we went to Pontision to church, and Brother Metherall met the class afterwards. Father, brother Jeremiah, and myself, were in our names, and were admitted into the society on trial, for which I have to be thankful; but it was not idle: I had felt many exercises of mind in speaking in the name of the Lord to call sinners to repentance, and the enemy suggested, that if we had joined the Methodists, they would not permit us to do so, and that then I should be able to escape cross. Again I thought if I had not opposed the Lord, I should not have been so tempted. I began then to be encouraged, and Satan fled. These temptations proved a blessing rather than an injury to me. I am persuaded that when a kingdom is divided against itself, it will soon fall. All glory to God, who hath made us far brought me and kept me from falling under the threefold enemy; and I know he is able to keep the end that which I have committed to his charge. November 18th, 1823, my dear brother James came in his name among us to be a follower of Christ. Lord, grant that we may all have our names written in the Lamb's book of life. I have been bound to the kingdom about six months, and am able to

raise my Ebenezer, and say, 'Hitherto hath the Lord helped me.' My path hath been smooth comparatively as yet, and I feel religion to be the only thing that can make me truly happy, either in this world, or in the world to come; and in the strength of the Lord I mean to go on to know him more fully, and to practise what I know.

December 21st. I was appointed Class-leader. We were fifteen who met in Society. I felt myself inadequate for such an important undertaking, but who hath despised the day of small and feeble things? I soon felt it was not displeasing to the Lord; for he blessed me in my office, as well as those committed to my charge,—the good work is going forward, and my class is increasing. O Lord, give them to know, that thou requirest their whole hearts.

"Sometime about Christmas, 1823, I felt it my duty to employ more of my time in the service of God. I have felt this before, and have held a few prayer-meetings on the Sabbath-days, many have attended; and it was deeply impressed on my mind that I must tell my neighbours what the Lord hath done for my soul; but I feared to do so, lest they should think me a proud Pharisee. This temptation kept me back for some time from speaking to them; but at length I was compelled by the love I felt for their precious souls. After giving out the hymn on the 98th page, and repeating these words,—

'Thy precious death, and life, I pray,
Take all, take all, my sins away,'

I trembled on the people's account, because I was persuaded they had been asking God to do what they knew nothing about. I thought if I did not warn them, they would rise up in judgment against me in the last great day; and when I thought of deferring it till the next sabbath, it came to my mind, perhaps this may be the last with some of us. I then took

up the heavy cross, and the Lord was pleased to bless the few simple remarks to many. O Lord give me more of thy Holy Spirit, that I may be more useful in my day and generation.

"31st. F. Metherall preached and afterward held a Love-feast at my father's house; and it was a profitable time to many. One who had been seeking the Lord for some time, was made happy in his pardoning love. A Love-feast was then a strange means of grace to us, it being the first we ever attended; but we partook of the hidden manna which refreshed us, not only then, but for many days after.

"Jan. 4th, 1824. W. Mason held our Quarterly meeting at Shire-Newton. He spoke concerning the incarnation of Christ, and my soul was much blessed. All glory is due to him that sitteth upon the throne.

"About this time I was put on the Local preachers' plan to speak occasionally on sabbath-days, which came in like a flood, I gave way to anger, my comfort and peace fled, I felt condemnation, and was ready to give up all, had not my two brothers laboured to encourage me to look to the Lord and press forward. The next morning I felt very thankful I was not in hell. But my parents were also quite displeased, my mother especially, felt quite angry. However when the time came I went to my appointment, accompanied by my youngest brother. I spoke to a large concourse of people, and felt the fear of man in a great measure taken away. I wanted to feel the evidence that my proceedings pleased God, and in this I felt fully satisfied. The meeting being over, my brother and I returned home, but what did I find when reaching my father's house! my affectionate and indulgent mother was in such a state of mind, as I never saw her in before; her displeasure was kindled into a rage. Oh! what did I feel on her account, to think of the awful state of one so dear to me. The

thoughts of my dear mother's conduct made me tremble; and she hath since with sorrow of heart confessed to me that, she felt more within, than she manifested without. My brother Jeremiah defended my cause as well as he could; but all he could say did not assuage her anger. This caused me to reason, and diligently to inquire of the Lord, to shew me his will. It did not, however, hinder me from following my appointments. The Lord, who saw my helpless state, came to my rescue, and inclined the hearts of my father and two brothers to render me every encouragement they could; and for some time, my brother accompanied me to my appointments. I have felt the importance of so arduous an undertaking, and the thoughts of rousing before I was sent had made me tremble; but I can truly say in the language of the poet;—

"The love of Christ doth me constrain,
To seek the wandering souls of men."

O Lord help me to press onward in the work thou hast for me to do.

"11th. This morning I met my class with a degree of delight; the Lord hath brought us through those few weeks, and not only so, he hath increased the infirm band; and ten more have united with us. Make them, O Lord, living stones in thy church, to go out no more for ever. Bless God he is carrying on his work of grace in many in this place. As to my father's house, it is now like a little Paradise. Our rule is to have family prayer; morning, noon, and night; not using the cold form we used to have; but now we are able to pour out our hearts before the Lord, and we frequently feel our hearts overpowered with the love of God. My brothers, mentioned before, now also begin to labour for God occasionally; and my parents are doing all in their power for God and his people. Bless the Lord for the great

change that hath taken place in our family. 'The Lord hath brought my dear mother to see her lost state in some degree, so that she dares not now attempt to hinder her children from working for God, but rather gives them all the encouragement she possibly can. All the glory to God and the Lamb.'

"Feb. 13th. F. M. and —— called to see us, we joined in prayer; and I scarcely ever felt such a season as I did at that time: the heavens opened, the Lord poured his blessings on our souls, and the holy name of heavenly fire kindled in every heart. O Lord let the reader know what it is to love thee with all his heart, and to feel the heavenly flame glow within his soul. I am afflicted, at this time, and not able to perform my round of duties as usual; but, bless God, he does not forget to cheer his afflicted children; no, I feel it is good to be afflicted;—it has tendency of weaning my soul from earthly objects, and bringing me nearer himself.

"April. I have for a short time past, felt rather darkness and gloominess of soul; and after examining myself, I must conclude it is in consequence of refusing to bear the cross in speaking in public among my old companions in sin. My dear sisters, to whom God has given the talent of speaking in his name, like advice from me;—embrace every opportunity of doing good: when you feel the heaviest cross, expect the greatest blessing. There are many opposed to female Preaching, but as long as I have strength, I believe it is at the peril of my soul if I dare refuse to all sinners to repent and turn to God.

"June 25th, 1824. Mr. W. O'Bryan visited this Circuit, (Monmouth,) and held a love-feast at Unday, which was an antepast of heaven to many souls. On Saturday night he preached at Shire-newton, and afterwards came to my Father's to sleep. The Sunday he accompanied him to Penryan Green, to hold a meeting for divine worship in the open air. A great

many people attended, but the weather proving very unfavourable, we were obliged to leave. At this time I had some feelings about giving myself up more fully to the work of the ministry, and friend O'Bryan would have had me to go with him to Devonport; but my fond mother would not consent to let me go so far from her;—being the only surviving daughter, she was the more unwilling to part with me. I felt myself perfectly resigned to do the will of God. O may I always be so willing to sacrifice all for his glory.

"July 29th. I have been much harassed this last month, through a snare the devil has laid in my way, by one professing godliness, and it is with much difficulty I have escaped the snare of the Fowler; but God has interposed, and through his arm strengthening me, I believe I shall put my foes to flight. Bless God I am conqueror thus far.

"I held a meeting at New-church on Sunday, and was encouraged to go on calling sinners to the Saviour; and was also enabled to hope that I shall have more of the mind that was in Christ brought into my soul, that I may be a fruitful branch in the living vine, so that when I have finished my work, I may be ripe for glory, and be gathered into the garner of the Lord, to rest from all my labours.

"August. I have not made that proficiency in the divine life, which it is my privilege to do; but bless God, I feel I am still in the way. I have felt a backwardness to duty, both in public and private, and am astonished at myself how it is I am so indolent in so great and glorious a cause. May God quicken my soul to a sense of duty. My language is,—

'O for a closer walk with God!
A calm and heavenly frame;
A light to shine upon the road,
That leads me to the LAMB.'

'I feel it a heavy cross to call sinners to repentance, that I could say it was a delight instead of a burden, or task; but I feel the work to be so important, and my weakness and ignorance so great, that it almost makes me come to the conclusion, to speak in public no more; but in those moments I hear the Lord say, 'I am thy strength,—trust in me and be not afraid;—I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.' Another thing, that hath held up my hands and helped me forward is, the Lord has been blessing me in the work, and has never failed in making me a blessing to some one or other of my fellow-creatures. This has again encouraged me, and I have said,—

'I'll bear the toil, endure the pain,
Supported by thy word.'

O Lord give me grace to do thy will on earth, so that when this short life is past, I may hear thee say, 'Well done, good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of thy Lord.'

"November 13th. This day I attended my appointments at Whiteley in the afternoon, and spoke from the words of the Psalmist, 'What is man, that thou art mindful of him?' &c. I was abundantly blest. My soul was humbled in the dust before God, to think that he had been so mindful of such an unworthy creature. All present seemed to be overflowing with gratitude to him who had been so merciful towards them. I proceeded four miles further to Whitebrook, it was the first time I ever spoke there, and as it had been published for a young woman who was a stranger, many came to hear, and the Lord directed me to a portion of his word that attracted their serious attention. My meeting was at six o'clock: in consequence of which I tarried there for the night, and the next morning was invited to see the paper manufactory in the village. One of our friends ac-

companied me, and I found from fifteen to twenty women at work, who had the night before heard me speak. They were from twenty to seventy years of age. This was such a place as I had never been in before, and as I stood in the midst of them their eyes were fastened on me as though they had never seen such a person before. On the previous evening, I had sung a hymn on the sufferings of Christ, which very much struck their attention, and as I stood musing and they sat gazing, one said to another, 'ask her to sing the hymn she sung last night.' This I promised to do on condition that they would seriously attend to the words. I first read it and then made a few remarks on it; and by this time they had all laid aside their work that they might pay the more attention; and while we were thus engaged, we were blessed with a visit from above. I was at this time about twenty-four years of age, but had the appearance of one much younger, which caused the people to be the more astonished. The aged exclaimed, 'O what have we been thinking about all our days, that we have not thought on these things before. We ought to have been able to teach this child, but she is come to tell us things we never heard of before,—why have we not sought this divine wisdom?' Then the tears began to flow, sighs and groans arose almost from every heart, and I began to sing,

'This is the field, the world below.' &c

"I felt it my duty to speak on the subject, they were very attentive to hear, and while I was enforcing the necessity of an inward change in order to be admitted into glory to sing for ever there, our hearts seemed knit together like Jonathan's was with David's. They left their work two hours before the time, to accompany me to the house of prayer, where we held a meeting, and God blessed us together. From thence, I went to Penryvan, and held a meeting with one of

our Preachers, where several of the people from the paper manufactory attended. The Lord condescended to bless us again, and three professed to be made happy in the love of God. O Lord carry on thy work in all our souls, that glory may crown the day, for Christ's sake.

"27th. This day I have suffered much through manifold temptations. Satan has endeavoured with all his art to disturb my peace. He would persuade me there is nothing real in religion, and if there be, he would persuade me I never felt its renovating power. I fought with my adversary for some time, at length the Lord came to my rescue, and brought me off more than conqueror, rejoicing over all my enemies.

"31st. This day I attended my appointment at the Vedew, and the Lord was with us of a truth; my soul was overwhelmed with glory so that I was for some minutes obliged to desist from preaching; and all in the house seemed to catch the sacred flame. In the evening I went four miles further and spoke from 'What is man' &c. I felt liberty in speaking, the congregation was attentive, and I have cause to believe that the Spirit of God was working. This meeting helped me onward in the work of calling sinners to repentance; and also in seeking for that fitness which God hath promised to bestow, in order that I may be made useful; for I am persuaded if we that bear the vessels of the Lord are not faithful, our word will be like sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal. Bless God, I feel a spark of the holy fire burning on the mean altar of my heart, and there may it burn to all eternity.

'Be it my only business here,
To watch, and tremble, and prepare
For that tremendous day.'

My desire is to do the will of the Lord in all things, that I may be found of him in peace when he shall

call me to give an account of my stewardship. Lord grant me the help of thy Holy Spirit to prepare me for heaven.

"Dec. 7th. I still feel it is through much tribulation I shall enter the kingdom of heaven. I have had to pass through many temptations these few days past, and it is as though the host of the bottomless pit was arrayed against me. My way is very rough at present, in consequence of the opposition I have from wicked men, and chiefly from those with whom I once took sweet counsel. Satan has been influencing their minds with craft in order that they may entangle the innocent and bring them into disgrace with themselves. But when I have thought of the weeping and wailings of a backslider in the gulf of misery, I have seen the need of watchfulness. O Lord, deliver me from all my enemies, and turn the hearts of all men. This promise bears me up, 'I will make a way for the ransomed of the Lord to pass over.'

"28th. I am still endeavouring to follow on to know the Lord; and through grace strengthening me, I have conquered in many severe conflicts, and have a hope within of one day coming off more than victorious. I have had many temptations to give up speaking in public, and this day I was ready to say, the burden of the Lord is intolerable:—the cross is more than I can bear. My weakness, and a sense of my inabilities, often bears me down; and were it not for this promise, 'My grace is sufficient for thee,' I should have given up before now.

"Jan. 9th, 1825. Having just entered upon a new space of time, I have been taking a review of my proceedings since I set out on my pilgrimage, and in so doing, I have been convinced that I have been but little other than a barren figtree, and wonder I have not been cut down as a cumberer of the ground. I have also been led to see that if I had been more faithful, how much more I might have enjoyed of

God's love in my soul, and how much more useful I might have been to my fellow-creatures. O Lord, let a sense of my past unfruitfulness, cause me in future to be more zealous in securing salvation.

"The Quarterly meeting was held at my father's house, and Brother H. Major, being the Superintendent of the District, came and preached, and administered the Lord's Supper; and I believe the power of Christ's death and resurrection was felt in many souls. The solemn presence of God seemed to fill the place, and some were made happy, while others received the evidence of the all-clearing blood of Christ. Some were convinced of their desperate state by nature, and from that time became determined to serve the Lord in spirit and in truth. O Lord bring us all into the church triumphant.

"14th. Since the commencement of this month I have had many things to bear; temptations without, and fears within; but the Lord hath helped me hitherto, and delivered me in fierce temptation's hour. He always teaches me something new in time of tribulation; and this encourages me to bear it with more resignation, believing that 'all things work together for good to them that love God.' My language at present is, 'Do with me whatever seemeth thee good, only favour me with a sense of thy approbation, that in all my ways I may please thee, and at last find my way to heaven.

"We have had many precious seasons of late at our family altar: the Lord hath been pleased to pour his Spirit on us in such a gracious manner, that our hearts have been so filled with love, and our mouths with laughter, that we have scarcely been able to speak a word to each other for joy.

"27th, Brother F. Methrell preached and held a love-feast at Coadconner. The Lord was pleased to bless the word and good was done. My Aunt Lewis, who was never in such a place before, was wrought

upon as I afterwards understood. She has since told me that she felt it to be her duty for two months every day at noon to pray, but never once bowed before God; and she also said that she considered these were calls from God, and because she did not answer them, the Lord had called her more loudly by affliction.

"About this time we suffered much persecution from a blind guide, under the following circumstances. A Clergyman's servant who had for some years most strictly followed the ceremonies of the church of England, and I believe had walked as near the road to heaven as possible without being a new creature in Christ; not knowing the privilege of the gospel, continued in darkness, until one day calling upon us, we entered into conversation about being prepared for heaven. I could not at first convince her of the necessity of knowing her sins forgiven; but after some time she mentioned a person whom she said she thought must be a real Christian. I told her that when I saw her I thought she did not carry with her the marks of our divine Master, and as the tree is known by its fruits, I concluded that she was not a real christian. She said she thought there could be no harm in dress, and appeared perplexed, because she was rather inclined to it herself. After some further conversation she said, 'Well, if I am convinced that anything which I have about me is sinful, I am willing to put it away.' She afterwards searched the Bible and found herself guilty in nothing in reference to dress except curling her hair, and sent me word in a few days that she had put that away. This caused me to rejoice and to exercise faith and prayer in her behalf. Soon after she heard a sermon on faith, and being convinced she had not saving faith, she sought it in earnest prayer, till she was so abundantly blessed that she was so happy as she could live; she shouted and praised God so loud, that it disturbed

in the house. She had found 'the pearl of great price,' and began to preach Christ to all around, which alarmed her master, that he sent for a medical gentleman to ascertain her complaint. The gentleman being as blind as his employer, was about to treat her in one delirious. The girl was so happy she could not well contain her feelings, and said, 'I have not the least degree of pain whatever, but am so full of glory, I can scarcely live.' She also said, 'Never by a word against the Moxleys, for they are Christians. I have been a Pharisee, and so are you. I have persecuted them, and have since had to suffer for it. I wish one of them was here to pray for me, that is what I want, and not your medicine.' The doctor and her master now concluded that she was in love with my brother, even to the dethronement of reason. She refused to take medicine, which caused them to use violent means with her, but she told them she would rather die, than tell a lie; 'for,' said she, 'if I die, I am sure of heaven.' Thinking that her complaint increased very fast, they persisted in their work, and as they attempted to drench her, she fell into hysterical fits, in which she lay for three hours, and which so affected her, that she became delirious and which so affected her, that she became delirious for some months, and all the blame was laid to religion. As we had been made the instruments of her conversion, it was laid chiefly on us. Some said that I had talked to her so much about dress, that this had overturned her mind; but bless God, it was his Spirit had converted her soul. May God bring her to glory; and may he hear prayer in behalf of the blind shepherds who undertake to guide the people to heaven, that they may see, lest they and their hearers both perish.

"Feb. 3rd. I have been much exercised in mind respecting the occurrence above mentioned, lest it should wound the infant cause of God in our neighbourhood, and cause the enemies of truth blasphemy

ously to conclude that the work was not of God. The Almighty has however, interposed, and caused even this unusual circumstance to work together for good, especially to the society, as it has given them more fully to see the blindness of some clergymen in reference to the work of grace in the soul. It also led us to trust more in the Lord, and we went on our way rejoicing in him who is able to deliver out of the hands of all opposers. I felt constrained to say with the poet,—

'Not a cloud doth arise, to darken the skies,
Nor hide for a moment the Lord from my eyes.'

"I have felt as if my soul were sinking deeper into God, and my prayer is,

'O for a closer walk with God,
A calm and heavenly frame.'

"The Lord is reviving his work amongst us in this Circuit. All seem to be in earnest,—the word of the Lord is running,—sinners are trembling,—the devil is roaring, and saints are rejoicing.

"20th. I heard Brother J. L. James preach at Whiteley, from the conversion of the Jailer at Philippi, and while he was preaching, one woman fell to the ground as dead, the arrows of God's Spirit entered her heart and she was wounded. As he proceeded with his discourse, he recommended her to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ; she appeared to do so, was made happy, and we left her rejoicing. I returned within a mile of home, and spoke to some who were seeking the Lord, and felt my soul much drawn out in love for souls. I saw the arm of the Lord made bare, three were struck to the heart with the Spirit of the Lord, one found balm to heal his wounded soul, and another continued his suit till the next night, when my two brothers visited him and prayed with him, and the Lord answered prayer, and made him

so happy that he was somewhat like the man that was healed, he leaped and praised God, and exhorted all to seek for the blessing of pardon, assuring them that he had found it. The Lord had taken away his load of guilt, and he rejoiced with joy unspeakable. The Sunday following, I spoke at the same place from these words, 'The Lord's arm is not shortened that it cannot save;' while speaking I felt faith in exercise, the Lord made known to us that he was able to save sinners: three cried aloud for mercy, two were made happy, and one arose clapping her hands, and crying out, 'Help me to praise God, all of you, for what he hath done for my soul.' All glory to God. Many laid hold by faith, and the Holy Spirit came down and filled the place; sinners trembled, and saints rejoiced, having proved that what I had been preaching to them about the arm of the Lord not being shortened, was true; for he heard and answered prayer in the conversion of sinners.

"April 10th. Within this last month I have been much tempted and tried in reference to my speaking in public, the enemy does all he can to discourage me under a sense of my own manifold inabilities for such an important work. Because I cannot understand all the mysteries contained in the Bible, he would have me put my candle under a bushel, that it may go entirely out; but, bless God, I am still determined to use the little talent I have, and earnestly pray for more. God has blessed me in the work, and made me instrumental in bringing some of my fellow-creatures to the knowledge of himself.

"17th. This day I met my class, and held three meetings after; and I have reason to believe my labour was not in vain; for there was one young man in the afternoon so affected, that it was with difficulty he kept himself from falling. At six o'clock I spoke at Barton-Reever, where the Lord sent such a measure of love into my heart, as prevented my speaking

for some minutes. I sat down for some time, after which I endeavoured to proceed again, but could not, for some were crying aloud for mercy, and others were shouting the praises of God.

"19th. I heard Brother F. M. preach from, 'And yet there is room;' and while he was shewing the fulness there was in Christ, I was convinced more fully of my privilege in the gospel. I sought, and before I left the place, I found such a fulness as I had never enjoyed till then. One old man was so overpowered with what he felt, that he fell to the floor.

"22nd. I cannot express with my tongue, nor describe with my pen, what my soul has this day enjoyed. I have been sinking into God; and my soul has been like a well-watered garden. I have been enabled to believe unto full salvation. O Lord, continue thy grace to me, that I may live to thy glory. Amen.

"24th. I spoke at Newchurch, and some of the people seemed to enjoy the love of God. In the evening the Lord was with us in our meeting at Itton's-common. I am astonished when I reflect on the many mercies I daily receive from the hands of my great Benefactor.

"26th. I was much blest to-day while the thunder most awfully rolled in the air; and it was to me as a voice from heaven, saying, 'Examine thyself, O child of man, and see if thou art the character that will be able to stand when the stars shall fall from their orbits, when the elements shall melt with fervent heat, and Christ shall come in the clouds of heaven to judge the quick and the dead?' The reply of my soul was, 'Lord, thou knowest all things, thou knowest that I love thee.' I felt that my feet were on that rock which the thunder could not shake, nor the lightnings burn; for the nearer the thunder came, the nearer I thought I was to God, and the more of glory my soul enjoyed.

“May 1st. F. M. held a Love-feast at my father’s house; and many precious souls spoke feelingly of God’s goodness to their souls. Many were hindered from coming, the morning being very stormy; but the Master of assemblies was present with us, and fed his sons and daughters with the bread of heaven, which made the feast infinitely superior to the banquet that Esther prepared for her nobles. All glory is due to God on high. May we, with thousands more, meet to sing the song of redeeming love for ever and ever, where assemblies never break up, and christians never part. O Lord bring me into that wealthy place for Christ’s sake.

“20th. Many have been the mercies and blessings I have received from the hands of my kind Benefactor since I wrote last, and many efforts have been made by men and devils to disturb my peace and wound my soul; but glory be to God, they have all, thus far, proved abortive; for I am still with my face towards the celestial city, and am determined to fight under the banner of King Jesus. May God help me so to do until I win the field.

“Whit-Monday, 1825. F. Meherall, J. Staddon, Eliza Jew, and others, held the second out-door meeting on the Devauden-Green. Several preached. Our meeting commenced at 10 o’clock in the morning, and continued till 7 in the evening; and the Lord was with his people. We felt it very good to be there, and although the sons of Belial were deeply enraged against us, it was of little consequence; for we could rejoice in tribulation. There were two young men who took a leading part in the persecution, and attempted to throw down all those who professed to serve the Lord; but the Lord laid his hand on them shortly after,—they were smitten with the small-pox, and died. Reader art thou a persecutor of God’s people, and a despiser of the gospel? Take heed to thy ways, and if thou must fight, let it be

with thy equals, and not with God, lest he slay thee with the breath of his displeasure. O! turn to the Lord, and seek his favour.

“Monday, 14th of November. This day the Lord has been bringing me into a closer walk with himself. J. P. held a Love-feast for the four bands at my father’s house; he preached from, ‘Let us go on unto perfection.’ It was a profitable season. I was professed to be made happy in a Saviour’s love. In the Love-feast the presence of the King of glory was felt in our midst, which made the place awful, and it was heart-cheering, to hear the lambs of the flock of Christ, with simplicity of heart, declaring the goodness of God towards them, and praising their heavenly Father for band meetings. They have been made a blessing to me, and I believe to those who meet with me. All praise is due to Jesus, and I hope to give him the glory.

“15th. I have felt the good effects of our Love-feast last night. My soul was truly humbled at our morning family devotions, and I partook of the hidden manna sent down from above. Having for some time past been confined to my habitation through ill health, I felt inclined to take a walk in the open air, and there being a delightful prospect at a little distance from my father’s house, I walked there; and as I passed through the fields, my heart was sweetly contemplating on the fulness there is in Christ, which is accessible to the believer. I wondered at any little proficiency in the divine life; and while beholding the grandeur of the scenery around, the lofty rocks standing in such majestic form, and the river Wye winding and rolling at their feet, I considered they displayed the wisdom and power of God, the maker of all things.

“January 21st, 1826. Having just entered on a new year, and given myself afresh to God, I have this day realized its good effects. I was greatly indispo-

ed in body, but this did not hinder me from attending my plan, neither did it prevent the Lord's blessing from descending. My first plan was at 10 o'clock. I walked four miles, and the Lord graciously remembered me, breathed the spirit of prayer into my heart, and his power was generally felt in the meeting. There were four persons who came 18 or 20 miles that morning to hear me, and the Lord blessed them with renewed desires to live for eternity. I afterwards thought to have heard a sermon at the Wesleyan Chapel at 2 o'clock, but after waiting for some time, and no preacher coming, the friends desired me to take his place. I felt reluctant, but could not well refuse. The congregation was large. I exhorted, and the Lord was present to bless, so that many were melted into tears. I afterwards attended my own appointment at 6 o'clock with difficulty, but my strength was equal to my day. Many of those who attended in the morning and afternoon were present again in the evening, and seemed to pay all possible attention to what was said, until we were interrupted by some persecutors, and the boys put the dogs to fight in the street which disturbed the whole congregation. Lord lay not this sin to their charge, is my sincere prayer.

* 29th. It was with great difficulty I spoke twice at Newchurch, and at Iron's-common; but the Lord was in our midst, and applied the word spoken in much weakness with power to some hearts. While I was showing forth our privilege to grow in grace, some were stimulated, I believe, in their way to Zion. All glory is due to thy name, O Lord. I have many times thought, if I should meet but one in eternal glory that God had made me a blessing to, I should not think my toil too great; but I trust my aim will always be to gain as many souls as I can from the great destroyer of mankind. O Lord, give me the wisdom of the serpent, and the harmlessness of the dove.

* Feb. 12th. I spent a comfortable day. I led my class in the morning, and the Almighty power was felt in our midst. True and vital piety is increasing in this society, and many of the members seem to be established in grace.

"In the afternoon I had the pleasure of receiving two of my brothers, who had long absented themselves from home on account of our new religion, as they termed it. I have cause to thank God that it is not now as it once was, the Lord hath heard prayer in their behalf; their prejudice is softened down, and what they were set against before, they now approve of, and I hope as our peace is restored, our unity will be strengthened. I hope one is under the influence of divine grace; he scarcely knows how to leave our company. May his good desires never wear off. He hath also become a subscriber to our Chapel fund. I can truly say the lion is become a Lamb. He was the greatest opposer I ever met with, but now I hope he is made willing to go to glory with me. All praise to God and the Lamb.

* 19th. I attended my plan at six o'clock, at Cross-hands, and spoke from these words, 'The fear of man bringeth a snare; but whoso putteth his trust in the Lord shall be safe.' I felt a degree of liberty in speaking, and the people seemed to feel under the word. I carried the following day with a few of the Lord's friends who are Methodists, but who have frequently left their own meetings to attend ours. They were not willing that I should be idle, so they proposed to have a meeting, and sent around to say that I would preach that night at the Methodist Chapel. To this I objected, lest the friends should be reproved for it by their own preachers; but it was in vain for me to say, nay; for they said I was to go into the Chapel. I felt it a great cross to go into the pulpit, but to oblige others rather than myself, I went. About sixty people had come together, and I

spoke to them with a degree of liberty from, 'The master is come, and calleth for thee.' I felt love for the souls of my fellow-creatures, and the Lord was pleased to water the congregation with his Holy Spirit.

"23rd. My band met as usual. At the commencement our minds were very solemn, we spoke very freely to each other of the temptations of satan; but out of them all the Lord had delivered us. I have had many temptations to pass through since I wrote last: my inward conflicts have been severe; but bless God, his hand upheld me, and brought me safely through, and in these hours of trial, he hath, at different times, led me by the water-brooks of his love, and refreshed me and strengthened my soul for the conflict. I can still cast my care on Jesus, whose I am, and whose I hope to be, in life, in death, and to all eternity.

"March. I am still the subject of temptation, but am passing through the tempestuous ocean of this world, towards the land of rest that is promised to me, and all those who prove faithful unto death. I have had many inward conflicts to bear, which God who searches the heart, only knows, but in the midst of all, I think I am able to say, 'All things work together for good, to them that love God.' It may be that I have put too much confidence in mortals, and the Lord hath taught me by experience, that vain is the help of man. May I take for my example the only begotten of the Father, who is full of grace and truth, and who was never known to err. Help me, O Lord, to

'Trace thy example, the world to disdain,
And constantly trample on pleasure and pain.'

"O what a mercy will it be, if I overcome all my enemies, and gain the mountain top. O help, thou omnipresent Being, or I never shall.

"April 9th. This day I accompanied J. P. and H.

Pearce to the preaching on the foundation stone of our new Chapel in the parish of Lanvackus. This is the first Chapel that our people have begun to build in this Circuit; a great many came together, and the Lord was with us indeed. I felt fully persuaded that this Chapel will be for the glory of God, and the good of precious souls. O Lord, maintain thine infant cause.

"10th. I attended our Local Preachers' Meeting at the Glyn, and we had no reason to doubt but what the Master of assemblies was in our midst; and while our characters were being examined, all our hearts seemed to be open to receive reproof or instruction. I see it is the only way to keep out errors, to attend to discipline, as one was left off the plan for inebriation. Several speakers addressed the meeting in the evening; the congregation was large, and the solemn presence of God was felt among us. Four vile persecutors were very much wrought upon, and appear to be diligently seeking salvation. O Lord, save them to the day of thy coming, for thy mercy's sake.

"14th. J. P. Held a love-feast at my father's house; and many were present on the occasion. The power of God was felt, some shouted his praises, while sinners exclaimed, 'I have sinned, what shall I do?' Three were made happy in the love of God,—the Spirit of agonizing prayer rested on believers,—heaven was opened, and blessings descended. To God alone, be all the praise.

"I have had the care of twenty-five souls for some time past; but the number being increased to thirty-three, the class is divided. O Lord, instruct me how to act that part which thou requirest of me, that at last I may give up my account with joy, and meet them at thy right hand, when thou comest to judge the world in righteousness.

"21st. I feel at a loss for language to express my gratitude to God who has bestowed so many benefits

on such an unworthy creature. This day has been a profitable one to my soul. I have had fresh discoveries of God's goodness, and also of my unworthiness, to receive any good thing from his hands. I have had a view of my privileges as an adopted child into the family above; and, bless God, my soul is longing for a closer communion with the Father, Son, and Spirit. O Lord,

Stuk me in the purple flood,
And rise into the life of God.

"23rd. I accompanied my brother James to the Dev-auden Green, and held an out-door meeting; we both spoke to a large and attentive audience: there was not any particular work to be seen, but I had the happiness to find that some felt what they never felt before. May God complete the work begun, and he shall have the glory. I returned to my evening meeting, and I think I never felt so much delight in the work of calling sinners to God, as I did then. I could boldly say,

'I am bound for the kingdom,
Will you go to glory with me?'

to which, one replied, with much earnest simplicity, 'yes, I'll go to glory with thee, if it be through floods and flames; and many present were ready to say the same. O Lord, help us all to endure to the end, that we may be saved for Christ's sake.

"May 23rd. I accompanied J. P. Hannah Pearce, and J. H. Eyrion, to the Old Passage, near Chert-stow, and spoke in the open air to most of the inhabitants of the place. There is no Dissenter's meeting in this place, and as the parish church is between three and four miles off, the people seldom visit it; and their shepherd so called, never visits this place, except it be at a ball, or some entertainment, or when some minister of the gospel happens to come by that

way and gives them a word of exhortation, then he goes down and tells them that he is their Shepherd, and if they listen to other teachers they are going astray; for such are the false prophets and teachers. One man answered him, 'No sir, they are not; for we can go home and read in our Bibles what they tell us.' Our preaching appeared like a new thing to them, and they seemed to receive it with readiness. One came running after us, to inquire of us how we obtained pardon, and said she should be glad to find it that night.

"The same evening my two brothers held a meeting near home, and three souls were convinced of sin, and brought into such distress of mind, that they were constrained to pray on the road before they reached home, and while these were enabled to rejoice in the Lord, more were wounded in spirit. One child said, 'I never gave my heart to God till now,' and began to declare to all present what God had done for her soul, exhorting all to give themselves to him; for, said she, 'I am happy.'

"The Lord hath delivered me out of many conflicts, and I believe that all these things are working together for my good. Praise God, I feel determined to strive for a mansion in glory, though earth and hell oppose. The Lord hath applied his promises, like balm, 'I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.' Through affliction of body I have not been able to attend my plan, as regularly as usual, but when I have spoken, the Lord hath been with me, and our meetings have been crowned with his presence. O! how good the Lord is to accept of our unworthy services. Though I have not made that proficiency in the divine life that I might have done, had I been more earnest in prayer, and been more on my watch-tower; yet, praise the Lord, I have still a conscience void of offence towards God and man. The Lord hath brought me by a way that I knew not, and I am persuaded, he that

ath brought me safe thus far, will save me to the end, and cause my soul to soar to the regions of glory, where all the royal host of blood-washed sinners, will meet to range the plains of the celestial city; and where no hypocrite nor false professor shall have admittance, without first being washed in the blood of the Lamb. May God save us all from formality.

"28th. Met my class this morning, and found it a soul-reviving season. In the afternoon I heard my brother James preach at the Yedew. The Lord was with him. I spoke at Woolves-Newton at 6 o'clock. My congregation was small, but very attentive. Being invited that night to a Farm house, where a large family resided, I accepted the invitation. I entered into serious conversation with them about eternal things, and hope the mother and eldest daughter are under the teachings of the Holy Spirit, and will soon be brought to enjoy the love of God.

"29th. I attended the Wesleyan Missionary Meeting at Chepstow. I greatly enjoyed the meeting, and the language of my heart hath been for several days, 'Lord send the gospel-sound of salvation to the remotest parts of this habitable earth.'

"June 3rd. Took tea this evening with an Independent minister at Chepstow, a very agreeable and liberal spirited man. He said he should wish that all would endeavour to promote the kingdom of Christ. 'I have been looking forward,' said he, 'to that happy period when sects and parties would all be forgotten, and all should harmoniously agree to sing the everlasting song of redeeming love.' And when I was about to take my leave of him, he heartily prayed that God would bless me in all my pious endeavours.

"4th. This morning brings the sabbath of the Lord. It was appointed that the Society which had been divided for some time, should meet altogether

at my father's house, and that instead of a class-meeting, us usual, to hold a union meeting. About 40 attended; and many spoke freely of the dealings of God with them. The sacred flame of divine love was kindled in the hearts of many, especially my father and mother, who were very happy. All glory be to God and the Lamb.

"11th. My appointment was at Newchurch in the afternoon, where I spoke with a degree of liberty to an attentive congregation. In the evening I met my brother James at the Devauden-Green, and assisted him in holding the meeting. I was quite pleased to see this once rude people, now listening so attentively to the world of life.

"12th. J. P. held a Love-feast at Brockwear-Common. I, with my father, and brother Jeremiah, accompanied him, and I had a blessed season. The people spoke with great simplicity, so that it was quite animating to hear those who were but babes in Christ declaring what the Lord had done for them. The heavenly fire was kindled in our hearts, and our souls were on wing for glory.

"O how many and great have been God's mercies towards me! I feel my soul replenished day by day with the dew of his heavenly grace, which causes me to exclaim, 'I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.'

"June 26th. This day our Quarterly Meeting was held at our house, and a Love-feast was held after preaching. Many spoke clearly of their conversion to God, and others declared that the blood of Christ cleanseeth from all sin. One dear old man in the simplicity of his heart said, 'I would rather be burnt to death in a thousand loads of faggots, than deny my blessed Jesus.' My soul thirsted after God, and bless his name, he gave me to taste of the waters of salvation.

"July 9th. This day I rode 20 miles, and spoke

twice : after the morning service I was insulted by one who once ran well ; she told me I was a hypocrite, that I was in a wrong spirit, and all the people in the Connexion to which I belonged, were all prompted to spiritual pride ; but bless God she was deceived in me. I fear she was in that spirit herself. It was through great temptations that I attended my plan, for satan endeavoured to use this woman as an instrument to drag my soul beneath his feet ; but this effort, as all others that he hath made use of yet, was in vain. For instead of damping my zeal, it caused me to be thankful that I was steering my steady course for Canaan, and taking Jesus for my example while travelling through this vale of tears. In the evening I spoke to a large and attentive congregation at Shire-newton, and felt divinely assisted. All glory to God and the Lamb for ever.

“ 14th. This evening I attended a meeting at Barton Reeves, and to my surprise, at the conclusion of the same, I was accused of being a peace-breaker, and most shamefully abused by one that had met in my class, and who, for a while walked in the good way ; but as he had forsaken the good way, had repeatedly broken our rules, and after being admonished repeatedly, had continued to walk inconsistently, I could not consent for him to meet any longer in my class ; and because of this, he was enraged against me. I believe I had given him all the instruction and advice I was capable of, and trust I am clear of his blood. He also threatened that he would take my life away, but the Lord who is the defence of his people, did not permit him to lay the weight of his hand on me, although he seemed quite bent on revenge. In his passion he abused many of the congregation, loaded a gun, and declared he would shoot them ; but his brother, who is a member of society with us, and a pious man, laid hold of the gun, turned the muzzle of it in another direction, pulled the trigger,

and fired it off, while he still continued to breathe out threatenings against God and his people. Reader art thou a backslider from the ways of the Lord. Take heed lest this should be thy case ; for they who serve Satan, are more or less under his influence. O what I have to be thankful for, when I look around and see how many snares of men and devils the Lord hath brought me safely through.

“ August 10th. To-day I went to my appointment, and felt the Lord's presence with me ; my audience were very attentive, and many seemed deeply affected.

“ 11th. I have visited an old gentleman who is a professed infidel, and asked him to become a subscriber to our Missionary cause, which he readily did, yea much more readily than many professors of religion. May the Lord give him light and grace and save his precious soul. I think of late the Lord hath given me more zeal for his cause, and more love for his saints. Sometimes I have lately felt overwhelmed with the love of God, especially at our family altar. O how good the Lord is to me from day to day ! All glory be ascribed to his precious name. My class is in a prosperous state, and my Father, Mother, and two Brothers, are all on fire to be swallowed up in love. The language of our hearts, hath been,

‘ O love Divine I how sweet thou art,
When shall I find my willing heart,
All taken up by thee.’

“ September 17th. I accompanied H. Major to the opening of our new Chapel in the parish of Lanvachus. This being the first Chapel our people have erected in the Monmouth Circuit, H. Major Preached at 1 o'clock, W. C. Rowland spoke after him, C. Blake Preached at 6 o'clock, and I spoke after. A great many people attended from many parts of the Circuit, so that the little Chapel was greatly crowded, and a

number could not get in, but all seemed very attentive. Our collection was something above £10. A cloud of glory seemed to rest on the place all the time we were assembled, and the dew of heaven seemed gently to fall on us all,—heaven was smiling, and saints rejoicing, that another temple was dedicated to the service of the living God. May the Lord Jesus become the chief corner stone of the church within these walls, that the torrents of temptation, nor floods of persecution, may never be able to move one of these spiritual stones, so that when the chapel is shaken, the church may remain immovable, until it is transplanted to the regions of eternal glory. O may my lot be always cast with Jesus's living witnesses.

"26th, I attended our Quarterly meeting. H. Major, and C. Blake, both spoke. A Love-feast was held afterward, and I believe it was a time of general good. I felt such a nearness to God, and such a union with his people, as language cannot describe, were I to attempt it. All the glory be given to God, who deigns to visit and bless such an unworthy worm as I am.

"Oct. 8th. Filled my appointments to-day. Spoke in the morning at 10 o'clock, and in the evening at 6 o'clock, to I suppose more than a hundred people, most of them persecutors, and my soul was drawn out in an agony of prayer for their hardened souls. I believe I am clear of their blood. May the arrows of the Lord enter sinners' hearts, that they may never rest till they yield them up to God to be healed.

"One of my old playmates called to see us who left our neighbourhood some years ago, and now pays us a visit, for which I hope we shall have to praise God to all eternity. The day she came she seemed to be quite uncomfortable, and soon left with a promise that she would call again to-morrow, which she did; and by much persuasion she tarried with us for the night. After being with us some time, she observed,

with astonishment, the change that had taken place in Father, and admired the reformation in all. As it was our custom to have family prayer three times a-day, and perhaps she was never in a family before where this duty was kept up, the contrast was so great, that she was led to admire the change the Lord had wrought; and while at family prayer, the Lord touched her heart, she saw her lost state, and was led to inquire what she must do to be saved. She felt great distress; but the Lord in mercy soon spoke peace to her soul, and shed his pardoning love abroad in heart. She is now rejoicing in the Lord, and thankful that ever she came to my father's house. When she returned home I accompanied her, and found her mother, brother, and three sisters, asleep in nature's night. I continued with them a fortnight, but, O! what a contrast between their house, and the little paradise I had enjoyed at home; for instead of the Bible, there were the cards; instead of the language of Canaan, the language of hell; and instead of a family-altar erected for prayer and praise to God, a bench of triflers till 10 or 12 o'clock at night. Think, O Reader, how such practices must grieve the truly pious mind. This village may well be compared to Sodom, and my soul to righteous Lot,—shops open on Sundays, as well as other days; but I believe the hand of Providence was in my going there, and I have reason to believe it was for good; for before I left, a great reformation took place in the family. They began to regard the Sabbath; and instead of jesting, became serious in their conversation; and instead of trifling, would unite with me in prayer. Those who despised the Methodists when I came, now seemed to admire our way as being right, and promised to receive the ministers of the Gospel. To thy name, O Lord, be all the glory.

'O Jesus ride on, till all are subdued,
Thy mercy make known, and sprinkle thy blood,
till all shall know thee. Amen.

"Nov. 25th. This day I went to take tea with a friend, and as I was passing by a neighbour's house, I called merely out of compliment; and unexpectedly fell into conversation with a young minister belonging to the Established Church. He formerly was an acquaintance of mine, but I had not seen him to converse with him since I left the church, so called. This led to an inquiry into each other's creed, and I found that while I advocated the doctrine of holiness, he was a zealous advocate for sin. We held a contention for nearly an hour. He told me I had wrong notions of the scriptures. I asked him if he knew the meaning of that plain truth, 'Without holiness no man shall see the Lord?' He replied, 'Does not St. John say, If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves?' I said, 'Sir, if you please, read the following verse,' (but this he left for me to do); 'If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive our sins; and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.' And, said I, 'if he cleanse from a l.t. sin, there can none remain. Also it is said, 'He that is born of God doth not commit sin.' 'No,' he replied; 'not willfully.' I said, 'Take heed what you say, you are adding to the Scriptures. It is said he doth not commit sin.' 'But,' he replied, 'the heart is deceitful.' 'Yes,' I said, 'but you are applying those portions to the regenerate soul, that belong to the unregenerate; we are speaking of the children of God by adoption. Do you not recollect reading, that God will take away the heart of stone, and will give them a heart of flesh, and that he will write his laws upon their hearts?' 'Yes,' said he, 'but the old one still remains.' I said, 'How can that be? God says he will take it away.' Our conversation continued for some time, till at length he arose to leave, saying, he could not enter into my creed. I told him I was of his opinion long enough, and hoped I should never be an advocate for the devil again. So I left, requesting him to

seek wisdom from above, that he might know the difference between a converted and an unconverted man, so that he might know how to apply the scriptures to sinners and saints, and that he would seek a change in his own heart that we might meet in heaven.

"June 11th, 1827. I have for some months neglected recording my proceedings in the way to Zion, for which I feel somewhat accused in my mind, as having neglected a duty. I have had many conflicts, temptations, and trials, to pass through, and in consequence of this, I have neglected my diary, so that many of God's mercies must remain buried in oblivion till the great day: but bless the Lord, the floods have not overcome me, nor the fire consumed me as yet, and still,

'This note above the rest shall swell,
My Jesus hath done all things well.'

"Nov. 18th. In the past week I had an invitation to go to Ponty-pool, our people having lately taken it in for preaching. I accepted the invitation, and in order to accomplish my journey with ease, I left home on Tuesday, and called at my uncle's near Usk, and tarried for the night. The next day I proceeded on with the intention of holding a watch-night, with Brother Kemneys, at Clytha-hills; but in consequence of my ill state of health, and the roughness of the weather, I could not go; so I continued at Landinny, instead of proceeding to Ponty-pool, where I first intended to go. On Friday night I was pressingy invited to preach in the Methodist Chapel, with which request I complied: a great many people came to hear, and the Lord was in our midst. They published for me to speak again on the Sunday, if no preacher came, as they did not much expect one, having been disappointed for two Sundays before. The people seemed glad that they were sure of some

one to preach to them, so it was soon published in every direction that a female was going to preach, which brought together a great many to hear: some of whom had never been in the Chapel before, and many had not been to a place of worship for years. The Lord gave me liberty in speaking from, 'Many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.' The people seemed to feel the power of God's word, and after I came out several were contending who should have me to take tea with them. In the evening I spoke about a mile distant, and had most of my congregation to speak to again, and they felt such a desire to have me to continue with them, that some of them consulted together to give me a stated salary. I returned home on Monday, almost worn out with fatigue; but my language was, O Lord give me strength of body that I may publish thy word. I feel I must decline in some degree for a season, from so much exertion in public.

"25th. This day I have been confined to the house in consequence of a feeble body, but not confined from receiving instruction from my heavenly Father. I have felt the Holy Spirit moving on my heart, which enabled me to say,

'Labour is rest, and pain is sweet,
If thou my God art here.'

"December 2nd. In the past week I applied to a medical gentleman respecting my health, and carried a few miles from home with some of my relations, who were all strangers to God and godliness, which caused me to lament their awful state; but praise God, he gave me encouragement to speak of the way of holiness, and I hope some were led to admire the grace of God, and others said they were astonished that a person so young as I was should think so much about another world. I remained nearly a week with them, and I hope my visit was for good,

for we felt it a great trial to part. I spent some time with the doctor's wife, she seems to be a clever woman, sensible that it is only the grace of God that can make her completely happy, and expressing a strong desire to obtain it when I left her. I was introduced to several families, with which I prayed, and I am persuaded, if they had the gospel preached in its purity among them, that many of them would become Christians. O what a privilege to have an enlightened ministry! This day has been a profitable one to my soul, while reflecting on the goodness of God towards me and those around me; for having brought light into our benighted hearts, while so many remain in nature's night.

"9th. Brother C. B. renewed our Quarterly tickets this morning. Faith seemed to be in lively exercise, and all expressed strong desires after God and his ways. As it respects myself, I felt my heart drawn out towards heaven, and after divine things, and I hope to make greater progress in the divine life. Though my spirits are often weighed down in consequence of the frailty of my body, yet I feel I have an unshaken confidence in God, and can say as this tabernacle of clay is dissolving, I have an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. I have reason to hope that God by his Spirit is purifying me daily, to meeten me for that blest house.

"30th. I have been under the hands of a physician these last few weeks, and the Lord hath blessed the means. In some measure my bodily health is repaired for the time; but a cure has not been completed. Bless God for a little strength, it is valuable. Lord help me to spend it to thy glory. I have felt a loss in not being able to attend my plan, in consequence of a liver complaint; and I have been told by one of the medical gentlemen that has attended me, that I must desist from preaching if I will enjoy health. It seems hard to give up as long as I can attend; but I

hope the Lord will make me resigned to his will, if it be more for his glory for me to suffer than to enjoy health, his will be done. Some think it is not right for women to preach; but I am fully persuaded that God hath called me to speak in his name, occasionally, though I am not convinced that he hath called me to give myself wholly to the work; but may be prosper those whom he hath sent. I am a witness that he hath made them useful in his hands, in converting many souls to himself; and for this cause, no doubt, men and devils are alarmed, and would drive them out of the field; but may the Lord work by whom he will work; and may his kingdom come with mighty power. Amen.

“January 1st. 1828. I bless God that I am still in the body. Having entered on a new space of time, I have renewed my covenant with God, and promised in this sacred hour, for him to live and die. May I ever keep in mind the vow I have made;—and never more forsake God, nor cast his words behind me. I have not been travelling Zion-ward without interruption from the threefold foe; for in the last few months, my grace hath been tried every way. Satan hath used his arts, men have used their schemes to endeavour to keep me from bearing the cross, and the flesh hath not been backward in putting in its plea for ease and comfort; but this voice hath been loudest, ‘It is the will of God.’

“February 3rd. This day I attended my plan at Whitelye and Penmyran. I had some degree of liberty, and although in consequence of my lowness and extreme weakness, my duty sometimes proves a task, yet the Lord does not disdain to visit his unworthy child.

“18th. To-day in my return from my yesterday’s appointments, I took tea at a farmer’s, and after tea we had some profitable conversation together. Six of the family accompanied me to a prayer-meeting

that we held at a poor old woman’s house in the parish of St. Arvans. The God of Elijah was with us of a truth. Several attended, and I have reason to believe that some will have to praise God for ever for the establishment of the meetings there. The poor old woman professes to be made happy in God, and others seem to be much reformed. To God be all the glory.

“March 1st. This day I began my journey to my plan at Pontypool, accompanied by C. B. My father sent me seventeen miles with a horse; and we arrived there about five o’clock in the afternoon.

“2nd. Accompanied by several friends, this morning we went three miles on the Welsh Hills, where we met brother Thomas Howells. I spoke at 10 o’clock, and he spoke after me. It was a very impressive time. The people never heard a female preach before; they were very kind, and I had a pressing invitation to come again. We returned to our appointment in the afternoon at the Japan meeting-house, in Pontypool; many attended, and the power of God was felt. I spoke from, ‘O let the wickedness of the wicked come to an end.’ I felt my soul humbled to see all the people in tears, so that I could scarcely proceed. I took tea with a friendly Methodist; we spent a comfortable evening together, and all the family accompanied me to the six o’clock meeting. Brother Howells spoke first, and I spoke after him, from these words, ‘Be ye also ready.’ I suppose there were 200 people in the room. It was a solemn season. Rich and poor were met here, and what good was done, eternity will unfold, when the glory shall redound to God.

“3rd. We visited many people and found them very kind, walked ten miles, and spoke to a large but ignorant congregation; and the Lord made bare his arm and wounded some with the Spirit’s sword. O

may nothing heal the wound but the all-cleansing blood of the Lamb of God.

"5th. I proceeded a few miles and spoke to many people, and although I did not feel much liberty, yet I had the pleasure to find that others felt it good to be there; many seemed very kind to us though they were strangers to God. O how much faithful labourers are needed, as in these parts there are many uncultivated spots. We have still need to pray to the Lord of the harvest to send out more labourers into his field; and may thousands yield to the word of truth.

"6th. I came to the Ton, took tea, and then spoke in the Wesleyan Chapel to about 150 people. I believe good would be done here if it were attended to; but they are left for several weeks together without a preacher.

"Sunday 30th. I attended my plan at Undy and Sea-moor-hill. The Lord was near to bless; and this day I felt a delight in his work.

"April 13th. I went the second time to Pontypool. I rode there on Saturday, to attend my appointments on the Sunday, and was gladly received. In the morning I spoke at a place three miles above Pontypool, in a new Chapel, to a great many people, and then came back to town, and spoke in the afternoon and evening to many attentive hearers, I suppose 200 or more. The Lord made the word a blessing to many, especially to one old gentleman, who sent for me to come to his house. I went, and he told me that his house should be a home for the preachers; he and his nephew joined the society.

"14th. I came six miles out of Pontypool with C. B. and held a meeting. It having been published for a female to preach, many were gathered together; and there were some broken-hearted sinners among them. O Lord let the healing balm be applied to make them whole.

"15th. I returned to a place six miles beyond Pontypool, and spoke several times at different places, and the Lord seemed to open all the way before me. I met with many kind friends; one man gave me a pound note to help the cause, and others gave me money to bear my expenses; but I gave it all to the cause of God. I see the Lord is able to melt the hardest heart. He is making a way for his word. O Jesus ride on till all are subdued.

"18th. I returned to the Welsh hills, spoke there at night, some seemed to receive the word gladly, and I trust good was done. I feel but little satisfaction if the end be not answered in saving souls. It is to this end I am persuaded that the Lord sends his word from place to place by his servants.

"19th. I came from Abercarn to Pontypool, and the Lord was with us, and that to bless.

"21st. I rode to Usk on my journey home with satisfaction in my soul, crying, 'It is done as thou hast commanded, and yet there is room.'

"29th. I visited my aunt Lewis who is at the point of death. She had long lingered with a cancer in her breast, which terminated in death a few days after I saw her. She was much involved in the cares of this world, while in health and strength. She had much to attend to, and a large family to care for, and sometimes when I have advised her to seek the Lord, she would weep and express a desire to live to God, and also to train up her children to do so; at other times she was tempted to think she had no time to serve her Maker. But when brought down by affliction, her views became altered, she felt ashamed of her past conduct, sought and found the Lord, and in the midst of her racking pains, could rejoice in God for all his benefits, and especially for the lingering illness which hath been so sanctified, as to bring her to Christ. 'Had I hearkened to his calls,' she exclaim-

ed, 'he would not have afflicted me so severely; but praise his name, that he hath called, and I have answered.' She died praising God. My brother James spoke in the house the Sunday following from these words, 'Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord, &c.' where there was a mourning husband and nine children lamenting the loss of a careful and industrious wife, and a tender affectionate mother. O Lord, sanctify this trial to the everlasting good of them all, for Christ's sake.

"May 11th. The Lord accompanied me to my appointments, and in some measure blessed the word he sent by me. To his name is the glory due. I spoke twice and walked 12 miles; and as the work is the Lord's, I can trust in him that it shall not be in vain, may I be able to say at last.

"I have finished the work Thou didst give me to do."

"18th. I still find that the world is opposed to Christ and his people, and satan fails not to attempt to overthrow the kingdom of God below; he hath turned some out of the narrow way, and his servants are rendering him all the aid they can, so that what he cannot do himself, he makes use of his servants to accomplish; but, bless God, he hath not gained his end altogether, for God hath a cause still on the earth, and he will maintain it. Many of my class met this morning and spoke with boldness their determination to be on the Lord's side: some said that they would rather die than give up their profession; and others said they were determined to fight until they died under the banner of Christ Jesus. Glory to God, there is a goodly company travelling Zion-ward, who I hope will gain the heavenly rest. O Lord help us on. Some have been meeting in my class every Sunday morning for these five years past. And O how many favours God hath shown us, since we have met and spoken often one to another like his people did

in days of old. We have seen many changes, but God's love is lasting, and always makes the possessor happy.

"August 25th. Since I last recorded the dealings of God with me, I have had many inward conflicts and outward trials: some from the world, which I live in daily expectation of, as well as temptations from the prince of the air; but I have found harder conflicts from those whom I have too much depended on as friends,—some false professors, as well as some who are bigoted in notions that are inconsistent with the word of God. Also I have had the heartfelt trial to part with my brother James. He left home the 14th instant, to preach the everlasting Gospel. His first appointment is in the County of Kent. It was a greater trial than I expected it would have been; but as it is the will of God, I hope to be resigned. May God bless his labour of love. Some think it is ease and worldly gain that induces men to preach the Gospel. I allow it may be the case with some, but not with all; for many lose all hopes of worldly gain, and sacrifice comfortable homes and kind friends to go to preach the word of life, as did my brother and thousands more; and while their eye is single, God will reward them according to his promise."

As her brother James entered upon the work of an itinerant minister after the Conference of 1828, and through that circumstance was removed to a distance from the family, she maintained a correspondence with him. She also sent two letters to one of the members of her class who was removed to a distance. And after her removal from her friends through our marriage, which took place the following spring, she frequently wrote to her relatives and friends. The following extracts from her correspondence, with occasional selections from her Diary, will exhibit the state of her christian experience, from that period down to a short time before she exchanged worlds.

[TO HER BROTHER JAMES.]

*"Porthcassegg, Sept. 7th, 1828.**"MY VERY DEAR BROTHER,*

"We received your welcome letter, and as an unexpected opportunity has offered itself, I gladly embrace it to send you a few lines. The work of the Lord is still prospering here: we have had some good times since you left. I felt it a very great trial to part with you, and all around seemed to lament your going from home. I never saw Brother Jeremiah on any occasion so affected before, it seemed as though his very heart were divided in twain, and for a time there seemed to be a vacancy in every place as if you had left the world and carried all comfort with you; but the Lord who hath taken you away, is making up some of these vacancies, by coming more fully into our hearts, and we are now glad to hear of your comfortable situation, and contentment of mind; and our daily prayer is that you may have prosperity in your work.

"Dear Brother, you must expect to have trials from quarters you never had before; but look to him who gave you your commission; he hath said, 'My grace is sufficient for thee;' and he will give you all you need. Our old Friend, and Brother in the Lord, John Cook, died on the third instant, happy in the Lord, and hath left a bright testimony behind him, that he is gone home to glory. O that we may all live holy, that we may die in peace, and be happy for ever.*

"I must now commend you to God, hoping always to hear of your well-doing in spiritual concerns; do take care of your body. Be careful of yourself in speaking and singing, and may God bless you for ever, is the prayer of your affectionate Sister,

"CHARLOTTE MOXLEY."

* J. Cook was one of the first ripe fruits of the Bible Christian ministers in the Monmouth circuit.

(To Anna Lewis, one of her class, who was removed to a distance.)

*"Porthcassegg, Sept. 17th, 1828.**"MY DEAR ANN,*

"I have sent you your Magazines at your mother's request; and I have also sent your ticket.

"I long to see you to know how your soul prospers in the divine life. I feel quite anxious to hear from, or see you. Are you still going on in the way that leads to the New Jerusalem, the saints' delight? And is your journey prosperous? Have you Christ in your heart—heaven in your eye—the world under your feet—and satan a conquered foe? If this be your frame of mind; may I not say, Blessed are the people that are in such a state; and happy are the people that have the Lord for their God. Do you ask why? I answer because God is their Father, and hath promised to be their everlasting Friend; Christ is their refuge and rock of defence, their supporter, and their elder Brother: and heaven is their home, where they are longing to be, where God sits on his great white throne, and all his holy hosts worshipping at his feet. O my dear Ann, shall you and I be there, where God dwelleth in all his splendour, worshipped and magnified by all the hosts above; and where nothing but his praise is heard to all eternity. Here our ears hear many unpleasant sounds, and our eyes see many grievous things; but there will be joy and blessedness for evermore. O Lord bring thy people safe through life's tempestuous ocean, into the port of glory. Dear Sister, keep the prize in view, and

*'Press through storms of every kind,
And leave all worldly cares behind,
To gain a crown above.'*

"I have the pleasure to inform you that we are going on nearly in the same way as when you left, only so much nearer heaven.

"Our preachers are come among us, and are well received; they are all holy men of God, and seem to have the love of souls at heart. The work of God appears to be moving among us: glory be to God, he doth defend his infant cause. If you cannot come to us, do send me a few lines. We are rather at a loss for Brother James, but we believe he is filling up a more useful place in the church. Farewell, and believe that we still love you.

"CHARLOTTE MOXLEY.

[TO THE SAME.]

"*Porthcassegg, Dec. 20th, 1828.*

"MY DEAR ANN,

"I received your note, and was happy to hear of your well-doing, and hope this will find you nearer God and nearer heaven. Nearly three months have rolled into eternity since I wrote you last, and we are nearer death; and if we are not nearer heaven, we must be nearer hell; but what a mercy that the grace of God hath appeared unto us. O let us strive for the mastery! We have all the hosts of heaven on our side, and all them that love God on earth, and if we are obedient we shall eat the fat of the land, and drink of the river of salvation for ever and ever. Lord let it be so for thy name's sake.

"I have sent you your Magazines and ticket as I suppose you expect them. I should have sent your Magazines sooner, only as the year was just out, I waited to send them altogether, and I want to know as soon as possible, whether you intend to take them the ensuing year. There is a new Editor and there will be a great improvement in them.

"The work of the Lord is still going on with us, and our prayer is, 'O Lord revive thy work' in the earth.

"In reference to your quarterage, I would say as Paul did, 'Give according as the Lord hath prosper-

ed you.' The members of our class continue to subscribe liberally to the support of the cause. A—— M—— is still at St. Arvans, and all those who are removed at a distance receive their Quarterly Tickets, and send their quarterage, and will do so as long as love continues. May God increase that principle.

"Pray for us; and may the Lord save you to the day of his coming, with all his church, is the prayer of one who loves you.

"CHARLOTTE MOXLEY."

In her Diary she writes;—

"January 3rd, 1829. I assisted brother William Miller in opening a new room for preaching at Porthcassegg. The Lord was present to bless. O how descending is the Lord of hosts to visit us below!

"7th, I returned home with my spiritual strength renewed; but my bodily strength much decreased, in consequence of overmuch exertion. When engaged in so blessed a work, I forget my feeble frame, so that I afterwards suffer in the body."

[TO HER BROTHER JAMES.]

"*Porthcassegg, Feb 10th, 1829.*

"MY BELOVED BROTHER,

"It has been the subject of consideration these last few days, whether I should accompany brother P. Highley to London on my journey to see you, or not; but it is nearly brought to this conclusion, that another opportunity may offer itself, as a few things at present seem to lie in the way, the greatest of which is, the unsettled state of my health. I have felt internal weakness, especially in the last few weeks. Indeed I have thought to-day, that I must refrain from that blessed work of calling sinners to Christ, though of late it hath been more especially the delight of my soul; but I feel such an inward weakness and pain in my side, that I expect if I continue so to exert myself, it will soon throw me into a

consumption. My heart's desire is to live to God alone. I never felt more determined for him to live and die than of late. The cry of my soul is,

• There's nothing here deserves my joys,
There's nothing like my God.

My heart rejoices in your prosperity. I hope you will attend to the counsel of your Mother, 'Give God the glory.'

"I have the pleasure to say my class is growing in the knowledge and love of God. Mr. Jones is going on better than ever, and says he would not change masters for the world.

"I had a successful tour in the mission this winter. It seems as if our young preachers are much discouraged with the Welsh hills, and think to do with two preachers. The work is prospering at the Grange, and Whiteley: at the latter place they intend to build a chapel soon.

I have told you all I think will be of any service to you. Therefore I commend you to God, hoping this will find you still prospering in the divine life, and if we never meet again on earth, I hope we shall meet in glory. I remain,

your affectionate sister,
"CHARLOTTE MOXLEY."

In her diary she writes:—

"March 8th, 1829. O how satisfying is the work of the Lord! Since I wrote last the Lord hath been reviving his work in my soul. I still feel him to be my portion; although of late I have had some trials of mind as well as afflictions of body to bear. I have applied to a physician, and he told me if I continue to preach, I shall die a martyr's death. I have such inward weakness that if it be aggravated much more, my lungs will be affected, and then there can be no remedy. Therefore I must in a great measure desist from my former exertions, or I shall become burden-some to all, and a help to none.

"30th. This day I solemnly, and in the fear of the Lord, entered into the marriage state, after a correspondence of about two years and a half, with one whom I trust from his constancy of mind, and evenness of temper, will prove a help to me while passing through life, in my way to heaven. I believe our union is in the Lord, and am persuaded that I shall have to bless God for it in the eternal world.

"As soon as the ceremony was over we took a tour of 170 miles into Cornwall, to see my Charles's friends, whom he had not seen for nearly three years. We arrived there in safety, and found them all well. I was much pleased and delighted to find so many pious, lively, and zealous people in Devon and Cornwall, belonging to our societies. O what hath God wrought! Thousands have been converted to God in a few years. All glory is due to the Lamb."

After spending a few weeks in Cornwall we returned again; and at the following Conference I was stationed in that County. Shortly after I left, the following entry occurs in her diary:—

"August 23rd. Several months have passed away since I wrote in my journal; but, praise the Lord, I have experienced many visits of his grace since, and have felt a complete victory in my soul. There is still nothing like my God. I have been favoured with many opportunities of inviting sinners to come to Christ, and my soul delights in the work.

"I am still with my parents, and hardly know how to bear the thought of leaving them, as they are both far advanced in years, and have no other child to fill my place. I have been with them nearly 30 years, and could almost desire to stay to see their last end. None but those who are in like circumstances can enter into my feelings: my husband is nearly 170 miles from this place, yet my heart still feels a cleaving to my comfortable home and friends. How hard to leave those whom we love after the flesh, as well as after the spirit.

“September. About the middle of this month, I left Monmouthshire to come into Cornwall to our station in the St. Irvan Circuit. I am at a loss to express the feelings of my mind in parting with my dear mother; but being blest with the communion of saints, and feeling the approbation of my heavenly Father, hath often sweetened my bitter cup. I also feel sometimes a blooming hope beyond the grave, where I trust I shall arrive to my long desired home, to be,

‘Far from a world of grief and sin,
With God eternally shut in.’”

To her Parents and Brother she writes :—

“*Trevanion, Sept. 23rd. 1820.*

HONOURED FATHER AND MOTHER AND DEAR BROTHER.

“Grace, mercy, and peace be multiplied to you, from God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ; wishing you every blessing your souls stand in need of, for time and eternity. I hope you feel the Lord to be your portion and comfort in every hour of trouble. In order to alleviate your anxiety respecting us, I feel it my duty at the earliest opportunity to write to let you know, we safely arrived here after a troublesome journey, night and day, sometimes wet and sometimes cold, being almost worn out with fatigue, both of body and mind; but the Lord was our helper, and we are both better than we could have expected to be after such a long and tiresome journey. We went from Exeter to Plymouth, and from thence to this place. It appeared the further I came from home, the more gloomy I felt till we reached our journey's end; but the cordial reception I met with from Charles's Mother and Sister cheered my drooping spirits, and made me think of my kind mother at home. They met me with a hearty welcome, which gave me great satisfaction. I am still with them, and it is the de-

sire of the whole family I should continue with them, as they have plenty of room, so it is left to my choice.

“Last Monday I attended our Quarterly Meeting, and saw A. Cory, and it seemed quite cheering to me to meet with an old acquaintance at a distance from home: he desired me to give his kind love to you all. Here I saw, for the first time, one of those Cornish meetings of which we had often heard; and I thought how glad I should have been if you all had been here to have witnessed the power of God. In one part of the chapel you might see a company wrestling in prayer, and on the other side another company singing lustily till they might be heard afar off. I was never in such a Love-feast before. I was ready to inquire for a while, have I found the right way to God? My dear friends, it appeared to me as if we were only on the borders of religion, when compared with some of these. Tell the society at home they have but very little grace, so what it is their privilege to have. I think if I had to lead them next Sunday I should urge them on more than ever. O Jeremiah, take care of the souls committed to your care. At this meeting ten or twelve young men, all alive to God, were singing with all their might,

“Apollyon is conquered and sunk in the flood.

And who can withstand the bright armies of God.”

“They seemed all on stretch for heaven, while crying,
‘My life, my all, I here present,
If for the Lord, it may be spent.’”

“One young man passed the Quarterly Meeting to go out to travel, he told us he was going to seek his brethren who were wandering in the wilderness of sin, to persuade them to return to the fold of God. He seems to possess the right spirit for the work. The Lord is reviving his work here, and sinners are coming to Christ. This neighbourhood is not like yours, religion has gained more ground here; many

respectable farmers are Local preachers, and many of their children and servants, are pious.

"My dear Mother I want to know how you are, and if you are comfortable. If you are unwell, or anything the matter with you, be sure to let me know. I hope if I am spared till the spring I shall come to see you, and spend some time with you.

"I feel more comfortable than I thought I should, and think when I am more settled I shall feel more at home; but not as if I were at Porthcassagg. My Charles and his friends do everything in their power to make me comfortable; but nothing but the approbation of God can satisfy the soul, therefore I feel determined still to devote myself to his service. I am happy to find that C. — is so well accepted in the Circuit, and also that the Lord hath opened my way, and given me such favour in the sight of the people. The family join me in love to you all, and hope you make yourselves comfortable about me. They say I shall not want friends while with them. I must now give you up into the hands of God, hoping that if we never meet on earth again, we shall meet in that blessed world, where pain and parting are no more. Give my love to brother James. Tell the society at your house to be faithful, that I may meet them all in heaven. May the peace of God rest upon you for ever and ever, is the heart-felt prayer of

"Yours, &c.

"CHARLOTTE BLAKE."

[TO THE SAME.]

"Trepanson, Nov. 5th, 1829.

"HONOURED PARENTS,

"I gladly embrace this opportunity of sending a few lines, hoping they will find you better in health than I often imagine you are. I often fancy I see you both when asleep and awake, sometimes in distress of body and mind; but I hope these feelings

are only the vain imaginations of my own mind, and so are groundless. I have visited many places in the Circuit, where I have met with a kind reception, with many invitations to repeat my visits; and am requested to visit other places where I have not yet been. The people will not allow me to stay at home but very little. I shall take Charles's plan while he is at Shebear, if the Lord give me strength. I feel nearly as usual in this respect, able to do a little now and then, but not constantly.

"Nov. 8th. I attended our Local-preachers' meeting. It was a gracious season: we are between 50 and 60 Local-preachers, whose names are on the plan, most of whom were present at the meeting, and seemed to have the cause of God at heart. Charles has a great deal of labour in travelling, which has been increased by the confusion of the separation. He is now engaged in building a new Chapel at St. Dennis. The old Chapel has been taken by the separate party; but he seems to do and bear all with his usual composure of mind. He has been seeking after all the wandering sheep that have left the fold since he left home, and has succeeded in gathering some. As it respects my own state, I feel no condemnation, yet I do not feel so willing to suffer for God and his cause as it is my privilege to do. I feel a shrinking from the cross, as is the case with too many. I am apt to feel too much self-love, and am too much like Lot's wife; looking behind me to Porthcassagg. I hope the Lord will give me suffering grace, as I have often an afflicted body and a feeble mind. I have thought if the people were not kind to me, what should I do; but I have nothing but love shown me from them. Praise the Lord.

"I must now give you and all our troubles into the hand of the Lord, hoping this will find you all prospering in temporal and spiritual things; and if we are all faithful, we shall meet in a better world, which may our heavenly Father grant, for his name's sake.

"Since I began to write, I have suffered much from my old complaint. I have been labouring too hard, and brought it on as usual.

[TO HER BROTHER JAMES.]

"St. Ervan, near Padstow, Nov. 12th, 1829.

"MY DEAR BROTHER,

"As an opportunity offers, I cannot comfortably let it pass without sending you a few lines, hoping they will find you well in body, and strong in spirit; prosecuting your divine mission with satisfaction and success. I have felt much for you of late; and have more than ever seen that the preachers need much grace.

"I suppose you have heard from home, and that they have informed you of my removal. It was the greatest trial I ever met with, to part with my friends at home. I thought to part with you was worse than death; but to leave home, anticipating many difficulties connected with it, was more painful still, if possible. It was then I more fully felt for you, in parting with us; although sometimes I can look up and rejoice that we are both called to labour and suffer in the good cause of God. I believe my lot to be providentially cast, and that the Lord will give me grace, and bring me through every trial. I have reason to be thankful for many things, especially for my present removal. I have not been with among the people. I have visited several places in the Circuit, but cannot continue to do so, as I have nearly worn myself down, and expect for the winter I shall be able to do but little. Dear Brother, whatever may be the office you are called to fill in the church, may the Lord help you to fill it with a single eye to his glory, and then you will not lose your reward.

I hope to see my old friends again in the spring, if nothing happens more than I know of at present; and if you could meet me there once more, I should

be glad, especially when I think of the many joyous seasons we have had together at home, and which I expect we shall never have together again there. I should rejoice if our lot were cast nearer together, that I might render you some assistance, while passing through this vale of tears. Shall I ever be thus honoured? I must leave it to God, to decide. My friends are more dear to me than ever; I cannot think on them, especially my dear mother, without dropping a tear or two.

"If I can get to heaven, it will be a mercy. May God bring us all there at last, is the prayer of your distant, but affectionate sister."

[TO HER PARENTS.]

"Trevanow, January 10th, 1830.

"HONOURED FATHER AND MOTHER,

"I have still the pleasure to say I am enjoying a good state of health, and have been blessed in my soul many times of late, especially in family devotions. I have lately been seeking for that grace which will enable me to glory in the cross, and also that which will meeten me for the company of the holy hosts of Heaven, as I sometimes think the time which I am daily looking for or shall see before this falls into your hands, will put an end to my joy and sing,

joy and sing,

'One more precious saint's ascended,
To the lofty throne above.'

I have no condemnation or doubt on my mind at present, no more than if I were already there. I feel the blessed effects of being reconciled to God and all!

I live and die; and I would rather part with my life, than lose the little grace he has conferred upon me. "We received your letter, and were heartily glad to