

## Stephen Grellet at Chelmsford, Essex.<sup>1</sup>

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A Frenchman, named Stephen Guellett, who is a person of much celebrity amongst the Quakers, being on a visit in the neighbourhood of Chelmsford, an extraordinary meeting was held in the spacious meeting-house, belonging to the Society in that town, on Wednesday evening, for the purpose of introducing him to address the inhabitants of the place.

The Friends themselves waited upon nearly all the respectable inhabitants of the town, to make personal invitations, and the meeting-house was, in consequence, crowded with persons not belonging to the fraternity; amongst whom were several Dissenting ministers. The speaker, who is a tall man, but rather aged, went through his address with that steady calmness peculiar to his sect, but his imperfect pronounciation of the English language, doubtless, prevented some of the persons from perfectly understanding his discourse, which was very impressive, and occasionally eloquent.

He commenced with an allusion to the signs of the times, the prophecies of the Scripture, and the coming of judgment, which he said were in part accomplished, and were about to be fulfilled in our days. The giant arm of knowledge had spread its strength over the earth, and its blessed fruits were already beginning to spring forth, not only in England, but in the furthestmost nations of the earth; and this, he was happy to say, was not merely a nominal knowledge, but a thorough knowledge of the genuine duties of mankind.

He dwelt, emphatically, upon the importance of time: God, who had showered his blessings upon us with a bountiful hand, gave us one thing sparingly—time. He never gave us two moments at once—in this respect he placed the rich and the poor upon an equality—when he gave one moment he took the other away—and no man knew, till one was taken away, whether the other would be granted to him. What a consideration! What a lesson for heedless man! The speaker then adverted strongly to the vice of drunkenness.

<sup>1</sup> Stephen Grellet was in the Eastern Counties in 1812; and again in 1814 and 1831. This account of a visit to Chelmsford is from a cutting from a contemporary newspaper; in **D**.

He concluded by an animated allusion to that awful moment when death should leave us, and judgment find us.

His address occupied two hours and a half, and elicited much admiration from the principals of the Society.

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Petition from the Vestry of Newcastle, Pa., to  
the Commissioners.<sup>1</sup>

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To the Honourable<sup>le</sup> Commiss<sup>rs</sup> of Property, &c.

The Petition of The Vestry of Emanuell Church, in Newcastle, humbly Sheweth—

That the Members of the said Church, having been at great Charge in Erecting the same, which hath been honoured by her Majesty's Bounty, and Dignified by the Liberality of the honourable Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, find themselves at a great Loss for Want of a Convenient Place for a Burying Ground or Church Yard, Therefore Doe humbly Request of the Gentlemen Commissioners a Grant for One Hundred and Seventy foot Square of Ground, Circumjacent to the said Church; of which Necessity Collon<sup>l</sup> John French hath been pleased to Vndertake to give you further Informaçon, Who we pray may be heard.

And your Petitioners, as in Duty bound, shall ever Pray.

Jacob Henderson, min<sup>r</sup> of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> ch.  
 Rich<sup>d</sup> Halliwell, } Churchwardens.  
 James Robinson, }  
 Jos: Wood,  
 Rich<sup>d</sup> Clarke,  
 John Ogle,  
 Gunning Bedford,  
 J<sup>no</sup> Jennings,  
 Edward Jenings,  
 Jasper Yeates,  
 Hipo [?] Lefever.

<sup>1</sup> From the original in D (Penn MSS. 48).