

11. 11. 11.

THE FULL
ACCOUNT
OF THE
LIFE

AND

Dealings of GOD

With the REVEREND

Mr. GEORGE WHITEFIELD, A. B.

Late of Pembroke-College, Oxford.

From his Infancy to the Time of his entering
into Holy Orders; as also in the second Part,
from the Time of his Ordination to his embarking
for GEORGIA.

Written by himself on Board the *Elizabeth*,
Capt. *Stevenson*, bound from *London* to *Philadelphia*,
and sent over to be published for the Benefit of all
true but weak Believers in JESUS CHRIST.

To which is annex'd,

A brief Account of the Rise, Progress, and present
Situation of the *Orphan-House* in GEORGIA.

*Thou, O God, hast taught me from my Youth up until
now: therefore will I tell of thy wondrous Works.
I am not worthy of the least of thy Mercies, and of all
the Truth, which thou hast shewed unto thy Servant.*

L O N D O N :

[Price One-Shilling.]

A S H O R T
A C C O U N T

O F

G O D's Dealings

With the R E V E R E N D

Mr. *G E O R G E W H I T E F I E L D.*

The I N T R O D U C T I O N.

ALTHOUGH the following Account of what G O D has done for my Soul, will undoubtedly be differently judged of by different People; yet, since I believe a single Eye to G O D's Glory moves me to write, and I find myself much pressed in Spirit to publish it at this Time, I am not in the least sollicitous about the Reception it will meet with in the World.

The Benefit I have received from reading the Lives of others, the Examples we have in Scripture of the sacred Authors composing their own Histories, and more especially the Assistance I have had from the Holy Spirit, in bringing many Things to my Remembrance, which otherwise I should have forgotten,

A. 2.

seem'd

seem'd to me Reasons sufficient to justify my Conduct in the Sight of G O D and good Men.

Further, as G O D has been pleased of late to call me to a publick Work, I thought his Children would be glad to know how I was trained up for it.—And tho' some may think this had been as well deferred till after my Death, or wrote by some other Person, yet I thought it might be more beneficial, and be better credited, if wrote with my own Hand, and published whilst I was yet alive.

In the Accounts of good Men which I have read, I have observed that the Writers of them have been partial. They have given us the bright, but not the dark Side of their Character. This, I think, proceeded from a kind of pious Fraud, lest mentioning Persons Faults should encourage others in Sin.—It cannot, I am sure, proceed from the Wisdom which cometh from Above.—The sacred Writers give an Account of their Failings as well as their Virtues. *Peter* is not ashamed to confess that with Oaths and Curses he thrice denied his Master; nor do the Evangelists make any Scruple of telling us, that out of *Mary Magdalene* *Jesus Christ* cast seven Devils.

I have therefore endeavoured to follow their good Example.—I have simply told what I was by Nature, as well as what I am by Grace.—I am not over cautious as to any supposed Consequences, since none can be hurt by these but such as hold the Truth in Unrighteousness—*To the pure all Things will be pure.*

As I have often wished, when in my best Frames, that the first Years of my Life might be put down as a Blank, and had no more in Remembrance, so I could almost wish now to pass them over in Silence.—But as they will, in some Degree, illustrate G O D's dealings with me in my riper Years, I shall, as I am able, give the following brief Account of them.

S E C T. I.

*From my Infancy, till my being for some Time
at the University.*

I WAS born in *Gloucester*, in the Month of *December*, 1714. My Father and Mother kept the *Bell-Inn*. The former died when I was two Years o'd; the latter is now alive, and has often told me how she endured fourteen Weeks Sickness after she brought me into the World; but was used to say, even when I was an Infant, that she expected more Comfort from me than any other of her Children.— This, with the Circumstance of my being born in an Inn, has been often of Service to me in exciting my Endeavours to make good my Mother's Expectations, and so follow the Example of my dear Saviour, who was born in a Manger belonging to an Inn.

My very Infant Years must necessarily not be mentioned; yet I can remember such early stirrings of Corruption in my Heart, as abundantly convinces me that I was conceived and born in Sin;—that in me dwelleth no good Thing by Nature, and that if God had not freely prevented me by his Grace, I must have been for ever banished from his divine Presence.

I can truly say I was froward from my Mother's Womb.—I was so brutish as to hate Instruction, and used purposely to shun all Opportunities of receiving it.—I can date some very early Acts of Uncleanness.—I soon gave pregnant Proofs of an impudent Temper.—Lying, filthy Talking, and foolish Jesting I was much addicted to, even when very young.—Sometimes I used to curse, if not swear.—Stealing from my Mother I thought no Theft at all, and used to make no Scruple of taking Money out of her Pocket before she was up.—I have frequently betrayed my Trust,

6

and have more than once spent Money I took in the House, in buying Fruits, Tarts, &c. to satisfy my sensual Appetite.—Numbers of Sabbaths have I broken, and generally used to behave myself very irreverently in God's Sanctuary.—Much Money have I spent in Plays, and in the common Entertainments of the Age.—Cards, and reading Romances, were my Heart's Delight.—Often have I joined with others in playing roguish Tricks, but was generally, if not always, *happily detected*.—For this I have often since, and do now bless and praise God.

It would be endless to recount the Sins and Offences of my younger Days. They are more in Number than the Hairs of my Head.—My Heart would fail me at the Remembrance of them, was I not assured that my Redeemer liveth, ever to make Intercession for me.—However the young Man in the Gospel might boast how he had kept the Commandments from his Youth, with Shame and Confusion of Face I confess, that I have broken them all from my Youth.—Whatever foreseen Fitness for Salvation others may talk of and glory in, I disclaim any such Thing; if I trace myself from my Cradle to my Manhood, I can see nothing in me but a Fitness to be damned.—I speak the Truth in *Christ*, I lie not. If the Almighty had not prevented me by his Grace, and wrought most powerfully upon my Soul, quickening me by his free Spirit when dead in Trespasses and Sins, I had now either been sitting in Darkness, and in the Shadow of Death, or condemned, as the due Reward of my Crimes, to be for ever lifting up my Eyes in Torments.

But such was the free Grace of God to me, that tho' Corruption worked so strongly in my Soul, and produced such early and bitter Fruits, yet I can recollect very early Movings of the blessed Spirit upon my Heart, sufficient to satisfy me that God loved me with an everlasting Love, and separated me even from my Mother's Womb, for the Work to which he afterwards was pleased to call me.

I had

I had early some Convictions of Sin, and once I remember, when some Persons (as they frequently did) made it their Business to teaze me, I immediately retired to my Room, and kneeling down, with many Tears, prayed over that Psalm wherein *David* so often repeats these Words, *But in the Name of the Lord will I destroy them.* I was always fond of being a Clergyman, used frequently to imitate the Ministers reading Prayers; &c. Part of the Money I used to steal from my Parent I gave to the Poor, and some Books I privately took from others, (for which I have since restored four-fold). I remember were Books of Devotion.

My Mother was very careful of my Education, and always kept me in my tender Years (for which I never can sufficiently thank her) from intermeddling in the least with the publick Business.

About the tenth Year of my Age, it pleased God to permit my Mother to marry a second Time. It proved what the World would call an unhappy Match as for Temporals; but God over-ruled it for good.— It set my Brethren upon thinking more than otherwise they would have done, and made an uncommon Impression upon my own Heart in particular.

When I was about twelve, I was placed at a School called *St. Mary de Crypt* in *Gloucester*, the last Grammar School I ever went to. Having a good Elocution and Memory, I was remarked for making Speeches before the Corporation at their annual Visitation. But I cannot say I felt any Drawings of God upon my Soul for a Year or two, saving that I laid out some of the Money that was given me on one of those forementioned Occasions, in buying *Ken's Manual* for *Winchester* Scholars, a Book that had much affected me, when my Brother used to read it in my Mother's Troubles, and which, for some Time after I bought it, was of great Benefit to my Soul.

During the Time of my being at School, I was very fond of reading Plays, and have kept from School for Days together, to prepare myself for acting them.

My

My Master seeing how mine and my Schoolfellows Vein run, compos'd something of this Kind for us himself, and caus'd me to dress myself in Girls Cloaths (which I had often done) to act a Part before the Corporation. The Remembrance of this has often cover'd me with Confusion of Face, and I hope will do so, even to the End of my Life.

And I cannot but here observe with much Concern of Mind, how this Way of training up Youth has a natural Tendency to debauch the Mind, to raise ill Passions, and to stuff the Memory with Things as contrary to the Gospel of *Jesus Christ*, as Light to Darknes, Heaven to Hell. However, tho' the first Thing I had to repent of was my Education in general, yet I must always acknowledge my particular Thanks are due to my Master, for the great Pains he took with me and his other Scholars, in teaching us to speak and write correctly.

Before I was fifteen, having, as I thought, made a sufficient Progress in the Classics, and, at the Bottom, longing to be set at Liberty from the Confinement of a School, I one Day told my Mother, " Since her
 " Circumstances would not permit her to give me
 " an University Education, more Learning I thought
 " would spoil me for a Tradesman, and therefore I
 " judg'd it best not to learn *Latin* any longer." She at first refus'd to consent, but my Corruptions soon got the better of her good Nature. Hereupon for some Time I went to learn to write only. But my Mother's Circumstances being much on the Decline, and being tractable that Way, I from time to time began to assist her occasionally in the pubick House, till at length I put on my blue Apron and my Snuffers, wash'd Mops, clean'd Rooms, and, in one Word, became a profess'd and common Drawer for nigh a Year and an Half.

But he who was with *David* when he was following the Sheep big with young, was with me even here. For notwithstanding I was thus employ'd in a common Inn, and had sometimes the Care of the
 whole

whole House upon my Hands, yet I composed *two or three Sermons*, and dedicated one of them in particular to my elder Brother. One Time I remember I was much pressed to Self-examination, and found myself very unwilling to look into my Heart.—Frequently I read the Bible when sitting up at Night. Seeing the Boys go by to School has often cut me to the Heart.—And a dear Youth (now with God) would often come intreating me, when serving at the Bar, to go to *Oxford*. My general Answer was, I wish I could.

After I had continued about a Year in this servile Employment, my Mother was obliged to leave the Inn. My Brother, who had been bred up for the Business, married; whereupon all was made over to him; and I, being accustomed to the House, it was agreed that I should continue there as an Assistant. But God's Thoughts were not as our Thoughts.

By his good Providence it happened that my Sister-in-law and I could by no Means agree; and at length the Resentment grew to such an Height, that my proud Heart would scarce suffer me to speak to her for three Weeks together. But notwithstanding I was much to blame, yet I used to retire and weep before the Lord, as *Hagar*, when flying from her Mistress *Sarah*, little thinking that God by this Means, was forcing me out of the publick Business, and calling me from drawing Wine for Drunkards, to draw Water out of the Wells of Salvation for the Refreshment of his spiritual *Israel*.

After continuing for a long while under this burden of Mind, I at length resolved (thinking my Absence would make all things easy) to go away. Accordingly, by the Advice of my Brother, and Consent of my Mother, I went to see my elder Brother then settled at *Bristol*.

Here God was pleased to give me great Foretastes of his Love, and fill me with such unspeakable Raptures; particularly once in St. *John's* Church, that I was carried out beyond myself.—I felt great Love to his

rings and Thirstings after the blessed Sacrament, and wrote many Letters to my Mother, telling her I would never go into the publick Employment again. *Thomas a Kempis* was my great Delight, and I was always impatient till the Bell rung to call me to tread the Courts of the Lord's House. But in the midst of these Illuminations, something surely whispered, *This would not last.*

And indeed so it happened. For (Oh that I could write it in Tears of Blood!) When I left *Bristol* (as I did in about two Months) and returned to *Gloucester*, I changed my Devotion with my Place. Alas! all my Fervour went off—I had no Inclination to go to Church, or draw nigh unto GOD.—In short my Heart (tho' I had so lately tasted of his Love) was far from him.

However, I had so much Religion left, as to persist in my Resolution not to live in the Inn; and therefore my Mother gave me Leave, tho' she had but a little income, to have a Bed upon the Ground, and live at her House, till Providence should point out a Place for me.

Having now, as I thought, nothing to do, it was a proper Season for Satan to tempt me.—Much of my Time I spent in reading Plays, and in sauntering from Place to Place. I was careful to adorn my Body, but took little Pains to deck and beautify my Soul.—Evil Communications with my old School-fellows soon corrupted my good Manners.—By seeing their evil Practices, the Sense of the Divine Presence I had vouchsafed unto me insensibly wore off my Mind, and I at length fell into an abominable secret Sin, the dismal Effects of which I have felt, and groaned under ever since.

But GOD, whose Gifts and Callings are without Repentance, would let nothing pluck me out of his Hands, tho' I was continually doing Despite to the Spirit of Grace.—He saw me with Pity and Compassion, when lying in my Blood.—He passed by me,

He said unto me, *Live*, and even gave me some Foresight of his providing for me.

One Morning, as I was reading a Play to my Sister, said I, "Sister, God intends something for me which we know not of. As I have been diligent in Business, I believe many would gladly have me for an Apprentice, but every Way seems to be barred up, so that I think God will provide for me some Way or other that we cannot apprehend."

How I came to say these Words I know not.—God afterwards shewed me they came from him.—Having thus lived with my Mother for some considerable Time, a young Student, who was once my School-fellow, and then a Servitor of *Pembroke-College, Oxford*, came to pay my Mother a Visit. Amongst other Conversation, he told her how he had discharged all College Expences that Quarter, and received a Penny. Upon that my Mother immediately cried out, "This will do for my Son."—Then turning to me, she said, "Will you go to *Oxford, George?*" I replied, *With all my Heart*. Whereupon, having the same Friends that this young Student had, my Mother, without Delay, waited on them. They promised their Interest to get me a Servitor's Place in the same College. She then applied to my old Master, who much approved of my coming to School again.

In about a Week I went and re-entered myself, and being grown much in Stature, my Master addressed me thus; *I see, George, you are advanced in Stature, but your better Part must needs have gone backwards*. This made me blush. He set me something to translate into *Latin*; and tho' I had made no Application to my Classics for so long a Time, yet I had but one inconsiderable Fault in my Exercise. This, I believe, somewhat surprized my Master then, and has afforded me Matter of Thanks and Praise ever since.

Being resettled at School, I spared no Pains to go forward in my Book. God was pleased to give me his

his Blessing, and I learned much faster than I did before. But all this while I continued in secret Sin; and at length got acquainted with such a Set of debauched, abandoned, atheistical Youths, that if G o d, by his free, unmerited, and especial Grace, had not delivered me out of their Hands, I should long since have sat in the Scorners's Chair, and made a Mock at Sin.—By keeping Company with them, my Thoughts of Religion grew more and more like theirs.—I went to publick Service only to make Sport and walk about.—I took Pleasure in their lewd Conversation—I began to reason as they did, and to ask why G o d had given me Passions, and not permitted me to gratify them? Not considering that G o d did not originally give us these *corrupt* Passions, and that he had promised Help to withstand them, if we would ask it of him.—In short I soon made a great Proficiency in the School of the Devil.—I affected to look rakish, and was in a fair Way of being as infamous as the worst of them.

But (Oh stupendous Love!) G o d even here stopped me, when running on in a full Career to Hell.—For, just as I was upon the Brink of Ruin, he gave me such a Distaste of their Principles and Practices, that I discovered them to my Master, who soon put a Stop to their Proceedings.

Being thus delivered out of the Snare of the Devil, I began to be more and more serious, and felt G o d at different Times working powerfully and convincingly upon my Soul. One Day in particular, as I was coming down Stairs, and overheard my Friends speaking well of me, G o d so deeply convicted me of Hypocrisy, that tho' I had formed frequent but ineffectual Resolutions before, yet I had then Power given me over my secret and darling Sin. Notwithstanding, some Time after being overtaken in Liquor (as I have been twice or thrice in my Life-time) *Satan* gained his usual Advantage over me again.—An experimental Proof to my poor Soul, how that wicked One makes use of Men as Machines, working them

up to just what he pleases, when by Intemperance they have chased away the Spirit of G O D from them!

Being now near the seventeenth Year of my Age, I was resolved to prepare myself for the holy Sacrament, which I received on *Christmas-day*. I began now to be more and more watchful over my Thoughts, Words, and Actions. I kept the following *Lent*, fasting *Wednesday* and *Friday* thirty six Hours together.—My Evenings, when I had done waiting upon my Mother, were generally spent in Acts of Devotion, reading *Drelincourt* upon Death, and other practical Books, and I constantly went to publick Worship twice a Day. Being now upper Boy, by G O D's Help I made some Reformation amongst my School-fellows. I was very diligent in reading and learning the Classicks, and in studying my *Greek Testament*, but was not yet convinced of the absolute Unlawfulness of playing at Cards, and of reading and seeing Plays, tho' I began to have some Scruples about it.

Near this Time I dreamed that I was to see G O D on Mount *Sinai*, but was afraid to meet him.—This made a great Impression upon me: And a Gentlewoman to whom I told it, said, *George, this is a Call from G O D.*

Still I grew more serious after this Dream; but yet Hypocrisy crept into every Action.—As once I affected to look more rakish, I now strove to appear more grave than I really was.—However, an uncommon Concern and Alteration was visible in my Behaviour, and I often used to find Fault with the Lightness of others.

One Night, as I was going on an Errand for my Mother, an unaccountable, but very strong Impression was made upon my Heart that I should preach and print quickly. When I came home, I innocently told my Mother what had befallen me; but she (like *Joseph's* Parents, when he told them his Dream) turned short upon me, crying out, *What does the Boy mean? Prithee hold thy Tongue; or something to that Purpose,*

Purpose. God has since shewn her from what that Impression came.

For a Twelvemonth I went on in a Round of Duties, receiving the Sacrament monthly, fasting frequently, attending constantly on publick Worship, and praying often more than twice a Day in private.—One of my Brothers used to tell me, He feared this would not hold long, and that I should forget all when I came to *Oxford*. This Caution did me much Service, for it set me upon praying for Perseverance: And, under God, the Preparation I made in the Country, was a Preservative against the manifold Temptations which beset me at my first coming to that Seat of Learning.

Being now near eighteen Years old, it was judged proper for me to go to the University. God had sweetly prepared my Way. The Friends before applied to, recommended me to the Master of *Pembroke-College*. Another Friend took up Ten Pounds upon Bond (which I have since repaid) to defray the first Expence of entring;—and the Master, contrary to all Expectations, admitted me Servitor immediately.

Soon after my Admission, I went and resided, and found my having been used to a Publick-house was now of Service to me. For many of the Servitors being sick at my first coming up, by my diligent and ready Attendance, I ingratiated myself into the Gentlemen's Favour so far, that many, who had it in their Power, chose me to be their Servitor.

This much lessened my Expence; and indeed, God was so gracious, that with the Profits of my Place, and some little Presents made me by my kind Tutor, for almost the first three Years I did not put all my Relations together to above 24*l.* Expence. And it has often grieved my Soul to see so many young Students spending their Substance in extravagant Living, and thereby intirely unfitting themselves for the Prosecution of their proper Studies.

I had not been long at the University, before I found the Benefit of the Foundation I had laid in the
Country

Country for a holy Life. I was quickly solicited to join in their Excess of Riot with several who lay in the same Room. GOD, in Answer to Prayers before put up, gave me Grace to withstand them; and once in particular, it being cold, my Limbs were so benumbed by sitting alone in my Study, because I would not go out amongst them, that I could scarce sleep all Night. But I soon found the Benefit of not yielding: For when they perceived they could not prevail, they let me alone as a singular odd Fellow.

All this while I was not fully satisfied of the Sin of playing at Cards and reading Plays; till GOD upon a Fast-day was pleased to convince me. For, taking a Play, to read a Passage out of it to a Friend, GOD struck my Heart with such Power, that I was obliged to lay it down again; and, blessed be his Name, I have not read any such Book since.

Before I went to the University, I met with Mr. *Law's Serious Call to a devout Life*, but had not then Money to purchase it. Soon after my coming up to the University, seeing a small Edition of it in a Friend's Hand, I soon procured it. GOD worked powerfully upon my Soul, as he has since upon many others, by that and his other Treatise upon *Christian Perfection*.

I now began to pray and sing Psalms thrice every Day, besides Morning and Evening, and to fast every *Friday*, and to receive the Sacrament at a Parish-Church near our College, and at the Castle where the despised Methodists used to receive once a Month.

The young Men, so called, were then much talked of at *Oxford*. I had heard of, and loved them before I came to the University; and so strenuously defended them, when I heard them reviled by the Students, that they began to think that I also in Time should be one of them.

For above a Twelvemonth, my Soul longed to be acquainted with some of them, and I was strongly pressed to follow their good Example, when I saw them go through a ridiculing Crowd to receive the Holy Eucharist at *St. Mary's*.—At length GOD was

pleased to open a Door.—It happened that a poor Woman in one of the Workhouses had attempted to cut her Throat, but was happily prevented. Upon hearing of this, and knowing that both the Mr. *Wesleys* were ready to every good Work, I sent a poor aged Apple-woman of our College to inform Mr. *Charles Wesley* of it, charging her not to discover who sent her. She went; but contrary to my Orders, told my Name. He having heard of my coming to the Castle and a Parish-Church Sacrament, and having met me frequently walking by myself, followed the Woman when she was gone away, and sent an Invitation to me by her, to come to Breakfast with him the next Morning,

I thankfully embraced the Opportunity; and, blessed be G O D, it was one of the most profitable Visits I ever made in my Life.—My Soul, at that Time, was a-thirst for some spiritual Friends to lift up my Hands when they hung down, and to strengthen my feeble Knees.—He soon discovered it, and, like a wise Winner of Souls, made all his Discourses tend that Way.—And when he had put into my Hands Professor *Frank's* Treatise against the Fear of Man, and a Book, intitled, *The Country Parson's Advice to his Parishioners* (the last of which was wonderfully blessed to my Soul) I took my Leave.

In a short Time he let me have another Book, intitled, *The Life of God in the Soul of Man*; and tho' I had fasted, watched and prayed, and received the Sacrament so long, yet I never knew what true Religion was, till G O D sent me that Treatise by the Hands of my never to be forgotten Friend.

At my first reading it, I wondered what the Author meant by saying, “ That some falsely placed Religion in going to Church, doing Hurt to no one, being constant in the Duties of the Closet, and now and then reaching out their Hands to give Alms to their poor Neighbours.”—Alas! thought I, “ If this be not Religion, what is?” G O D soon shewed me. For in reading a few Lines further, that “ true Re-
“ ligion

“ Religion was an Union of the Soul with God, and
“ *Christ* formed within us ;” a Ray of divine Light
was instantaneously darted in upon my Soul, and
from that Moment, but not till then, did I know that
I must be a new Creature.

Upon this (like the Woman of *Samaria*, when
Christ revealed himself to her at the Well) I had no
Rest in my Soul till I wrote Letters to my Relations,
telling them there was such a Thing as the New-
Birth.—I imagined they would have gladly received
it.—But alas! my Words seemed to them as idle
Tales!—They thought that I was going besides my-
self, and by their Letters confirmed me in the Reso-
lutions I had taken not to go down into the Coun-
try, but continue where I was, lest that by any Means
the good Work which God had begun in my Soul,
might be made of none Effect.

From time to time Mr. *Wesley* permitted me to
come unto him, and instructed me as I was able to
hear it.—By Degrees he introduced me to the rest
of his Christian Brethren.—They built me up daily in
the Knowledge and Fear of God, and taught me to
endure Hardness like a good Soldier of *Jesus Christ*.

I now began, like them, to live by Rule, and to
pick up the very Fragments of my Time, that not a
Moment of it might be lost. Whether I ate or drank,
or whatsoever I did, I endeavoured to do all to the
Glory of God. Like them, having no weekly Sa-
crament (altho’ the Rubrick required it) at our own
College, I received every *Sunday* at *Christ Church*.
I joined with them in keeping the Stations by fasting
Wednesdays and *Fridays*, and left no Means unused,
which I thought would lead me nearer to *Jesus Christ*.

Regular Retirement, Morning and Evening, at first
I found some Difficulty in submitting to; but it soon
grew profitable and delightful. As I grew ripe for
such Exercises, I was from time to time engaged to
visit the Sick and the Prisoners, and to read to poor
People, till I made it a Custom, as most of us did, to
spend an Hour every Day in doing Acts of Charity.

The Course of my Studies I soon intirely changed; whereas, before I was buied in studying the Dry Sciences, and Books that went no farther than the Surface, I now resolved to read only such as entered into the Heart of Religion, and which led me directly into an experimental Knowledge of *Jesus Christ*, and him crucified.—The lively Oracles of God were my Soul's Delight.—The Book of the divine Laws was seldom out of my Hands; I meditated therein Day and Night, and ever since that God has made my Way signally prosperous, and given me abundant Success.

God enabled me to do much Good to many, as well as to receive much from the despised Methodists, and made me instrumental in converting one who is lately come out into the Church, and, I trust, will prove a burning and a shining Light.

Several short Fits of Illness was God pleased to visit and to try me with after my first Acquaintance with Mr. *Wesley*. My new Convert was a Help meet for me in those and in all other Circumstances; and in Company with him, and several other Christian Friends, did I spend many sweet and delightful Hours.—Never did Persons, I believe, strive more earnestly to enter in at the strait Gate.—They kept their Bodies under even to an extreme.—They were dead to the World, and willing to be accounted as the Dung and Offscouring of all Things, so that they might win *Christ*.—Their Hearts glowed with the Love of God, and they never prospered so much in the inward Man, as when they had all manner of Evil spoken against them falsely without.

Many came amongst them for a while, who, in Time of Temptation, fell away.—The Displeasure of a Tutor or Head of a College, the changing of a Gown from a lower to a higher Degree; above all, a Thirst for the Praise of Men, more than that which cometh from God, and a servile Fear of Contempt, caused Numbers that had set their Hand to the Plow, shamefully to look back.—The World (and not themselves)

19
selves) gave them the Title of Methodists, I suppose from their Custom of regulating their Time, and planning the Business of the Day every Morning.—Mr. *John* and *Charles Wesleys*, were two of the first that thus openly dared to confess *Christ*; and they, under *God*, were the spiritual Fathers of most of them.—They had the Pleasure of seeing the Work of the Lord prosper in their Hands before they went to *Georgia*.—Since their Return, the small-Grain of Mustard-seed has sprung up apace.—It has taken deep Root.—It is growing into a great Tree.—Ere long I trust it will fill the Land, and Numbers of Souls will come from the East and from the West, from the North and from the South; and lodge under the Branches of it.

But to return. Whilst I was thus comforted on every Side, by daily conversing with so many Christian Friends, *God* was pleased to permit *Satan* to sift me like Wheat. A general Account of which, I shall, by the divine Assistance, give in the following Section.

S E C T. II.

A brief and summary Account of my Temptations.

AT my first setting out, in Compassion to my Weakness, I grew in Favour both with *God* and Man, and used to be much lifted up with sensible Devotion, especially at the blessed Sacrament.—But when Religion began to take Root in my Heart, and I was fully convinced my Soul must totally be renewed ere it could see *God*, I was visited with outward and inward Trials.

The first Thing I was called to give up for *God*, was what the World calls my fair Reputation:—I had

had no sooner received the Sacrament publickly on a Week-day at St. *Mary's*, but I was set up as a Mark for all the polite Students that knew me to shoot at. By this they knew that I was commenced Methodist; for tho' there is a Sacrament at the Beginning of every Term, at which all, especially the Seniors, are, by Statute, obliged to be present; yet so dreadfully has that once faithful City played the Harlot, that very few Masters, no under Graduates (but the Methodists) attended upon it.

Mr. *Charles Wesley* (whom I must always mention with the greatest *Deference* and Respect) walked with me (in order to confirm me) from the Church even to the College.—I confess, to my Shame, I would gladly have excused him; and the next Day going to his Room, one of our Fellows passing by, I was ashamed to be seen to knock at his Door. But, blessed be God, this Fear of Man gradually wore off.—As I had imitated *Nicodemus* in his Cowardice, so, by the divine Assistance, I followed him in his Courage. I confessed the Methodists more and more publickly every Day.—I walked openly with them, and chose rather to bear Contempt with those People of God, than to enjoy the Applause of Almost-Christians for a Season.

Soon after this I incurred the Displeasure of the Master of the College, who frequently chid, and once threatened to expel me, if ever I visited the Poor again.—Being surprized by this Treatment, and over-awed by his Authority, I spake unadvisedly with my Lips, and said, if it displeased him, I would not.—My Conscience soon pricked me for this sinful Compliance.—I immediately repented, and visited the Poor the first Opportunity, and told my Companions, if ever I was called to a Stake for *Christ's* Sake, I would serve my Tongue as Archbishop *Cranmer* served his Hand, *viz.* make that burn first.

My Tutor being a moderate Man, did not oppose me much, but thought, I believe, that I went a little too far. He lent me Books, gave me Money, visited

visited me, and furnished me with a Physician when sick. In short, he behaved in all respects like a Father; and I trust G O D will remember him for good, in answer to the many Prayers I have put up in his Behalf.

My Relations were quickly alarmed at the Alteration of my Behaviour, conceived strong Prejudices against me, and, for some Time, counted my Life Madness.—I daily underwent some Contempt at College. Some have thrown Dirt at me; others, by Degrees, took away their Pay from me.—And two Friends, that were dear unto me, grew shy of, and forsook me, when they saw me resolved to deny myself, take up my Cross daily, and follow *Jesus Christ*.—But our Lord, by his Spirit, soon convinced me that I must know no one after the Flesh; and I soon found that Promise literally fulfilled, “ That no one
“ hath left Father or Mother, Brethren or Sisters,
“ Houses or Lands, for *Christ’s* Sake and the Gos-
“ pel’s, but he shall receive a hundred-fold in this
“ Life, with Persecution, as well as eternal Life in
“ the World to come.”

These, tho’ little, were useful Trials.—They inured me to Contempt, lessened Self-love, and taught me to die daily.—My inward Sufferings were of a more uncommon Nature.—*Satan* seemed to have desired me in particular to sift me as Wheat.—G O D permitted him, for wise Reasons I have seen already, *viz.* that his future Blessings might not prove my Ruin.

From my first Awakenings to the divine Life, I felt a particular hungering and thirsting after the Humility of *Jesus Christ*.—Night and Day I prayed to be a Partaker of that Grace, imagining that the Habit of Humility would be instantaneously infused into my Soul. But as *Gideon* taught the Men of *Succoth* with Thorns, so G O D (if I am yet in any Measure blessed with true Poverty of Spirit) taught it me by the Exercise of strong Temptations.

I observed before how I used to be favoured with sensible Devotion; those Comforts were soon withdrawn, and an horrible Fearfulness and Dread permitted to overwhelm my Soul.—One Morning in particular, rising from my Bed, I felt an unusual Impression and Weight upon my Breast, attended with inward Darkness.—I applied to my Friend Mr. *Charles Wesley*;—he advised me to keep upon my Watch, and referred me to a Chapter in *Kempis*.

In a short Time I perceived this Load gradually increase, till it almost weighed me down, and fully convinced me that *Satan* had as real a Possession of, and Power given over my Body, as he had once over *Job's*.—All Power of meditating, or even thinking, was taken from me.—My Memory quite failed me.—My whole Soul was barren and dry, and I could fancy myself to be like nothing so much as a Man locked up in Iron Armour.

Whenever I kneeled down, I felt great Heavings in my Body, and have often prayed under the Weight of them till the Sweat came through me. At this Time *Satan* used to terrify me much, and threatened to punish me if I discovered his Wiles.—It being my Duty, as Servitor, in my Turn to knock at the Gentlemens Rooms by ten at Night, to see who were in their Rooms, I thought the Devil would appear to me ever Stair I went up.—And he so troubled me when I lay down to rest, that for some Weeks I scarce slept above three Hours at a Time.

God only knows how many Nights I have lain upon my Bed, groaning under the Weight I felt, and bidding *Satan* depart from me in the Name of *Jesus*.—Whole Days and Weeks have I spent in lying prostrate on the Ground, and begging for Freedom from those proud hellish Thoughts that used to crowd in upon, and distract my Soul.—But God made *Satan* drive out *Satan*,—For these Thoughts and Suggestions created such a Self-Abhorrence within me, that I never ceased wrestling with God, till he blessed me with a Victory over them.—Self-love, Self-will, Pride
and

and Envy, so buffeted me in their Turns, that I was resolved either to die or conquer.— I wanted to see Sin as it was, but feared, at the same Time, lest the Sight of it should terrify me to Death.

Whilst my inward Man was thus exercised, my outward Man was not unemployed. I soon found what a Slave I had been to my sensual Appetite, and now resolved to get the Master over it by the Help of *Jesus Christ*.—Accordingly, by Degrees I began to leave off eating Fruits and such like, and gave the Money I usually spent in that Way to the Poor.—Afterwards I always chose the worst Sort of Food, tho' my Place furnished me with Variety.—I fasted twice a Week.—My Apparel was mean.—I thought it unbecoming a Penitent to have his Hair powdered.—I wore woollen Gloves, a patched Gown and dirty Shoes;—and tho' I was then convinced that the Kingdom of God did not consist in Meats and Drinks, yet I resolutely persisted in these voluntary Acts of Self-denial, because I found them great Promoters of the spiritual Life.

For many Months I went on in this State, faint, yet pursuing, and travelling along in the dark, in hope that the Star I had (before once) seen, would hereafter appear again.—During this Season I was very active; but finding Pride creeping in at the End of almost every Thought, Word and Action, and meeting with *Castaniza's Spiritual Combat*, in which he says, “That he that is employed in mortifying his Will, was as well employed as tho he was converting *Indians*,” or Words to that Effect, *Satan* so imposed upon my understanding, that he persuaded me to shut myself up in my Study, till I could do good with a single Eye, lest in endeavouring to save others, as I did now, I should, at last, by Pride and Self-complacence, lose myself.

Henceforward he transformed himself into an Angel of Light, and worked so artfully, that I imagined the good, and not the evil Spirit suggested to me every Thing that I did.

His main Drift was to lead me into a State of Quietism, (He generally plowed with God's Heifer) and when the Holy Spirit put into my Heart good Thoughts or Convictions, he always drove them to Extremes.—For instance, having out of Pride, put down in my Diary what I gave away, *Satan* tempted me to lay my Diary quite aside.—When *Castaniza* advised to talk but little, *Satan* said I must not talk at all.—So that I, who used to be the most forward in exhorting my Companions, have sat whole Nights almost without speaking at all. Again when *Castaniza* advised to endeavour after a silent Recollection and waiting upon God, *Satan* told me I must leave off all Forms, and not use my Voice in Prayer at all.—The Time would fail me to recount all the Instances of this Kind in which he had deceived me.—But when Matters came to an extreme, God always shewed me my Error, and, by his Spirit, pointed out a Way for me to Escape.

The Devil also sadly imposed upon me in the Matter of my College Exercises.—Whenever I endeavoured to compose my Theme, I had no Power to write a Word, nor so much as to tell my Christian Friends of my Inability to do it.—*Saturday* being come (which is the Day the Students give up their Compositions) it was suggested to me, that I must go down into the Hall, and confess I could not make a Theme, and so publickly suffer, as if it were for my Master's Sake. When the Bell rung to call us, I went to open the Door to go down Stairs, but feeling something give me a violent inward Check, I entered my Study, and continued instant in Prayer, waiting the Event.—For this my Tutor fined me half a Crown. The next Week *Satan* served me in like Manner again;—But having now got more Strength, and perceiving no inward Check, I went into the Hall.—My Name being called, I stood up, and told my Tutor I could not make a Theme.—I think he fined me a second Time; but imagining that I would not willingly neglect my Exercise, he afterwards called

led me into the common Room, and kindly enquired whether any Misfortune had befallen me, or what was the Reason I could not make a Theme? I burst into Tears, and assured him that it was not out of Contempt of Authority, but that I could not act otherwise. Then at length he said, he believed I could not; and when he left me, told a Friend (as he very well might) that he took me to be really mad.— This Friend hearing from my Tutor what had happened, came to me, urging the Command in Scripture, to be subject to the higher Powers. I answered, Yes; but I had a new Revelation. Lord, what is Man!

As I daily got Strength, by continued, tho' almost silent Prayer, in my Study, my Temptations grew stronger also, particularly for two or three Days before Deliverance came.—Near five or six Weeks I had now spent in my Study, except when I was obliged to go out. During this Time I was fighting with my Corruptions, and did little else besides kneeling down by my Bed-side, feeling, as it were a heavy Pressure upon my Body, as well as an unspeakable Oppression of Mind, yet offering up my Soul to God, to do with me as it pleased him. It was now suggested to me, that *Jesus Christ* was amongst the wild Beasts when he was tempted, and that I ought to follow his Example; and being willing, as I thought, to imitate *Jesus Christ*, after Supper I went into *Christ-Church Walk*, near our College, and continued in silent Prayer under one of the Trees for near two Hours, sometimes lying flat on my Face, sometimes kneeling upon my Knees, all the while filled with Fear and Concern lest some of my Brethren should be overwhelmed with Pride.—The Night being stormy, it gave me awful Thoughts of the Day of Judgment. I continued I think till the great Bell rung for Retirement to the College, not without finding some Reluctance in the natural Man against staying so long in the Cold.

The next Night I repeated the same Exercise at the same Place. But the Hour of Extremity being now come, God was pleased to make an open Shew of those Diabolical Devices by which I had been deceived.

By this Time I had left off keeping my Diary, using my Forms, or scarce my Voice in Prayer, visiting the Prisoners, &c. Nothing remained for me to leave, unless I forsook publick Worship, but my religious Friends.—Now it was suggested that I must leave them also for *Christ's* Sake.—This was a sore Trial, but rather than not be, as I fancied, *Christ's* Disciple, I resolved to renounce them, tho' as dear to me as my own Soul.—Accordingly, the next Day being *Wednesday*, whereon we kept one of our weekly Fasts, instead of meeting with my Brethren as usual, I went out into the Fields, and prayed silently by myself.—Our Evening Meeting I neglected also, and went not to Breakfast, according to Appointment, with Mr. *Charles Wesley* the Day following.—This, with many other concurring Circumstances, made my honoured Friend, Mr. *Charles Wesley*, suspect something more than ordinary was the Matter. He came to my Room, soon found out my Case; apprized me of my Danger if I would not take Advice, and recommended me to his Brother *John*, Fellow of *Lincoln-College*, as more experienced in the spiritual Life, God gave me (Blessed be his holy Name!) a teachable Temper; I waited upon his Brother, with whom from that Time I had the Honour of growing intimate.—He advised me to resume all my Externals, tho' not to *depend* on them in the least.—From time to time he gave me Directions as my various and pitiable State required; and at length, by his excellent Advice and Management of me, under God, I was delivered from those Wiles of *Satan*.—Praise the Lord, O my Soul, and all that is within me praise his holy Name!

During this, and all other Seasons of Temptation, my Soul was inwardly supported with great Courage
and

and Resolution from above.—Every Day God made me willing to renew the Combat, and tho' my Soul, when quite empty of God, was very prone to seek Satisfaction in the Creature, and sometimes I fell into Sensuality, yet I was generally enabled to wait in Silence for the Salvation of God, or to persist in Prayer, till some Beams of spiritual Light and Comfort were vouchsafed me from on high. *Thomas a Kempis*, (since translated and published by Mr. *John Wesley*) *Castaniza's* Combat, and the *Greek Testament* (every Reading of which I endeavoured to turn into a Prayer) were of great Help and Furtherance to me. On receiving the holy Sacrament, especially before Trials, I have found Grace in a very affecting Manner, and in abundant Measure sometimes imparted to my Soul; an irrefragable Proof to me of the miserable Delusion of the Author of that called, *The plain Account of the Sacrament*, which sinks that holy Ordinance into a bare Memorial, who, if he obstinately refuse the Instruction of the Most High, will doubtless, without Repentance, bear his Punishment, whosoever he be.

To proceed. I had now taken up my External's again;—and tho' *Satan* for some Weeks had been biting my Heel, God was pleased to shew me that I should soon bruise his Head.—A few Days after, as I was walking along, I met with a poor Woman, whose Husband was then in *Bocardo*, or *Oxford Town-Goal*, which I constantly visited. Seeing her much discomposed, I enquired the Cause.—She told me, not being able to bear the crying of her Children, ready to perish for Hunger, and having nothing to relieve them, she had been to drown herself, but was mercifully prevented, and said she was coming to my Room to inform me of it.—I gave her some immediate Relief, and desired her to meet me at the Prison with her Husband in the Afternoon.—She came, and their God visited them both by his free Grace;—she was powerfully quickened from above; and when I had done reading, he came to me like the trembling

trembling Goaler, and grasping my Hand, cried out, "I am upon the Brink of Hell!"—From this Time forward both of them grew in Grace.—God, by his Providence, soon delivered him from his Confinement.—Tho' notorious Offenders against God and one another before, yet now they became Helps meet for each other in the great Work of their Salvation.—They are both now living, and, I trust, will be my Joy and Crown of rejoicing in the great Day of our Lord *Jesus*.

Soon after this the holy Season of *Lent* came on, which our Friends kept very strictly, eating no Flesh during the six Weeks, except on *Saturdays* and *Sundays*. I abstained frequently on *Saturdays* also, and ate nothing on the other Days, (except on *Sunday*) but Sage-tea without Sugar, and coarse Bread.—I constantly walked out in the cold Mornings, till Part of one of my Hands was quite black.—This, with my continued Abstinence, and inward Conflicts, at length so emaciated my Body, that at Passion-week, finding I could scarce creep up Stairs, I was obliged to inform my kind Tutor of my Condition, who immediately sent for a Physician to me.

This caused no small Triumph amongst the Collegians, who began to cry out, "What is his Fasting come to now?" But I rejoiced in this Reproach, knowing that tho' I had been imprudent, and lost much of my Flesh, yet I had nevertheless increased in the Spirit.

This Fit of Sickness continued upon me for seven Weeks, and a glorious Visitation it was.—The blessed Spirit was all this Time purifying my Soul.—All my former gross and notorious, and even my Heart-sins also, were now set home upon me, of which I wrote down some Remembrance immediately, and confessed them before God Morning and Evening.—Tho' weak, I often spent two Hours in my Evening Retirements, and prayed over my *Greek Testament*, and Bishop *Hall's* most excellent Contemplations, every Hour that my Health would permit.

About

About the End of the seven Weeks, and after I had been groaning under an unspeakable Pressure both of Body and Mind for above a Twelve-month; God was pleased to set me free in the following Manner.—One Day, perceiving an uncommon Drought, and a disagreeable Clamminess in my Mouth, and using Things to allay my Thirst, but in vain, it was suggested to me, that when *Jesus Christ* cried out, “I thirst,” his Sufferings were near at an End. Upon which, I cast myself down on the Bed, crying out, I thirst! I thirst! and acted Faith upon a crucified *Jesus*, bleeding for me in particular.—Soon after this, I found and felt in myself, that I was delivered from the Burden that had so heavily oppressed me! The Spirit of Mourning was taken from me, and I knew what it was truly to rejoice in God my Saviour, and, for some Time, could not avoid singing Psalms wherever I was; but my Joy gradually became more settled, and, blessed be God, has abode and increased in my Soul (saving a few casual Intermissions) ever since!

Thus were the Days of my Mourning ended.—After a long Night of Desertion and Temptation, the Star, which I had seen at a Distance before, began to appear again, and the Day-star arose in my Heart.—Now did the Spirit of God take Possession of my Soul, and, as I humbly hope, seal me to the Day of Redemption.

S E C T. III.

From the Time of my first leaving the University to go to Gloucester, till the Time of my Ordination.

AS fast as I got Strength after my Sickness, my Tutor, Physician, and some others, were still urging me to go into the Country, hoping thereby

to divert me, as they thought, from a too intense Application to Religion.—I had for some Time, been aware of their Design, and wrote Letters, beseeching my Mother, if she valued my Soul, not to lay her Commands on me to come down. She was pleased to leave me to my Choice; but finding at last it was necessary for my Health, and many other providential Circumstances pointing out my Way, after earnest Prayer for Support, by the Advice of my Friends, I left my sweet Retirement at *Oxford*, and went to *Gloucester*, the Place of my Nativity.

Having now obtained Mercy from God, and received the Spirit of Adoption in my Heart, my Friends were surprized to see me look and behave so cheerfully, after the many Reports they had heard concerning me. However, I soon found myself to be as a Sheep sent forth amongst Wolves in Sheep's Clothing: For they immediately endeavoured to dissuade me (as they had lately done a Friend that began with me) from a constant Use of the Means of Grace, especially from weekly Abstinence, and receiving the blessed Sacrament.—But God enabled me to resist them stedfast in the Faith, by keeping close to him in his holy Ordinances, I was made to triumph over all.

Being unaccustomed for some Time to live without spiritual Companions, and finding none that would join heartily with me, no, not one, I watched unto Prayer all the Day long, beseeching God to raise me some religious Associates in his own Way and Time.

“ I will endeavour either to find or make a Friend,” had been my Resolution now for some Time; and therefore, after importunate Prayer one Day, I resolved to go to the House of one Mrs. *W*———, to whom I had formerly read Plays, Spectators, *Pope's Homer*, and such like trifling Books,—hoping the Alteration she now would find in my Sentiments, might, under God, influence her Soul.—God was pleased to bless the Visit with the desired Effect.—She received

ved the Word gladly.—She wanted to be taught the Way of God more perfectly, and soon became a Fool for *Christ's* Sake.—Not long after, God made me instrumental to awaken several young Persons, who soon formed themselves into a little Society, and had quickly the Honour of being despised at *Gloucester*, as we had been before them at *Oxford*: Thus, *all* that will live godly in *Christ Jesus*, must suffer Persecution

My Mind being now more open and enlarged, I began to read the holy Scriptures (upon my Knees) laying aside all other Books, and praying over, if possible, every Line and Word.—This proved Meat indeed, and Drink indeed, to my Soul.—I daily received fresh Life, Light, and Power from above.—I got more true Knowledge from reading the Book of God in one Month, than I could *Ever* have acquired from *All* the Writings of Men.—In one Word, I found it profitable for Reproof, for Correction, for Instruction in Righteousness, every Way sufficient to make the Man of God perfect, throughly furnished unto every good Word and Work.

During my Absence from *Oxford*, I spent three Weeks at *Bristol*, whither I went to see some Relations, but could not do them much good because of the Prejudices they had conceived against me.—However, I daily walked with God, and going to visit an Aunt, then in an Alms-house there, God brought in my Way a young Woman, who was hungering and thirsting after Righteousness.—She received the Word into an honest and good Heart, and since has proved a true Follower of *Jesus Christ*.—So gracious was the Lord, even in these my very early Days, not to leave himself without Witness, in that he *thus* vouchsafed to bless my poor Endeavours in *every* Place whereto his Providence *now* sent me!

According to his abundant Mercy he also raised me up some temporal Supplies. For some considerable Time I had followed the Example of Professor *Frank*, and whenever I wanted any wordly Assistance, plead-

ed.

ed the Scripture Promises for the Things of this Life, as well as that which is to come, in the Name of *Jesus Christ*.—This is still my Practice, and I never yet failed of Success.—When I came from *Oxford*, on account of my Sickness, and other extraordinary and unavoidable Expences, I owed, I think, about twelve or thirteen Pounds; and when I went to *Bristol*, I was so poor, that I was obliged to borrow Money of my kind Hostess, Mrs. H——, with whom I lodged at *Gloucester* (and whose Husband and Family I pray God eternally to bless) to bear my Charges on the Road. This, I bless God, did not dishearten me; but I continued pleading the Promises in the Name of *Christ*, and soon after my coming to *Bristol* I received an Answer.—For a Brother of mine coming from Sea, God inclined him to give me four Guineas, and some other Necessaries. And when I returned to *Gloucester* (as I did after I had continued a short Time at *Bristol*) those I expected should assist me, did not; but Persons I never spoke to, and who, I thought, were my Enemies, were raised up to supply my Wants, and fulfil that promise which I always pleaded, “ Seek first the Kingdom of God and his Righteousness, and all these Things shall be added unto you.”

Oh, what sweet Communion had I daily vouchsafed from God in Prayer after my coming again to *Gloucester*!—How often have I been carried out beyond myself when sweetly meditating in the Fields!—How assuredly have I felt that *Christ* dwelt in me, and I in him, and how did I daily walk in the Comforts of the Holy Ghost, and was edified and refreshed in the Multitude of Peace! Not that I was always upon the Mount, sometimes a Cloud would overshadow me: But the Sun of Righteousness quickly arose and dispelled it, and I knew it was *Jesus Christ* that revealed himself to my Soul:

I always observed, as my inward Strength increased, so my outward Sphere of Action increased proportionally.—In a short Time therefore, I began to read to

some

some poor People twice or thrice a Week.—I likewise visited two other little Societies besides my own, and almost every Day, both then, and since, have found the Benefit of being tempted myself, because that alone taught me how to give proper Advice to those that came to me when tempted.

Occasionally, as Business and Opportunity permitted, I generally visited one or two sick Persons every Day, and tho' Silver and Gold I had little, of my own, yet, in Imitation of my Lord's Disciples, who intreated in the Behalf of the fainting Multitude, I used to pray unto him; and he, from time to time, inclined several that were rich in this World to give me Money, so that I generally had a little Stock for the Poor always in my Hand. One of the Poor whom I visited in this Manner, was called effectually by G O D as at the eleventh Hour: She was a Woman about threescore Years old, and, I really believe, died in the true Faith of *Jesus Christ*.

About this Time G O D was pleased to enlighten my Soul, and bring me into the Knowledge of his free Grace, and the Necessity of being justified in his Sight by *Faith only*; this was more extraordinary, because my Friends at *Oxford* had rather inclined to the Mystic Divinity.—And one of them (a dear Servant of the Lord) lately confessed he did not like me so well when at *Oxford*, as the rest of his Brethren, because I held Justification by *Faith only*.—And yet he observed I had most Success.—But, blessed be G O D, most of us have now been taught this Doctrine of *Christ*, and, I hope, shall be willing to die in the Defence of it. It is the good old Doctrine of the Church of *England*: it is what the holy Martyrs in *Queen Mary's* Time sealed with their Blood, and which, I pray G O D, if need be, that I and my Brethren may seal with ours.

Burkit's and *Henry's Expositions* were of admirable Use to lead me into *this*, and all other Gospel Truths. For many Months have I been almost always

ways upon my Knees, to study and pray over these Books. The Holy Spirit from time to time has led me into the Knowledge of divine Things, and I have been directed, by watching and reading the Scripture in this Manner, even in the minutest Circumstances, as plainly as the *Jews* were, when consulting the *Urim* and *Thummim* at the High-Priest's Breast!

Allen's Alarm, *Baxter's Call to the Unconverted*, and *Jane-way's Life*, which I read at leisure Hours, much benefited me. I bless G O D, the Partition-wall of Bigotry and Sect-religion was soon broken down in my Heart.—For as soon as the Love of G O D was shed abroad in my Soul, I loved all of whatever Denomination, that loved the Lord *Jesus* in Sincerity of Heart.

During my Stay here, G O D enabled me to give a publick Testimony of my Repentance as to seeing and acting Plays.—For hearing the Strollers were coming to Town, and knowing what an egregious Offender I had been, I wrestled with G O D in Prayer to put me in a Way to manifest my Abhorrence of my former Sin and Folly. In Answer to this, I was stirred up to extract Mr. *Law's* excellent Treatise, intituled, *The absolute Unlawfulness of the Stage Entertainment*.—G O D gave me Favour in the Printer's Sight; and at my Request he put a little of it in the News for six Weeks successively, and G O D was pleased to give it his Blessing.

Having been absent for about six Months from the University, I thought it Time to think of returning thither; but before I came to a Resolution, was convinced of the contrary.

At my first coming to *Gloucester*, being used to visit the Prisoners at *Oxford*, I prayed most earnestly that G O D would open a Door for me to visit the Prisoners here also. Quickly after, I dreamed that one of the Prisoners came to be instructed by me: and it was impressed much upon my Heart.—In the Morning I went to the Door of the County-Goal; I knocked,

I knocked, but no Body came to open it.—I thought the Hour was not yet come.—I waited still upon God in Prayer, and in some Months after came a Letter from a Friend at *Oxford*, desiring me to go to one *Pebworth*, who was broken out of *Oxford* Goal, and was retaken at *Gloucester*. As soon as I read this Letter, it appeared to me that my Prayer was now answered. Immediately I went to the Prison, assuredly gathering that the Lord called me thither.—I met with the Person; and finding him and some others willing to hear the Word of God, having gained Leave of the Keeper and two Ordinaries, I constantly read to, and prayed with them every Day I was in Town.—I also begged Money for them, whereby I was enabled to release some of them, and cause Provision to be distributed weekly amongst them, as also to put such Books into their Hands as I judged most proper.—I cannot say any one of the Prisoners was effectually wrought upon; however, much Evil was prevented, many were convinced, and my own Soul was much edified and strengthened in the Love of God and Man.

Thus employed I continued in my own City three Months longer.—Despised indeed by Man, but highly blessed by the Grace of God.—My Understanding was enlightened, my Will broken, and my Affections more and more enlivened with a Zeal for *Christ*.—Many such, I believe, were added to our little Society as shall be saved.—Fresh Supplies came from unexpected Hands to defray my Expences at the University.—And at the End of nine Months I returned thither, to the mutual Joy and Comfort of my Friends, till I was called to enter into Holy Orders.—The particular Circumstances of which I shall relate in the following Section.

S E C T. IV.

Of my Preparation for Holy Orders.

FROM the Time I first entered at the University, especially from the Time I knew what was true and undefiled Christianity, I entertained high Thoughts of the Importance of the Ministerial Office, and was not solicitous what Place should be prepared for me, but how I should be prepared for a Place. That saying of the Apostle, “Not a Novice, lest being
 “puffed up with Pride, he fall into the Condemna-
 “tion of the Devil;” And that first Question of our excellent Ordination Office, “Do you trust that
 “you are *inwardly moved* by the Holy Ghost to take
 “upon you this Office and Administration?” used even to make me tremble whenever I thought of entering into the Ministry. The Shyness that *Moses* and some other Prophets expressed, when G O D sent them out in a publick Capacity, I thought was sufficient to teach me not to run till I was called.—He who knoweth the Hearts of Men, is Witness that I never prayed more earnestly against any Thing, than I did against entering into the Service of the Church *so soon*.—Oftentimes I have been in an Agony in Prayer, when under Convictions of my Insufficiency for so great a Work.—With strong Cryings and Tears I have often said, “Lord, I am a Youth
 “of uncircumcised Lips; Lord, send me not into
 “thy Vineyard yet;” And sometimes I had Reason to think G O D was angry with me for resisting his Will. However, I was resolved to pray *thus*, as long as I could. If G O D did not grant my Request in keeping me out of *it*, I knew his Grace would be sufficient to support and strengthen me whenever he sent me into the Ministry.

To my Prayers I added my Endeavours, and wrote Letters to my Friends at *Oxford*, beseeching them to pray to G O D to disappoint the Designs of my Country Friends, who were for my taking Orders as soon as possible. Their Answer was, “ Pray we the Lord “ of the Harvest to send thee and many more Labourers into his Harvest.” Another old and worthy Minister of *Christ*, when I wrote to him about the Meaning of the Word *Novice*, answered, it meant a *Novice* in Grace, and not in Years; and he was pleased to add, if *St. Paul* were then at *Gloucester*, he believed *St. Paul* would ordain me.—All this did not satisfy me.—I still continued instant in Prayer against going into Holy Orders, and was not thoroughly convinced it was the divine Will, till G O D, by his Providence, brought me acquainted with the present Bishop of *Gloucester*.

Before I conversed with his Lordship, G O D was pleased to give me previous Notice of it. Long ere I had the least Prospect of being called before the Bishop, I dreamed one Night, I was talking with him in his Palace, and that he gave me some Gold, which seemed to sound again in my Hand.—Afterward this Dream would often come into my Mind; and whenever I saw the Bishop at Church, a strong Persuasion would arise in my Mind that I should very shortly go to him: I always checked it, and prayed to G O D to preserve me from ever desiring that Honour which cometh of Man.—One Afternoon it happened that the Bishop took a solitary Walk, (as I was told afterwards) to old Lady *Selwyn's* near *Gloucester*, who, not long before, had made me a Present of a Piece of Gold. She, I found, recommended me to the Bishop; and a few Days after, as I was coming from the Cathedral Prayers, thinking of no such Thing, one of the Vergers called after me, and said, the Bishop desired to speak with me, I, forgetful at that Time of my Dream, immediately turned back, considering within myself what I had done to deserve

his Lordship's Displeasure. When I came to the Top of the Palace Stairs, the Bishop took me by the Hand, told me he was glad to see me, and bid me to wait a little till he had put off his Habit, and he would return to me again. This gave me an Opportunity of praying to God for his Assistance, and adoring him for his Providence over me.

At his coming again into the Room, the Bishop told me he had heard of my Character, liked my Behaviour at Church, and enquiring my Age, "Notwithstanding, says he, I have declared I would not ordain any one under three and twenty, yet I shall think it my Duty to ordain you whenever you come for Holy Orders." He then made me a Present of Five Guineas to buy me a Book, which founding again in my Hand, put me in Mind of my Dream, whereupon my Heart was filled with a Sense of God's Love.

Before I came home this News had reached my Friends; who, being fond of my having such a great Man's Favour, were very solicitous to know the Event of my Visit. Many Things I hid from them; but when they pressed me hard, I was obliged to tell them how the Bishop, of his own Accord, had offered to give me Holy Orders whenever I would. On which they, knowing how I had depended on the Declaration his Lordship had made some Time ago, that he would ordain none under three and twenty, said,—and I then began to think myself, "That if I held out any longer, I should fight against God."—At length I came to a Resolution, by God's Leave, to offer myself for Holy Orders the next Ember-days.

The only Thing now in Dispute was, into what Part of my Lord's Vineyard I should be sent to labour first.—God had given me much Success in *Gloucester*; and my Friends being desirous of having me near them, I had Thoughts of settling amongst them. But when I came to *Oxford*, my Friends urged

urged several Reasons for my continuing at the University.—“ The Mr. *Wesleys* had not long been gone abroad, and now no one was left to take Care of the Prison Affairs, &c.”—They further urged, “ That God had blessed my Endeavours *there* as well as at *Gloucester*; that the University was the Fountain-head, that every Gownsmen’s Name was Legion, and that if I should be made instrumental in converting one of *them*, it would be as much as converting a whole Parish.” At the same Time (unknown to me) some of them sent to that great and good Man, the late Sir *John Philips*, who was a great Encourager of the *Oxford* Methodists; and tho’ he had never seen, but only heard of me, yet he sent Word he would allow me thirty Pounds a Year, if I would continue at the University. Upon this, finding the Care of the Prisoners would be no more than under God I could undertake with Pleasure, and knowing the University was the best Place to prosecute my Studies, I resolved, God willing, to wait at *Oxford* for a Blessing on the first Fruits of my ministerial Labours.

In the mean while, having before made some Observations upon the Thirty nine Articles, and proved them by Scripture, I strictly examined myself by the Qualifications required for a Minister in *St. Paul’s* Epistle to *Timothy*, and also by every Question that I knew was to be publickly put to me at the Time of my Ordination. *This* latter I drew out in Writing at large, and sealed my approbation of it every *Sunday* at the blessed Sacrament.—At length *Trinity-Sunday* being near at hand, and having my Testimonials from the College, I went a Fortnight before hand to *Gloucester*, intending to compose some Sermons, and to give myself more particularly to Prayer.

But God’s Thoughts are not as our Thoughts.—When I came to *Gloucester*, notwithstanding I strove and prayed for several Days, and had Matter enough

in my Heart, yet I was so restrained that I could not compose any Thing at all. I mentioned my Case to one Clergyman. He said, "I was an Enthusiast." I wrote to another who was experienced in the divine Life; he gave me some Reasons why God might deal with me in that Manner, and withal promised me his Prayers.—I joined with him in importunate Supplication to know whether this Restraint was of God or not?—At last, in reading Mr. Henry, upon the *Acts of the Apostles*, this Passage was much pressed upon my Heart, "*We es-*
sayed to go into Bythinia, but the Spirit suffered us
not." Looking a little farther, I found a Quotation out of *Ezekiel*, wherein God said to that young Prophet, just after he had given him a divine and publick Commission, "*Thou shalt be dumb, but when*
I speak unto thee, then shalt thou speak." This made me quite easy. The remainder of the Fortnight I spent in reading the several Missions of the Prophets and Apostles, and wrestled with God to give me Grace to follow their good Examples.

About three Days before the Time appointed for Ordination the Bishop came to Town. The next Evening I sent his Lordship an Abstract of my private Examination upon these two Questions, "*Do you*
trust that you are inwardly moved by the Holy Ghost
to take upon you this Office and Administration?" And, "*Are you called according to the Will of our*
Lord Jesus Christ, and the Laws of this Realm?" The next Morning I waited on the Bishop. He received me with much Love, telling me, "He was
 glad I was come; that he was satisfied with the
 Preparation I had made, and with the Allowance
 given me by Sir *John Philips*. I had myself (said
 he, made Provision for you of two little Parishes,
 but since you choose to be at *Oxford*, I am very
 well pleased.—I doubt not but you will do much
 good."—Upon this I took my Leave, abashed with God's Goodness to such a Wretch, but withal exceed-

exceedingly rejoiced, that in every Circumstance he made my Way into the Ministry so very plain before my Face!

This, I think, was on *Friday*. The Day following I continued in Abstinence and Prayer.—In the Evening I retired to a Hill near the Town, and prayed fervently for about two Hours, in Behalf of myself and those that were to be ordained with me.

On *Sunday* Morning I rose early, and prayed over *St. Paul's* Epistle to *Timothy*, and more particularly over *that* Precept, “*Let no one despise thy Youth:*” —When I went up to the Altar, I could think of nothing but *Samuel's* standing a little Child before the Lord with a Linen Ephod.—When the Bishop laid his Hands upon my Head, my Heart was melted down, and I offered up my whole Spirit, Soul and Body, to the Service of God's Sanctuary!—I read the Gospel, at the Bishop's Command, with Power, and afterward sealed the good Confession I had made before many Witnesses, by partaking of the holy Sacrament of our Lord's most blessed Body and Blood!

Being restrained from Writing, as was before observed, I could not preach in the Afternoon, tho' much solicited thereto. But I read Prayers to the poor Prisoners, being willing to let the first Act of my ministerial Office be an Act of Charity.

The next Morning, waiting upon God in Prayer, to know what he would have me to do, these Words; “*Speak out Paul,*” came with great Power to my Soul. Immediately my Heart was enlarged.—God spake to me by his Spirit, and I was no longer dumb.—I finished a Sermon I had in hand some Time before, I began another, and preached the *Sunday* following to a very crowded Audience, with as much Freedom as tho' I had been a Preacher for some Years.

Oh the unspeakable Benefit of reading to the Poor, and exercising our Talents while Students at the University! Such previous Acts are very proper to prepare us for the Work of our Lord, and make us not unapt to teach in a more publick Manner.—It is remarkable that our Lord sent out his Apostles on short Missions, before they were so solemnly authorised at the Day of *Pentecost*. Would the Heads and Tutors of our Universities follow his Example, and, instead of discouraging their Pupils from doing any Thing of this Nature, send them to visit the Sick and the Prisoners, and to pray with, and read practical Books of Religion to the Poor, they would find such Exercises of more Service to *them*, and to the *Church* of God, than *all* their private and publick *Lectures* put together.

Thus God dealt with my Soul.—At the same Time, by his gracious Providence, he supplied me with all Things needful for my Body also.—For he inclined the Bishop's Heart to give me five Guineas more, and, by this Time, a Quarter's Allowance was due to me from Sir *John Philips*, both which Sums put together, fully served to defray the Expences of my Ordination, and taking my Batchelor's Degree, which was conferred on me at *Oxford* the Week after my being ordained, when I was about one and twenty Years of Age.

These Changes, from a Servitor to a Batchelor of Arts, from a common Drawer to a Clergyman, were no doubt Temptations to think more highly of myself than I ought to think; and some were therefore jealous over me, as I trust they always will be, with a godly Jealousy; God, who is rich in Mercy, thereby forewarned me of my Danger, stirred up my Heart to pray against spiritual Pride, and kept me (as I hope he will to the End) in some Measure always humbled before him!

Thus did God, by a Variety of unforeseen Acts of Providence and Grace, train me up for, and at length introduce me into the Service of his Church.

What

What has happened to me since that Time, especially for these two last Years, is so known as to need no Repetition; however, as I find freedom in myself, and Leisure from my ministerial Employ, I shall hereafter relate God's further Dealings with my Soul, and how he led me into my present Way of acting.

In the mean while, my dear Reader, whosoever thou art, I pray God what I have now written may not prove a Saviour of Death unto Death, but a Saviour of Life unto Life unto thy Soul!—Many, I fear, thro' Ignorance, Prejudice, and Unbelief, when they read this, will contradict and blaspheme. Be not thou of this Number; but if thou are yet uninfected with the Contagion of the World, I pray God to keep thee so: For, (believe me) Innocence is better than Repentance; and tho' Sin may afford thee some brutish present Pleasure, yet the Remembrance of it afterwards is exceeding bitter.—If thou art immersed in Sin as I was, take no Encouragement from me to continue in it on the one Hand, nor despair of Mercy on the other.—Let God's Goodness to me lead thee also to Repentance.—The same Lord is rich unto ALL that call upon him through Faith in *Christ Jesus*. If through divine Grace I have done any Thing Praise-worthy, not unto me, not unto me, but unto God give all the Glory!—If thou art awakened to a Sense of the divine Life, and art hungering and thirsting after that Righteousness which is by Faith only in *Jesus Christ*, and the In-dwelling of his blessed Spirit in thy Heart, think it not absolutely necessary to pass through all the Temptations that have beset me round about on every Side.—It is in the spiritual as in the natural Life; some feel more, others less, but all experience some Pangs and Travails of Soul, ere *Christ Jesus* is formed within them. If God deals with thee in a more gentle Way, yet so as that a thorough Work of Conversion is effected in thy Heart, thou oughtest to be exceeding

ing thankful.—Or if he should lead thee through a longer Wilderness than I have passed through, thou needest not complain.—The more thou art *humbled now*, the more thou shalt be *exalted hereafter*.—One Taste of *Christ's* Love in thy Heart, will make Amends for all.—And if thou *hast felt the Powers of the World to come, and been made a Partaker of the Holy Ghost*, I know thou wilt rejoice, and give Thanks for what God has done for my Soul.—To conclude; may all that peruse these few Sheets be as much affected alternately with Grief and Joy in reading, as I have been in writing them; they will then have the desired Effect, and cause many Thanksgivings to be offered in my Behalf to that God who has called me out of Darkness into his marvellous Light! And that thou, O Reader, whoever thou art, mayst experience the like and greater Blessings, is the hearty Prayer of thy Soul's Friend and Servant,

GEORGE WHITEFIELD,

A HYMN

A

H Y M N.

T A K E N F R O M

Mr. *A D D I S O N.*

1. **W**HEN all thy Mercies, O my GOD,
 My rising Soul surveys,
 Why, my cold Heart, art thou not lost
 In Wonder, Love, and Praise?

2. Thy Providence my Life sustain'd,
 And all my Wants redrest,
 While in the silent Womb I lay,
 And hung upon the Breast.

3. To all my weak Complaints and Cries
 Thy Mercy lent an Ear;
 Ere yet my feeble Thoughts had learn'd
 To form themselves in Prayer.

4. Unnumber'd Comforts on my Soul,
 Thy tender Care bestow'd,
 Before my Infant Heart conceiv'd
 From whom those Comforts flow'd.

5. When

5. *When in the slippery Paths of Youth,
With heedless Steps I ran,
Thine Arm unseen convey'd me safe,
And led me up to Man.*
6. *Thro' bidden Dangers, Toils and Deaths,
It gently clear'd my Way,
And thro' the pleasing Snares of Vice,
More to be fear'd than they.*
7. *Ten thousand thousand precious Gifts
My daily Thanks employ;
Nor is the least a cheerful Heart,
That tastes those Gifts with Joy.*
8. *Thro' every Period of my Life
Thy Goodness I'll pursue,
And after Death in distant Worlds
The pleasing Theme renew.*
9. *Thro' all Eternity to thee
A grateful Song I'll raise:
But O! Eternity's too short
To utter all thy Praise.*

The End of the First Part.

T H E

SECOND PART:

Being a further ACCOUNT of his

L I F E.

HAVING been ordained at *Gloucester*, on *Trinity* Sunday 1736, and preached my Sermon on the *Necessity and Benefit of religious Society*, to a very crowded Auditory, (in the Church in which I was baptized) the Lord's Day following, I set out the next *Wednesday* to *Oxford*, where I was received with great Joy by my religious Friends.— For about a Week I continued in my Servitor's Habit, and then took my Degree of *Batchelor of Arts*, after having been at the University three Years and three Quarters, and going on towards the 22d Year of my Age. My dear and honour'd Friends the Reverend Messrs. *John* and *Charles Wesley*, being now for some time embarked for *Georgia*, and one or two more having taken Orders, the Interest of **METHODISM**, as it was then and is now termed, had visibly declined, and very few of this reputed mad Way were left at the University. This somewhat discouraged me at times, but the Lord *Jesus* supported my Soul, and made me easy by giving me a strong Conviction, that I was where He would have

have me to be. My Degree I soon found was of Service to me, as it gave me Access to those I could not be free with when in an inferior Station; and, as Opportunity offered, I was enabled to converse with them about the Things which belonged to the Kingdom of God.—The Subscriptions for the poor Prisoners (which amounted to about *Forty Pounds* per Annum) were soon put into my Hands.—Two or Three small Charity-Schools, maintained by the *Methodists*, were under my more immediate Inspection, which, with the Time I spent in following my Studies, private Retirement, and religious Converse, sweetly filled up the whole of my Day, and kept me from that unaccountable, but too common Complaint, of having any Time hang upon my Hands. The distributing Money and Books amongst the poor Prisoners, and employing such as could work, I found was of admirable Service:—For hereby they were kept from that worst of Goal Diseases, Idleness; and were not only convinced, that we bore a good Will towards them, but also laid them as it were under an Obligation to hear the Instructions we gave them from time to time.—This Practice was first taken up by the Messrs. *Wesleys*, and would to God all Ordinaries of Prisons would copy after their good Example.—They would deserve well of the Common-wealth, and if actuated by the Love of God, would receive a glorious Reward from him who hath said, *I was sick and in Prison, and ye came unto me.*

In a short Time I began to be more than content in my present State of Life. God was pleased to be with me of a Truth,——My Strength was proportioned to my Day, and I had Thoughts of abiding at the University, at least for some Years, to finish my Studies, and do what good I could amongst the poor despised *Methodists*.——But *God's Thoughts are not as Man's Thoughts, neither are our Ways as his Ways.*—By a Series of unforeseen, unexpected, and unfought for Providences, I was called in a short
Time

Time from my beloved Retirement to take a Journey to the Metropolis of *England*.—Whilst I was an Under-graduate, amongst other religious Friends, I was very intimate with one Mr. *B——n*, a professed *Methodist*, who had lately taken Orders, and was Curate at the *Tower of London*.—With him, when absent, I frequently corresponded, and when present took sweet Council, and walked to the House of God as Friends. He mentioned me to that late good and great Man Sir *John Philips*.—And being called down for a while into *Hampshire*, he wrote to me to be of good Courage, and in the Strength of God, bid me hasten to Town to officiate in his Absence, and be refreshed with the Sight and Conversation of many who loved me for *Christ's* sake, and had for a long Time desired to see me.—

On *Wednesday August 4th*, (the Prisoners being provided for by the coming of Mr. *Harvey*, another young worthy *Methodist*, that had lately taken Deacon's Orders) with Fear and Trembling I obeyed the Summons, and went in the Stage-Coach to *London*.—There being no other Passenger, I employed myself, a good Part of the Way, in earnest Supplication to the God of all Grace to be my Guide and my Comforter; at the same time I could not help praising him for changing my Heart, and calling me to preach the Gospel at a Place to which, not many Years ago, I would have given much Money, would my Circumstances have permitted, to have went up and seen a Play. In the Evening I reached the Tower, and was kindly received by my dear Friend.—The Remainder of the Week was spent in visiting Sir *John Philips*, &c. who were too glad to see me.—But God sent me something to ballast it.—For as I passed along the Streets, many came out of their Shops, admiring to see so young a Person in a Gown and Cassock. One I remember in particular cried out, “*There's a Boy Parson.*”—which, as it served to mortify my Pride, put me al-

so upon turning that apostolical Exhortation into Prayer, "*Let no Man despise thy Youth.*"

On Sunday August 8th, in the Afternoon, I preach'd at *Bishopgate* Church, the Largeness of which, and the Congregation together, at first a little dash'd me; but by adverting to G O D, and considering in whose Name I was about to speak, my Mind was calmed, and I was enabled to preach with Power.—The Effect was immediate and visible to all; for as I went up the Stairs almost all seem'd to sneer at me on Account of my Youth; but they soon grew serious, and exceedingly attentive, and after I came down shewed me great Tokens of Respect, blessed me as I passed along, and made great Enquiry who I was.—The Question no one could answer, for I was quite a Stranger. I speedily slipped through the Crowd, and came to the *Tower*, blessing G O D for his Goodness to me the unworthiest of the Sons of Men.—

Here I continued for the Space of two Months, reading Prayers twice a Week, catechising and preaching once, besides visiting the Soldiers in the Infirmary and Barracks daily. I also read Prayers every Evening at *Wapping Chapel*, and preached at *Ludgate Prison* every *Tuesday*.—G O D was pleased to give me Favour in the Eyes of the Inhabitants of the *Tower*.—The Chapel was crowded on Lord's-Days—Religious Friends from divers Parts of the Town attended the Word, and several young Men came on Lord's-Day Morning, under serious Impressions, to hear me discourse about the *New-Birth*, and the Necessity of renouncing all in Affection, in order to follow *Jesus Christ*.

After I had been about a Month in Town, Letters came from the Messrs. *Wesleys*, and the Revd. Mr. *Ingham* their Fellow-Labourer, an *Israelite indeed*, from *Georgia*. Their Accounts fired my Soul, and made me even long to go abroad for G O D too.—But having no outward Call, and being, as I then thought, too weak in Body ever to undertake a

Voyage to Sea, I endeavoured to lay aside all Thoughts of going abroad.—But my Endeavours were all in Vain.—For I felt at times such a strong Attraction in my Soul towards *Georgia*, that I thought it almost irresistible.—I strove against it with all my Power, begged again and again with many Cries and Tears, that the Lord would not suffer me to be deluded, and at length opened my Mind to several dear Friends.—All agreed that Labourers were wanted at home, that I had as yet no visible Call abroad, and that it was my Duty not to be rash, but wait and see what Providence might point out to me.—To this I consented with my whole Heart, and having stayed in *London* till Mr. *B——n* came out of the Country, I returned to my little Charge at *Oxford*, and waited upon my Deaconship according to the Measure of Grace imparted to me.

But, oh what a delightful Life did I lead there! What Communion did I daily enjoy with God! And how sweetly did my Hours in private glide away in reading and praying over Mr. *Henry's* Comment, upon the Scriptures! Whilst I am musing on and writing about it, the Fire I then felt again kindles in my Soul—Nor was I alone happy—For several dear Youths were quickened greatly, and met daily at my Room, to build up each other in their most holy Faith—God raised up Friends for our temporal Support—The late Honourable *Betty Hastings*, that elect Lady, allowed some of them two or three small Exhibitions.—I also partook of her Ladyship's Bounty; and a Gentleman, whose Heart was in an especial Manner knit to me when last at *London*, was stirred up, without being solicited, to send me not only Money for the Poor, but also a Sufficiency to discharge Debts I had contracted for Books before I took my Degree. Upon his Recommendation, I was chosen a corresponding Member of the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge, which I rejoiced in, as it gave me an Opportunity of procuring Books at a cheap and easy Rate for the poor People.

—May the great high Priest and Apostle of our Profession continue to bless that Society, and prosper all their pious Undertakings, to the Advancement of his own Glory, and his Peoples eternal Good!

About the Middle of *November*, Providence once more called me from my beloved, though little, Scene of Action.—The Revd. Mr. *Kinchin*, now with God, had lately been awakned, and accordingly resolved to associate with the despised *Methodists*, determining to *know nothing but Jesus Christ and him crucified*.—He was then Minister of *Dummer* in *Hampshire*, and being likely to be chosen Dean of *Corpus Christi* College, he desired me to come and officiate for him, till that Affair should be decided.—By the Advice of Friends, I went, and he came to supply my Place at *Oxford*.—His Parish consisting chiefly of poor and illiterate People, my proud Heart at first could not well brook it.—I would have given all the World for one of my *Oxford* Friends, and mourned for lack of them as a Dove that has lost her Mate.—But upon giving myself to Prayer, and reading Mr. *Law*'s excellent Character of *Ouranius*, in his *Serious Call to a devout Life*, my Mind was reconciled to such Conversation as the Place afforded me.—Before I came to *Dummer*, Mr. *Kinchin* had used his People, according to the Rubrick, to have publick Prayers twice a Day, *viz.* In the Morning, it being Winter-season, before it was Light, and in the Evening, after the People returned from their Work. He also catechised the Lambs of the Flock daily, and visited from House to House.—He loved his People, and was beloved by them.—I prosecuted his Plan, and generally divided the Day into three Parts, eight Hours for Study and Retirement, eight Hours for Sleep and Meals, and eight Hours for reading Prayers, catechising, and visiting the Parish.—The Profit I reaped by these Exercises, and conversing with the poor Country People, was unspeakable.—I soon began to be as much delighted with their artless Conversation, as I had been

formerly with the Company of my *Oxford* Friends; and frequently learnt as much by an Afternoon's Visit, as in a Week's Study.—During my Stay here, an Invitation was sent me to a very profitable Curacy in *London*; but I had no Inclination to accept it—The Thoughts of going to *Georgia* still crowded continually in upon me, and at length Providence seemed to point my Way thither. About the Middle of *December*, comes a Letter from Mr. *B——n*, informing me, that Mr. *Charles Wesley* was arrived at *London*. Soon after came a Letter from Mr. *Charles* himself, wherein he informed me, that he was come over to procure Labourers; but, added he, “*I dare not prevent God's Nomination.*”—In a few Days after this, came another Letter from Mr. *John Wesley*, wherein were these Words, “*Only Mr. Delamott is with me, till God shall stir up the Hearts of some of his Servants, who putting their Lives in his Hands, shall come over and help us, where the Harvest is so great, and the Labourers so few. What if thou art the Man, Mr. Whitefield?*” In another Letter were these Words, “*Do you ask me what you shall have? Food to eat, and Raiment to put on, a House to lay your Head in; such as your Lord had not; and a Crown of Glory that fadeth not away.*” Upon reading this my Heart leaped within me, and as it were ecchoed to the Call.—Many things concurred to make my Way clear.—Mr. *Kinchin* was now elected Dean of *Corpus Christi College*, and being thereby obliged to reside at *Oxford*, he willingly took upon him the Charge of the Prisoners.—Mr. *Harvey* was ready to serve the Cure of *Dummer*.—Mr. *Wesley* was my dear Friend, and I thought it would be a great Advantage to me to be under his Tuition.—*Georgia* was an infant, and likely to be an encreasing Colony; and the Government seemed to have its Welfare much at heart.—I had heard many *Indians* were near it, and thought it a Matter of great Importance, that serious Clergymen should be sent there. Retirement and Privacy was what my Soul delighted

delighted in.—A Voyage to Sea would in all Probability, not do my Constitution much hurt: nay, I had heard the Sea was sometimes beneficial to weakly People. And supposing the worst, as I must necessarily return to take Priest's Orders, it would then be left to my Choice, whether I would fix in my native Country, or go abroad any more.—These things being thoroughly weighed, I at length resolved within myself to embark for *Georgia*: and knowing that I should never put my Resolution into Practice, if I conferred with Flesh and Blood, I wrote to my Relations to inform them of my Design, and withal told them, “ If they would promise not to dissuade me from my intended Voyage, I would come and take a personal Leave of them; if otherwise, knowing my own Weakness, I was determined to embark without visiting them at all.” A few Days after Mr. *Kirchin* came to *Dummer*, and introduced Mr. *Harvey* into the Cure.—I apprised them of my Intention.—They gave me some friendly Council, and having spent the Beginning of *Christmas* sweetly together, and taken an affectionate Leave of the *Dummer* People, I returned once more to *Oxford*, to bid adieu to my Friends, who were as dear to me as my own Soul.—My Resolution at first a little shocked them, but having Reason to think, from my Relation of Circumstances, that, I had a Call from Providence, most of them said, “ *The Will of the Lord be done.*”

On *New-Year's-Day*, 1736-7, I went to *Gloucester* in order to hear the Bishop's *Opinion*, and to take my Leave of my Mother and other Relations.—His Lordship received me, as he always did, like a Father, approved of my Design, wished me much Success, and said, “ He did not doubt but God would bless me, and that I should do much Good abroad.” My own Relations at first were not so passive.—My aged Mother wept sore, and others urged what pretty Preferment I might have, if I would stay at home.—But at length they grew more quiet, and finding

me so fixed, gainfayed no longer.—During my Stay here, I began to grow a little popular. God gave me Honour for a while, even in my own Country.—I preached twice on the Sabbaths. Congregations were very large, and the Power of God attended the Word; and some I have Reason to believe were truly converted, who will be my Joy and Crown of rejoicing in the Day of the Lord *Jesus*.

In about three Weeks I went to *Bristol*, to take leave of some more of my Relations who lived there. As it was my constant Practice, go where I would to attend on the daily publick Offices of the Church, I went, the *Thursday* after my coming, to hear a Sermon at St. *John's* Church. Whilst the Psalm was singing, after Prayers, the Minister came to my Seat, and asked me to give the Congregation a Sermon. Having my Notes about me, I complied. The Hearers seemed startled, and after Sermon Enquiry was made, who I was? The next Day there was another Lecture at St. *Stephens*. Many crowded thither in Expectation of hearing me again. The Lecturer asked me to preach, as the other did the Day before. I again complied, and the Alarm given here was so general, that on the following Lord's-Day, many of all Denominations were obliged to return from the Churches where I preached for want of Room. Afterwards I was called by the Mayor to preach before him, and the Corporation. And for some time following, I preached all the Lectures on Week-Days, and twice on *Sundays*, besides visiting the religious Societies. The Word, through the mighty Power of God, was sharper than a two-edged Sword. The Doctrine of the *New Birth*, and *Justification by Faith in Jesus Christ* (though I was not so clear in it as afterwards) made its Way like Lightning into the Hearers Consciences. The *Arrows of Conviction* stuck fast; and my whole Time between one Lecture and another, except what was spent in necessary Refreshment, was wholly taken up in talking with poor Souls under Concern. Large Offers.

Offers were made me, if I would stay at *Bristol*; and many I believe would almost have plucked out their own Eyes to have given me! All wondered that I would go to *Georgia*, who might be so well provided for at home! And some urged, if I had a Mind to convert *Indians*, I might go amongst the *King's-Wood* Colliers, and find *Indians* enough. But none of these Things moved me. Having put my Hand to the Plow, I was determined thro' divine Grace, not to look back. And therefore, at length, I took my leave, but with what mutual Affection and Concern cannot easily be expressed.

During my Stay at *Bristol*, I made a little Elopement to *Bath*, where I was kindly received by a dear Friend the Reverend Mr. *Chapman*, and some elect and honourable Women who befriended the *Oxford* Methodists. I preached at the Abbey-Church twice. — The late Dr. *Cockman* was pleased to thank me for my Sermon; and Application was made to me by several to print both my Discourses. But I scarce allowed such a Thought to enter, much less to lodge within my Heart.

It was now about the Middle of *February*. *Lent* was at hand, and I was obliged to be at *Oxford* to perform the Remainder of my College-Exercise, which they call *Determining*. I went through *Gloucester*, as it lay in my Way, and abode there a Week, visiting the Prisoners, and encouraging the awakened Souls. Having staid about ten Days at the University, I took, as I thought, my last Farewel of my dear Friends, and came up to *London* in the Beginning of *March*, in order to wait upon *James Oglethorp*, Esq; and the Honourable Trustees. I was kindly received by both. The former introduced me to his Grace the present *Arch-Bishop* of *Canterbury*; and the Revd. Mr. *Arthur Bedford*, at the Desire of the latter, (with whom I dined at their publick Anniversary) went with me to the present Lord Bishop of *London*. Both approved of my going abroad; the former was pleased to say, “ He would take parti-

“ cular

“ cular Notice of such as went to *Georgia*, if they did
 “ not go out of any *sinister View*.” This put me upon
 Enquiry what were my Motives in going? And,
 after the strictest Examination, my Conscience an-
 swered, “ *Not to please any Man living upon Earth,*
 “ *nor out of any sinister View; but simply to comply*
 “ *with what I believe to be thy Will, O God, and to*
 “ *promote thy Glory, thou great Shepherd and Bishop*
 “ *of Souls.*”

I continued at *London* about three Weeks, waiting
 for Mr. *Oglethorp*, who expected to sail every Day.
 In this Season I preached more frequently than when
 there before. Many more came to hear me, and the
 last *Sunday* I was in Town, I read Prayers twice, and
 preached four times.—But finding Mr. *Oglethorp*
 was not likely to go for some time, and having lain
 under particular Obligation to the Revd. Mr. *Samp-
 son Harris*, Minister of *Stone-House*, in *Gloucestershire*,
 I went down thither, at his Request, to supply his
 Place, whilst he came up to dispatch some Affairs
 in Town.

Hither I had Reason to think God sent me in An-
 swer to Prayer: For there were a little sweet Society
 of seeking Souls, who had heard me preach at an ad-
 jacent Town, and wrestled with God, if it was his
 Will, to send me amongst them. They received me
 with all Joy, and most of the Parishioners were very
 civil, when I came to visit them from House to
 House. Upon Examination I found them more
 knowing than I expected. Their Pastor had used
 to catechise the little Ones in the Summer-season, and
 expounded the four Lessons every Lord's-Day in the
 Church. I followed his good Example, and found
 great Freedom and Assistance given me both in my
 publick and private Administrations. Having the
 Use of the Parsonage-House, I expounded every
 Night. Many that were not Parishioners came to
 hear, and were edified. On *Sundays*, besides ex-
 pounding the Lessons, catechising and preaching, I
 repeated my Sermons to the Society. Neither
 Church

Church or House could contain the People that came. I found uncommon Manifestations granted me from above. Early in the Morning, at Noon-Day, Evening, and Midnight, nay all the Day long, did the blessed *Jesus* visit and refresh my Heart. Could the Trees of a certain Wood, near *Stone-House*, speak, they would tell what sweet Communion I and some more dear Souls enjoyed with the ever blessed God there. Sometimes as I have been walking, my Soul would make such Sallies as though it would go out of the Body. At other times I would be so overpowered with a Sense of God's infinite Majesty, that I would be constrained to throw myself prostrate on the Ground, and offer my Soul as a Blank in his Hands, to write on it what he pleased. One Night was a Time never to be forgotten. It happened to lighten exceedingly. I had been expounding to many People, and some being afraid to go home, I thought it my Duty to accompany them, and improve the Occasion, to stir them up to prepare for the coming of the Son of Man, But O what did my Soul feel! In my Return to the Parsonage-House, whilst others were rising from their Beds, and frightned almost to Death, to see the Lightning run upon the Ground, and shine from one Part of the Heaven unto the other, I and another, a poor, but pious, Countryman, were in the Field, praying to, praising of, and exulting in our God, and longing for that Time, when *Jesus* should be revealed from Heaven in a Flame of Fire! Oh that my Soul may be in a like Frame, when he shall actually come to call me! For I think I never had been happier than that Night, or, all things considered, more blessed than during my Abode at *Stone-House*. Every Week the Congregations increased; and on *Ascension-Day*, when I took my leave, the Concern they shewed at my Departure was inexpressible. Their Sighs and Tears almost broke my Heart. Many cried out with *Ruth*, *Whither thou goest I will go, where thou lodgest I will lodge.* But I only took one

with me, who proved a good Servant, and is, I believe, a true Follower of our ever Blessed *Jesus*.

The Incumbent being returned from *London*, and the People of *Bristol* having given me repeated Invitations, nay having insisted upon my coming again, since the Time of my embarking was deferred; on *May 23d*, I paid them a second Visit. Multitudes came on Foot, and many in Coaches a Mile without the City to meet me, and almost all saluted and blessed me as I went along the Street. Upon my coming here, I received Letters from *London*, informing me, that Mr. *Ogletborp* would not embark these two Months. This gladden'd many Hearts, though I cannot say it did mine; because I counted the Hours, as it were, till I went abroad. I preached as usual, about five times a Week; but the Congregations grew, if possible, larger and larger. It was wonderful to see how the People hung upon the Rails of the Organ-Loft, climbed upon the Leads of the Church, and made the Church itself so hot with their Breath, that the Steam would fall from the Pillars like Drops of Rain. Sometimes almost as many would go away for want of Room as came in, and it was with great Difficulty I got into the Desk to read Prayers, or preach. Persons of all Denominations flocked to hear. Persons of all Ranks, not only publickly attended my Ministry, but gave me private Invitations to their Houses. A private Society or two were erected. I preached and collected for the poor Prisoners in *Newgate* twice or thrice a Week, and many made me large Offers if I would not go abroad.

During my Stay here I paid another Visit to *Bath*, and preached three times in the *Abbey-Church*, and once in *Queen's-Chapel*. People crowded, and were affected as at *Bristol*. And God stirred up some elect Ladies to give upwards of a hundred and sixty Pounds for the Poor of *Georgia*.

June 21st, I took my last Farewel at *Bristol*. But when I came to tell them, it might be, that they would

would see my Face no more, high and low, young and old burst into such a Flood of Tears, as I had never seen before: Drops fell from their Eyes like Rain, or rather gushed out like Water out of the Stony Rock. Multitudes, after Sermon, followed me home weeping; and the next Day I was employed from seven in the Morning till Midnight, in talking and giving spiritual Advice to awakened Souls.

About three the next Morning, having thrown myself on the Bed for an Hour or two, I set out for *Gloucester*, because I heard that a great Company on Horseback, and in Coaches, intended to see me out of Town. Some finding themselves disappointed, followed me thither, where I staid a few Days, and preached to a very crowded Auditory. Then I went on to *Oxford*, where we had, as it were, a general Rendezvous of the *Methodists*; and, finding their Interests flourishing, and being impatient to go abroad, I hastened away, after taking a most affectionate Leave, and came to *London* about the End of *August*, I hope, in some degree, thankful for the great Things the Lord had done for me in the Country.

Every Hour, now seemed a Week, and every Week a Year, till I was embarked.

I knew there was no Minister at *Frederica*, for which Place I was then appointed, and I did not care to be absent longer from my proper Charge. Mr. *Oglethorpe's* going was still retarded, and I had thought it my Duty to go immediately without him, had not he and my other Friends urged, that the Soldiers would shortly embark, and that I had best go over with them. This somewhat pacified me, and having now taken a final Farewel of all my Friends in the Country, I was resolved to abide at *London*, and give myself wholly to Prayer, the Study of the Scriptures, and my own Heart, till the Soldiers should embark.

The House I lodged at was good o'd Mr. *Hutton's* in *College-street, Westminster*; where I had the plea-

sure of seeing my dear Friend Mr. *Ingham*, lately returned from *Georgia*; and perceiving him, as I thought, remarkably grown in Grace. I longed still more to be sent to the same School, hoping to catch some of that holy Flame with which his Soul was fired. We freely and solemnly conversed together about my Call abroad. It seemed to both quite clear, though we could have wished, had it been the Divine Will, to have lived and died together. Our Hearts were knit to each other, like the Hearts of *David* and *Jonathan*. At Midnight we would rise to sing Praises to G O D, and intercede for the whole State of *Christ's Church* militant here on Earth.

With this my dear Friend I one Day paid a Visit to a worthy Doctor of Divinity near *London*, who introduced us to some Honourable Ladies, who, as I had heard, delighted in doing good. It being my constant Practice to improve my Acquaintance with the Rich for the Benefit of the Poor, I recommended two poor Clergymen, and another pious Person, to their Charity. They said little, but between them, unknown to each other, they gave, I think, *thirty-six Guineas*. When we came to the Doctor's House, and saw the Ladies Liberality, he said, "If you had not spoke for others, you would have had a good deal of that yourself." G O D gave me to rejoice that I had nothing, and the Poor all. The next Day, upon my Return to *London*, in the first Letter that I opened, was a Bank-note of Ten Pounds, sent from an unexpected Hand as a Present for myself. This I took as a Hint from Providence to go on doing good to others, with a full Assurance that the Lord would not let me want. Blessed be his Name I have had many such Instances of his tender Concern for my temporal, as well as my eternal Welfare.

About this time, through the Importunity of Friends, and Aspersions of Enemies, I was prevailed upon to print my Sermon *on the Nature and Necessity of our Regeneration or New-Birth in Jesus Christ*, which

which under G o d began the awakening at *London, Bristol, Gloucester, and Gloucestershire*. The Dissenters I found were surprized to see a Sermon on such a Subject from a Clergyman of the Church of *England*, and finding the Author came from *Oxford*, were ready to say, (how justly I will not determine) “ *Can any good come out of Nazareth?*” This Sermon sold well to Persons of all Denominations, and was dispersed very much in many Parts, both at home and abroad. A second Impression was soon called for; and finding another of my Sermons was printed without my Leave, and in a very incorrect Manner, at *Bristol*, I was obliged to publish in my own Defence, and afterwards thought I had a clear Call to print any other Discourses, though in themselves mean, that I found blessed to the Good of Souls.

But to return to my publick Administrations. Being determined to abide in *London* till the Time of my Departure, I followed my usual Practice of reading and praying over the Word of G o d upon my Knees. Sweet was this Retirement to my Soul, but it was not of long Continuance.—Invitations were given me to preach at several Places,—The Stewards and Members of the religious Societies were very fond of hearing me.—I was invited to preach at *Cripplegate, St. Ann's, and Foster-lane* Churches, at Six on the Lord's-Day Morning, and to assist in administering the Holy Sacrament.—I embraced the Invitations, and so many came, that sometimes we were obliged to consecrate fresh Elements two or three Times, and the Stewards found it somewhat difficult to carry the Offerings to the Communion-Table.—I also preached at *Wapping-Chapel, the Tower, Ludgate, Newgate*, and many of the Churches where weekly Lectures were kept up.—The Congregations continually increased, and generally, of a Lord's-Day, I used to preach four Times to very large, and very affected Auditories, besides reading Prayers twice or thrice, and walking, perhaps, twelve Miles in going backwards and forwards from one Church

to the other—But God made my Feet like Hind's Feet, and filled me with Joy unspeakable at the End of my Day's Work.—This made me look upon my Friends kind Advice which they gave me, *to spare myself*, as a Temptation.—For I found by daily Experience, the more I did, the more I might do for God.

About the latter End of *August*, finding there were many young Men belonging to the Societies that attended my Administrations, I entered into one of their singing Societies, hoping thereby to ingratiate myself the more, and have greater Opportunities of doing them good.—It answered my Design.—Our Lord gave me to spiritualize their singing.—And after they had taught me the *Gamut*, they would gladly hear me teach them some of the Mysteries of the *New-Birth*, and the *Necessity of living to God*.—Many sweet Nights we spent together in this Way.—Many of these Youths afterwards, to all Appearance, walked with God, and will, I trust, join the heavenly Choir in singing Praises to the Lamb, and him that sitteth upon the Throne for ever.

About the Middle of *September*, my Name was first put into the publick *News-papers*, but upon what particular Occasion I cannot now recollect.—The *Sunday* before, with great Reluctance, I was prevailed on to preach a Charity Sermon at *Wapping-Chapel*.—The Congregation was very large, and more was collected than had been for many Years upon a like Occasion.—This got Air—My Friends improved the Occasion, and intreated me to preach another Charity Sermon, at *Sir George Wheeler's Chapel*.—I absolutely refused; but at length, through the Importunity of *Mr. Haberham*, since my faithful Assistant in the *Orphan-House*, I agreed to do it.—I discoursed upon the *Widow's giving her two Mites*—God bowed the Hearts of the Hearers as the Heart of one Man.—Almost all, as I was told, by the Collectors, offered most willing-

ly.—Scarce once appeared before the Lord empty.
 —This still drew on fresh Applications. The
Sunday following I preached in the Evening at St.
Swithens, where *eight Pounds* were collected instead
 of *ten Shillings*.—The next Morning, as I was at
 Breakfast with a Friend at the *Tower*, I read in one
 of the *News-Papers*, “*That there was a young Gen-*
 “*tleman going Voluntier to Georgia: That he had*
 “*preached at St. Swithens, and collected eight Pounds*
 “*instead of ten Shillings; three Pounds of which*
 “*were in Halfpence: And that he was to preach*
 “*next Wednesday before the Societies, at their General*
 “*Quarterly Meeting.*” This Advertisement chag-
 rined me very much.—I immediately sent to the
 Printer, desiring he would put me in his Paper no
 more.—His Answer was, That “*He was paid*
 “*for doing it, and that he would not lose two Shillings*
 “*for any body.*” By this means Peoples Curiosity
 was stirred up more and more.—On the *Wednesday*
Evening Bow-Church, in Cheapside, was crowded ex-
 ceedingly.—I preached my Sermon on early Piety,
 and at the Request of the Societies printed it.—
 Henceforwards, for near three Months successively,
 there was no End of Peoples flocking to hear the
 Word of God.—The Church-Wardens, and Ma-
 nagers of Charity-Schools, perceiving what Effect
 my preaching had upon the Populace, were conti-
 nually applying to me to preach for the Benefit of
 the Children.—And as I was to embark shortly, they
 procured the Liberty of the Churches on the Week
 Days; a thing never known before.—I have some-
 times had more than a Dozen Names of different
 Churches, at which I promised to preach, upon my
 Slate-Book at once.—And when I preached, Con-
 stables were obliged to be placed at the Door, to
 keep the People in order.—The Sight of the Con-
 gregations was very awful.—One might, as it were,
 walk upon the Peoples Heads, and thousands went
 away from the largest Churches for want of Room.
 They were all Attention when the Word was deli-
 vered, and heard like People hearing for Eternity.

—I now preached generally nine Times a Week. The early Sacraments were exceeding awful. At *Cripplegate*, *St. Ann's*, and *Foster-lane*, how often have we seen *Jesus Christ* crucified, and evidently set forth before us! On *Sunday Mornings*, long before Day, you might see Streets filled with People going to Church, with their Lanthorns in their Hands, and hear them conversing about the Things of God. —Other Lecture Churches near at hand, would be filled with Persons that could not come where I was preaching: And those that did come, were so deeply affected, that they were like Persons struck with pointed Arrows, or mourning for a first-born Child! People gave so liberally to the Charity Schools, that this Season near a thousand Pounds *Sterling* was collected at the several Churches, besides many private Contributions and Subscriptions sent in afterwards. I always preached gratis, and gave myself. The *Blue-Coat* Boys and Girls looked upon me as their great Benefactor; and I believe frequently sent up their Infant Cries in my Behalf. Worthy Mr. *Seeward*, afterwards my dear *Fellow-Traveller*, was their hearty Friend and Advocate. —He was concerned in above twenty Charity Schools; and, as I found some Months afterwards, inserted the Paragraph that so chagrined me. The Tide of Popularity now began to run very high. —In a short time I could no longer walk on Foot as usual, but was constrained to go in a Coach from Place to Place to avoid the *Hosannas* of the Multitude. —They grew quite extravagant in their Applauses, and had it not been for my compassionate High-Priest, Popularity would have destroyed me: But he knew it was quite unthought of and unsought by me. —I used therefore to plead with and intreat him, to take me by the Hand and lead me unhurt through this fiery Furnace! He heard my Request, gave me to see the Vanity of all Commendations but his own, and, in some measure, enabled me to give back all the Re-

spect I received, to that Fountain from whence it had its Source.—

Not that all spoke well of me—No, as my Popularity increased, Opposition increased also.—At first many of the Clergy were my Hearers and Admirers: But some soon grew angry, and Complaints were made, that the Churches were so crowded, that there was no Room for the Parishoners, and that the Pews were spoiled.—Some called me a spiritual Pick-Pocket, and others thought I made use of a kind of a Charm to get the Peoples Money.—A Report was spread abroad, that the Bishop of *London*, upon the Complaint of the Clergy, intended to *silence* me.—I immediately waited upon his Lordship, and enquired whether any Complaint of this Nature had been lodged against me? He answered, “*No.*” I asked his Lordship whether any Objection could be made against my Doctrine? He said, “*No: For he knew a Clergyman who had heard me preach a plain Scriptural Sermon.*” I asked his Lordship, whether he would grant me a Licence? He said, “*I needed none, since I was going to Georgia.*” I replied, “*Then your Lordship would not forbid me?*” He gave me a satisfactory Answer, and I took my leave.—

Soon after this, two Clergymen sent for me, and told me, they would not let me preach in their Pulpits any more, unless I renounced that Part of my Sermon on *Regeneration*, wherein I wished, “*That my Brethren would entertain their Auditors oftner with Discourses upon the New-Birth.*” —This I had no Freedom to do, and so they continued my Opposers.—What I believe irritated some of my Enemies the more, was my free Conversation with many of the serious Dissenters, who invited me to their Houses, and repeatedly told me, “*That if the Doctrine of the New-Birth and Justification by Faith, was preached powerfully in the Church, there would be but few Dissenters in England.*” —My Practice in visiting and associating with them

I thought was quite agreeable to the Word of God. — Their Conversation was favourable, and I thought the best Way to bring them over, was not by Bigotry and Railing, but Moderation and Love, and undissembled Holiness of Life. — But these Reasons were of no Avail. — One Minister called me *Pragmatical Rascal*, and vehemently inveighed against the whole Body of Dissenters. — This stirred up the People's Corruptions, and having an overweening Fondness for me, whenever they came to Church and found that I did not preach, some of them would go out again. — This Spirit I always endeavoured to quell, and made a Sermon on purpose from those Words, *Take heed how ye hear*. One time upon hearing that a Church-Warden intended to take eight Pounds a Year from his Parish Minister, because he refused to let me preach his Lecture, I composed a Sermon upon those Words, *Love your Enemies*; and delivered it where I knew the Church-Warden would be. — It had its desired Effect. — He came after Sermon and told me, he was convinced by my Discourse, that he should not resent the Injury the Doctor had done me, and then thanked me for my Care. — Nor was I without Opposition from Friends, who were jealous over me with a Godly Jealousy. — For I carried high Sail, thousands and thousands came to hear. My Sermons were every where called for. News came from time to time of the springing up and increase of the Seed sown in *Bristol, Gloucester*, and elsewhere: Large Offers were made me, if I would stay in *England*. — And all the Opposition I met with, joined with the Consciousness of my private daily Infirmities, were but *Ballast* little enough to keep me from oversetting.

However the Lord (Oh infinite Condescension!) was pleased to be with and bless me Day by Day. — I had a sweet Knot of Religious Friends, with whom I at first attempted to pray *extempore*. Some time, I think in *October*, we began to set apart an Hour every Evening, to intercede with the Great Head

Head of the Church for carrying on the Work begun, and for the Circle of our Acquaintance, according as we knew their Circumstances required.—I was their Mouth unto God, and he only knows what Enlargement I felt in that divine Employ. Once we spent a whole Night in Prayer and Praise; and many a time, at Midnight, and at one in the Morning, after I have been wearied almost to Death in Preaching, Writing, and Conversation, and going from Place to Place, God imparted new Life to my Soul, and would enable me to intercede with him for an Hour and half and two Hours together.—The Sweetness of this Exercise made me compose my Sermon upon *Intercession*; and I cannot think it Presumption to give it as my Opinion, that partly, at least, in Answer to Prayers, then put up by his dear Children, the Word for some Years past has ran and been glorified, not only in *England*, but in many other Parts of the World.

It was now, I think, that I was prevailed on to sit for my Picture.—The Occasion was this.—Some ill-minded Persons had painted me leaning on a Cushion, with a Bishop looking very enviously over my Shoulder.—At the Bottom were six Lines, in one of which the Bishops were stiled *Mitred Drones*.—The same Person published in the Papers, that I had sat for it.—This I looked upon as the Snare of the Devil to incense the Clergy against me. I consulted Friends what to do. They told me I must sit for my Picture in my own Defence.—At the same time my aged Mother laid her Commands upon me to do so in a Letter, urging, “*That if I would not let her have the Substance, I would leave her at least the Shadow.*” She also mentioned the Painter, and meeting with him one Night very accidentally, I at length with great Reluctance complied, and endeavoured, whilst the Painter was drawing my Face, to employ my Time, in beseeching the
great

great God, by his holy Spirit, to paint his blessed Image upon his and my Heart.

Christmas now drew near.—Notice was given me, that the Soldiers were almost ready to embark for *Georgia*, Mr. *Oglethorp* being yet detained, I was resolved to throw myself into the Hands of God, and go with the Soldiers. But the nearer the Time of my Departure approached, the more affectionate and eager People grew. There was no End of Persons coming to me under Soul Concern. I preached, and God blessed me more and more, and supported me for some time with but very little Sleep.

At the Beginning of *Christmas* Week I took my leave: But Oh, what Groans and Sighs were to be heard, when I said, “Finally, Brethren, farewell!” At great *St. Helen’s*, the Cry was amazing. I was near half an Hour going out to the Door. All Ranks gave vent to their Passions. Thousands and thousands of Prayers were put up for me. They would run and stop me in the Allies, hug me in their Arms, and follow me with wishful Looks. Once in the *Christmas* before my Departure, with many others, I spent a Night in Prayer and Praise; and in the Morning helped to administer the Sacrament at *St. Dunstan’s*, as I used to do on Saints-Days.—But such a Sacrament I never before saw.—The Tears of the Communicants mingled with the Cup, and had not *Jesus* given us some of his new Wine to drink, to comfort our Hearts, our parting would have almost been insupportable. At length *December 28th* I left *London*, and went in the Strength of God, as a poor *Pilgrim* on board the *Whitaker*, after having preached in a good Part of the *London* Churches, collected about a thousand Pounds for the Charity-Schools, and got upwards of three hundred Pounds *Sterling* for the Poor of *Georgia* among my Friends, for which I have since publickly accounted. At the same time God raised me a Sufficiency to supply my own temporal Necessities; and gave me repeated Proofs, that if we seek first the Kingdom of God and his Righteous-

Righteousness, all other Things (I mean Food and Raiment, which is all a Christian should desire) *shall be added unto us.*—For which, and all his other unmerited Mercies, I desire to praise him in time, and magnify his holy Name, through the boundless Ages of Eternity.

Some Particulars that beset me whilst abroad, and how this Tide of Popularity rose still higher at my return home: How I came to commence a Field-Preacher, and part with my Friends, who were as dear to me as my own Soul: How they that would now have plucked out their Eyes, and have given them unto me, afterwards accounted me their Enemy because I told them the Truth: By what Means the Seed now sown sprang up, and grew into a great Tree, both in *England, Scotland, and America*: How Divisions arose among God's People, and what were the Effects and Consequences of them, all this I say must be reserved for another Tract, if God should continue my Life and Strength, and give me Leisure and Freedom to prosecute and finish it.

In the mean while, let me exhort thee, O Reader, if serious and a Child of God, to bless him for what he has done for my Soul: Or if thou art yet in the Gall of Bitterness, and, thro' Prejudice, thinkest that I have either not told Truth, or wrote out of a vain-glorious View, let me only intreat thee to suspend thy Judgment for a little while, and *Jesus* shall decide the Question. At his TRIBUNAL we shall meet, and there thou shall know what is in my Heart, and what were the Motives which led me out into such a Scene of Life. At present I will trouble thee no more; but beg thee, whether serious or not, to endeavour to calm thy Spirit, by singing or reading over the following Lines, translated by that sweet Singer of *Israel*, and my worthy and honoured Friend Doctor *Watts*.

P S A L M LXXI. 5—9. First.

I.

MY God, my everlasting Hope,
 I live upon thy Truth;
 Thine Hands have held my Childhood up,
 And strength'ned all my Youth.

II.

My Flesh was fashion'd by thy Power,
 With all these Limbs of mine;
 And from my Mother's painful Hour,
 I've been intirely thine.

III.

Still has my Life new Wonders seen,
 Repeated ev'ry Year;
 Behold my Days that yet remain,
 I trust them to thy Care.

IV.

Cast me not off should Health decline,
 Or hoary Hairs arise;
 And round me let thy Glory shine,
 When e'er thy Servant dies.

V.

Then in the History of my Age,
 When Men review my Days,
 They'll read Thy Love in every Page,
 In ev'ry Line thy Praise.

A B R I E F
A C C O U N T
O F T H E
Rise, Progress, and Present Situation,
O F T H E
O R P H A N - H O U S E
I N
G E O R G I A.

In a LETTER to a FRIEND.

Bethesda, in Georgia, March 21st. 1745-6.

My very dear Friend,

IT being now some Months since I arrived here, I think it high Time, according to my Promise, to
send

send you as explicite an Account as I well can, of the *Rise, Progress, and present Situation* of the *Orphan-House*, where I now am.—Some have thought, that the erecting such a Building was only the Produce of my own Brain: but they are much mistaken. For it was first proposed to me by my dear Friend the Revd. Mr. *Charles Wesley*, who, with his Excellency General *Oglethorp*, had concerted a Scheme for carrying on such a Design, before I had any Thoughts of going abroad myself. It was natural to think, that as the Government intended this Province for the Refuge and Support of many of our poor Countrymen, that Numbers of such Adventurers must necessarily be taken off, by being exposed to the Hardships which unavoidably attend a new Settlement. I thought it therefore a noble Design in the general to erect a House for fatherless Children. And believing such a Provision for Orphans would be some Inducement with many to come over, I fell in with the Design, when mentioned to me by my Friend, and was resolved, in the Strength of God, to prosecute it with all my Might.—This was mentioned to the Honourable the Trustees. They took it kindly at my Hands; and as I then began to be pretty popular at *Bristol*, and elsewhere, they wrote to the *Bishop of Bath and Wells*, for Leave for me to preach a Charity-Sermon on this Occasion in the *Abbey-Church*. This was granted, and I accordingly began immediately to compose a suitable Discourse: But knowing my first Stay at *Georgia* would be but short, on account of my returning again to take Priests Orders, I thought it most prudent first to go and see for myself, and defer prosecuting the Scheme till I came home: because I could then be better able to judge, whether the Scheme was practicable, and consequently could be able to recommend it with the greater Earnestness.—When I came to *Georgia*, I found many poor Orphans, who, tho' taken notice of by the Honourable Trustees, yet thro' the Neglect of Persons that acted under them, were in miser-

rable Circumstances.—For want of a House to breed them up in, the poor little Ones were tabled out here and there, and besides the Hurt they received by bad Examples, forgot at home what they learnt at School.—Others were at hard Services, and likely to have no Education at all.—Upon seeing this, and finding that his Majesty and Parliament had the Interest of this Colony much at heart, I thought I could not better shew my Regard to G O D and my Country, than by getting a House and Land for these Children, where they might learn to labour, read, and write, and at the same time be brought up in the Nurture and Admonition of the Lord.—Accordingly, at my Return to *England*, in the Year 1738, to take Priests Orders, I applied to the Honourable Society for a Grant of 500 Acres of Land, and laid myself under an Obligation to build a House upon it, and to recieve from time to time, as many Orphans as the Land and Stock would maintain. As I had always acted like a Clergyman of the Church of *England*, having preached in a good Part of the *London Churches*, and but a few Months before collected near a thousand Pounds *Sterling*, for the Children belonging to the Charity-Schools in *London* and *Westminster*; it was natural to think, that I might now have the Use at least of some of these Churches to preach in for the Orphans hereafter more immediately to be committed to my Care.—But by that time I had taken Priests Orders, the Spirit of the Clergy began to be much embittered.—Churches were gradually denied me.—And I must let this good Design drop, and thousands (I might add ten thousands) go without hearing the Word of G O D, or preach in the Fields.—Indeed two Churches, one in *London*, viz. *Spittle-Fields*, and one in *Bristol*, viz. *St. Philips and Jacob*, were lent me upon this Occasion; but those were all. However, G O D kept me from being discouraged.—I collected for the *Orphan-House* in *Moorfields*, two and fifty Pounds one Sabbath-Day Morning: twenty-two Pounds of which

was

was in Copper: It would have rejoiced your Heart to see the People give. They offered him willingly, and took more Pains to come through the Croud and put their Contributions into my Hat, than some would to have got them.—Thousands of Prayers were put up with the Alms that were given, and I trust both went up as a Memorial before G O D. In the Afternoon I collected again at *Kennington-Common*, and continued to do so at most of the Places where I preached. Besides this, two or three of the *Bishops*, and several Persons of Distinction contributed, till at length, having gotten about a thousand and ten Pounds, I gave over collecting, and went with what I had to *Georgia*. At that time Multitudes offered to accompany me; but I chose to take over only a Surgeon, and a few more of both Sexes, that I thought would be useful in carrying on my Design. These cheerfully embarked with me, desiring nothing for their Pains, but Food and Raiment. My dear Fellow-Traveller, *William Seward*, Esq; also joined with them, and was particularly useful to me on this Occasion. Our first Voyage was to *Philadelphia*, where I was willing to go for the sake of laying in Provision. Having a Captain of a Ship with me, who had been my spiritual Child, by his Advice, I laid out in *London* a good Part of the thousand Pounds for Goods; and by his Care and my other Fellow-Travellers, without any Trouble to myself, got as much by them at *Philadelphia* as nearly defrayed the Family's Expence of coming over. Here G O D blessed my Ministry daily, and begun that Work in *Philadelphia*, which, I am persuaded, will be remembered thro' the endless Ages of Eternity. *January* following, 1739, I met my Family at *Georgia*, and being unwilling to lose any time, I hired a large House, and took in all the Orphans I could find in the Colony. A great many also of the Town's Children came to School gratis, and many poor People that could not maintain their Children, upon Application, had Leave given them to send their little Ones

for a Month or two, or more, as they could spare them, till at length my Family consisted of between 60 and 70. Most of the Orphans were in poor Case; and three or four almost eat up with Lice.—I likewise erected an *infirmary*, in which many sick People were cured and taken care of *gratis*. I have now by me a List of upwards of a hundred and thirty Patients, which were under the Surgeon's Hands, exclusive of my own private Family. This Surgeon I furnished with all proper Drugs and Utensils, which put me to no small Expences: And this was still increased by clearing Land, buying Stock, and building a large Dwelling-House sixty by forty, and Out-Houses, commodious for a large Family to live in. Sometimes (Labourers and all) I have had a hundred and twenty to provide for daily. My Friends, as well as myself, seemed to have particular Courage and Faith given us for the Season; and we went on cheerfully, believing that he for whose Sake we began, would enable us to finish this good Work. About *March* I began the great House, having only about one hundred and fifty Pounds in Cash. I called it *Bethesda*, because I hoped it would be a House of Mercy to many Souls. Blessed be God, we have not been disappointed of our Hope. It has proved a House of Mercy indeed to many. Several of our Labourers, as well as Visitors, have (in a Judgment of Charity) been born of God here, and given evident proofs of it, by bringing forth the Fruits of the Spirit. Many Boys have been put out to Trades, and many Girls put out to Service. I had the Pleasure the other Day of seeing three Boys work at the House in which they were bred, one of them out of his Time a Journeyman, and the others serving under their Masters. One that I brought from *New-England* is handsomely settled in *Carolina*; and another from *Philadelphia* is married and lives very comfortably at *Savannah*. How so large a Family has been supported in such a Colony, without any visible Fund, is wonderful! I am surprized when I look back, and see how for these

six Years last past, God has spread a Table in the Wilderness for so many Persons. Were all the particular Providences that have attended this Work recorded, perhaps they would not be found inferior to those mentioned by Professor *Frank*, in his *Pietas Hallensis*, whose Memory is very precious to me, and whose Example has a thousand Times been blessed to strengthen and encourage me in carrying on this Enterprize. Hereafter, perhaps, when I have more Leisure, I may give you an Account of some of them. My being detained so long in *England*, has been a little detrimental to me, my Friends not knowing so well how to act, because they expected to see me daily. And I cannot yet say that I have surmounted the first Years Expence, which indeed was very great, and greater no doubt than it would be now, after my Friends have had so many Years Experience in the Colony.—However I doubt not, but by the Blessing of God, in a short time to pay off my Arrears, and then the Family will be maintained at a small Expence.—My standing annual Charges are now but trifling to what they have been; and my Friends have raised an annual Subscription sufficient for discharging it till the Family may be able to provide for itself.—This, God willing, I hope will be, in a good measure, speedily effected. We have lately begun to use the Plow; and next Year I hope to have many Acres of good Oats and Barley. We have near twenty Sheep and Lambs, fifty Head of Cattle, and seven Horses. We hope to kill a thousand Weight of Pork this Season. Our Garden, which is very beautiful, furnishes us with all Sorts of Greens, &c. We have plenty of Milk, Eggs, Poultry, and make a good deal of Butter weekly. A good Quantity of Wool and Cotton has been given me, and we hope to have sufficient spun and wove for the next Winter's Cloathing.—If the Vines hit we may expect two or three Hogsheads of Wine out of the Vineyard. The Family now consists of twenty-six Persons. Two of the Orphan Boys are blind, one is

little better than an Ideot.—But notwithstanding they are useful in the Family; the 'one in the Field', and the other in the Kitchen. I have two Women to take care of the Household Work, and three Men and two Boys employed about the Plantation and Cattle. A Sett of *Dutch* Servants has been lately sent over: The Magistrates were pleased to give me two; and I took in the poor old Widow, aged near 70, whom nobody else cared to have. A valuable young Man from *New-England* is my School-Master, and in my Absence performs Duty in the Family. On Sabbaths the grown People attend on publick Worship at *Savannah*, or at *Whitebluff*, a Village near *Bethesda*, where a *Dutch* Minister officiates. My dear Friends who have hitherto been my Assistants, being married and having each one or two Children, thought it best, as most suitable to the Institution to remove. God has mercifully provided for them, and they are comfortably settled, some at *Savannah*, and some elsewhere. We frequently write to and hear from one another. I need not trouble you with the Order of our Family. It is pretty near the same as usual, and I do not think to make any material Alteration for some time. Many have applied to me to take in their Children as Boarders, and erect a publick School: But I have not yet determined. It is certain such a School would be exceeding useful in this Part of the World, if there should be a Peace, not only for these northern Parts of the Colony, but also for the more southern Parts of *Carolina*, *Purisburgh*, and *Frederica*, where are many fine Youths. I have been prevailed on to take one from *Frederica*, and another from *Purisburgh*, and it may be shall admit more. For the present, considering the Situation of Affairs, I think it most prudent to go on in making what Improvements I can on the Plantation, and bring a Tutor with me from the Northward in the Fall, to teach a few Youths the Languages, and enlarge the Family when Affairs are more settled. The House is a noble commodious Building, and every Thing

sweetly

sweetly adapted for bringing up Youth. Here is Land to employ them in to exercise their Bodies, and keep them from Idleness out of School Hours. Here are none of the Temptations to debauch their tender Minds, which are common to more populous Countries, or in Places where Children must necessarily be brought up with Negroes. What God intends to do with the Colony is not for me to enquire: Secret Things belong to him. It has hitherto been wonderfully preserved, and the *Orphan-house*, like the burning Bush, has flourished unconsumed. In fine, the Government has, no doubt, its Welfare much at heart: And, God willing, I intend to carry on my Design till I see the Colony sink or swim. The Money that has been expended on the *Orphan-house*, and the *Orphan-house* Family, has been of vast Service to this northern Part of the Colony. And tho' it has been greatly detrimental to my own private Interest, yet I do not repent of the Undertaking. No, I rejoice in it daily, and hope yet to see many more Souls born unto God here. I have had a very comfortable Winter. The People of *Savannah*, having no Minister till lately, gladly accepted my Labours; and at *Frederica*, the Gentlemen and Soldiers of General *Oglethorp's* Regiment, as well as the Inhabitants of the Town, received me very gladly. Major *Horton* seems to behave very well. He has a very fine growing Plantation. I saw Barley in the Ear the first of *March*. *Georgia* is very healthy.—Not above one, and that a little Child, has died out of our Family, since it removed to *Bethesda*. I think the Colony (were the Inhabitants sufficiently numerous) is capable of as good Improvement as any on the Continent.

For the Satisfaction of my Friends, and silencing, if possible, my Enemies, I have had my Accounts from the very beginning to *January* last, publickly audited and examined, Debtor and Creditor, Article by Article; and on Oath for Confirmation, being an End of all Strife, I have sworn to them. A

Copy

Copy of the Audit, with the particular Names of the Children, I have annexed hereunto. If it gives you or others any Satisfaction I shall be glad. I have no more to add, but to beg a continued Interest in your Prayers, and subscribe myself,

Very dear Sir,

Your most affectionate Friend,

and Servant,

GEORGE WHITEFIELD.

Orphan-House, in Georgia, Dr.
Sterling.

	l.	s.	d.
To Cash received from the 15th December, 1738, to the 1st January, 1745-6, by publick Collections, private Benefactions, and annual Subscriptions, <i>per Account,</i>	4982	12	8.
To Ballance super-expended, January 1st, 1745-6.	529	05	1¼
	<u>5511</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>9¼</u>

Orphan-House, in Georgia, Cr.
Sterling.

	l.	s.	d.
By Cash paid Sundries by particular Accounts examined, from the 15th December, 1738, to the 1st January, 1745-6, for Buildings, Cultivation of Lands, Infirmary, Provisions, Wearing Apparel, and other incident Expences.	5511	17	9¼

S. A. V. A. N. N. A. H.




S A V A N N A H in G E O R G I A.

S. L. **T**HIS Day personally appeared before us *Henry Parker* and *William Spencer*, Bailiffs of *Savannah* aforesaid, the Reverend Mr. *George Whitefield*, and *James Habersham*, Merchant of *Savannah* aforesaid, who, being duly sworn, say, That the Accounts relating to the *Orphan House*, now exhibited before us, of which the above is an Abstract amounting on the Debit Side, (namely, for Collections and Subscriptions received (to the Sum of Four Thousand Nine Hundred Eighty-two Pounds Twelve Shillings and Eight Pence, *Sterling*, and on the Credit Side (namely, for Disbursements paid) to the Sum of Five Thousand Five Hundred Eleven Pounds Seventeen Shillings and Nine Pence Farthing, *Sterling*, do, to the best of their Knowledge, contain a just and true Account of all the Monies collected by, or given to them, or any other, for the Use and Benefit of the said House; and that the Disbursements, amounting to the Sum aforesaid, have been faithfully applied to and for the Use of the same. And the Reverend Mr. *Whitefield* further declareth, that he hath not converted or applied any Part thereof to his own private Use and Property, neither hath charged the said House with any of his travelling, or any other private Expences whatsoever.

GEORGE WHITEFIELD,
JAMES HABERSHAM.

S A V A N N A H *in* G E O R G I A.

THIS Day personally appeared before us, *Henry Parker* and *William Spencer*, Bailiffs of *Savannah* aforesaid, *William Woodrooffe*, *William Ewen*, and *William Russel* of *Savannah* aforesaid, who being duly sworn say, That they have carefully and strictly examined all and singular the Accounts relating to the *Orphan-House* in *Georgia*, contained in forty-one Pages, in a Book intituled *Receipts and Disbursements for the Orphan-House in Georgia*, with the original Bills, Receipts, and other Vouchers, from the fifteenth Day of *December*, in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Thirty Eight, to the first Day of *January*, in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Forty Five; and that the Monies received on Account of the said *Orphan-House* amounted to the Sum of Four Thousand Nine Hundred Eighty Two Pounds Twelve Shilling and Eight Pence, *Sterling*, as above; and that it doth not appear, that the Reverend Mr. *Whitefield* hath converted any Part thereof to his own private Use and Property, or charged the said House with any of his travelling or other private Expences; but, on the contrary, hath contributed to the said House many valuable Benefactions; and that the Monies disbursed on Account of the said House, amounted to the Sum of Five Thousand Five Hundred Eleven Pounds Seventeen Shillings and Nine Pence Farthing, *Sterling*, as above, which we, in justice to the Reverend Mr. *Whitefield*, and the Managers of the said House, do hereby declare, appear to us to be faithfully and justly applied to and for the Use and Benefit of the said House only,




 WILLIAM WOODROOFFE,
 WILLIAM EWEN,
 WILLIAM RUSSEL.

Sworn this 16th Day of *April*, 1746, before us Bailiffs of *Savannah*; in Justification whereof we have hereunto fixed our Hands, and the common Seal.


 HENRY PARKER,
 WILLIAM SPENCER.