THE WESLEYAN.

green, which was humanely opened to him. For a considerable time he was speechless, and gasped for breath; but with assiduous attention he was soon able to be put into a coach, in which, amidst volleys of oaths, horrid imprecations, and violent threatenings, he reached the house of a friend in safety. He says of this assault : "I received many blows and wounds, and one was particularly large and near my temples. I thought of Stephen, and was in hopes, like him, to go off in this bloody triumph, to the immediate presence of my master."

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For many months Mr. Whitefield's health had suffered severely, and had so far declined, that in October, 1761, he says, "I have not been able to preach a single sermon for some weeks. Last Sunday I spoke a little; but I feel its effects ever since. A sea voyage seems more necessary than ever. I now know what nervous disorders are. But, blessed be God, that they were contracted in his service ! I do not repent, though I am frequently tempted to wish the report of my death had been true, since my disorder keeps me from my old delightful work of preaching."

In the following spring his health was so improved that he wrote, "I have been able to preach five times the past week without being hurt. Who knows but I may be so far restored as to sound the Gospel trumpet for my God ?"

He made his sixth voyage to America, and arrived in Virginia in August, 1763, after a pleasant passage of eighty-four days. "Thanks to a never-failing Redeemer," he observes, "I have not been laid by an hour through sickness since I came on board. A kind captain and most orderly ship's company gladly attended when I had breath to preach. Scarcely an oath have I heard on deck, and such a stillness through the whole ship, both on week days and the Lord's day, as surprised me."

During his stay in America, Mr. Whitefield again visited New England, and returning by land, he extended his labours from Massachusetts to Georgia, enjoying, if possible, a higher degree of favour with all classes, and more abundant success in the work of God than at any former period. And leaving the orphan-house establishment, which now embraced a large number of poor children, in a very flourishing and promising condition, he sailed again for England, and arrived after an absence of thirteen months. On this passage he remarks : "We have had but twentyeight days' passage. The transition has been so sudden that I can hardly believe I am in England. I hope, ere long, to have a more sudden transition into

in a considerable degree, he now began to prepare for another voyage across the Atlantic, and in the fall of 1769 made his seventh and last voyage to America. While on his passage he wrote : "I am comforted on every side ; a civil captain and passengers; all willing to attend on Divine worship, and hear of religious things."

Soon after his arrival he wrote : "For the last week we were beating about our port within sight of it, and continued for two days in Five-fathom Hole, just over the bar : a dangerous situation, as the wind blew hard, and our ship, for want of more ballast, would not obey the helm. But through infinite mercy, on November 30, a pilot boat came and took us safe ashore to Charleston, after being on board almost thirteen weeks. Friends received me most cordially. Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits ! O ! to begin to be a Christian and minister of Jesus !"

Some years previously Mr. Whitefield conceived the design of making his orphan house subservient to the cause of learning as wells as of benevolence, and commenced negociations with some persons high in office in England, for the purpose of obtaining a college charter; but after much delay the charter, having been prepared, was found to contain some provisions which he deemed inadmissable, and the application was withdrawn. He, however, determined on adding to the establishment a public academy, on a plan similar to one he had founded in Philadelphia.

While in Savannah, Mr. Whitefield invited the governor, council and assembly to visit the orphan-house. The following account of their visit is taken from the Georgia Gazette of January 31, 1770 :--

"Last Sunday, his excellency the Governor, council and assembly, having been invited by the Rev. Mr. Whitefield, attended Divine service in the chapel of the orphan-house academy, where prayers were read by the Rev. Mr. Ellington, and a very suitable sermon was preached by Mr. Whitefield, from Zechariah iv. 10 : " For who hath despised the day of small things ?" to the great satisfaction of the auditory, in which he took occasion to mention the many discouragements he met with, known to many there, in carrying on the institution for thirty years past, and the present promising prospect of its future and more extensive usefulness. The company were greatly pleased to see the useful improvements made in the house, by the two additional wings for apartments for students, each one hundred and fifty feet in length, and other lesser buildings in so much forwardness; and the whole executed with taste, and in so masterly a manner; and being sensible of the truly generous and disinterested benefactions derived to the province, through his means, they expressed their gratitude in the most respectful terms."

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and was about to faithful steward. tory we are inde death written by fast voyage, and the time of his d "On Sunday,

rode from Ports morning, and I the fields. It is to preach that c be more uneasy more fit to go to Whitefield ans he clasped his h Lord Jesus, I work. If I have and speak once truth, and come 2 Cor. xiii. 5, ' the faith ; prov own selves how be reprobates ? "After dinn Parsons rode to two hours after asked Mr. Wh He replied, he ly, and should but little, asked perform family He said that he which I did as ing the Bible, fore him. He t about half his

"After a litt till about two ed him how he He replied, hi have two or th without preac "Soon afte dow up a lit breathe ; but a good pulpit better after pr would not prc ther wear out

the bedside, cl

a better country."

Having lost his son previously, Mr. Whitefield suffered a yet more severe affliction in the death of his wife, which took place in the summer of 1768 : soon after which he writes, "I have been in hopes of my own departure. Through hard riding and preaching I have burst a vein. The flux is in a great measure stopped, but rest and quietness are strictly enjoined. We were favoured with glorious Gospel gales this day fortnight, and several proceeding days."

As Mr. Whitefield gradually recovered his health.

Subsequently the legislature adopted a report, in which they express the great pleasure they enjoyed during this visit, and in the happy success which had attended Mr. Whitefield's indefatigable efforts for promoting the welfare of the province in general, and the orphan-house in particular.

Mr. Whitefield left Savannah in May for Philadel-