

**GATHERED FRAGMENTS: BRIEFLY  
ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE LIFE OF  
GEORGE DILLWYN, OF  
BURLINGTON WEST NEW JERSEY,  
NORTH AMERICA**

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Gathered fragments: briefly illustrative of the life of George Dillwyn, of Burlington west New Jersey, North America by George Dillwyn

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BRIEFLY ILLUSTRATIVE

OF THE LIFE OF

GEORGE DILLWYN,

OF

BURLINGTON, WEST NEW JERSEY, NORTH AMERICA.

"MY SHEEP HEAR MY VOICE, AND I KNOW THEM, AND THEY FOLLOW  
ME." JOHN X, 27.

London :

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210. a. 122.

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## PREFACE.

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“THE righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance.”

Though the effort has been long delayed, it seems due both to the public and to the individual, not to withhold a few characteristics of the faithful servant of Christ whose name appears on the title page, and whose gospel labours, not only in America, Great Britain, and Ireland, but also on the Continent of Europe, may well claim a place on the historic page. He exhibited an encouraging example of practical religion, having flourished “like the palm tree,” and grown “like a cedar in Lebanon,” still “bringing forth fruit in old age.”

In his 82nd year, with fewer symptoms of bodily or mental decline than are usual at such a period of life, one of those casualties occurred to which humanity is subject, awakening in a wide circle of attached friends lively interest and sympathy. Yet was he graciously permitted to experience that "there is none like unto the God of Jeshurun," that the eternal God was his refuge, and underneath the Everlasting Arms.

The day of final conflict soon came to the sufferer, and no room was left for doubt that his was the happy condition described by the prophet, on which in his vigour he had *especially* delighted to dwell; that he came *with singing unto Zion*, and everlasting joy upon his head, that he obtained gladness and joy, and that sorrow and mourning fled away.



## GATHERED FRAGMENTS.

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GEORGE DILLWYN was born in Philadelphia on the 26th of the 2nd month, 1738, O.S. His parents were members of the Society of Friends. He was at an early period of life deprived of his father, but the loss was supplied in the qualification graciously vouchsafed by the Shepherd of Israel upon his surviving parent, who, judiciously retaining her affectionate influence upon his youthful mind, watched over him with maternal tenderness, and with deep interest in the welfare of his immortal spirit, and, in the course of time, her pious care was amply rewarded by her son's becoming dedicated to the service of God. He related of himself that when very young, he had often been sensible in our meetings for divine worship of the influence of heavenly love, and the ground which his pious parent had laboured to prepare, being made productive by the heavenly Husbandman, brought forth good fruit.

After experiencing that change of heart known by every

true believer in Christ, he found it required of him to make many changes in his conduct, to relinquish many things in which formerly he had taken delight. He used to be very fond of music, and indulged in playing on a flute; but he saw it would be right to give it up, so taking his flute with him to a solitary place by the river side, he broke it in pieces. Besides his fondness for amusements, which have strong attractions to the youthful mind, the dangerous tendencies of which he was enabled to see, he appears to have had a strong propensity to vanity in dress, and worldly conformity of other kinds; but he was strengthened to be faithful to his convictions regarding the use of simple language, and modes of address, and he acknowledged with tenderness, at a late period of his life, that he had derived much benefit, whilst in the indulgence of gay attire, from a kind remonstrance offered on a particular occasion by the well-known Anthony Benezet, and that a compliance with the suggestion of this excellent man proved as an inlet of good to his soul to an extent never before experienced.

George Dillwyn was engaged for some years in mercantile pursuits, but these ended in disappointment and loss; but such was his integrity, that he carefully retrenched his expenses, so that the circumstances of none were injured by him. Thus, through the renewed visitations of Divine grace, which led him to do justly, to love

mercy, and to walk humbly before the Lord, the strong will of man was subjected to the government of Christ. These outward trials were productive of a blessed effect upon him, and after many preparatory conflicts, he was called to the ministry of the Word about the 28th year of his age.

Endowed with a comprehensive mind, he became, under the sanctifying operation of the Holy Spirit, eminently prepared to promulgate the glad tidings of the gospel of salvation, through Jesus Christ, and largely laboured therein until nearly the end of his lengthened day.

On the 16th of the 10th month, 1759, George Dillwyn was married to Sarah, the daughter of Richard and Deborah Hill. In her early years her parents had quitted America, and settled in Madeira, leaving her behind in her native land. Her union with George Dillwyn was a remarkably happy one, exhibiting, until old age, one continuous interchange of affectionate attentions. Their residence after marriage was at Green Bank, Burlington, and in the year 1770, an excellent sister, Margaret Morris, a sorrowful widow, and her four children, became the joint occupants of their house. In the year 1776, George Dillwyn being some hundred miles from home, and engaged in the service of the gospel, the closely attached sisters were placed in perilous circumstances by the Revolutionary War. Their lonely situation, without a male protector, made no small appeal