

“The Record Book of Friends of the Monthly
Meeting at Urie.”

Continued from p. 98.

Here foloueth ane Accompt of some ffreinds their goeing to the steeple house of fsetteresso⁴ and bearing there Testimony against their worship Robert Barclay eld^r of Urie went there and having waited till the priest John Milne had ended his matters he desired him to stay that he might be heard to the end he might vindicat Truth and freinds from the preists foul and false aspersiones, but he fled as ane hireling raging and revyling. There was a man among y^m that struck of R. B's hatt it was taken notice of by some he did not prosper afterwards. It hath been and Js observable those who touch the Lord's annointed ones and does his prophets harm doth not pass unrebuked of the Lord.

Patrick Livingston went to the fors^d place where he bore his Testimony for the Truth on the first-day of the week and was hardly used particularly one Marg^t Chaine [?] struck him and it was Remarkable very shortly after she broke the same arm wherewith she struck him.

[A short notice of Patrick Livingstone follows, of which this seems to be a copy:—]

pat. Livingston was born in Angus & Jn a singular manner came to be convinced in the North of England in the year 1658. After which he w^t 7 or 8 others long kept up a little meeting at a small village called Emeldoun without any visit or encouragement from freinds. P. L. was then committed prisoner to Morpeth, When Liberated he lived some time on the border with Ja^s Holliday a weaver and Scotsman who had long been convinced but had no other fr^d near him. P. L. came north with a message to the town of Dundee and then journeyed to Ab : where writing a sharp letter against the magistrates

⁴ See THE JOURNAL, vii. 122-126.

who were then imprisoning fr^{ds} he was imprisoned w^t them for ab^t 7 mos: with Geo: Keith. Afterwards he was imprisoned there 3 and $\frac{1}{2}$ years. He died in London [15. iv. 1694].

Andrew Jaffray came from his own house of Kingswells to the fors^d steeple house where he bore a Testimony against them and they were very rude towards him especially a young man who was so barbarous (after they had thrown him over a grave ston) as to hound a great mastiff dog at the servant of the Lord yet the dog did him no hurt it was observable the man did not so weel prosper afterwards.

Christian Barclay came from her own house of Urie and went to the fors^d place where after the preist had ended his matters she stood up and bore her Testimony for the Truth among them shewing them that she had it from the Lord to warn them to turn from Ceremonies and shadows which perishes unto the substance, and it being their comunion day both preist and people were amazed and confounded the preist and his wife raged and clamoured despightfully with Revyelling words and two men James Patton and John Johnston (a chapler) [?] laid hands on her and haled her dounstairs where in the graveyard she spoke againe among the people a Considerable time. Jt was observed that [of] three of those who apeared most against her two of them dyed and one of them left the Countrey all withine a year y^r after.

Robert Barclay, son to the fors^d Ro^{tt} and Christian Barclay's being under great exercise of minde it was laid upon him to goe to the fors^d place and accordingly he went (a freind accompanying him) and bore his Testimony for the Truth against those will worshipers desiring them to come out of their forms and turn to Jesus Christ who is the same to day as he was in former [ages ?] upon whom if they did look in faith they should as certainly be [healed as ?] those of old were who looked in faith towards the brazen serpent wh[ich was ?] lifted up in the wilderness &^c the preist raged and Rev[iled ?] exceedingly.

Jn the 10th moneth 1690 Petter Fern [Fearon] and John Bain came from England Jn the Service of Truth to this North Countrey, where at Urie he fel sick of the smal pox (viz the s^d John Bain) he was very sensible all

the time of his sickness which was about a fortnight during which time he shewed great patience tenderness zeal and fervour of spirit exhorting to the Truth and severall times bearing Testimony to it powring forth prayers and supplications that the Lord would cary on his blessed work in and among the Children of men fervently desiring the Lord to bless the family and preserve all faithfull in their places he passed away very quietly and peaceably and was buried in the burying ground afores^d [*i.e.* in a plot of ground which David Barclay of Urie had alloted for a burying place to Friends] it was observed the s^d J: B: having walked the length of the burying ground the day before he took bed he stayed a litle in it behind the rest being a litle affected for some whose graves he their beheld and a while before he departed this life . . . : gave orders to lay his body in such a particular place of the ground.

In the 2nd mo : 1693 Jannet Burness wife to James Burness Jn Carntoun near Urie (who formerly had been zealous for the preist) but being convinced of Truth went and bare Testimony against him for q^{ch} they fell upon her rudly and caried her to prison she was ane honest woman and dyed in the Truth and was buried as above.

Margaret Falconer wife to David Falconar was ane honest and faithfull friend to the Truth ane upright and wise hearted woman bearing testimony to the Truth from a living sence thereof she was very loving tender and Compassonat towards all helpfull to poor and sick people of a cleanly and unstained conversatione of a mild and affable temper and dispositione innocent and discreet behaviour and christian deportment very earnest and fervent in prayer her departure much lamented by many and though it pleased the Lord she had a sharp and sore sickness in the finishing of her dayes yet she passed away in great quietness, and is at rest with the Lord and her memorial remains among the Righteous she departed this life at Springhall near Urie 22^d 7. 1697. . . .

George Melvine who had received the Truth about the year 1669 and meeting w^t divers opositiones did nevertheless continue firm and stedfast in his testimony to and for the Truth and though an unlearned man as to utward learning yet the Lord did bless him w^t a very good utterance and many are witnesses of that life and power

which many times accompanied him in his Testimony Jn the meetings of Gods people he at severall times and places suffered imprisonment also the spoiling of his goods without murmuring remaining stedfast to the end of his days which he finised near Urie 11th 2. 1698. . . and withine 10 days after his wife died also and was buried beside her husband whom though she would not be owned as a freind of Truth it was thought fitt to lay her there by her husband.

Alexander Spark who had received the Truth about the year 1670 he was ane honest and upright freind stedfast Jn his Testimony and love to the Truth ane innocent and harmless man sober and temperate retaining a good measure of Singleness sincerity and simplicety by which he honoured the Truth for which he suffered Jmprisonment at several places viz at Montrose Stonhyve and Abdⁿ he came in by the right door and by the true shepherd knew the pastures of life where he with the flocks were frequently refreshed to the praise of the Lord he was made Jnstrumental in bringing others to the Truth as a good example he was taken w^t Jndispositione of body about the 7th of 7th mo: 1699, and continued so for ten days Jn which time he shew forth Christian patience and meekness Continuing solid and sound Jn his sences and Judgment unto the last mindfull of the Lords mercies and preservatione both by sea and land for he had been in America. A very seasonable and pretious opertunity we had w^t him a litle before his departure and w^t him were witnesses of the power and presence of the Lord Jn which he passed a way and fell asleep quietly in the Lord upon the 17 7. and upon the 19th was buried being accompanied from Stonhyve where he dyed by freinds and others to the fors^d burying ground.

Upon the [] day of the [] month 1702 William Beattie Jn Bervie dyed at his house y^r and was carried from that to the fors^d burying ground by freinds and others. he was but mean Jn this world having a smal family and litle business which made him travel many a mile to get bread to them at q^{ch} he was very good for it was nothing thought by him to travel seven or eight miles on a first days morning to the meeting and hoome again after the meeting for there was non nearer the place where he lived. . . .

James Burness was convinced of the Truth about the year 1669 he was an honest and faithful man and did blossom as to his Inward Conditione in his old age for when he was about or about eighty years of age he would sound forth a few words in the meeting with such life and zeal that many who heard him would be reached thereby he was poor as to this world but Rich In faith he was long sickly but [was] never heard complain his memory lives among the honest hearts that knew him he was removed upon the day of mo 1710. . . .

[18. iv. 1713] David Falconar deceased at Kingswells . . . he was a faithful man and loved them that were such and was Imprisoned several times for his Testimony to the Truth.

[17. viii. 1719] it pleased the Lord to Remove from this troublesome world our friend John Scott junior in the prime of his age being only about 32 years and a half of age. there was many living opportunities about the time of his sickness and death which was remarkable Many were the exercises and prayers of friends for him . . . and also we [he] felt himself at times In a good and sweet frame of mind particularly the night before he departed when he himself said he was pleading w^t a merciful God also that night altho In a high fever and death dealing with him his Cousine John Scott Sen^r feeling life to Arise In him over all unruly Spirits was concerned to take him by the hand and kneel before his bed and prayed to the Lord that commanded the winds and seas so to settle and quiet his mind that nothing might occur to disturb him q^{ch} accordingly fell so out that all the time he prayed the s^d John sounded In his heart w^t praises to God q^{ch} was a great satisfaction to all concerned and those present w^t him at that time. . . .

Robert Barclay of Ury eldest son of the author of the Apologie was born at Aberdeen [25. i. 1672] as he had the advantage of the precept and example of his worthy Father and Mother, as well as his Grandfather, so it made a sensible impression upon him in his early years much to their comfort. He was scarce out of his Infancy when he discovered a heart devoted to Religion. After he had been a while educate at home, in the eleventh year of his age he accompanied his parents to London

where he became acquainted with George Fox, and other eminent Friends, who rejoiced to see so hopefull an appearance in the son of such a Father. he was att that time left to the tuition of George Keith to be educate with him att his school att Theobalds, where he remained about a year and then returned to Scotland. Afterwards in his sixteenth year of his age he went again with his Father to London, having been a considerable time att Windsor att the Kings Court, where on account of his Fathers interest which created him many dependants, he was much caressed, yet then as well as through his whole life he kept a clean conversation void of offence and may be truly said to have remembred his Creator in the days of his youth About two years after his return home, it was observed especially after his Father's Death, that as he grew in years he dedicated himself more particularly to the great work of Religion which concern ever remained with him. About the 22^d year of his age his mouth was opened in a publick manner to praise his Maker and to preach the everlasting Gospell which he continued to do to the end of his time being 75 years and 2 days old. As he had a serious and lively sense of Religion so he laboured to propogate the same in others, and his humble meek behaviour his remarkable charity to the Poor, and other amiable qualities, corasponded well with his Doctrine his testimonys were never tedious to the hearers, nor unseasonably delivered what he said being the effect of his duty knowing he was answerable for the talents received: he often visited Freinds in London and severall times other parts of England and Scotland, once he with Andrew Jaffray went by Jnverness to the Highlands, having meetings as they passed along, where no Freinds had ever been before, and though he was free of that Enthusiastick Spirit which sometimes prevails even upon well meaning people, yet he never flenched from what he was convinced was his duty, particularly at the publick Meeting place of the parish he lived in where he was concerned to warn the people to come out of their forms and turn to Jesus Christ whom if they did look unto in faith they should as certainly be healed as those of old were who looked in faith towards the Brazen Serpent which Moses lift up in the wilderness.

In the year 1708 one Garden^s a Learned and much followed preacher Att Aberdeen tainted with Burignionism having in his writings inveighed against Friends principles Robert Barclay wrote a notable answer to it entitled *A Serious Adress to the well meaning followers of Antonia Boureignon* which had so good an effect being printed and dispersed among a great many, that the Sect afterwards dwindled much away: About the 70th year of his age he wrote and caused print a small treatise concerning faith, and after his Death there was found about a sheet of paper wrote with his own hand upon Charity it was thought his Sickness prevented his enlarging upon so good a subject, for about two years agoe he contracted a weakness which he never quite recovered, though when he was able he was diligent in visiting the Meetings of Friends in the adjacent places and in a meek frame of mind he waited for his change and when much afflicted with sickness he used to repeat not his but the Lord's will be done in everything and a short time before he was speechless one standing by his bed side whispered to another (thinking he had not heard it) that she was surprised to feel such a sweat upon him he answered as with a strong voice this is the sweat which comes before Death and I shall now soon be among the Spirits of Just men made perfect which was among the last of his expressions for he afterwards as it were slept away and expired about the seventh hour in the morning of the 27 of the month called March at his house of Springhall and was interred upon the first of the following month in the year 1747 in the presence of most Friends in the North of this Kingdom and severall of the Gentry who were his relations and also his own Tenants in the plain Decent manner he himself had prescrib'd.

Thou have acted both the Christian and the Gentleman, and indeed to be truly the one is to make a good step towards the other.

HENRY GOULDNEY to SIR JOHN RODES, 1700, in *A Quaker Post Bag*, edited by Mrs. G. Locker Lampson, 1910, p. 77.

^s This was George Garden, D.D. (1649-1733). He wrote, in 1699, *An Apology for M. Antonia Bourignon* [1616-1680]. At the close of Robert Barclay's *Serious Address*, there is a letter to "George Gardne," from Andrew Jaffray of Kingswell. See Macewen's *Antoinette Bourignon*, 1910, and *D.N.B.*