

5 Clarendon Road
the
March 17th 1886

Most intelligent, Social family persons
like to ^{know} something about their Ancestors,
some to try to find whether there is a few
drops of blue blood flowing in their veins.

others whether the endowments of intellect
was manifested - ^{or were successful men of business} and others whether some of
their ancestors were known as Christ like men
and women such being the "noblest works
of God" as to the first quality "blue blood"

it was so much that if any it has been dried up
a long time. As to the 2nd well we think.

There were members who gave evidence ac-
cording to the opportunities they had of ~~of~~ con-
siderable intellectual power.

^{as to having more wealth} and with reference to the last several as we
shall see in our little sketch aimed at
and endeavoured to adorn Christian Discipleship.

I have had it in my mind for
some time to glean and collect some

A few particulars as to our Ancestors. but
 I have missed the opportunity ^{do not as well as I might have done} by deferring
 doing it till so late in my life, and
 especially by not obtaining much more ^{information} than
 I did from my dear Mother who was
 able to supply me with many little bits of
 History ^{she} has long since past over to the
 Majority. My Son Thomas bought a
 book some time since & tried to induce
 me to carry out my purpose. I am trying.
 In the little county of Rutland with its
 20,000 Thousand inhabitants the Goodells
 abode. The branch of the family to
 which we belong resided at Lambley Lodge
 in Leyfield Forest in the Parish of Belton
 near Uppingham where for nearly Two Hundred
 Years ^{our} ~~has~~ Ancestors lived. My Grandfather
 Thomas Goodell was ~~understood~~ ¹⁷²² born there
 about the Year 1728 - he was of the old Type
 of Gomen (a Stout sturdy man and

was famous in those days for his great strength, he was reported to have double teeth all round ~~in his mouth~~ and double joints he and Old Tom Boyer a stallward laborer at Belton being the only two reported as heavy such a powerful formation - stories of their great strength was talked about long after their death, my Grandfather was a strong ^{man} willed man with obstinacy than discretion at times, to wit when the Belton Fields were enclosed about 120 years since he demanded a road straight down to Belton the Commissioners offered him a good road $\frac{1}{2}$ way thro fields to the main road, he stupidly refused and had to go down his own field and wheeled into a bit of the worst road in the County causing it to be feared much cursing and swearing to this day. ~~he died about the~~ like a many his late men he married a little woman - Anna Curtis, ~~she~~ ^{he} ~~married~~ about the Year

5

4

1784 She was a decenden of the Old Curks,
 of Harriworth remarkable in their day for
 attachment to nonconformist principles, and being
 Members of the General Baptist of the Old Connexion
 as it is now called, her grandfather Stephen
 Curtis of Harriworth a small Farmer ^{Shepherd} &
~~for Collecting and reading~~ suffered persecution
 for ~~collecting~~ ^{together} ~~and~~ his neighbours and
 reading to them the Scriptures and speaking
 to them, ^{he} was three times sent to Lincoln
 prison by the Parson^s Magistrate of Harri-
 worth, the following little story is told
 of him and the said Parson —
 After he had been released ^{from prison} the Parson met
 him and said Stephen you have
 never been to college why do you pretend to
 teach people? You have not been taught
 Logic and can't teach others? Stephen
 said he had learnt of Christ and his
 was the best College, and as to Logic

if the Parson would tell him what it
 was! he should be at least perhaps to know some
 thing about it! Well Stephen I have told
 you many times to give up preaching to the
 people but you were stupid and would not
 now one part of logic consists in Syllogisms
 or inferences - ~~Said~~ ^{no key} Stephen you ~~were~~ ^{are} stupid,
 now an Ass is stupid therefore you are an
 Ass! Oh said Stephen if that is Logic, I
 can draw inferences - it is said the Devil
 is Black the Parson is Black, the Parson
 therefore is a Devil! Daniel Curtis
 the father of Anna Curtis was a learned
 man for his times I have seen several of
 pieces written by him he was reputed to
 be a good Latin Scholar a man of learning
 and culture a great friend of the famous
 Dr Hanger M D and Minister at Morcott
 nearly ¹⁵⁰ 200 years ^{since}, he also met at times
 with Wilson the Astronomer & Translator of Josephus

Q
and Sir Isaac Newton who visited
at W^h Weston, at Luffenham both of
whom attended occasionally at Morcott
Chapel - ^{and it said Sir I Newton when visited} The said Anna Burkes was one
of the first members there, and as often
as she could tho it was 7 miles from the Lodge
to Morcott attended as regularly as she could
My Mother left the following record of her
that she was firm in maintaining her
principles thro at times ^{thro} much opposition
My Mother always spoke of her as an
intelligent Kind Superior Woman -
Thomas Goodcliffe My Father her eldest Son
was born Nov 13 1756 when he grew up
he rode before his Mother she found out
a pillion many years to Morcott
he was Baptized and became a member
there about the Year 1788 and was a deacon
for many years he married Mary
Arnold of Barrowden about the Year 1792

Elder

7

She was the Daughter of John & Elyth Arnold
of Barrowden a Vinegar Merchant a
Man of Considerable Means Education
and ability he was a very efficient Occasion-
al Minister of the Gospel for service at
Barrowden and ^{Preached} up to about 1812 frequently
preached at Barrowden and other places - he was
the younger Bro' of the well known Dr Arnold of
Leicester - and his other Bro' a Medical Man at
Gloucester - his Wife Elyth formerly Gapeote my
Grandmother was of an old puritan Stock
of the 1st water - She was a tall commanding
woman with a large measure of Salt &
Starch in her composition, the Village
doctress - her cordials and little doles
to the poor and afflicted made her very
popular, when she walked out in her old
ape the Country ovesiana and Curtsey was
offered to her and Hancy accepted also, ^{Some} long
after her husband's Death she had

Vinegar Store

8
The long "Room" filled up for a Sunday School and at 70 years of age took the superintendence thereof - and established a service about the Year 1817 she set to vigorously to get a new Chapel for Barrowden and gave 50[£] toward it besides exerting herself on behalf of the Old Church. She attained the venerable age of 82 ^{B. 1747. D. 1827. 74.} and was honoured and respected living and peaceful ^{Death} but to return to Old Lambly Lodge and its surrounds - and folk - &c.

Reports says it was at one time one of the Headforesters Lodges, enlarged and patched up from time to time to keep it at all habitable.

The immense thick walls were so heavy that they had to be buttressed to keep them standing like most Farm Houses 2 or 3 Hundred years Old the roof was formed of massive Oak Spars & beam thatched and being exposed to wind frequently stepped.

The new part built about 90 years ago to accommodate my Father and Mother was built in a more

Modern Hite with massive Stone & Slate
 Roof. The building was ^{and of} as primitive as one
 can well imagine consisting of 5 rooms rooms
 in a row on the ground floor at one time with old
 leaded small pane windows - 4 of Bed Rooms above
 standing on the Southern Edge of the property with
 a very poor narrow Yard in front with one or two
 solitary Trees a bit of Cold bleak Garden ground
 in front - in my days adorned with a few
 common flowers the bulk of farmers Consider
 ing flower Garden luxuries only to be cultivated
 by the rich as my old Father once said to me
 "the Coliflower is the best in the Garden it can
 be eaten." The little estate consisted of 5 fields
 of about 30 acres - left by my Grandfather to his
 son Thomas my father & My Father rented ~~from~~
 3 different Landlords about 300 acres principally grass
 land he was a good judge of sheep and very fond
 of pasturing ^{and shepherding} them The old Lodge and land
 is now occupied by the youngest son of my

eldest Brother Fear Mortgaged above its value
 these bad times for Agriculture.

He married a Cousin a daughter of my
 Brother James - they have struggled hard
 and made considerable improvements
 in the interior of the Old place, the exterior
 requires a heavy outlay to fit it for farm
 purposes -

(with reference to the parent Stock from
 which the numerous family of Goodbites
 of Spring the issue of Thomas & Mary
 Goodbites previously referred to

+ The site of the old Lodge is very pleasant
 having fine views to the South east; Bock
 ingham & the glenwood - Belton the parish town
 the village it belongs to is pleasantly situated
 on rising ground opposite - it is a neat
 clean well built Village ^{having} several well built
 residences above the average, formerly occupied
 by the Chrysome Kemps & several

well to do farmers. On the Southwest
 tho the views are not so extensive but
 a goodly exposure burst on the view
 of meadows and fields well cultivated
 & wooded where cattle and flocks about
 the scene is truly rural -

The Old Lambley Lodge is about $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile from
 Belton 16 Miles from Leicester & 4 from Uppingham
 its general Market Town & 5 from Oakham its
 County Town. It was at this old Lodge

Thomas Goodlife my Father & Mary Goodlife
 (ne Arnold) my mother lived during their Mar-
 ried life. He was considered a fairly well
 to do Farmer & Grazier the land he occupied
 being chiefly the latter. His constitution
 was of ^{his} ~~her~~ Mother than his Father, rather
 feeble and suffered very much late on in
 life from Asthma, it had its influence on
 this temperament - my mother in a little
 paper left of him says that he was

honest truthful and sincere a dutiful son an affectionate husband.

In his younger days he worked too hard for his weakly constitution, he was held in general esteem by his neighbours for his integrity and uprightness as a business man at that time about 110 to 120 years since the common thing was to come home what was called Market Merry blue ribboners and abstainers were not in vogue then he was never known to exceed the bounds of sobriety, and tho reckoned for yielding on some question on moral or religious one firm and consistent when getting older in life I have heard my mother say he only missed attending at Morcott Chapel Service 3 times in a lengthened period & ~~was~~ once or twice had to retire on account of snow and the other time thro illness — and when the Cause got so low that

it was proposed to be given up, he said
 he would go ~~if~~ as long as he could his
 decision stimulated others and so it has
 continued to this day. My Father was
 married ^{rather} late in life (37), I was the eleventh
 Child (there was 7 Sons & 5 Daughters two dying
 in infancy) so that I only knew my
 Father as a man of rather advanced age
 when I was 10 he was an active man of 50
 I have often rode behind him on his faithful
 old mare a shephering starting before six in
 the morning to the outlying fields the nearest
 of which was about two miles away called
 Round Maples our abbreviated name being Runnels -
 part of the field lay by the side of Woods noted
 by the Mellow Sportsmen as the hiding place of Sly
 Reynolds once when I was there Speedy Whistles
 Gave a fine fox issue from a hole, he had
 heard the sound of the Huntsmans horn
 and made tracks. I shout at the top of my
 voice

14
My O! Taly O! I was soon surrounded
by Hunt who put the Dogs on the Scent
who went off in fine Chorus - he
managed some how to elude them
they told me singular Stories of the sagacity
of a fox who when he had
run a long distance jumped on a
post and rail fence walking on
the top for a distance to break the
Scent and so saved his life -
others have been known to swim for
a distance, I once saw three packs of
hounds that had all fell into one
Scent of a fox - he took to a long
dry drain they could not get at
him - The Hunt men gave evidence
that they had learned the vulgar tongue
The site of the Old Lodge commanding a
long stretch of country having Houston
Woods on the North Bellefleur on the West

Beaumont Chase on the East gave offe-
 mers of frequently seeing one pack
 of Hound or the Other. My Father like
 many other Farmers was much tried by
 the damage done to the Land & Fences for
 which they ~~and~~ got no compensation.

He suffered so severely from Asthma
 that he was unable to attend to business-
 before I left home, ^{to come to town.} he came once to Notm
 driving a little pony and small Cart
 it was a long tedious ride for him &
 my Mother who came to spend a little
 time with my Brother William then living
 on Smithy Row. I then was managing
 a small shop for William in Bridlemuthgate
 this was in the Year 1828 he died in 1830
 aged 73 my Mother wrote that he thanked
 God for every day Mercies, and tho his
 natural timidity and feebleness caused
 him to have doubts, just when he

he was expiring and entering the dark valley, in his last struggles he said I will me down composed and pray and Trust the Lord will help me through the trying hour. She says I bless the Lord for thus helping him to trust at last. The Lord is the strength of his People, even the feeblest of his sincere followers my soul hope thou only in the Lord.

A few hours before he died I arrived at home from ~~the~~ ~~Soddy~~ Mossm just in time for him to put out his hand and say a few kind words to me he passed away leaving a kind and loving wife with whom he had lived for about 46 years.

My Mother as I have said was Mary Arnold married to Thomas Goodbye of Barrowden about the year 1792.

She was nearly 15 years younger than

my Father. Her parents gave her
 for that time a good Education. in
 her early days she spent a consider-
 able time at Leicester where she received
 her Education. her mind was early
 directed to Christian truth both her
 parents being very decided and
 earnest Christian people. She was
 endowed with considerable intellectual
 powers. loved reading and as far
 as opportunity afforded cultivated her
 mind, when she left school and came
 home she worshipped at Morcott in the
 little old Conventicle as it was called
~~where~~ Dr Hanger was the Minister. The
 service was conducted on the most
 primitive Puritan style, the service
 commenced at 11 - by a short prayer, reading
 out of the Old Testament, long prayer reading
 out of the New Testament - often a few words

prayer a sermon nearly of 1 hour
 duration - Pronouncing the Benediction
 over by One, then ^{those from a distance} ~~agoured~~ to the upper
 Room partake of light refreshment
 and ^{look} ~~take~~ out there horses and off
 home ^{many of} ~~those~~ whom lived at several miles
 distance. My Mother & Father came
 from the ² ~~loop~~ as often as she could
 she found a good deal to try her in
 her new situation - being educated &
 brought up as a tradesman's Daughter.
 She was not in some respects so fitted
 for a farmers wife - ^{who at that time had to} ~~I have heard her~~
^{milk} ~~say~~ ^{used at Hay making} ~~because she could not learn~~ ^{to do any rough kind of}
 to Milk tho' she earnestly tried
 she had to endure discomfort from
 some of my Father's sister who thought
 she might learn if she would
 and especially when they were
 Hay Making. My Father had one

Bro Uncle William weak in mind, 3 Sister married when
 I knew them Aunt Royce Aunt Curtis & Aunt Throckley
 some of whom were married rather late in life
 and altho' an apartment was built to the old
 Lodge when my Mother came to live there
 it was all under one Roof and continued
 in one yard in common one can easily
 understand how it was that Occasionally
 little frictions would arise, the Blunt
 Farmers Daughters would not make suf-
 ficient allowance for the more educated
 Merchants Daughter, but as time went on
 the generally quiet intelligent sensible tone
 of my Mothers Character won respect and deference
 to her opinions and actions. She found
 her Mother in law to be a woman of great
 integrity and excellent in Character her
 sympathy was a great comfort to her
 Owing to the feeble health of my
 Father and ^{his} nervous Temperament

She had to take the lead in the management of her large family ^{of whom} 10 lived to man & woman, estate too dying in infancy - and also as far as she was able in business.

She very deeply regretted that there was not any spiritual instruction imparted to the poor and young in the neighbouring Village of Belton and exerted herself to secure the preaching of the Gospel. Licensing one of their houses in which to have preaching and had as often as she could a service in our own house at the Lodge us boys having to run round to let the people know there would be service - and when a room was secured at Belton aided in forming and getting a Sunday School. Considering her many home duties and the careful manner she discharged them it was surprising

24

the time and efforts she put forth to seek to do good to the bodies and souls of her neighbours - amongst by whom she was much respected -

being Baptist they encountered much of reproach and persecution the parson of Belton was strong in his denunciation of Dissenters and when two infant Children died he refused to have them ~~Buried~~ Buried in the Church yard - they had to take them for burial to Morcott nearly 8 miles

Dr Willock who was the Rector of Belton was noted for his determination to put down the Dissenters. In the Gentleman's Magazine for 1812 Contains an account of a Case of his refusing to bury a Child of Mrs Goodrich because it was not sprinkled by him but by the Independent minister at Springfield. It was tried at one of the Courts in London and the Verdict was that he was in error -

that an infant sprinkled by any ordinary minister was legal Baptism and even if in an emergency by a nurse if the infant was Baptized into the name of the Father Son & Holy Spirit it would be good in Law

Not only was there a lack of religious instruction the parish of Belton in the early part of the century ^{many} ~~every~~, but also of even the most elementary secular training. Old Billings the ^{par} Clerk ~~he~~ and an old dame Fawkes taught after a fashion the meagre rudiments of knowledge. neither Geography nor Grammar. It was said he only very imperfectly taught any of the 3 R's.

My mother did what she could to foster in her family a love of Books and Knowledge. Several of my Brothers had to go 4 or 5 miles to School and some got a

Short time with one or another of the Baptist Ministers who taught School at that period to eat out the small stipend they received at that time of day the time any of us attended was short and in some cases the instruction received very meager.

My Elder Sister Elyth born in 1793 was of a sweet gentle disposition resembling my Grand Mother Goodliffe. She went to reside with my Grandmother Arnold at Barrowden who was very kind to her ~~and~~ She was rather delicate in health and unfortunately married a man who became terribly addicted to Drink and after a life of pain & sorrow on account of her husband's bad habits died early thro grief and untimely heat ment She left 5 Sons & one Daughter most of whom has passed away Seeing about my twelfth year

that sad effect of Drunkenness in the
conduct of her husband I had a
considerable influence on my mind
I resolved by Gods Help I would never
get drunk. I never did and have
abstained altogether about 55 years
and feel thankful for it.

My poor Sister died about the year 1826
leaving behind her a character for gentleness
and genuine piety.

Thomas My Oldest Brother ^{born} 1795

was a very active, intelligent Youth
and early on account of my
Fathers sickness had the care
of a large Farm to manage and
by his energy judgment and
care was my Parents hope to
secure success in their Farming
operations. He had in the year 1816
been very laboriously working at

25

the Farm land when he had finished
the Spring sowing and field work he
felt that rest was necessary.

He decided to take a holiday at Kings
Lynn at an Aunt a sister of our Mother
who had married a W^m Marshall one
of the largest Gardner & Nursery men in
the Eastern Counties this was in ^{April} ~~May~~ 1816 -
about 9 O'clock of a Tuesday Morning
he was seized with Violent Sickness
Our dear Mother used the common
remedies, but could not stay the violent
Sickness - a messenger was despatched to
Wymingham 4 Miles away for the family
Dr^r Dr Bell it was some time before he
could come, when he came it was "too
late" so violent had the sickness been that
he sank after about 20 Hours of Violent
Sickness, I was then about 9 years old
and well remember the panic caused

by his death in the family and in the
 Village he was in his 22nd year he was en-
 gaged to be married to Miss Elyth Goodlyffe
 a Distant relation an Amiable Daughter
 of one of the large Farmers of the Village —
 Her Brother John called at the Lodge just
 after he passed away they were like David
 and Johnathan Choice Friend, his
 grief and sorrow^{ing} as well as his Sisters
 was very intense. I shall never forget
 the emotion and sympathy manifested
 at the funeral all most the whole inhabi-
 tants of Village met the funeral on
 the way to the Church Yard, it was
 a touching scene of sadness, the sudden
 death of a fine intelligent general Young
 man the Oldest and loved and loving
 Son of his Mother the Stay of the family
 because of the illness of the Father —
 The funeral Service was Solemnly

and touching Conducted by the old rector
 Rev J Graham. it was the first time I
 had heard - Earth to Earth, Dust to Dust
 ashes to ashes. it appeared so dreadful sound-
 ing on the lid of the Coffin

At the Grave they sang Hymns appro-
 priate Hymns Commemorative

"When Blooming youth is snatched away
 & By Death's resistless hand

"Our Hearts the mournful tribute pay

"which pity must demand.

The sad event cast a gloom over the
 family at the Old Lodge and resulted in a
 sad change in business affairs - My Second
 Brother John being about 20 was the opposite
 in ability and temperament owing to my
 Father's indisposition he had a good deal of
 the management. which was not so efficient
 and successful so that my Mother had
 a most anxious time of it.

The depressing times which took place in agriculture at the close of the long ^{War} Very seriously affected the farming interest - & especially Graziers.

I recollect the sad times or rather the effect of them owing to the blockade and scarcity of Corn and imported foods of different sorts, the extremest poverty was the result. amongst the weavers Spittle silk hand, and altho the Corn made a great price and farmers many of the made high prices owing to the wretchedness of Trade labor was badly paid 7/10 9/ per week was the usual weekly wage.

Just a brief reference to each of my Bro^{rs} and Sister may come in here

I have all ready refered to the two Eldest Elyth & Thomas.

Mrs the next is still living just entered on her 91st Year when young she was

an active stirring young woman
 she had a strong temper a little tale was
 told of her that when I was a baby and
 given to the habits of most babies wanted mis-
 ing just when something else wanted
 to cry she stepped me into the Cradle and
 rocked me so violently she pitched me right
 out at which the said little Blackberry squatted
 out more vigorously than ever, she wondered
 what another little Cross Black boy should
 come for. it remained a joke between us as
 long as reason held its sway - she ^{about her} ~~toward~~
 22^{nd year} experienced the truth of the old Proverb - "that the
 course of true love does not run smooth"
 a few hasty words divided those who might
 have been equally yoked. I gave a truce of sad-
 ness, she several years after married an
 excellent Christian Man by Whom she had
 1 son & three excellent Daughters two of
 whom resided with us for years and were

esteemed by us for their goodness and usefulness
 My poor Sister Ann suffered many years from
 a touch & tendency of Hypochondria blighting
 her life and painful to her children and friends.

Two a little baby^a Brother and Sister died in
 infancy before I was born ~~and~~ whose innocent
 little bodies Belton parson would not bury.

John the next was born 1798 was troubled
 as he grew up with much the same tend-
 ency to fits of temper & melancholly.
 with fair natural gifts which if they had
 been rightly used and might have devel-
 oped into a useful man, "May the dead
 rest in peace;" Died about Mond. 5. 1864

James my next Brother in his young
 days was the favorite good jolly hearted
 ready to do a good turn for any body
 not troubled with any tendency to consume
 the mid night lamp - a standing joke against
 poor Jim was he could not Master

The words of three syllables on his country teacher was not much in advance - getting words with meaning he came to "Ole" a liquid fat with him it was a Leopard's foot" The Blue Ribbon was not in fashion in his days, good nut Brown ale was popular and many mistaken friends treated him to unmerciful poor fellow what with that accident, a large family & his way was often hard but he was almost always cheerful. by the kindness of an excellent son his old age was made more bright & comfortable

My next Bro' Wm was opposite in his tendency naturally more reserve and cautious, he made the best use of what little early Education he attained he was early apprenticed to a respectable Grocer Mr Hart of Uppington

and faithfully discharged his duties
 and after a short engagement with two
 or three tradesmen Came to Nottingham
 Owing to a rather singular little incident
 he was in a situation at a cheese factor at
 Leicester - in the year 1823 - he attended
 the Ministry at Friar Lane F.B Chapel
 Mr Green Independent Minister of Upping-
 ham, had engaged to Preach the S. I. Ann-
 versary Sermons, a Mr Gamble was to
 supply his pulpit - at Uppingham - Mr
 Green Came to Leicester on a bot on Saturday
 Mr Gamble walked the 20 Miles they
 met on the ~~turnpike~~ Road looked
 hard at Each other but did not
 speak - but when about twenty yards
 apart they turned their heads to
 have another look at the same
 moment Stopped each returned to
 speak Mr Gamble said if I

Am not mistaken you are W. Green
 from Uppingham going to Leicester to preach
 the Anniversary Sermons at Friar Lane? Yes I am
 and if I am not mistaken you are going to
 preach in my place? Yes I am - after a little
 talk Mr Gamble asked Mr Green whether there were
 any Genl Baptist & Yes! Mr Goodhope of Lambley
 Lodge will be very pleased to have a talk with
 you and seen round the Village and collect a
 congregation for you to preach to them.
 he called at the Lodge had a talk with my
 Mother about my Brother William who
 had recently gone to a situation at Leicester.
 She begged of Mr Gamble to see him sent him
 some little parental memento & as was
 her wont a few kind loving words urging
 him to become a decided Christian - Mr
 Gamble saw him told him a widow
 woman at Nottingham wanted a young
 man to manage her Provision business

and he might also manage to marry the Widow, he did the last, but the widow wanted to manage both the husband & the business, which was not quite at times what my Brother William enjoyed -

It was in the year 1823 that these events took place & when the writer was invited to come and spend a fortnight in Voffen he came Aug^r 23rd 1823 when the fortnight was up he was urged to stay longer until the interesting event above referred to was passed - then an Engagement was entered into for three years.

But I am omitting to give a short account of a very dear Sister who was next on the family list to Wm. Mary Born 1803 was endowed with a mind intelligent quick and sensitive enshroued in a body interesting but very frail and consumptive. She early manifested a gentle intellectual & devout spirit & as well

as other Brothers profited by her teaching and example, she by study and labour was fitted for a teacher and first at Home then at Nottingham as far as her health would admit exercised the teaching art - her health broke down in 1825 she returned home, that fatal disease Consumption speedily terminated her Earthly life she died filled with the joyful hope of a blessed Resurrection to eternal life. in 22nd year of her age a loving Child a tender Sister a devout Christian.

Next on the list was my Brother Daniel Born July 1805 My bon Companion playfellow & Leaze when boys many a walk to the Village School on Brotherly affection his arm over my shoulder mine round his waist has made those old walks memorable - even when when interrupted by a bit of mischief we went into partnership in little business transactions before we were 14 with a view of improving of

finances which often were very low. It formed
 the habit of care and thrift useful in after
 life. One Day a letter came from Nottingham
 asking for him or one of us to come for
 a fortnight to be a companion and helper to my
 Brother William ^{De} he was most useful at Home
 and I came here at that time much against
 my Will I wanted to be a farmer boy.

My Brother I was then about 18 yrs old
 a Cheerful hard working young fellow
 with a bit of a notion of putting the best
 face on every thing. he tells a pleasant
 story of his young manhood days he
 had conceived a bit of Caly love sort of
 feeling for a young lady when a boy at
 a Mixed School a few year later on he was
 on business in that neighbour hood ^{where she lived} the Muschel
 Voss Cupid set his heart a fluttering about
 his pet fellow scholar and after a good
 many efforts he decided to call to see

The fair Nymph for she was one, she
 was gone to a birthday party of some lady
 friend at a little distance he screwed up his
 courage to peep her eyes by a sight of her
 entry in the House the room was full
 of gay & some of them mischievous dam-
 sels who saw at a glance the state of affairs
 and the Bashfulness of the ruddy young Farmer
 they quickly got up a little scene. came trooping
 upon him pinching him rubbing his face
 with a brass ladle, the remedy for bashfulness
 was efficacious the first dressing, he jumped
 up and saluted them all round to their
 great amusement. at a convenient season his
 Mary & he joined interest spent together
 a few most happy loving years, but alas
 the silken cord of true love and affection are
 often for the loved one so early snapt-
 so it was with Daniel, his Mary was
 called away in her young womanhood

leaving him and two little Children to mourn and feel her loss, to them a severe and irreparable one, for she was endowed with many of the qualities which make true women wives & Mothers.

Time the healer of many wounded hearts set him a looking out for one in some sort to fill her place and be to him a help-mate, he looked with other eyes than of his school days and found one differing in many Characteristics no man can expect two angels to fall to his share for near Forty years they passed along the journey of life together like the majority of Travellers finding it Chequered with joys and sorrows. In his widowhood and 82nd year he is as happy Cheerful and after an ailing life quite hearty and well for his years waiting cheerfully for his Call.

as the youngest son my knowledge of my mother commenced in her middle life when her mind was vigorous and her experience matured. her management of her family had a tinge of the puritan firmness with ~~the~~ true motherly gentleness & tenderness at times the strain upon her strength and patience was very exhausting having of sons at home ^{one time} & several daughters beside farm servants & a family of 14 or 15 to have managed & provide for. with all that she managed to read good and instructive books write considerably and was very hospitable toward all ministers & Christian friends and spent considerable time in educating her children and doing good to the poor & needy. She was most earnestly desirous for the Christian character of all her children.

41

Next up on the list was the writer of this little family narrative, but as he survives his dear devoted ^{younger} Sister Sarah and for other reasons I prefer giving a ~~few~~ brief outline of her before commencing with a few incidents of my own Sojourn in this world.

My Sister Sarah was born at the Old Lodge in Nov 1809 being the 12th Child, in her early days she was a timid weakly loving Child very devoted to her Brother Arnold which continued to the end of her life.

She was a very devoted daughter, and as she grew older tender and helpful to her aged widow Mother working hard ^{help} to supply her with the comforts of life in her old age and carefully attended to her and nursed her when she became feeble and the power of her mind failed she most faithfully carried out the 5th Commandment Honor thy Father & Mother & earning the gratitude of all her Brothers

and sisters, In her Christian life she carried out the old puritan ~~&~~ practices more fully than was always pleasant to more merry and cheerful natures - her conscientiousness and integrity in her business and daily life was worthy of imitation -

rather later ~~than~~ in life than many she married Mr Jas Andrew and removed to Morcott for near 40 years they were spared together his lively genial temperament sometimes exercised her patience but his good nature and general ~~&~~ devotedness to her and our dear aged Mother secured her esteem though she could not always carry out Paul's injunction to Christian wives "See that ye reverence your husbands" & by great care and prudence chiefly on her part they tho' only ~~did~~ ^{did} a comparatively small business obtained a little competence for old age. ~~She~~ after retiring from business she as far

her means and strength would admit was
 very useful in visiting the poor and needy, and
 aiding to promote the success of the Old Barrow
 and Morcott Church, I have received many
 kind loving letters from her in almost every
 one of which she evinced her deep interest
 in the church, I do not remember at any time
 a shadow of unbrotherly or sisterly feeling existing
 between us. She ~~was~~ had arranged to come
 and spend a little time with us in July 1885
 the day she was to have come she was taken
 ill - Ann Moores with whom she was to have
 travelled bro^t me word of her illness I went
 immediately & just arrived in time to clasp
 her hand and hear ^{her} last calm words before
 she fell asleep in Jesus July 22 1885
 as a sister her life and behaviour to me was
 such as helps to sweeten life and make it worth
 living at her funeral us two surviving Brothers
 and a large number of Nephews & Nieces and Circle

L44

of friends attended - giving evidence of their attachment to her and appreciation of her sterling character. ^a Let me die the death of the righteous &c.

I am in order to satisfy the desire of my eldest son to give a brief outline of the few leading incidents of my life. They are very common place and hardly worth recording - I have never kept a diary therefore many incidents are forgotten - I was born at Old Lambley Lodge near Bolton Ruttland on the 23rd of May 1807 the eleventh child and seventh son of Thos & Mary Goodlife from report not a bit like the season or a May flower but a little Black Haired dark thing said to have taken a tinge from the Lynn sailors when my Mother had been to visit a sister - Shabby before my birth, ^{that} being as I may I got dubbed Brown George and by my elder sister a little needle visitor making her more work a cross little Crab which character stuck to me pretty close during my

Early Childhood, there were few incidents of any particular interest in my first ten years - except that I ^{was} more diligently engaged in making dirt pies and getting into trouble by making a mess of myself as early as I was safe for me to go to Old Dame ^{Falks} school at Belton. I went with my Brother Dan^t at the said School. The 1st standard was imperfectly taught - the Old English style was in vogue. Shall Could Would &c. was pronounced or spelt - and words of difficulty skipped altogether - I had to stand on a stool with a tall Brown paper cap on my head offence for mischief than for extra dullness. Nevertheless Old Dame Falks was not a bad sort - taught us some little Manner always a swing of the hand at leaving school and "Sarr Mam" an abbreviation for Your Servant Madam when we were extra good we got a "Bulls eye". The only Boys school was Old Billings the old parish Clerk who preferred the Greyhound to

46

The Young Mischievous hound who went to
the parish school - ~~to~~ we being dissenters were
Black Sheep - at length when I was about 10
a new divine came to the Village with quite
a reputation for learning he could actually
teach Vulgar Fractions, alas his pretensions
were beyond his performances, & not much
progress was made in the mastering the three R's
when about 11 years old I was sent to Pickers to a poor
old Wesleyan Aunt to Board and to old Thorpes to
school a man having reputation as a Teacher and
of the real old pedigree reputation a severe disciplin-
arian - great at the cane and ruler "Caster" as we used to
call it - I only came on for one partly I thought
unjustly because another boy tempted me beyond
my power of endurance I made progress in the 6
months I was there but was taken away just as
I was getting into the groove and liked it -
at this period about 12 I became a rather hopeful
disciple with the class my real god aunt was
a member off and wrote very pious

H 7 \

letter home, but times were so bad the money was wanted for other things so I had to leave - and being summer time took to bird scarring - my Father allowing me to have the Old Fire lock which had been hanging to the beam for many a year. I may just record here a remarkable preservation of my life I had loaded my Gun - having not shot I picked up a lot of very small stones with which I loaded it - went into a field where other Boys were scarring boys laid my Gun on the grass went a few yards distance to some other boys a boy picked up my Gun pointed it at me pulled the Trigger it did not go off it appeared just level with my head, in a few minutes I pulled the Trigger it went off and by the effect of the shot would have been fatal if gone off before. it caused me to be ^{more} careful afterwards - Our Ploughed land was about 1 mile away from the Lodge, in the sowing time

118.

and near harvest my work was chiefly
the hunting birds &c. I got a reputation for
being rather a crack shot - one snowy day a large
covey of Partridges settled down by the side of
corn near the old Barn with up stretched necks
pecking away at my Father's corn - despite the
fear of the Keeper I let fly overhauled $\frac{1}{4}$ Doz
fine partridges I carefully packed them up took
them home two or 3 Pigeons were killed to make
a pigeon pie disguising the game which
I remember was very much feared might get me
into trouble; - I believe the primal Hunting ^{Blond} ~~run~~
runs in my veins - old Dog Captain & I often got
home a pussy - several of our Fields were injured
by excess of game - in the spring of 1819 I had
to help very much in the Lambing season - one cold
bleak stormy March morning going out with
my Father amongst the new Born lambs to try
to get them shelter we met with a poor little lamb
numbed with cold so feeble to stand so weak to suck

H9

As poor Mother standing over it uttering her
bleat of sorrow - my Father said if you
can take that lamb in and keep it alive I
give it you and keep it for you I carried in
my arms took it near the earth Fire in the Kitchen
got a little warm milk in a cup broke
the head of a Tobacco pipe - covered the rough pipe
with a bit of Soft Rag after some effort got the
pipe in its mouth and milk down its throat
I dried it with wool it began to wag its tail
I knew it might live it soon stood and in
a little while was able to draw from its mother
the means of life & Vigour - in due time she
had Lambs two years had Couples two went
with some of my Father to the London Market
they made H9/ each leaving me a nice
profit after paying my Father a small sum
for Joyning or Ketch then two others then just
before I came to North other two from the same
Mother increased my savings so that

I had of my own right by savings over
1.5^l which came in very useful and
more as having formed a to save a little
against a time of need —

But I am overrunning an important event
of my life — my dear mother regretting this
little opportunity I had had of the advantages
of a good school arranged for me to go to
the Rev E Breator the Baptist minister of
Billesdon pastor of the small Church possessing
rich on forty pounds a year to make a living
he kept a school had some 12 Day Boarders
I was one, the intellectual advantages was
for that time of day 1819/20 fair but he had
3 of the worst boys who immoral conduct and
especially one the eldest boy was shocking for
obscenity and vice, I have many many
times wished I had carried out my desire
left the school before I had been there a week
the advantages rec^d in elementary knowledge

575

was far out weighed by the bad moral example
bearing influence. It was better 6 months to
me and more disastrous than any in
its effect. I returns home with the loss of
reverence for hub and virtue and for a
short time was a source of great sorrow to
my dear Mother, giving way to disobedience
and acts to her most trying. It came
to a climax when one morning having
by her remonstrance to what was wrong I
would not stay at Family prayer but
whilst she was pleading for us I got a
strong rope and tied them all in the
room they had great difficulty to get
thro a window to set them at liberty
she tho gentle was when aroused a firm
disciplinarian she with the elder one
cut me off from the usual meals and dry
Bread and water in the kitchen was my diet
I stood it for a while - one morning when

I was alone she took me by the hand
 led me into the Parlor. Very soon the
 tender and better side of my nature
 manifested itself she knelt down and
 I by her side she poured forth tender
 earnest words dictated by a Mothers loving
 heart— we embraced the Father in heaven
 the parent on Earth forgive the son, ^{he} because
 and was ever after one of her most devoted
 Children and never intentionally caused
 her sorrow ~~any more~~ ^{any more} This occurred
 when I was a little over 14 often a trying period
 to a boy with strong passions—
 after this a general change took place in
 my behaviour and Character. Like many
 other boys I was ~~not~~ unbroke in I was not
 fond of work and found it difficult to buckle
 to the different work needed in farm life but I
 gradually to use a country phrase took to the
 collar and grew to be fond of Farming

Cattle and grazing when I was a little over sixteen a letter came from Nottingham asking for either Daniel or I to come and spend a fortnight with him. Daniel being about two years older was in some respects most useful at home - the decision came to on the 20th of Aug^r 1823 was one of the leading events of my life -

Personally I was so averse to coming that I should have refused excepting that the shortness of the time made it bearable for I had a great dislike to be a Counter Skipper and not to be a farmer. Daniel and I came up to Leicester on the 22nd of Aug^r ~~with~~ to buy some sheep to sell after we had sold them on Saturday Aug^r 23 1823 he saw me mount Old Thos Pettifores Coach and start from the Hagg & Pheasant Leicester about 5 o'clock in the afternoon. The first time I had been on a coach four in hand rattling down Bellgrave Gate for Nottingham. Sitting in the front I felt interested with the Old Coachman

Management of the Horses and information
 about the Village and Town of Loughboro
 as we Coached along when coming down
 Puddington Hill the first View of Bottom
 broke upon my sight a few bright lights
 Old Manys Church the Castle Rock &c
 with many houses and buildings came
 in view exciting ones attention
 coming over the old Trent Bridge for the
 first time with its many arches and
 swift flowing waters was very attractive
 the steep side hollow the narrow old Bush-
 smith folk with its busy Shops on a Satur-
 day Eve struck as a busy place, ^{narrow} kept it
 with its strong team across the T and
 its large Blackmoors Head swinging from
 it was very striking we reached our desti-
 nation at about 1/2 P.M. at the Old White Lion
 there a great Coaching house then lively as
 the principle Coaching house for all Coaches

In the North, my Brother William met me and took me down Smithy row where at that time the lower class of ~~North~~ Butchers had stalls a rowing noisy lot ~~not~~ his Mrs Mayor there had a small Provision shop $\frac{1}{2}$ of what is now Jacksons Cigar Shop just being in the Centre of the aforesaid Butcher Hall & the other $\frac{1}{2}$ of the Shop occupied by Drunken Butcher Fearsome a clever man of business when sober, but who soon Drank himself to death, he had not been sober for a fortnight and the night he died in the bed room opposite mine it was a fearful scene, I suppose it was a case of

Delirium tremens of a Great Strong man having well learnt the vulgar tongue my new quarters were a strong contrast to my country home consisted of ^{small} 3 Back back rooms sitting room about 8 by 10 two small scryed rooms over bed room for the Mrs & us 10 assistants - ~~no~~ use of a

Switchen and pauly & pretty all on a
 floor below ground dreadful sanitary
 arrangements - here I lived about 4 years
 and but as the sanitary arrangements
 were had generally good health
 before the fortnight was up my Brother
 asked me to stay a bit longer as an event
 of an interesting character might take place
 altho' I had left home so reluctantly I began
 to see that having two Brothers at home
 I was not needed and arranged to stay
 a bit longer - Mrs Mayor had gone to
 London to spend a little time with her
 Sister she wished to stay a little longer
 so I got on pretty well she came home
 all smiles and affability speaking of
 Madam Tussard and other Wonders
 of London - under the influence of
 which the widow was all blandness &
 smiles, I got an invitation to stay

The wedding and Honey moon over,
which was to take place in about 6 MRS
I had become so satisfied and pleased
with Mr. that I made an arrange-
ment to stay three years with them.

I felt somewhat put on my metel
to be left in charge for near a week
of house and business with an
old Snuffy Mother Dances coming
in a charming occasionally and with
the Occasional supervision of old
Phillip Bailey the Grandfather
of the Author of Fustus - whose pleasant
Secular style was very pleasant
an incident rather unpleasant to
me occurred one afternoon a man
came into the shop asking about
the wedding he said when he
knew I was the Bridegroom's Brother
" Poor Fellow I am sorry for him

Tell him from me who ~~am~~ her Cousin and
 lived with her in her first husband days
 that he must get a good ash plant and once
 a week let her have of he means to keep "Master"
 of course it shocked my ideas as to being a proper
 Mode of Treatment of such a smiling amiable
 woman, but I tried to see the other side the
 picture I may just give one little picture out of
 many I saw - Not very long after the Honey
 Moon had set - a quiet young Dress Maker
 came to make some dresses for the old lady
 who had been such a public fascinating widow
 she was a Cousin I believe - we were all sitting down
 to Breakfast the young husband courteously
 help the Choicest morsel to the stranger with a pleasant
 word the jealous old Vixen in a rage flung a hot
 cup of Coffee at him because he ~~was~~ smiled and
 was pleasant to the young dressmaker, the
 latent lion in him was aroused, she had to
 cut and run and lock herself up not

before she received an eve offering in
 her posterior part. This I saw being
 one of the four seat at the table, I thought
 at once her Cousins words were not wide
 of the mark. Will had a touch of the old
 puritan about him but he was far to
 good a man to be tied to and tormented by
 such an old screw. after all I managed
 to spend nearly 6 years in their service —
 and nearly one as a boarder & lodge before I
 was married. after I had been there about
 a year the business premises now occupied
 by Jacksons came into my Brother Will's
 hand in 1825 I was ~~extra~~ and boy porters
 waiter &c pretty hard worked. I had only
 an old Wheel Barrow to take out heavy goods
 the streets and roads were badly paved & lit
 with oil lamps except just the main streets
 when I was about 19²⁵ a stiff sturdy fellow —
 partly out of bravado and partly to

save fetching the Barrow from a room we had in Maypole yard I put the oven 2^d of salt on my back to carry up Black boy yard to a shop where the Express office now stands when about $\frac{1}{2}$ way up the yard my foot slipped the weight overpowered me I fell unable to rise and injured my back and right hip was carried to bed & blistered and bled - I name this because it has been at times a life's trial especially as I advanced in age resulting in severe Rheumatism & Sciatic Pains from which I am now suffering whilst working.

I dotted the incident down as a warning against rashness and head strong actions.

one of the most striking events of 1824 was the procession down Smithy Row of Lord Byron's funeral the long Caval Cadre and remarkable funeral Carriages with the attendant Gentlemen Carriages was a sight I have not seen either before or since as it went on its way to Hucknall.

Trade being bad in 1826 my Brother took a
 stall in the North Market place and on
 Saturday I was post to be salesman there
 which when I got used to it liked it and
 I did a nice little business in 1827 &
 my Brother took a small unoccupied shop
 in Bridlemethgate and opened it as a
 Groery and Provision Store and with
 occasional assistance I was Manager, in
 the week days I had considerable time for
 reading, the Artisans Library being opened
 in the Back of Robt Mapers shop by the
 up I was enrolled as the 9th member
 Ed Hart ft & E Patchett and others young men
 about 18 to 20 joined some of whom became
 the leading men and most of whom have
 passed over the border, I read with great
 avidity Addison's Spectator Johnson's Rasselas
 and other popular works, unfortunately
 my reading was so much for mere momentary

gratification my early defective education was partly the cause.

I had for a year 1825 to 1826 entered earnestly into the work of Sunday School Teaching at Honey Street which was at that time one of the most popular well attended schools in ~~Nottingham~~ with several young men engaged there once a fortnight. the other Sundays we went by arrangement to help to establish schools at Ruddington, at New Benten at Carlton &c most of which have done a good work and remain to this day at that time the earnest young people on a Sunday attended the Sunday Morning Prayer Meeting @ 7 - the S. S. at 9 - going with the scholars to Chapel at 10 30 tracks from 12 to 1 or 5 to 6 school & 1 30 aft sometime P M 5 30 to 6 :: 30 Service 6. 30 - Ben's Society 8 to 9 - or Prayer M 8 to 9 home and in bed before 10 -

This doubtless was zeal without prudence

~~Saw the Editors of 1826~~ From 1826 to 1830
 was the ^{period} ~~time~~ in my life when I had religiously
 and intellectually the happiest times of my
 life looking back I can see both were too sen-
 sational to little of the solid and real in
 their Character, a smattering of Knowledge
 had made me somewhat pedantic and
 conceded 60 years since the general deficiency
 of sound Education was sad to think of
 a few events in those years I may refer to
 I became member at St Oct 1826 - when
 some near 20 other young people were Bapt^d
 Old St A Church was about in the zenith of pros-
 perity and usefulness, often as youngsters
 had to bring in form into the isles - and
 at Prayer Meetings there would be 50 to 100 present
 a few young men formed a mutual improved
 Class to discuss various subjects the meetings
 were held in the Vestry before the prayer
 Meetings - one night one of the Clergy m

64

gave a short address on the laws of provocation
just before 8 to illustrate his talk he threw up
the snuffers and ask why they felt. good
old Deacon Heath came in saw and heard
what was going on his righteous soul was
shocked with profane going on, and quote
the Saviours denunciation of the evildoers
drive out the profaners, it upset the
meeting By young men went to bed
and the meeting were given up perhaps
with reference to the performer there was
not much loss, he tho clever became a
worthless fellow turning up near 50 years
after in the Nottm workhouse where I was
a Guardian, ^{y. m} another was formed. we met
at a summer house on a Sunday Morning for
a short time Rev H Dowson Horatio Smith John
Haleam became ministers out of that number &
G Packer a Teacher during that period I
read more eagerly than at any period

of my life. I also tried to get a knowledge of
 Short Hand - paid a Guinea to receive lessons
 by a Professor for strengthening and improving
 Memory - another for improving my penmanship
 and began for a Dozen other projects for my
 improvement in Knowledge - alas always
 to be given up before ~~reaching~~ attaining any
 thing like a thorough knowledge any

Then I did not disregard the recreative side
 of one nature - a few Young men from B St
 Hy St and Geop St formed an early morning
 Cricket Club and between 5 & 6 o'clock in morning
 one morning I was at the wicket Deacon Sleath came
 with his book by. I perhaps to with too great freedom
 said Mr Sleath I will give you a Catch
 next day he came to tell me how disappointed
 he was to find me spending my time in that
 manner. I replied surely there no harm in knocking
 a bit of Leather with a bit of wood
 he said young Christians should not play

at Games he did not like any Games
 he finished by telling me he had formed
 hope of me to become a Student at Loughbro
~~school~~ academy which was just being established
 ablessis Miss both for the pulpit and the writer
 several events new to me took place about that
 time Buck and Rancey's Election 1826
 was noted for its fun, mischief and triumph
 fun running away with Voters, mischief—Spencer
 and the Forces Ducking the wigs—Triumph Chancy
 Round the market place Buck & Rancey after
 11 day Election men Voters came over from
 Cal's to Grand Meeting ^{anti-slavery} Thompson Orators was to
 me something wonderful — and had much to do in
 kindling in me a strong liberal feeling in after life
 an event happened in 1826 Oct which had much
 to do with my after life — in the school room
 at the fair time the Teachers ^{friends} were having a Social
 party I could not go b'c it was late —
 joining up the stairs found old Daddy Hutchings
 the Superintendent met me Oh young man

67

he said I want you to see two young ladies
friends of mine home, a chum of mine said
nay that he shant he's only just come, and to
send away its to bad, I was just budding
into a young man about my size, I said oh
I shall have great pleasure Mr Hutchinson saw
the ladies blushing said oh Mr Hutchinson
we are not afraid - of course I said I shall
have pleasure away we went to the Top of
Sherwood Street - I found them to be two intelligent
young ladies Miss Anna & Eliza Speed
who like myself had been brought up in the
country and recently come to Nottingham
during the next twelve months we met at
Chapel and School and had occasional
conversations on the topics of the day
I often admired the young lady adorned
in a neat dress and found it pleasant
to walk and talk about school, books
&c, and found by the next Goose fair

we had become votaries in the school of Cupid accepted as engaged.

in the year 1827 during the next three years the ordinary vicissitudes of courtship characterized that period both being somewhat sensitive of course there would be small interruptions to the general happy time owing no doubt to the pettishness of the writer, about marrying one almost comes to believe "what is to be will be" in spite of all circumstances.

at the ~~commencement~~ of 1829 at the later end of 1829 - arrangement was entered into for me to take over the little business in Bredelmsky at the little shop next to Mr Hyams which I had managed for two or 3 years - I had saved about 50[£] though I had but 15[£] and the two last years 20[£] a year altho I had an offer of 25[£] to go to Leeds my mother begged of me to continue being

so happy at Stony⁵ and I suppose in-
 fluenced by my ~~young~~ ladies company
 remaind - then I had the 5th which
 fell to my share so I managed to make
 a start deciding to see what would be
 the results of the year having before we
 commenced Matrimony - about Sep^r
 my young lady was very ill thro indigestion
 and had to go into the country to her
 grandfather, the short change effected
 a great change she came back with
 a cheerful bright happy countenance and
 wonderfully invigorated. Took stock
 at 9 months from the commencement
 of business and found I had made
 about 1st a week profit and decided
 that we would join interests -
 I might just say that I had made
 very economical arrangements to lodge
 and board
 with the old lady at South River

for 7/ per week - She seemed quite
 anxious for me to do well only she
^{did} could not approve of me marrying a
 Girl with out some property -
 I must have taken lessons from
 her about saving for I tried hard
 to induce her to take 20/ for 3 Weeks.
 When I named to my Bro Wm that
 I wished him to be best man at Church
 he declined I believe lest he should
 get into trouble with the old lady
 so we arranged with two friends
 who came to Goosefair Wm Wilcox
 the son of an old friend of Annas
 mother and a friend of theirs was Bridgman
 we met at Mary Church ^{Sunday Oct 1830} of 9 o'clock DeWitt
 performed the ceremony - in my hurry I
 had changed my pocket and found I
 had not money to pay the fees and
 old Parnham Clark being a Customer

71

said I call and get a bit of Cheese
 a pretty start in life, we went straight
 to our Classes Sunday School but I was
 know all over the Chapel before the day was
 over - I had to be up on Sunday Morning
 Oct 3 at 6 Ock for the Cheese fair leaving
 the Lad Edmund Walston & the young wife
 to mend the shop - I went to Smith Row
 to go with Will to the Cheese fair about 10 O'clock
 while I talk to him I see a sharp stick on
 my Posterior turning round saw it was
 my Brother Daniel, take that said he
 you shabby fellow for not letting me know
 I had felt annoyed that William objected
 to be best man and my intended throwing
 a bit of her independence said oh
 never mind don't let us make any
 fuss, the same evening however Dan
 being here he Will^m and his old
 woman came on to supper, we

only had two rooms then at the
 house opposite now the Old Arm Chair
 the House and shop we had taken for
 30th a year then occupied by Miss Page
 afterward Mrs Thornton she let us have
 the two Rooms - at supper my young
 wife was very tired to have a poor
 table Mrs W Goodlett who had told me
 I must not expect to have nice apple pie
 dumplings and pies marriage an inexperienced
 girl, but when the apple pies
 came and were tasted my Bro Wm
 was quite gushing in his praise of their
 excellence - quite relieving and encouraging
 my Cousins we seem to get on alright
 at one - I am afraid I was much
 anxious about getting a living and
 carefully ~~at~~ rather hard as to even necessary
 outlay or comfort at any rate -
 Times were then terrible requiring the

greatest Economy. we soon improved our
 business when our new shop was opened
 I pushed out into the Herring trade which
 was in the Provenciers Hands and a few years
 we opened often before 7 and kept open
 till 10 Will^m had given up and I
 got some of his customers and rather
 rapidly increased my trade from 20⁺ a
 week to 200⁺ and in the year 1834 at
 stock taking found we had made a
 clear 100⁺ gain for what when we
 had pushed stock taking we in our
 bed room knelt down and thank
 our heavenly Father for our prosperity
 and while we slept for several large Grocers
 were and had failed about that time
 I am rather omitting some events
 of Deep interest to us - ^{Saturday} On the 16 Oct 1831
 our First born Son came into this
 life, after a period of great pain.

74

and anxiety. Little Dr. Jannan ordered
extreme quiet and care, the young Mother's
head was awful bad - in a day or two the
babe also appeared to me to be dying had a
fit I ran like mad for the Dr. expecting
to find him dead when I came back
glad to find evidences of life soon recov-
ering and after a trying time the Mother
also, another remarkable incident was
the Mother would not set up a cradle ob-
jecting to rocking babies - we cured a good
deal of Bacon and Dried part of it in the
kitchen place, the Mother had put her ^{baby}
in a ^{to do it on} chair near the fire & near a stack of
bacon she had come into the ^{in which there was no window} shop on
the Grocery side. Very narrow a high stool
stood with a tin in which we ground
coffee the Mother was near the window
heard the Chair & Basket fall feared her
babe would be Burnt ran in her.

alarm walking right over the Coffee
 tin upon the stool at least 3 feet high
 with even knocking the tin off. I saw her
 and never saw such a feat - no harm
 happened a Fitch of Bacon had fallen
 knocked down the basket wakened
 him up but scarcely a squall - I pitched
 her to look at her achievement it
 seemed incredible to us both Oh
 the potency of a Mothers love
 a Great political event occurred in Nov.
 about that time the agitation for the great Reform
 bill, exciting meetings were held the Parleys
 Wakefield &c and other liberal leaders of
 that day were held large meetings to Petition
 Parliament for the abolition of Rotten Boroughs
 and enfranchisement of large Towns
 but after bill had been thrown out
 of both Commons and Lords about
 Oct 1831 22 Tories had petitioned

against the Reform bill — The Duke
 of Newcastle the Owner of some of R. Bury
 strongly opposed the bill saying Cant I do
 what I like with my own — Crowds used
 to meet in the Market Place to hear Wm
 Eyre Auchmore read from the London papers
 the debates of Brougham, Denman Russell
 and Lord Melbourne the Papers were brought
 by the London & Leeds express and came
 rallying on B. Ry hundreds of men having
 met them at the Trent Bridge and
 when at last the Lords had thrown out
 the bill after the Commons had passed it —
 a Mass Meeting next day met in
 the Market place addressed by the
 orators in favor denouncing the Lords &
 Tories, the crowd became excited then
 mischievously rushing off to Jack Murrays
 Hall at Colverth shouting and singing
 alarming Mary Chaworth

They came rushing up Hollow Stone & B19
 shouting away to the Nottm Castle
 broke open the old Gate rushed up the Stone
 steps demolished the five Stone Portico &
 horse set ~~for~~ fire to it in two or
 3 places burned the fine Tapestry and
 other articles of Uniquely and Value
 I stood and saw it just at the Top of
 Hounds Gate a dreadful Conflagration
 Cost the County 22,000 the Mob rushed ^{Broke}
 thro the wall opposite the steps up
 Standard Hill they away to Beetham
 Mule its lorry owner being one of
 those who pitched against the passing
 of the bill then rushed off to Wollaton
 here they were met by the W Troop and
 stopped several were taken up and executed
 It was a sad time in Nottm and for years
 caused the town to be dishonoured —
 nevertheless the alarm caused by the riots

at North^m Bristol and else where directed
attention of Parliament to the great question
of Reform and hastened its accomplishment.
No particular circumstances except long
denunciation, and liberal exertion to carry
the reform bill which was accomplished in 1832.

One little trade transaction which occurred
on Good Friday 1830 I have omitted — I intended
the day to go to Derby, to buy a little Dairy
of Cheese when I got there all the warehouses
were shut most of the Cheesemakers were Church
and Keymer, — but not willing to lose my
day I enquired and found Old Tho Goodier
the head warehouse man he was a bit of a
Character but a good hearted old Fellow after
hearing my story he said come a try
I've got a little dairy that will just suit
you He's a bit fearful the money in
my pocket would run short. he showed
me put it at the lowest price I just managed

To find the need for - old Bryan brought it
 it turned out a choice little bit gave me confidence
 and gained me credit amongst a few retail
 customers - I never felt more glad on account
 of a little bargain, old Tony Goodwin always
 befriended me by speaking a good word of me
 to Farmers & Factors -

No very remarkable circumstances occurred
 till May 1833 when a Daughter was
 announced also a little Dark piece
 of Humanity, the getting use to it
 owing to the Mother's severe suffering it
 was always a time of anxiety.

For some time no particular event
 transpired, we found our family was
 increasing we buckled to pushed the
 trade doubled our returns by 1835 and
 began to put our feet, and by great
 economy and care in doing business
 was able to pay our way and establish

our reputation, Old Robt Morrison tells a story of his first venturing into the country. Standing for some time of a Saturday Evening to watch me wait upon customers, he often told me after he thought to himself I venture to try and get an order out of that young man he'll pay. he said the manner I did gave him Confidence to go into the country that's about 45 to 48 years ago. I might be laquered with a bit of his Irish Blarney but there was a vein of truth in it.

I was able to keep up my attention to Sunday School work and enjoyed walks over to Raddington with Mr Bishop Foster of Charles one afternoon we walked over to E Leake when Alford was Vicar after ward Dean - a man of fine talent and Spirit - Very much enjoyed the service -

in 1835 ^{May there was} another addition to our family our dear departed Ellen, I shall never forget the sad distressed look of the poor dear father

(from exhaustion and pain) Mother when trying to give the babe it natural food she could not suck owing to a defective roof and palate in her mouth, she was nearly choked. Then came the proof of the Mothers wonderful untiring effort and labor to rear the little sufferer, it was a struggle prolonged till by medical skill & contrivances to a considerable extent over came the defect and she lived to be for many years the devoted loved companion of her Mother, this was a time of great anxiety to us both, I had had mother at times feeble babe requiring close attention Night and day having to be fed with great frequency and care, Oh how wonderfully the Mothers affection is brought out by any defect or weakness of the child, her day and night devotion was - marvellous. . during this year I was busy both week day and Sunday extending the Trade - I was appointed Treasurer for

the New G. B. Chapel Huknab in 1835 and
 assisted them considerably Financially as
 Treasurer Money then was very scarce
 poor Stocking Working ~~from~~ 8/10 12/ a Week
 Porters 12/- still by care we managed to have
 a surplus. we felt it necessary to be careful
 in April 1836 within the year another boy was
 born Pickering the Mothers boy was at full
 tension 4 Children in less than 6 5 years
 of age - it required all the energy care and
 thought on her part to manage he was
 from the first a weakly Child got the name
 of "Whizzler" two for some time unable to walk
 then this year a sad calamity happened -
 early in March 1837 when busy a messenger
 came breathless to tell us our Dear Kind Mother
 Fred's room was on Fire and she was badly
 burnt I ran to find it sadly true old
 Barnes the Chief Constable hindered me from
 entering the House pretending there was already
 many in - I got in

just as the poor dear was bro'down in
 great agony I had her brought to our house
 we had only the bed (fire) in the sitting Room
 Dr. Davison had her wrapped in Cotton Wool
 her burns were over so large a portion
 of her stomach and body - the Dr. said at
 first he feared she could not rally -
 she died the 16th of March. being unconscious
 during the whole time with the exception of a
 few minutes when she touchingly exhorted
 her children to cherish tender affections toward
 each other she suffer most acutely -
 the fire was cause in the lace room where a
 number of Girls worked under her supervision
 and one of who carelessly up set a Candle
 and set fire to the Lace, in her effort to smother
 it out her clothes caught fire and two girls
 also were burnt - she left 4 children
 altho we had but two Bedrooms and a small
 attic and with servants were 7 in family

The three Young for some time came to live with us. Looking back to that time we marvel how we managed & continued in fair health. This was indeed a season of sore trial — Mother Speed was a thoughtful industrious kind woman remarkable for cheerfulness and care of her children, altho' we were young people of only 30 we had the care and anxiety of a large family upon our hands, and felt thankful to have been able in a time of need to render aid.

owing to heavier family Expenses ^{& bad Trade} for the next two or three years our progress was but slow still we improved a little every year till 1840 when we got into four figure & though it looked well and to be thankful for when failures were taking place all round —

In 2nd March 1839 our youngest daughter Sarah was born. It was a ^{crisis} time with both Mother & Father. The care and trouble endured by the mother —

The two previous years had unfitted her
 to encounter the ordeal through which she
 had to pass - most serious. One morning
 after Derby fair Old William Shaw a Dray-
 man with a most clear strong voice
 whilst pitching Cheen of his Dray shouted
 the Ho & lally so loud that it quite upset
 her, and when a little while I went to the
 bed room to see her she was quite delirious
 and alarmed me & the Dr who ordered great
 care or she would sink, It was some time
 before she rallied, the Babe was weakly &
 has so remained to this day with a short
 interval. Thank our Heavenly Father
 she rallied - our business grew our Room
 did not we had been looking out for larger
 premises but often to turned to ~~Shake~~ what
 then we thought expensive premises, Missed
 taking or buying several that would have
 been Central and good & proved cheap

after places might have been taken or for which
 I now think were 'Misses' Smith Row House
 Butlers Shop when Creamy would have sold the
 farmess - the Shop corner of High St now Leger or Vaulty
 Howells premises Church Street. Keelys premises
 then ~~Honors~~ mans - G Willey before he went and
 other premises if I had had spirit but times
 were bad and till 1850 money not plentiful beyond
 what I wanted for business with the plod,
 Health and care we had if we had had more
 spirit we might have had & kept the best trade
 in Novm this by way of boast and depression
 In the year 1840 owing to what we both
 believed unchristian action we decided to
 leave Honey Street, and attend Broad Street
 and after a time I was pressed to take part
 in the School & Prayer and alms Society
 the former of which I was for more than 20
 years Superintendent and the later President
 and Pastor

In 1841 The shop and extensive premises in the centre of the Street now in my Eldest sons hands was let after considerable negotiation I took it making fair arrangements as to its alteration, it was a great improvement every way, enabling us to live more comfortably extend our business, and with the extensive cellar Warehouse alterations Thomas has made for a wholesale provision business they are good. For the first few years we did a very good retail business chiefly in the provision department but also a little grocery business in 1839 we bought a garden about the centre of Mills piece built a summer house it was a rare source of enjoyment and health for about 20 years to us and the children especially about the years of from 43 to 55 where all the children and their friends enjoyed as well as ourselves the garden. I have

No doubt its sanitary advantages was
 of the greatest benefit. Here the Mother
 had some of her happiest hours in
 cultivating fruit roots & flowers.
 we were ~~well~~ emboldened to buy
 the garden because at Stock Valley
 we had after about 10 years hard
 work ~~at Stock~~ found our pains
 had grown to 4 figures.

about this time I devoted a good deal of
 time to Sunday School work, was Treasurer
 for the neat little Chapel at Hickinal Forkland
 for Ruddington, and help to start the School
 and Chapel at New Lenton.

in 1842 our third Son Fred was born
 good Old Ann Richards was nurse she had
 been very kind during the baby hood of the
 last 3 and continued for years to be invaluable
 & with our good Niece Sarah Culpin in care
 of the youngsters - Will^m Walston had

been with us for years a real hard working fellow, droll full of wise saws and modern instances - Wm Aldridge came when he was hardly 12 his principal job was to go to the Garden with the children for a while, he early evinced Talent for Making Mouse traps Soap dishes and Neck Neck a good honest quiet fellow.

an event ~~occurs~~ at the latter end of July 1844 a sweet little babe was added to the number to whom we gave the name of Harriet Eliza She was a ~~very~~ dear babe & child next like a sweet early blossom living only 3 yrs & 4 months gently faded, the first of the family to be called away it was to each of us a severe stroke to the Mother especially who had watched the opening bud of promise and also by her side in her suffering and fading away - to consign the dear one to the grave at such an early period of life was a severe stroke.

Thomas in his twelfth year was very
useful in the Office giving evidence of the
possession of a faculty for figures -
from 1840 to 1850 a steady progress was
made in business a larger circle was
steadily extended from towns in Derbyshire
on one side to Lincoln on the other -
I went into the American Trade which was
opening up and did a good business at
Newark and Lincoln about this time
Thomas was very unwell the Close Office &
other Causes was telling seriously upon his health
we decided that he should consult Dr Gill who
had recently returned from Australia - before
he went I in an off hand way said, if Dr Gill
tells you to go to Australia Go - he saw had a
long talk Came to me in the Office and said
I'm going to Australia - I felt stunned
but so it came to pass. he went Came
back in less than two years for his

I was better I had loosened the Cap of
my Knee. he heard of it, thought he ought to
come back found me better and a full team
for business - decided to go back taking
apart with him he went but owing
to a season of excessive heat his health
~~was~~ suffered - and owing to the great depreciation
in Trade and my injudicious shipments
his successes in trade was nil -
he returned in 1860

touching my own ^{Political} history I had, had many
a fight for reform - at Sturges election, at Peter
Rushy against Church rates - elected to the Council
in 1857 made but little out and again at
next election was Vice Chairman and when
the Chairman Mr. Vickers was absent presided
having Mr. Jas Oldknow now Sir Jas who became
a member of the little parliament, and of that
committee with 4 or 5 other men most
of whom have passed over to the

Majority, the Country and Council
had entered pretty heartily on Sanitary
reform and not before it was required
I got the Com^{rs} to fix the meetings at 6
O'Clock on Wednesday Even and found
after the bustle of a wholesale Wednesday
Market they were a pleasant chance
I was complimented by the Town Clerk
~~for~~ my prompt attendance and discharge
of my duty, at the meeting of the Council
I had strongly opposed the establishment of
a Second Race track and especially the
expenditure of 300 on the race course. Mundell
la. Howell West and I most strongly opposed
it and also the Making of Tom North
Mayor for which and because I would
neither vote nor sit if the ward com^{tee} voted
I was to be opposed by Bennett by the War
butlers W Chapman, P Cox and the betting
and betting men - in a weak moment

I gave way, instead of having a fight
for it. E Patchett & Tom were both
annoyed at my carrying in, at the
request of Fowler and others whom
these fellows had tried to persuade me to
I was at one time or another a member
of the Board of Guardians for seven years
Chairman of the School Committee and
with others assented to give a Hall to the
separation of the poor pauper children
from the adults and was a ring-leader
against a denomination Chapter
Then in other departments of Political life
I was Chairman of several meetings
at Sturges Clinton President of the Man-
hood Suffrage Society My H^o J. B. Hutchinson
being president. I gave offence by ^{disparaging} ~~by~~ others,
taking the Chair at the Exchange at
Lord Ambulys Meeting rather strongly
condemning them for showing him

The cold shoulder, after the treatment
at the election refused to I took less in-
terest in local elections but voted liberal
when I could at all consistently.

In the 1847 our last child was born
who for years was all that a child could be
desired. When toward 14 he was sent to a
Boarding School and fell into habits
resulting in dishonour to himself and
to the extreme grief of his parents and family
we hope his latter days may be best and
happy for himself and friends.

In 1859 I tried to purchase the premises formerly
that I took them on a 21 years lease and
arranging myself and landlady the outlay
and rent &c. it was a very good improve-
ment but might have been better.

In 1860 Thos & his family came home
from Australia, I had built a good house
in the Park living there he came to

live at Bridgewater and became
a partner with me in the business —
~~we~~ ^{he} gave up the grocery business and
devoted my attention to the Provision dept

I shall now very briefly summarize
what remains. In 1861 one of the
most pleasant occurrences of
my life was as the Superintendent of the
S. S. at Broad St the carrying through
by the aid of friends the building
of the new School Rooms at B. St.
on which occasion I spared no effort
to get the best rooms we could on
the limited site. for years I engaged
workers for various religious and
Benevolent Objects until about the
year 1870 I became through age unable
longer very actively to discharge the
chief duties which were taken up
by younger men.

For about 20 years I was a Deacon of
the Church ~~to~~ and about 10 years & I
sought to the best of my ability to discharge
the duties of those offices no doubt often
erring in judgment and action
and now I am ~~entering on my~~ ^{nearly} 80
years birth day I feel unable to discharge
its duties and wish to resign

Looking Back for the last 20 years
that my dear wife has been I have to ~~be~~ ^{be} thankful
as a family man, I have much cause
for thankful ness and regret

The whole of my children are married
have families most of whom are a joy to
us a severe trial to us was the heavy
affliction and death of our only un-
married Daughter dear Ellen whose lovely
Nature active life tender companionship
endared her to us and all the family