

## MEMOIR.

WAS born on the 24th of October, 1770, at Kleinförstchen, near Bautzen, in Saxony. About this time, my parents became spiritually awakened. They were in connexion with the congregation of the Brethren at Kleinwelke, and attended the Sunday services at that place. Hence, I was acquainted with the Brethren's Church from my childhood.

My early life, till I had reached my eighth year, was passed in innocence, and in the blessed enjoyment of our Saviour's nearness, my dear parents striving to shield me from the world and its seductive influences. They also kept me employed as soon as I was able to do anything; yet this was effected in such a manner, that employment was rather a pleasure, than something to which I was constrained. In my fifth year, I had a severe illness, on which occasion, I rejoiced in the hope that I should go to our Saviour, and see Him; but He was pleased to permit me to recover. Several children from our village, besides myself, were in the habit of attending the services at Kleinwelke. On our return home from thence, we frequently held meetings, in imitation of those which we had attended there, conversing on what we had heard, with singing and prayer. These harmless assemblies were often graciously owned and blessed by the Friend of children.

When I was eight years old, a school was opened in our house, in which a very aged and venerable man taught reading. He understood how to keep us in order, and to secure our love and respect, without exercising severity,—for though he sometimes produced a stick, he never used it. At this time, I saw and heard much among my companions, which tended to disturb the innocence of my childhood, and aroused my innate depravity; the result of which was, that I lost the tender feeling of love to my Saviour, which I had hitherto enjoyed. My parents were the less able to guard me from the snares of the world, as they had to employ me, in various ways, on their farm. My mind was naturally inclined to frivolity, and I readily acquired a taste for the amusements of giddy young people, which I endeavoured to gratify as much as possible, turning a deaf ear to the warning voice of the Holy Spirit. My dear mother, who was deeply concerned for the salvation of my soul, endeavoured to keep me in the right way, by affectionate admonitions, and when these did not produce the effect she wished, she had recourse to the rod. My former sometimes brought me to reflection,—the latter only afflicted me so long as I felt the pain of the chastisement.

After a time, I was sent to the school at Gödau, the master of which was a very intelligent man, who, though strict in maintaining order, took pains to make a difference in regard to the natural dispositions of the children under his care. I continued to accompany my parents to Kleinwelke on Sundays and festival-days, and was often deeply