

There were two Friends named Jane Watson also living in Carlow, one of whom was appointed Overseer there in 1773, but there is nothing to show that either of them removed to Edenderry.

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A Particular Observation of Truth's Progress

31 iii. 1731. Some time ago it was much in my mind how though we have large meetings in many places among people and they seem affected with what they hear, yet I find little or no convincement follows, which makes me think the manner and way that Truth is now published to the People is not as formerly it was when many were gathered to the Church. The Government and better sort of people are very kind and civil to friends, and they have respect and interest with them, yea the very Priests in divers places are seemingly at least loving to Friends. Now I greatly fear that too many Friends being unwilling to give them offence (as they call it) are too easy towards them in respect to religious matters, not concerning themselves to speak much to them about such things, so pass smoothly on, and the common people, knowing the Favour that is shewed us by their superiors, behave themselves more civilly. But I do not see that this adds little or anything to the Increase and Prosperity of Truth, and had Friends commission (I am not for any to go without commission) to testify openly against the reigning wicked practises in the great, and the lifeless superstitious ministry of the Priests (both of which in my thought are as visible and flagrant as ever), there would be more converted to God in a little Time; for it is in vain to be lopping at the branches when the Root remains strong and spreading. And it is my belief God will raise in due time a People out of Friends or others, who will be commissioned to strike at the Root and branch of Antichrist, without regard to the Frowns and Favours of High or Low clergy or others, and then and not till then I greatly fear it will be that we shall have any considerable addition to the Church. I have mourned in secret that it has not yet been laid as a work and concern upon some of our eminent Friends and ministers, and do wish they may not put the thing too far from them, but consider whether there may not be some such service for them to do, being the present concern and labour seems not to be effectual.

Diaries of John Kelsall, vi. 248, MS. in D. (copy).

My wealth consists in living on what I have.

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