

mind, *Heb. 12. 6. For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.* But now I see the Lord had his time to scourge and chasten me. The portion of some is to have their affliction by drops but the wine of astonishment, like a sweeping rain, that leaveth no food, did the Lord prepare to be my portion. Affliction I wanted, and affliction I had, full measure, pressed down and running over : Yet I see when God calls a person to ever so many difficulties, yet he is able to carry them through, and make them say, they have been gainers thereby. And I hope I can say in some measure, as *David, It is good for me that I have been afflicted.* The Lord hath shewed me the vanity of these outward things ; that they are the vanity of vanities, and vexation of spirit : That they are but a shadow, a blast, a bubble, and things of no continuance. If trouble from smaller matters begin to arise in me, I have something at hand to check myself with, and say, why am I troubled ? It was on the other day, that if I had had the world, I would have given it for my freedom, or to have been a servant to a christian. I have learned to look beyond present and smaller troubles, and to be quieted under them as *Moses said, Exod. 14. 13. Stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord.*

THE END.