

## A Condemned Malefactor Convinced in Prison.<sup>1</sup>

My dear freinds.

J could often write to you, but often straitned for time, but my bowels hath free access to you in y<sup>e</sup> Lord, wher we are refreshed together in y<sup>e</sup> power of y<sup>e</sup> most high, who hath shewed himself in his wonted kindnes to set me once more free from my outward bonds, w<sup>th</sup> nigh 80 more. Jn great clearnes he caused y<sup>e</sup> innocency of his people to shine over al, to his own glory whose work it is, blessed be his name for ever &c. Ther remains 9 p̄munired, 7 excōmunicated, & 13 for tythes. My freinds, it pleased y<sup>e</sup> great God y<sup>t</sup> after a malefactor was condemnd to dy, great was y<sup>e</sup> earning of my bowels to him w<sup>th</sup> others y<sup>t</sup> was to dy w<sup>th</sup> him, & y<sup>e</sup> Ld caused my soul to be powred forth in their behalf day & night, until recd an answer of peace, y<sup>t</sup> he would cause some of their souls y<sup>t</sup> day y<sup>t</sup> dyed to rest w<sup>th</sup> him in paradice, w<sup>th</sup>in his eternal love, in ord<sup>r</sup> to p̄fect his p̄pose he wrought powerfully in y<sup>e</sup> hearts of some of y<sup>m</sup>, & especially Br[?] Proctor y<sup>t</sup> had been very wicked, w<sup>ch</sup> he confessed to y<sup>e</sup> shame of self & iustifying y<sup>e</sup> righteous iudgm<sup>ts</sup> of Gd, who had sealed up his eternal mercyes in y<sup>e</sup> blood of X<sup>t</sup>.

He declared to al people, he had lived in al mann<sup>r</sup> of wickednes, & had been reprovved by y<sup>e</sup> light of X<sup>t</sup> 1000 & 1000 times, but he reiected y<sup>e</sup> counsel of God, who justly now had overtaken him: but through y<sup>e</sup> prayers & tears of y<sup>e</sup> people called Quakers God was p̄vailed w<sup>th</sup>al, & had given him repentance, & sealed up his love to him in y<sup>e</sup> blood of y<sup>e</sup> Lord Jesus. So he exhorted al people high & low to take heed of reiecting y<sup>e</sup> light of X<sup>t</sup> y<sup>t</sup> rep̄ved y<sup>m</sup> for sin in their own consciences; & not to p̄secute y<sup>e</sup> people called Quakers, for y<sup>a</sup> were y<sup>e</sup> people of y<sup>e</sup> living God; & as long as he was p̄mitted to speak, was p̄tiously ord<sup>d</sup>, but when he was stopt, he told y<sup>m</sup> y<sup>a</sup> stopt y<sup>e</sup> mouth of God in him, desiring y<sup>e</sup> Ld it might not be ld to their charge. Then he said, This day hath mine eys seen my salvation, praising y<sup>e</sup> Ld, and so finished, to y<sup>e</sup> joy of al o<sup>r</sup> hearts y<sup>t</sup> had been in Great travels for him &c.

<sup>1</sup> From a MS. in D. in the handwriting of Thomas Ellwood.