

**CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP
EXEMPLIFIED, OR A MEMORIAL
OF THOMAS BUSH, ESQ., LATE
OF LAMBORNE, BERKS**

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Christian Stewardship Exemplified, or A Memorial of Thomas Bush, Esq., Late of Lamborne, Berks by Thomas Bush

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THOMAS BUSH

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Remain I entreat
Wm. B. Hall

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

EXEMPLIFIED,

OR

A Memorial

OF

THOMAS BUSH, ESQ.,

LATE

OF LAMBORNE, BERKS.

~~~~~  
"Such is the soul that leaves this mortal land,  
Fearless when the great Master gives command;  
Death is the storm; she smiles to hear it roar:

\* \* \* \* \*  
\* \* \* \* \* And as she sails she sings,  
And hush by degrees the sight of mortal things.

\* \* \* \* \*  
How vast sternly fills all her sight,  
She floats on the broad deep with infinite delight,  
The seas for ever calm, the skies for ever bright."

Watts.

~~~~~  
LONDON:
MASON, 14, CITY-ROAD;

LEWIS, WENTAGE,

1849.

PREFACE.

The following MEMORIAL has been prepared under the impression, that an example like that of Mr. Bush should be made to exert on the world an influence as extensive as possible. Our own characters are powerfully influenced, and principally formed, often unconsciously, by the characters of those who live around us, or who have lived before us. Piety is never seen so clearly, and never appears so lovely, as when embodied in a holy example. For this reason, it is likely, that no species of literature is so powerful for the formation of holy characters, as the biography of holy persons.

It was, indeed, expected that a memoir of Mr. Bush would, before this, have appeared in the Wesleyan Methodist Magazine. Such an account, however, has not yet appeared; nor would it be possible to give a full

delineation of such a character as that of Mr. Bush, in the usual space allotted to biography in that periodical. Besides, it was hoped that something in a separate form would reach the hands of many by whom the Magazine is not read.

The materials have been drawn from personal, and, for some years intimate acquaintance,—from information supplied by those who have known him for many years,—and from his own letters and entries. It is a matter of regret, that he kept no regular record of religious experience and practice. There are a few entries, written in an abbreviated manner, sometimes with intervals of years between each; these have been used so far as they were available. In the extracts from his correspondence &c., alterations of expression have been made; but, it is believed, that in no case has the meaning been changed.

Few incidents marked his life. The absence of these renders the task of the Biographer more difficult,—deprives the work of much that would be interesting; but, perhaps, makes it not less useful. If the end of biography is to delineate character so as to lead to imitation, it is most useful when the excellencies of the departed can be most easily copied into our own characters and lives;

and this can be best done when they are placed in circumstances most like our own.

Romantic incident can distinguish the lives of the few only,—real usefulness may be possessed by all. One who knew the subject of this memoir for several years, remarks,—“I know of no striking incident in his history, he seems to me to be one of those whose career resembled the steady shining of the Sun, rather than the glare of the fortuitous meteor.” His “path” was “as the shining light that shineth more and more until the perfect day.” What is more an every day occurrence than the sun-shine? And what so useful?

The writer has endeavoured to secure perfect correctness in his statements. Should he have failed in any particular, he will be thankful for any *correction* or *additional information* communicated to him through the medium of the printer.

With reference to the mode in which he has performed his work, he can only say, “he hath done what he could.” More satisfied he would have felt, had the memoir been more worthy of its subject; but such as it is he sends it forth with the prayer that it may assist to produce many similar characters.

The black profile prefixed is the best likeness of him which exists; it is thought to give a correct outline of the countenance.

He has only to add that should any profits arise from the publication, they will be employed in carrying out the benevolent plans of Mr. Bush. The printer, to promote the same objects, does his work without profit.

The reader will oblige by correcting with his pen the following

ERRATA.

Page 3, line 4, for 1768 read 1786
 „ 42, „ 11, „ accidental „ incidental
 „ 96, „ 18, „ numerable „ numerous

ADDENDUM.

To letter page 108, add—"Lambourn, Aug. 21st 1839."

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

EXEMPLIFIED, ETC.

CHAPTER I.

IN the village of Childrey, Berks, about three miles from the town of Wantage, stands an ancient dwelling. . Its stone window-frames and arched door-ways afford evidence of its former grandeur. It was probably built in the 15th century. From the time of Henry VI., whose reign commenced in 1422, to that of Charles II. in 1661, or later, it was inhabited by an ancient family named Fettyplace. Sir Thomas Fettyplace resided here in 1436. In a room in this building Charles I. slept on the night of April 9th, 1644, on his march from Oxford to Marlborough. For more than a century, a portion of the building has been the residence of the farmers who have successively rented the estate :